

FEBRUARY 2021

Village View

PAROCHIAL INFORMATION: BRADWELL-ON-SEA Revd Steven Poss 779620 Rector Churchwardens: Theresa Reed 776247 David Thorpe 776846 Parish Magazine Manager Age Concern 01245) 264499 Youth Club Roger Scurrell 776341 Two Rivers Association for Age Con-Fridays 5-11 years, 6.00 to 7.30pm 11 years-up, 7.30 to 9.00pm Church Flowers For information tel: St. Cedd's School Parent-Teacher David Thorpe 776846 Lynn Roughley 776555 Association Cherie Archer 776443 Secretary: Contact School 776219 Flowers at St Peter's Chapel 776846 David Thorpe Maldon & Burnham Standard Badminton/Table Tennis Correspondent Village Hall Bell Ringing - Tower Captain: Mrs Jean Allen 776547 Wednesdays Spm Brian Clayden John Noble St Thomas Bradwell Fridays 7.45 Clerk to the Parish Council bn bradwell@hotmail.com Emma Smith 07585 445307 Sunday ringing 10.00 am Fridays 10am Ann Barrett 4 Buttercup Way, Southminster, arrett@gmail.com CM0 7RZ Thursday Club Parish Council meetings Village Hall, St Thomas' Chapman Room - 1st Mobile Library 3rd Monday 8.00pm Every three weeks Thursdays East End Rd. Bradwell Thursday of month 2.30 - 4.00 P.C.C. Secretary 10.55-11.25am. Rainbows 5-7 vm Theresa Reed 776247 7 - 10 yrs Brownies -The Medical Centre 10 - 14 yrs Guides -: Othona Community Tillingham 778383 for information phone 07757636446 111

or email enquiries@girlguidingessevne orguk

Parish Child Protection Representative Clayton Ford. Mob:07946024549

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

Cubs 6.00 - 7, 30pm Thursdays Village Hall 7-10 yrs Marie

Bradwell Women's Institute Secretary. Miss Pat Brace 779725

776554

Village Hall 2nd Wednesday 7.45pm Warden Tim Fox 776564

St Peters Chapel Chaplain Rev S Poss 779620 District Councillor

Richard Dewick 776581 Bradwell Cruising Club

Enquiries: Mr Mick Leshy

Bradwell Flower Show Committee Secretary: 776588 Teresa Fowler

776444

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Mr R. Scurrell 776341 Chairman:-

St Codd's School Head Teacher Mrs L Wood 776219 Out of hours

The Trinity Medical Centre 745400 Mayland

Out of hours 111 Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator

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

From the Rector

Dear Friends,

As we move into February and in lockdown, we can continue to try and look above the restrictions under which we live and possibly start some new and fresh things for us to do in this new year.

It may be that we cannot do them to the full extent because of the restrictions, but this does not stop us from thinking and preparing for them to do later on in the year or beyond.

We certainly have the time to think these things through, I know that reading is a pleasant pass time as well as educational TV programmes, radio programmes or even online.

We also move into Lent after Ash Wednesday which is on 17th February, so do enjoy those pancakes the day before and try and build something into the Lent season for you as well as something new and fresh for the new year, the two things could even be combined. There are a number of online retreats as well as books to read for Lent, but do reflect on things interior too, a way for us to bless our days and loved ones with words and deeds of love, especially at this challenging times.

So, have a blessed Lenten season and I look forward hopefully to celebrate Easter with you in our churches in early April.

God Bless,

Reverend Steven

Village View

All copy for the March Village View should be sent to Roger Scurrell by phone (776341), posted through the letterbox of 6 St Thomas' Row, Bradwell, or by email to the address below, all by February 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 stthomaspcc@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 February 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.

Birds of a Feather

What is it that defines a bird? It flies? Not all do; ask an Ostrich. Has two legs? So do we. Lays eggs? So do turtles and snakes.

No – it's feathers. Birds have feathers and no other creature has (please correct me if I'm wrong). And this remarkable adaptation is responsible for so much of what we think of as 'avian', 'birdlike'.

Feathers give the great majority of birds their ability to fly. In particular, those feathers of the wing (the wing is the bird's arm or front leg really) have barbules which lock together when pressed down against the air, forcing the air out backwards, and the bird is propelled forwards. As the feathers are lifted, those barbules unlock and let the air through, ready for another down-stroke. That's all there is to flying, really And the tail feathers, controlled by muscles and blood vessels in the 'parson's nose' give stability and directional control. Those profile feathers (the forty fahsund or so, not just on frushes' froats) streamline the birds to reduce drag, so energy isn't wasted.

Once the creature can fly, it opens up the planet; for some birds quite literally. The ability to move so far, so fast, changes many birds' life style. And the ability to fly

changes many birds' diet, and enables them to feed in the air, or in the water, and in places they could not otherwise reach.

But feathers do much more than these things. Under the feathers there is down to insulate and give warmth – would you like to be clinging to a twig in a hedge tonight?

And what about the colours? Well, you do need to know who is the same species as you – especially if you're going to set up home with them – so colours are for recognition. And what about telling if the male is a good one? Think Peacock's tails – the best males have the best tails – size does matter.



And little Moorhen chicks, those tiny black balls of fluff, get lost in the reeds and rushes by the water. So mum (and dad) have a striking white arrow on their tails, and flick it, so the chick knows where to go. Dad may have found it useful earlier in the season, too. Robins have red breasts to tell their rivals they are *persona non grata* before the feathers really start flying.

So much of what we think of when we think 'bird' comes down to feathers. Without them – well, there would be no birds.

Gardening in February

Hopefully this month we will have the first signs of a much-welcomed spring. Time to do some final pruning and get the flower and vegetable beds ready for sowing and planting.

Prune Wisteria side-shoots back to 2-3 buds from the main branch.

Sow sweet peas under cover or on a cool windowsill.

In late February early March it's time to prune roses, cut 5mm above an outward facing bud, remove all dead or diseased wood, and any stems crossing the bush.

Prune apple and pear trees, concentrate on removing overcrowded growth, crossing stems, and dead, damaged, or dying branches. Aim for an open centre, through which air can circulate, as this will reduce the risk of pests and diseases Prune currant and gooseberry bushes.

Start chitting early potatoes.

Plant shallots and sow early broad beans.

St Valentine's Day, a poem

Saint Valentine's Day, many believe, was named after one or more Christian martyrs and was established by Pope Gelasius 1 in 496 AD. Valentine of Rome was martyred about 269, and this day usually 'belongs' to him.

The first recorded association of Valentine Day with romantic love (1382) is from Geoffrey Chaucer. He wrote, 'For this was Saint Valentine's Day, when every bird cometh there to choose his mate.' This poem was in honour of the first anniversary of the engagement of King Richard II of England to Anne of Bohemia. Valentine's Day is referred to by Ophelia in Hamlet (1600-1601).

To-morrow is St Valentine's day
All in the morning betime
And I a maid at your window
To be your Valentine.

The modern mention of Valentine's Day can be found in a collection of English nursery rhymes (1784):

The rose is red, the violet's blue
The honey's sweet, and so are you.
Thou are my love and I am thine
I drew thee to my Valentine.

Plant of the month Camellia

Camellias are a wonderful plant to have in an early spring garden. The bright colours are a delight to see after the gloom of the winter, especially after a lockdown winter we have just had. Related to the tea plant Camellias also originate from China and East Asia.

The shrubs are hardy, but the flowers can be susceptible to late frosts, so I find they always tend to be better planted on a north or west facing location, so if there is a frost the early morning sun will not get to the flowers.

An acid soil is best for Camellias, they can often be seen thriving in woodland areas where the abundance of leafmould ensures the soil is acid. If your soil is alkaline, which is common in this area, try growing Camellias in tubs in an ericaceous compost. If the soil is too alkaline the leaves will start to go yellow.

Strangely enough the best time to prune a camellia is whilst in flower, so it's a great plant to pick bunches of flowers for the house as this helps the plant to flour-ish next year.

The last comment I have is that the flower buds form in the summer and autumn so its important to ensure the plant roots do not dry out at this time, plenty of water and a mulch of leafmould around the base of the plant will help a great deal.

The pictures are of the two Camellias I have in tubs in my garden.

David Thorpe



The Othona Community in February 2021

Othona's founders, in 1946, recognised the huge challenge of bringing together into one Community men and women of all ages and backgrounds whose nations had just emerged from a war that ripped communities apart. What a struggle it must have been to uphold not only that sense of wartime "spirit of the blitz" togethness within parts of British society, but to extend and include this spirit throughout a Community of those with whom we had just been at war. Bradwell-on-Sea became the Centre for bringing together people from Germany, Russia, England and further afield, to face the shared and practical opportunity to build the basic infrastructure close to St Peter's Chapel, while at the same time building the relationships to sustain the Community within and beyond that Centre, reaching out to people of all ages and backgrounds, all nationalities, all faiths and none. They believed in us, people of their future.

In this, Othona's 75th Anniversary Year, do you still believe in the future of our Community? We now have Centres at Bradwell-on-Sea, Essex, and at Burton Bradstock, West Dorset, and hundreds of people who may rarely be able to share real time together in a physical Centre but who read about Othona as you are doing now, or who see each other through Zoom. Tell us, please, are we still fulfilling our purpose? Who and what do **you** think it is for?

I came first to Othona Bradwell with a Sunday School group in 1963. My family became increasingly involved and when our son was born in 1976 I became a regular visitor, then a local committee member, committee chair, a member of the planning group for the "New Building" now the Norman Motley Building, opened in 1994, when Tim Fox became the Warden. Dave and I moved to Bradwell to be nearer Othona, and I stayed more often at the West Dorset Centre. Having participated in an intensive review process for the whole of Othona, in 2012 I was invited to become a Trustee, later Chair of the Bradwell Centre, where five years ago Tim returned as Centre Manager. As a body of Trustees (Chair: Clare Fuller Gough) and Centre Management Teams (Tim shares his responsibilities with Debbie and Richard at Bradwell, Tony Jaques has a small team in Dorset) in these times of Covid we are constantly seeking new ways of fulfilling our purpose. Our vision has been to offer places where people may meet and share time together, often resulting in deep relationships by the breaking down of religious, international and social barriers, through Work, Worship, Study and Play together. All change! Face-to-Face meeting is not currently permitted so how do we continue to fulfil our purpose?

We want you to know that Othona is here for you. Do you need someone to talk to? Do ring or email. How about joining in some online activities: take a look at the Othona Bradwell website, there are regular worship and chat-room sessions.



Whether it's freshly baked bread for local food parcels, sharing community life, planning an educational visit for your school, or seeking a venue for your wedding or family celebration once restrictions are lifted, do keep in touch.

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 re-opening times – hoping to meet and greet you in 2021. Ruth Bull

Shrove Tuesday-Pancake Day

Ever wonder why we eat pancakes just before Lent? The tradition dates back to Anglo-Saxon times, when Christians spent Lent in repentance and severe fasting. So on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, the church bell would summon them

to confession, where they would be 'shriven', or absolved from their sins, which

gives us *Shrove* Tuesday. At home, they would then eat up their last eggs and fat, and making a pancake was the easiest way to do this. For the next 47 days, they pretty well starved themselves.

Pancakes feature in cookery books as far back as 1439, and today's pancake races are in remembrance of a panicked woman back in 1445 in Olney, Bucking-



hamshire. She was making pancakes when she heard the shriving bell calling her to confession. Afraid she'd be late, she ran to the church in a panic, still in her apron, and still holding the pan.

Flipping pancakes is also centuries old. A poem from Pasquil's Palin in 1619 runs: "And every man and maide doe take their turne, And tosse their Pancakes up for feare they burne."

Some people have noted that the ingredients of pancakes can be used to highlight four significant things about this time of year: eggs stand for creation, flour is the staff of life, while salt keeps things wholesome, and milk stands for purity.

Shrove Tuesday is always 47 days before Easter Sunday and falls between 3rd February and 9th March.

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Prayer and remembrance at a time of great loss



On Tuesday 28th January, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York invited the nation to pause, pray and remember the 100,000 people who have lost their lives to Covid-19 across the UK. The letter is available on the following link. <u>20210126 Letter to the nation.pdf</u> (churchofengland.org)

Starting on 1 February, they invite us to set aside time every evening to pray, particularly at 6pm each day. Resources, including a specially written prayer have been made available on the Church of England website. Prayer for the nation | The Church of England

Bishop Peter from the Chelmsford Diocese encourage's all across the diocese to participate in this daily act of prayer and ask you to make this known in your own parishes and worshiping communities.

Gracious God, as we remember before you the thousands who have died, surround us and all who mourn with your strong compassion. Be gentle with us in our grief, protect us from despair, and give us grace to persevere and face the future with hope in Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Amen.

Watch, O Lord, with those who wake, or watch, or weep tonight, and give your angels and saints charge over those who sleep.

Tend your sick ones, O Lord Christ.
Rest your weary ones.

Bless your dying ones.

Soothe your suffering ones.

Pity your afflicted ones.

Shield your joyous ones, and all for your love's sake.

Amen. Attributed to St. Augustine

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.SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 2021

| Time | Service | Place | Readings |
|------------------------|---|--------------|---|
| 7 th | 2 nd Sunday before Lent | | |
| 10.00 | Joint Benefice | Zoom Service | Malachi 3; 1-5 Hebrews 2; 14-18 Luke 2; 22-40 |
| 10.30 | Joint Benefice Communion | Online | |
| 14th | Sunday Before Lent | | |
| 10.00 | Joint Benefice | Zoom Service | 2 Kings 2; 1-12 2 Corinthians 4; 3-6 Mark 9; 2-9 |
| 10.30 | Joint Benefice All Age Service | Online | |
| 17th | Ash Wednesday | | |
| TBA | Ash Wednesday | Zoom Service | Joel 2; 1-2, 12-17 2 Corinthians 5; 20 – 6; 10 Mark 9; 2-9 |
| 10.30 | Joint Benefice Ash Wednesday Service | Online | |
| 21st | Lent 1 | | |
| 10.00 | Joint Benefice | Zoom Service | Genesis 9; 8-17 -1 Peter 3; 18-22 Mark 1; 9-15 |
| 10.30 | Joint Benefice Communion | Online | |
| 28th | Lent 2 | | |
| 9.00 | Joint Benefice Communion | Zoom Service | Genesis 17; 1-7, 15-16 Romans 4; 13-25 Mark 8; 31-38 |
| 10.30 | Joint Benefice All Age Service | Online | |
| 7 th Mar | 2 nd Sunday before Len | t | |
| 9.00 | Joint Benefice Com- munion | Zoom Service | Exodus 20; 1-17 1 Corinthians 1; 18-25 John 2; 13-22 |
| 10.30 | Joint Benefice Com- munion | Online | |

Details to the online services will be available on the Church web site.

Please note all services are subject to change with any changes to COVID 19 Restrictions. Please see Church Notice Board and website for up to date information.

Church web site https://e-voice.org.uk/bradwellchurch/sunday-services/

Valentine's Day

There are two confusing things about this day of romance and anonymous love-cards strewn with lace, cupids and ribbon: firstly, there seem to have been two different Valentines in the 4th century - one a priest martyred on the Flaminian Way, under the emperor Claudius, the other a bishop of Terni martyred at Rome. Neither seems to have had any clear connection with lovers or courting couples.

So why has Valentine become the patron saint of romantic love? By Chaucer's time the link was assumed to be because on these saints' day -14th February - the birds are supposed to pair. Or perhaps the custom of seeking a partner on St Valentine's Day is a surviving



scrap of the old Roman Lupercalia festival, which took place in the middle of February. One of the Roman gods honoured during this Festival was Pan, the god of nature. Another was Juno, the goddess of women and marriage. During the Lupercalia it was a popular custom for young men to draw the name of a young unmarried woman from a name-box. The two would then be partners or 'sweethearts' during the time of the celebrations. Even modern Valentine decorations bear an ancient symbol of love - Roman cupids with their bows and love-arrows.

There are no churches in England dedicated to Valentine, but since 1835 his relics have been claimed by the Carmelite church in Dublin.

Readings for St Valentine's Day are 1 John 4 and 1 Corinthian's 13; 1-13

Ash Wednesday

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. But why 'Ash' Wednesday? The reason has to do with getting things right between you and God, and the tradition goes right back to the Old Testament.



In the Old Testament, the Israelites often sinned. When they finally came to their senses, and saw their evil ways as God saw them, they could do nothing but repent in sorrow. They mourned for the damage and evil they had done. As part of this repentance, they covered their heads with ashes. For the Israelites, putting ashes on your head, and even rending your clothes, was an outward sign of their heart-felt repentance and acknowledgement of sin. (See Genesis 18:27; 2 Samuel 13:19; Job 2:8, 30:19; Isaiah 58:5; Jeremiah 6:26; Jonah 3:6)

In the very early Christian Church, the yearly 'class' of penitents had ashes sprinkled over them at the beginning of Lent. They were turning to God for the first time, and mourning their sins. But soon many other Christians wanted to take part in the custom, and to do so at the very start of Lent. They heeded Joel's call to 'rend your hearts and not your garments' (Joel 2:12-19). Ash Wednesday became known as either the 'beginning of the fast' or 'the day of the ashes'.

The collect for today goes back to the Prayer Book, and it stresses the penitential character of the day. It encourages us with the reminder of the readiness of God to forgive us and to renew us.

The Bible readings for today are often Joel 2:1-2, 12–18, Matthew 6: 1-6,16 – 21 and Paul's moving catalogue of suffering, "as having nothing and yet possessing everything." (2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10)

The actual custom of 'ashing' was abolished at the Reformation, though the old name for the day remained. Today, throughout the Church of England, receiving the mark of ashes on one's forehead is optional. Certainly, the mark of ashes on the forehead reminds people of their mortality: "Remember that you are dust and to dust you will return..." (Genesis 3:19)

The late medieval custom was to burn the branches used on Palm Sunday in the previous year in order to create the ashes for today.

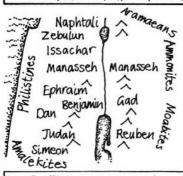
The Collect for Ash Wednesday is:

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

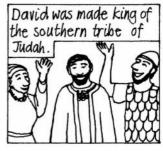
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A short story from the Bible

When the Jews reached the place that God had promised them, each tribe was given land to live in. But they were surrounded by enemies.







But Saul's army commander, Abner, took Saul's last son, Ishbosheth,north and made him king of the rest of Israel



Joab was David's commander. The two armies fought and Abner killed Joab's brother.



Isbosheth was a poorking and Abner decided to join David.



Abner persuaded all of the northern tribes to have David as king.



Abner came for a secret meeting with David.

But Joab found out.

So Joab tricked Abner into another meeting and killed him.



Then two men sneaked into Ishbosheth's house and killed him as he had a nap.

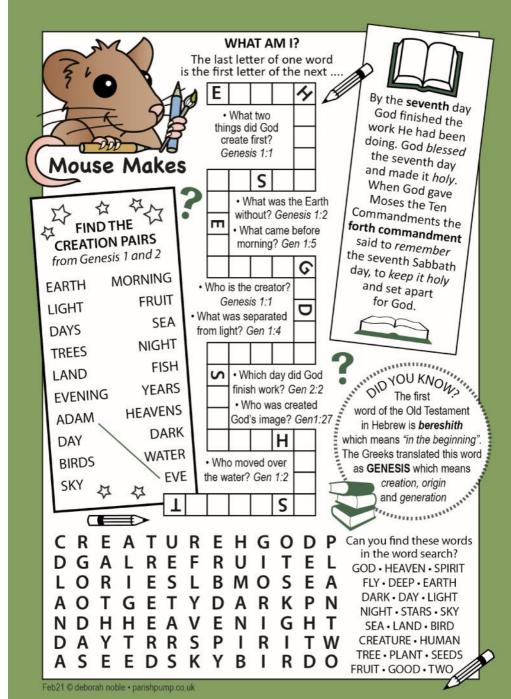


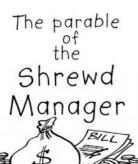
They expected a reward from David but he was very angry because they had murdered Ishbosheth.



So David became king over all of Israel.

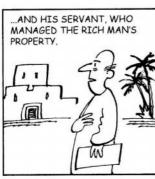
















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SO THEY ALTERED THEIR DEBTS - AND STAYED FRIENDS WITH THE MANAGER.

JESUS EXPLAINED THAT THE MANAGER HAD BEEN WISE IN MANAGING HIS FUTURE... EVEN THOUGH HE WAS BEING DISHONEST.





JESUS WAS TRYING TO ENCOURAGE THE PEOPLE TO THINK ABOUT THEIR OWN FUTURES TOO. BUT IT'S A HARD PARABLE TO UNDERSTAND!

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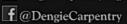
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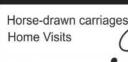


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Rector

Churchwardens:

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Jane Pudney

Shirley Lea

779620 772345 779403

Parish Magazine Shirley Lea

779403

Monday

Pebbles 10.00 - 12.00moon Mothers and toddlers get together (Dads welcome) for tea, coffee and

a chat Clive & Lesley Bennett 776298

d Bob Dor

Thursday

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

The Friends of St Lawrence

Newland Church

ST. LAWRENCE

St Lawrence PCC Secretary Victoria Eloy v.eloy@icloud.com

Parish Council Chairman; Gerry Lewsey

gerald.lewsey@yahoo.com Clerk to the Parish Council: Kevin Money slparishclerk@gmail.com 1.30pm & Friday 7.30

1" Wednesday of the month

Bridge Club

Carole Taylor 778523 John Barnes 779267

District Councillor

Penny Channer 740607 Michael Helm St Lawrence Social Club Secretary Gwen Adams 778386 Church Centre Activities
All Church Centre bookings:
Shirley Lea 779403

St Lawrence Village Hall

Contact K. Terkelsen

Tara Pringle

Stone Sailing Club

779344

Rainbow Guides

5-7 years for information phone 07757636446 or email

enquir-

ios@girlguidingessexne.org.uk

G-----

(Weekends)

Church Flowers
Margaret Cowell 779219
Janet Cowell 779310

Tuesday II.00am Coffee Morning Mauroen Storey Mobile Library Fridays 11.45am to 12.30pm South Woodham Library (01245) 29555

St Lawrence Singers

Friday at 5.45 - 7.00pm Margaret Garlick Wednesday Women's Institute 779328. 2nd Wednesday 7.30pc

2nd Wednesday 7.30pm President: Cathie Bomich

President: Cathie Bomich W Secretary: Carol Kellsher 778370 C

The Medical Centre Tillingham

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