

**ST THOMAS, BRADWELL
JUXTA MARE**

WITH

ST LAWRENCE

PAROCHIAL INFORMATION:**BRADWELL-ON-SEA**

Rector Rev Steven Poss **07830150713**
Churchwardens: Jayne Hill **07598329381**
David Thorpe **07468867831**
Head Teacher St Cedd's School: **01621776219**

Village View Manager

Roger Scurrall 776341

Church FlowersDavid Thorpe
07468867831**Flowers at St Peter's Chapel**David Thorpe
07468867831**Bell Ringing** - Tower CaptainLaurie Main 776438
John Pryke 776260
St Thomas Bradwell Fridays 7.45,
Sunday Ringing 9.30am**Thursday Club**Mel Emerson 07961 503951
David Thorpe
07468867831
St Thomas' Chapman Room - 1st
Thursday of Month 2-4pm

Rainbows 5 – 7 yrs

Brownies 7 - 10 years

Guides 10-14yrs

For information 07757636446

enquiries@girlguidingsexne.org.uk**Parish Safeguarding**Representative Graeme Eyre
01621776961/07985520634**Pastoral Assistant**

David Thorpe 07468867831

St. Cedd's School Parent-Teacher Association

Secretary Contact School 776219

Clerk to the Parish CouncilKelly Andrews. Email
clerk@bradwellonseas-pc.gov.uk
Parish Council meetings Village
Hall, 3rd Monday 7.30pm**Parish Council Chairman**

Hillary Baker 776575

District Councillor

Matthew Neall 776956

P.C.C. Secretary

Roger Scurrall 07710 868491

Othona Community

Warden David Jenkins 776564

St Peters Chapel Chaplain

Rev S Poss 07830150713

Village Hall Trustee'sBooking Secretary
Mr R Scurrall 776341
Booking**Bradwell Women's Institute**Secretary Mrs T Reed 776247
Village Hall 2nd Wed 19.30**Bradwell Flower Show**

Teresa Fowler 776588

Bradwell Quay Yacht ClubSecretary:
Mr R. Price 01621)890173**Mobile Library**Every three weeks Thursdays East
End Rd outside church
10.55— 11.25**Local Policing Team**Non Emergency 101
Emergency 999**Crimestoppers**Anonymous Crime Reporting
0800555111**The Dengie Medical Centre**

Tillingham 778383

The Trinity Medical Centre

Mayland 745400

Two Rivers Association for Age ConcernSecretary Age Concern
01245 264499

If any of the above information is incorrect or you wish to publicise your organisation then please contact Roger Scurrall on 01621 776341 or email stthomaspc@btinternet.com



St Thomas Church Christmas Services

Sunday 14th 4.30pm Carol Service at St Peters Chapel

Sunday 21st 10am Christingle

Christmas Eve 4:30pm Crib Service

Christmas Eve 11:30pm Midnight Mass

Sunday 29th 10am Christmas Café Church

Sunday Jan 4th 10am Epiphany Communion with Bishop Guli Bishop of Chelmsford

St Lawrence Church Christmas Services

Thursday 18th 7pm Carol Service

Christmas Eve 11.30pm Midnight Mass

Sunday 29th 2pm Worship & Baptism

St Lawrence Church Centre

Sunday 21st 10am Morning Worship

Christmas Day 10am Christmas Praise

Sunday 28th 10am Morning Worship



From the Vicarage

Dear Friends,

Let me begin by thanking Penny at Bradwell who made the wonderful Poppies for our Remembrance Sunday Services and for Anne for the Poppies at St Lawrence.

The Church of England's Advent and Christmas theme for 2025 revolves round a single word: Joy!

Our churches and cathedrals will - as always - be seeking to make the most of the opportunity December brings to share *The Joy of Christmas* with our communities.

The great joy of Christmas, of course, is the good news the angel declared to the shepherds - the news of Jesus' birth as Emmanuel (God With Us).

The angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people ...' (Luke 2:10-11)

As we hear again the message of the Angels this Christmas, come and celebrate with us across our Churches in our Benefice to hear and celebrate the Joy of Christmas.

I am taking a Sabbatical break between January to the end of March for a time of rest, retreat and renewal, so I will be unavailable during this time, but local Clergy will be available.

Have a blessed Christmas and New Year ahead.

God bless,

Reverend Steven



Bradwell-on-Sea WI meeting

Wednesday 12th November at the Village Hall

“Young offenders out in the community” with Paul Wilding



This month we were joined by Paul and Amanda from the Essex Youth Offending Team, with Paul Wilding giving a warm and eye-opening talk on how young offenders work out in the community. It was clear how much Paul cares about the young people he supports — he spoke with real affection, describing how the work gives them confidence and a sense of purpose.

The service works with children aged 10 to 18 who are completing court-ordered community sessions. As Paul explained, the system gives them the benefit of the doubt — it’s gentler than adult probation, because they’re still kids that are still very much learning.

Rather than the old days of endless litter picking, the team try to organise work that genuinely benefits both the young people and the community. They help with grass cutting, gardening, and window cleaning. They collect and deliver food for food banks, and even usher at the Basildon Towngate Theatre — panto season T-shirts and all! (with some convincing!). They’ve also made sensory mittens for hospitals and care homes and help out at community events like the Tillingham Flower Show.

Each session usually pairs one supervisor with two or three young people, and although they’re there to complete their community hours, they often come away with much more. Some projects allow them to work towards AQA certificates, giving them recognised achievements they can put on their CVs. Paul shared a lovely story about one young man who stopped him in the street years later to say thank you — he’d gone on to start his own window-cleaning business with two employees, crediting Paul for teaching him good life lessons along the way.

It was an encouraging and uplifting talk, showing how much good can come from giving young people a chance!

Our next meeting is on the 10th of December in the village hall for our annual Christmas party, where we will be joined by Laurie Main for a Christmas sing-a-long!

We will also be having a carol service on Tuesday the 16th December in St Thomas’s church, everyone is welcome to come along and join in!

New members are always welcome; there is just a small fee of £5 for non-members, so please feel free to come along! If you have any questions about what we get up to, you can contact Sue Pirret on 07824696807 *Alice Nightingale*

News from RAF Bradwell Bay

Working on the memorial project of researching every name on the memorial is raising so many stories, much of it is already in our archives. The project is bringing our archives to life. I am about a third of the way through.

For example, recently I noticed a strange coincidence. 2 aircrew from different aircraft, both of 418 RCAF Squadron were killed on the same night. They were Sgt Roy Dusten, wireless operator/air gunner. P/O Dennis Duxfield, pilot. The coincidence was not that they were killed on the same night, that is tragic and a great loss to the squadron. The coincidence was that both were undertakers before joining the RCAF. They appear next to each other on the memorial.

2 aircraft were brought down by searchlights, rather than anti-aircraft guns. The other fact was that they were not 'coned' by enemy lights but rather our own local searchlights. Both occurred on training missions.

The first happened on 23rd March 1943. On 23rd March S/L Viscount Clive and P/O Albert Eastwood were flying on a routine patrol of 157 Squadron from RAF Bradwell Bay. They were flying under G.C.I. (Ground Controlled Interception). On instruction were directed to intercept an RAF bomber on a 'Bullseye exercise' This was a training exercise and flight command were to practice intercepting. It looks like the pilot was blinded by the searchlights.

While doing an interception on a friendly bomber in a "Bullseye" exercise, S/L Viscount Clive and P/O Eastwood dived into the ground near Manningtree and were killed instantaneously.



The second incident attributed to searchlights was on 3rd February 1944. A 488 Squadron Mosquito was directed to do a searchlight calibration exercise.

0145 F/Sgt K.J. Watson (Pilot) and F/Sgt E.F. Edwards (Nav/Rad) both New Zealand were killed during an exercise with searchlights near the airfield, possibly due to dazzle and momentarily losing control. This was a most promising crew and a great loss to "B" Flight and the Squadron.

This is something many drivers can relate to; modern headlights quite often dazzle drivers and may be a contributory factor in many accidents on the Dengie.

The RAF Bradwell Bay Preservation Group has a Facebook page

RAF Bradwell Bay Preservation Group (Type in whole address) and our website www.rafbradwellbay.com.

The RAF Bradwell Bay Preservation Group seeks to preserve the history of the RAF in Bradwell on Sea. We are planning for a museum near the memorial.

You can contact us via rafbradwellbay@gmail.com



**RAF BRADWELL BAY
PRESERVATION GROUP**

Bradwell-on-Sea Village Hall Trustees 100 Club



Charity Number 803054

1st Prize, Ticket 69, Lynn James, £20.00

2nd Prize, Ticket 81, Graham Matthews, £10.00

3rd Prize, Ticket 68, Jackie Gardner £5.00

The Bradwell Village Hall 100 Club draw results for November 2025 are as follows.

The next draw takes place on the 1st December if you would like to join the 100 Club please fill in form available in the Community Shop of the Village Hall or phone or Text 07710868491.

The Othona Community, December 2025.



Summer is behind us: we may be still enjoying a few last colours of autumn as the final leaves drop; and we see a glimpse of the early primrose, or the just-below-the-surface rooting snowdrops promising spring – but right now it really is winter. “Anticipation” is a shared feeling, suggesting we have a glimpse of what may come, but who really knows whether it will be mild or freezing, rainy or snowing? And that feeling of

anticipation is guiding the Othona team, as they move through the waiting time of Advent to the special preparations of decorations and festive cooking, and at last to the celebration of the birth of a baby – whose coming was anticipated for so long, and whose promise to change the world was anticipated, but not the way he would do this, through his guiding spirit leading us forward over the millennia.

Fifty years ago Norman Motley wrote (“Letters to a Community 1970-1980) -

“I am still at the stage where Christmas is as exciting as it was when I was five years old. The wonder and the beauty of it still moves me to the depths. The additional privilege of being able to share it with young children makes it even more magic.....Please don't be so grown up that you lose the childlike heart. The only true insight into the world can be given by a little Human Scrap Who is the Incarnate Son and the express image of the Father.may God make this Christmas your most lovely yet, and may the New Year unfold more deeply the riches of His Grace.”

Many people come to Othona, either in Bradwell-on-Sea, Essex, or in Burton Bradstock, West Dorset, because they know and love the Community through connections of family and friendship that may reach right back to the earliest days. But in a few years, no-one will recall the post-war era when Norman was inspired to bring together a Community of people whose lives and nations had been torn and divided by the most terrible war. Still wars, climate crisis and the unfolding pressures of modern life threaten to pull peoples apart so that, more than ever, we need a future Community where ALL may be welcomed, included, valued, loved and may find peace and renewal to face the challenges of the next eighty years. Come and see!

Community Christmas Tue 23 Dec — Sat 27 Dec 2025: Come and enjoy Christmas in the community **New Year Tue 30 Dec — Fri 2 Jan 2026** - Bring in the New Year at the Othona Community. These events are fully booked for residents, but if anyone locally would like to join in, sharing activities and meals with the Community, you are welcome to ask the team for availability.

“A Week to Simply Be” Mon 12 Jan — Fri 16 Jan 2026 – residential or day places available. Time to spend on your own or with friends relaxing in the surroundings of Othona!

Looking forward to 2026, we’ll soon be publicising full programme of events and festivities, including the plans for celebrating Othona’s 80th year, looking back, enjoying now, and looking forward in hope.

Othona is accessed through East Hall Farm, East End Rd, Bradwell on Sea, through the wind powered gate: exit token from the office. Our Manager/Warden is David Jenkins. Website www.othonaessex.org.uk. Email bradwell@othona.org. Telephone 01621 776564.

January 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 15th.

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.



Prayer for Christmas 2025

Dear Father,

Christmas is coming. It’s all such a rush – planning, shopping, spending, wrapping, posting, stressing! What’s it all about? Lord, help us, in all the rat-race busyness, to make time to focus on that baby at the centre of it all. That baby who is Your Son, who was with You in the beginning and who, with You, created all things; that baby who brings life and light and hope and salvation; that baby who was and is Jesus, God, made man.

Lord, we thank You for that baby-gift to us – the greatest gift there has ever been. Thank You that because He came, grew up, lived, died and rose again, there is light in the darkness of this world’s mess – light that can never be put out, that evil can never overcome. Jesus is the Light of the World. Putting our trust in Him, we thank You Lord, for Christmas – for Your grace and love for us. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

DECEMBER SERVICES

Time	Service	Church	Readings
Dec 5th	Friday		
12:00	Communion with Lunch	St Lawrence Church	
Dec 7th	Advent 2		
10:00	Communion	St Thomas	Isaiah 11.1-10 Romans 15.4-13 Matthew 3.1-12 <i>Psalm 72.1-7,18,19</i>
10:00	Family Service	St Nicholas Tillingham	
10:00	Morning Worship	St Lawrence Centre	
16:00	Carol Service and Memorial	St James Dengie	
Dec 14th	Advent 3		
10:00	Communion	St Nicholas Tillingham	Isaiah 35.1-10 James 5.7-10 Matthew 11.2-11 Psalm 146.4-10 or Magnificat
10:00	Café Church	St Thomas	
10:00	Communion	St Lawrence Centre	
16:30	Carol Service	St Peters Chapel	
Dec 18th	Thursday		
19:00	Carol Service	St Lawrence Church	
Dec 21st	Advent 4		
08:00	Holy Communion	St James Dengie	Isaiah 7.10-16 Romans 1.1-7 Matthew 1.18-25 <i>Psalm 80.1-8,18-20</i>
10:00	Communion	St Lawrence Church	
10:00	Morning Worship	St Lawrence Centre	
10:00	Morning Worship	St Nicholas Tillingham	
10:00	Christingle Service	St Thomas Bradwell	
18:00	Carol Service	St Nicholas Tillingham	
Dec 24th	Christmas Eve		
16:30	Crib Service	St Thomas Bradwell	Isaiah 9:1-6 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14
18:00	Crib Service	St Nicholas Tillingham	
23:30	Midnight Mass	St Thomas Bradwell	
23:30	Midnight Mass	St Lawrence Church	
Dec 25th	Christmas Day		
09:00	Christmas Communion	St James Dengie	Isaiah 9.2-7 Titus 2.11-14 Luke 2.1-14[15-20]
10:00	Christmas Praise	St Lawrence Centre	
10:00	Christmas Praise	St Thomas Bradwell	

Time	Service	Church	Reading
Dec 28th	Christmas 1		
10:00	Communion	St James Dengie	Isaiah 63.7-9 Hebrews 2.10-18 Matthew 2.13-23 <i>Psalm 148</i>
10:00	Café Church	St Thomas Bradwell	
10:00	Morning Worship	St Lawrence Centre	
14:00	Baptism & Worship	St Lawrence Church	
18:00	Evening Service	St Nicholas Tillingham	
Jan 2nd	Friday		
12:00	Communion with Lunch	St Lawrence Church	
Jan 4th 2026	Epiphany		
10:00	Communion	St Thomas Bradwell	Jeremiah 31; 7-14 Ephesians 1; 3-14 John 1; 10-18 Psalm 147; 13-en
10:00	Morning Worship	St Nicholas Tillingham	
10:00	Morning Worship	St Lawrence Centre	
15:00	Evening Service	St James Dengie	

Diary of 2025 Events

Below are a list of dates that are happening throughout 2025. If you or your organisation have dates that you would like advertised, please email details to stthomaspc@btinternet.com for inclusion. It is hoped to publish events every month for the coming three months and every Quarter for the year ahead.

December

2nd December Winter Talks Tim Howson Village Hall 7pm Historic Houses in Bradwell-on-Sea, 4th Thursday Club St Thomas Church 2pm, 10th Women's Institute Village Hall Committee Room 7.30pm, 15th Parish Council Village Hall Committee Room 7.30pm,

StMungo's

St Thomas Christmas Collections

This year St Thomas' Christmas collections will be going to St Mungo's. St Mungo's has been on the frontline of homelessness for 55 years, helping people to move forward with their lives. Our frontline teams are out on the streets, every day and night, looking for the people who urgently need our help. Rough sleeping can be incredibly dangerous, with the threat of illness, exploitation, violence, and abuse ever present. Homelessness can happen to anyone, with more and more people being pushed onto the streets. Please support this Charity at our Christmas Services collections.

MALDON DISTRICT HERITAGE WINTER TALKS 2025-26

7pm Doors open / 7.30pm Talks start / 9pm Finish

FREE ADMISSION: no pre-booking required

FURTHER INFORMATION: Tim Howson, Principal Conservation and Heritage Officer tim.howson@maldon.gov.uk



MALDON DISTRICT
COUNCIL

4th November 2025: Sue Spiers – ‘Old St. Barnabas’ Church, Mayland - a four-year excavation by Burnham u3a Archaeological Group

VENUE: Friends Meeting House, Butt Lane, Maldon, CM9 5HD

This talk will take the audience on a journey back in time, unravelling the history of a parish church demolished in 1878, recently revealed in brick and earlier stone walls, and a wealth of lovely finds including many beautiful medieval floor tiles.



2nd December 2025: Tim Howson – Historic houses in Bradwell-on-Sea

VENUE: Bradwell-on-Sea Village Hall, South Street, Bradwell on Sea CM0 7QJ

From medieval timber-framed farmhouses to picturesque Georgian cottages, the sleepy village of Bradwell-on-Sea boasts a rich heritage of domestic buildings. This talk will explore and celebrate some of the parish's hidden architectural treasures, while highlighting the potential for future research.



13th January 2026: Johanna Dale – Bradwell and the Blackwater Estuary in the Early Middle Ages

VENUE: Bradwell-on-Sea Village Hall, South Street, Bradwell on Sea CM0 7QJ

This talk will consider the remarkable early-medieval history of Bradwell with an emphasis on its coastal setting. Johanna is a medieval historian and local resident who edited the book St Peter-on-the-Wall: Landscape and heritage on the Essex coast, which was published in 2023.



Friday 6th February 2026: Stephen Nunn – Dr SALTER (1841-1932) of TOLLESHUNT DARCY – A Larger than Life Character

VENUE: Tolleshunt D'Arcy Village Hall

Dr John Henry Salter was a truly remarkable man – one of England's last eccentrics. He lived nearly all his life in the village of Tolleshunt D'Arcy and achieved so much. He left his mark in very many sectors and his successes can be measured by some quite staggering, almost unbelievable statistics. Listen to Stephen tell his story.

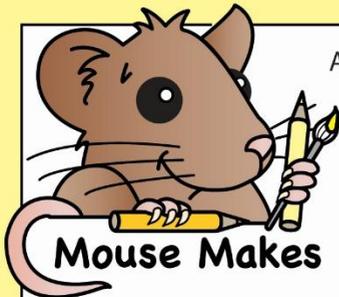


3rd March 2026: Maria Medlycott – Recent Archaeological Discoveries in Essex

VENUE: Friends Meeting House, Butt Lane, Maldon, CM9 5HD

Maria will present the results of the more interesting recent archaeological sites in Essex, and will discuss how these fit into our wider understanding of the archaeological evidence for the county. The sites help answer the question of how to fit 197 dead Saxons into one small hut, and the surprise discovery of an Essex Roman villa by a man in Cheshire.





At Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus, God's Son and our Saviour coming into the world as a baby, and we look forward to the time when Jesus will come again, not as a baby but as the King of kings and Lord of lords!

read
John 14:3

A baby needs clothes to keep warm like a snugly sleep suit or a vest and nappy.
What were you dressed in?
Jesus was wrapped in

.....
.....
read Luke 2:7

A baby needs somewhere to be born like at home or in a hospital.
Where were you born?

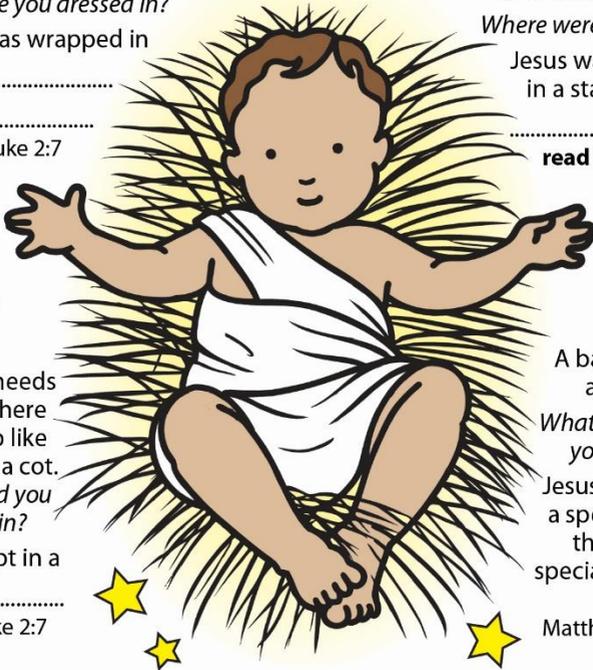
Jesus was born in a stable in
.....
read Luke 2:1-6

A baby needs somewhere to sleep like a crib or a cot.
What did you sleep in?
Jesus slept in a

.....
read Luke 2:7

A baby needs a name.
What name were you called?

Jesus was given a special name that had a special meaning.
read
Matthew 1:21-23



HAPPY CHRISTMAS!

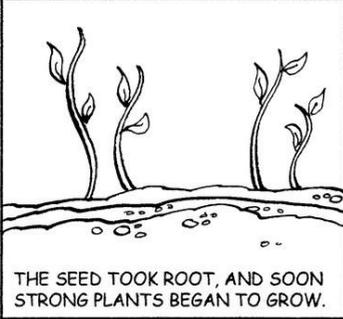
NADOLIG LLAWEN ✨ NOLLAIG CHRÏDHEIL ✨ NOLLAG SHONA
JOYEUX NOËL • FELIZ NAVIDAD • BUON NATALE • GOD JUL • FROHE WEIHNACHTEN

The tale of the Wheat and the Weeds

JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS

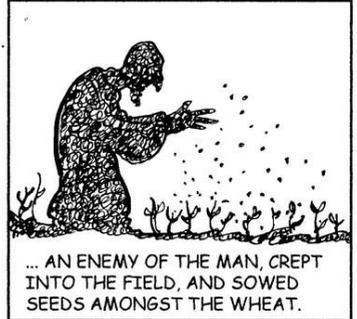


ONE DAY ABOUT A MAN WHO SOWED SEED IN HIS FIELD.



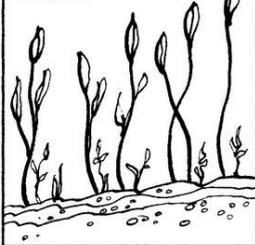
THE SEED TOOK ROOT, AND SOON STRONG PLANTS BEGAN TO GROW.

BUT ONE NIGHT, WHEN EVERYONE WAS ASLEEP...



... AN ENEMY OF THE MAN, CROPT INTO THE FIELD, AND SOWED SEEDS AMONGST THE WHEAT.

AS THE WHEAT BEGAN TO GROW, SO DID THE WEEDS.



WHEN THE SERVANTS SAW THE WEEDS THEY SUGGESTED RIPPING THEM OUT.

NO, LET'S LEAVE THEM UNTIL HARVEST TIME!



IF YOU PULL THEM UP NOW, YOU MIGHT KILL THE WHEAT TOO. WE'LL SORT THEM OUT AT HARVEST.



WHEN THE WHEAT WAS READY, IT WAS HARVESTED INTO HUGE BUNDLES.

BUT THE WEEDS WERE BURNED IN A LARGE FIRE.



THE PARABLE TELLS US THAT ALTHOUGH WE LIVE ALONGSIDE BADNESS, WE CAN KEEP SEPARATE FROM IT.



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PAROCHIAL INFORMATION:**St Lawrence****Rector****Rev Steven Poss****07830150713****Churchwardens:****Jane Pudney****01621772345****Gerry Lewsey****07516347520****Village View**

Eunice Siggins

778904

PCC SecretaryVictoria Eley email .eley@icloud.com

Rainbows 5 – 7 yrs

Brownies 7 - 10 years

Guides 10-14yrs

For information 07757636446

enquiries@girlguidingsexne.org.uk**District Councillor****Linda Haywood**Clr.lindahaywood@maldon.gov.uk**Wendy Laybourne**Clr.wendy.laybourne@maldon.co.uk**Parish Council Chairman****Marion Gibson**clrgibsob@stlawrence.pc.gov.uk**Clerk to the Parish Council****Kevin Money**clerk@stlawrence.pc.gov.uk**Council meet on 4th Wednesday of each month in Village Hall****Stone Sailing Club****Weekdays****779344****Church Flowers**

Rev S Poss

07830150713

Children Society

Eunice Siggins

778904

St Lawrence Singers

Friday at 5.45-7.00pm, Church Centre

Shirley Masterson 07956799989

Bridge Club

Mondays 1.30 Church Centre

St Lawrence Social Club1st Wednesday of month at

Village Hall

Secretary Gwen Adams 778386

Coffee Morning

Tuesday at 10.30am Church

Centre

Wednesday Board Games

2 -4.00pm Church Centre

Fridays Hobbies and Leisure

10.00am Church Centre

St Lawrence Village Hall

Bookings Marion Gibson 778102

Friends of St Lawrence**Newlands**

Carole Taylor

778523

John Barnes

779267

Table Tennis

Tuesdays 3-5pm at Village Hall

Diddydots Pre School

Monday – Friday 8am-2pm Term Time, Village Hall

Wendy Butterwick Keep Fit

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 7.30-8pm, Village Hall

Age Concern

01245 264499 Two Rivers

Association for Age Concern

Mobile Library

Every Three weeks, Thursdays St Lawrence Bay, Village Hall 11:40-12:10

Local Policing Team

Non Emergency

101

Emergency

999

Crimestoppers

Anonymous Crime Reporting

0800555111

The Dengie Medical Centre

Tillingham

778383

The Trinity Medical Centre

Mayland

745400

If any of the above information is incorrect or you wish to publicise your organisation then please contact Eunice Siggins on 01621 77778904

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