

Newsletter Vol. 4  
No. 2 – Winter 2015

# Langford & Ulting News



## Langford Village from the air

Sometimes you can only appreciate the beauty of an area from above. Shapes of buildings not normally seen from ground level gain proportion when viewed from this height. This picture of Langford's Conservation Area was taken from a Cessna, before the extensions and additions to the Village Hall were built, but it encapsulates the area well. Although many houses have been built or altered since the original settlement began, the basic layout remains the same – a linear formation along established roads with an abundance of trees and open green spaces. According to the Rev. Philip Morant (1700-1770) the historian of Essex, the parish of Langford: '...lies along the side of the River Pant or Blackwater, and the Long Ford here is what occasioned the name. Lang in Saxon is the same as long.' It is otherwise written in records Langefort, Langheforda (1086 Domesday Book); Langord (1252); Longeford (1306), Lanckforde(e) (in reference to the hall in 1592).. Of course the name came from a time when the waters of the Blackwater spread over a much wider

area than at present. Also, the ford today (that is just off our picture to the right) is much smaller than the original one, and indeed no longer crosses the original River Blackwater. The meadow grounds bordering the river have always been extremely fertile. In ancient times, water from the mill was separate from the river, and so a long bridge was constructed to enable people to cross. However, the long bridge was a matter of some annoyance to the local people who had to pay for its upkeep, for others to use.

We are very fortunate in our two parishes to have such wonderful green spaces with a real rural aspect, and it is something we should fight very hard to hang on to – as they say, once it's gone, it's gone...

### In this issue

Editor's note .....	p.2
Would you like to be a Parish Councillor? .....	p.2
Places of Worship .....	p.2
Update on the Neighbourhood Plan .....	p.2
Community Diary .....	p.3
UK Power Networks .....	p.3
Parish Council Precept .....	p.3
The Way We Were .....	p.3
Langford & Ulting Village Hall ...	p.4-5
Can you identify these players? ..	p.5
Community Agents Update.....	p.6
Great War Remembered Frederick Barker .....	p.6
Hedging for Wildlife.....	p.7

## EDITOR'S NOTE



Well, what a miserable start to the New Year. Still, the days are drawing out now, and spring is (finally) in the air. This will be the last newsletter before the Local Government elections on 7th May, so depending on the outcome you might have a new Editor in the next edition...

### Would you like to be a Parish Councillor?

As the term of office for your Parish Councillors will expire at the end of April, it is now time to think about who will represent you for the years 2015 to 2020. Have you ever considered standing for election? The Parish Council is always looking for enthusiastic people who have the well-being of their village at heart, so if you feel you would like to stand, please let your Parish Clerk know and we will get you a form.

**You will need to get your nomination forms in by 4 p.m. on Thursday 9th April, so don't delay.**

Although the post of Parish Councillor is unpaid, the benefits of serving your community and having some influence (albeit not as much as you might like) in these two thriving parishes is immense. Knowing that you have played your part in trying to maintain our unique rural identity can be very satisfying. So, if you feel you would like to contribute something to your village, do let us know – we look forward to hearing from you.

#### Your (Current) Parish Council:

**Chairman** – Andrew Tween (Tel: 01245 381598)

andrewtween@btinternet.com

**Vice-Chairman** (and Newsletter Editor)

Irene Allen – (Tel: 01621 855447), irenea@lepra.org.uk

#### Councillors:

Vicky Anfilogoff (Tel: 01621 840532) anfilogoff@gmail.com

Kathy Palmer (Tel: 01245 382417) Katherinepalmer@live.co.uk

Richard Perry (Tel: 01621 841518) Millhousehotel@uk2.net

**Clerk** – Jenny Clemo (Tel: 01245 380852) Ultingcattery@gmail.com

or visit [www.essexinfo.net/langford-ulting](http://www.essexinfo.net/langford-ulting)

## Places of Worship

### St. Giles' Church, Langford

Rev. Peter Low – 01621 841274

Email: revbikes@btinternet.com

[www.stgileslangford.org.uk](http://www.stgileslangford.org.uk)

Services at 9 a.m. every week

1st Sunday – Holy Communion

2nd Sunday – Matins

3rd, 4th, 5th Sunday – Holy Communion

### All Saints Church, Ulting

Rev. Stephen Northfield – 01245 380958

Email: SRNorthfield@aol.com

Services of Holy Communion at 9 a.m. on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month

## Update on the Neighbourhood Plan

The Pre-submission Draft of the Plan is nearing completion. Vicky Anfilogoff and Jenny Clemo recently met with our Consultant, Ann, who is now working on finalising policies which the Parish Council has been evolving based upon the majority views generated by the surveys and public consultation meetings over the past two years. As part of the process a Character Assessment of our Parish - a major task - was required and Irene Allen and Jenny took this on and it is now almost finished.

When it is completed the Plan – after being viewed by the Parish Council - will be out for consultation to all residents and statutory external consultees either online or to view as a hard copy at designated places in each Parish to gather your views, and there will be a form for residents to express their thoughts on each of the policies. There is a statutory time limit for this process of six weeks, after which time we will review all of the forms and see if any alterations need to be made. Since there was, by and large, a clear majority of opinion on each topic in the surveys for a specific outcome we are hoping that there will not be too much need to change things as the policies set out to support these views.

We will also endeavour to capture in the Plan any aspirations that we have as a community that are not planning related and are continuing, long term wishes such as the 30mph speed limit through Langford. We are looking through all of the responses we received for further things to add to this list and would welcome any other thoughts on this.

Jenny and Vicky are also undertaking a sweep of other Neighbourhood Plan examiners' reports to get a feel for their style as we will be able to put forward three names to Maldon District Council to choose our examiner. We are also currently double checking the Housing Needs Survey to make sure that data recorded, figures given and graphs all tie up before including it in the Plan.

Unfortunately, as you can see from the information above, there are statutory time constraints on each process in making the Plan which rather ties our hands insofar as current planning applications are concerned. However, it is a document that would weigh very heavily in the scales against undesirable development and the best we can do is to get through this first stage as quickly as possible.

We really want this pre-submission document to reach as many people as possible, so to ensure that you receive a copy would you please send your email address to Vicky at [anfilogoff@googlemail.co.uk](mailto:anfilogoff@googlemail.co.uk) or Jenny at [ultingcattery@googlemail.com](mailto:ultingcattery@googlemail.com), so that we can ensure that you are kept fully in the picture and can have your say. Thank you.

## Community Diary – February - May 2015

**Saturday 14th March – Big Book Sale,**  
St. Giles' Church, Langford, 10 a.m.-12 noon.  
Free admission

**Sunday 15th March – Antique Fair with Mothers Day,** Museum of Power, Langford - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Adult £2.50; (£3.00 between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m.); Children free.

**Sunday 22nd March – Science Sunday,** Museum of Power, Langford – 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Adult £5:00; Senior £4:50; Children (5 to 15) £2:00 Children under 2 free.

**Saturday/Sunday 28th/29th March – Art Show,** Langford & Ulting Village Hall, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Sunday 29th March – Palm Sunday Service,** St. Giles' Church, 9 a.m.

**Sunday 5th April – Easter Day Service,** St. Giles' Church, 9.15 a.m.

**Sunday 5th April – Transport Fest,** Museum of Power, Langford – 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Adult £6:00; Senior £5:00; Children (5 to 15) £2:00 Children under 2 free.

**Sunday 3rd May – Steam Day & Garden Show,** Museum of Power, Langford – 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Adult £5:00; Senior £4:50; Children (5 to 15) £2:00 Children under 2 free.

**Sunday 31st May – Old Tyme Rally,** Museum of Power, Langford – 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Adult £6:00; Senior £5:00; Children (5 to 15) £2:00 Children under 2 free.

## UK Power Networks

Power cuts don't happen very often these days, but when they do it is UK Power Networks' job to ensure that power is restored as soon as possible. They own and maintain electricity cables and lines across London and the South East of England. They have a Priority Service Register for those who may need extra support during a power cut. Vulnerable residents will receive:

- A priority number they can call 24 hours a day if they have a power cut
- Regular text message or phone updates during a power cut
- A welcome booklet
- Extra support from the British Red Cross to visit their home during an emergency (they will check with the customer first)

To register if you feel you should receive priority service, call 0800 31 63 105. A range of resources can also be downloaded from their website: [brand@ukpowernetworks.co.uk](mailto:brand@ukpowernetworks.co.uk). If you have any questions call Andy Jenner on 07875117136 or email him at [andy.jenner@ukpowernetworks.co.uk](mailto:andy.jenner@ukpowernetworks.co.uk)

## Parish Council Precept

Parish councils are funded principally by an annual precept. Income and expenditure for the financial year are calculated annually in the form of estimates. The net amount is added to Local Council Tax which is collected by Maldon District Council. Parish councils do not receive direct Government funding; any additional money relies on funding through grants or funding awards.

At the Parish Council meeting in January, parish councillors agreed that the amount required for 2015/16 would remain the same as 2013/14 at £6700. This includes an expected Local Council Tax Support scheme grant of £190 from Maldon District Council. The main items of expenditure include: administration costs, elections, insurance, cutting the grass at both churchyards, street lighting (Langford), maintaining the tractor mower and repairs to churchyard fences. The Neighbourhood Plan requires funding and a provision for this has been made. Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd sponsored one newsletter and CML Microsystems Plc have kindly sponsored the newsletters over the last three years but we are always looking for new sponsors so that this publication can continue.

## The Way We Were...



This fantastic picture of Langford mill before it was burned down in 1879 has been forwarded to me courtesy of Ken Russell, who used to live in Langford. As I'm sure you'll agree, it is a wonderful depiction of the slower pace of life that we used to enjoy at that time and below, taken a few years later, is this view a little further up from the mill. If you have any old pictures of either Langford or Ulting, and perhaps any anecdotes, I'd love to hear from you.



## Langford & Ulting Village Hall



There has been some speculation recently about the funds accumulated by the Village Hall Management Committee, so we thought it was timely to scotch some inaccurate statements that have been bandied about, and let you know how the Committee was set up and what its remit is.

In 1986, negotiations took place between the Essex Water Company and the Parish Council about the purchase of the old, redundant Victorian cowshed at a cost of £10,000. At this time the village hall was one room and a kitchen in the old school which was rented on an annual tenancy from Lord Byron's estate, with no long-term security, no parking facilities and outside toilets. The Parish Council agreed to buy the cowshed because, at that time, the Essex Water Company and Ernest Doe and Sons accounted for some 80% of the rates yield allocated to the Parish, and so the burden on parishioners was going to be quite small. The precept was increased to £13,000 in 1988/89 and to £19,500 in 1989/90 so that funds started to accumulate for the Village Hall Project. It was therefore the precept that paid the initial £10,000 for the building. A Public Works Loan Board loan was taken out at this time for a total of £60,000 (the estimated total cost of the conversion) repayable over 60 years, and this money was transferred to a High Income cheque account in July 1987. The then Chairman of the Council was Peter Hedge.

Unfortunately, before the project was underway, the Poll Tax was introduced whereby the whole burden of the conversion would fall on residents (as Business Rates no longer accrued to parishes). As there was an understandable outcry by parishioners, it was agreed that the loan would be repaid. However, because interest rates had risen and the loan was long-term, the Parish Council received a 'Reverse Premium' from the loan amounting to £40,000 which didn't cost the village a penny. Peter Hedge resigned from the Council and David Robinson took over. A sub-Committee was formed from the Parish Council which oversaw the choice of architect (Plater, Inkpen, Vale & Downie), the appointment of contractors (Capons and Evan Phillips), all from Maldon, and the completion of the work. Councillor Caroline Spong agreed to keep regularly in touch with our chosen builders on behalf of the sub-Committee. The architects began drawing up plans in January 1988 and once negotiations were concluded with the Water Company, the cowshed and its surrounding land was duly transferred to the Parish Council in April 1989 '...to be used as a village hall for the parish of Langford and Ulting.' The loan from the Public Works Loan Board was repaid on 11th April 1990, by which time the Parish Council had an investment of some £49,489 for the conversion.

As the funds available were much less than originally estimated, enormous reliance was put on local

volunteers, who painted the hall, donated fittings and equipment (including the kitchen), and gave freely of their time and expertise. To reflect the building's origins, Ken Miller made the wonderful weathervane (which was erected by Andy Cullen), and Sally Chetwyn (Caroline Spong's mother) made the unique cow tiles in the kitchen.

Work on refurbishing the building began on 6th March 1992, and at a meeting held on 20th January 1993, the Parish Council was asked to contribute 10% of the cost of planting the proposed woodland scheme. Contractors would plant the trees and maintain the site for the first year, after which the Parish Council would be responsible – this was completed in March 1993.

The new Langford and Ulting Village Hall was opened by Mrs. Herrmann, District Councillor, at the bonfire party on 6th November 1993. Official request for change of use from cowshed to village hall was applied for in April 1994, and the following



month the new Village Hall was commended in the Maldon District Conservation and Design Awards. A presentation ceremony was held on 29th June, 1994, in St. Mary's Church, Maldon at 11.30 a.m. The Chairman of the Parish Council (David Robinson) and Vice-Chairman (Caroline Spong) attended. The total cost of the refurbishment, excluding VAT, came to £60,360 + other costs (architects, insurance, building regulations etc.) of £8,096. After one full year the Village Hall was fully operational and financially viable. The Management Committee was congratulated for this. Two grants were received from Maldon District Council in August 1994 – one for £613 which helped pay for the tables and chairs, the other for £5,000 which went towards the car park.

The cowshed having been refurbished and fitted out as a Village Hall, the next question was how to maintain and manage it for the benefit of the village. It was decided that this would best be done by forming a charity which would take a lease of the property from the Parish Council. A group of villagers, headed by John Tomlins, agreed to form a committee to accept the responsibility, and on the 25th May 1994 a Lease and Trust Deed was entered into. Under the terms of this deed, the Parish Council let the village hall and grounds to the Village Hall Committee for 50 years at a nominal (£1 per annum if demanded) rent, and the Village Hall Committee undertook to pay all outgoings for the property, to keep it in good and substantial repair and to insure it in its full reinstatement value. This deed also contains the constitution of the village hall as a charity, and the deed was registered at the Charity Commissioners under No. 1039364. Under the terms of the deed the property is to be held on trust for the purposes of a village hall for the use and benefit of the



inhabitants of the combined Parish of Langford and Ulting without distinction of political, religious or other opinions including use for meetings, lectures and classes and for other forms of recreation and leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants. This Trust Deed stated that a charity was to be set up and '...administered in conformity with the provisions of this deed by the committee of management...who shall be the Charity trustees of the Charity within the meaning of Section 97(1) of the Charities Act 1993.' This stipulated that a Management Committee was to be set up consisting of ten elected members, including not more than five co-opted members, to be elected at the Annual General Meeting each year. It was also stated that 'Except in special circumstances...no member of the Committee shall take or hold any interest in any property belonging to the Charity otherwise than as a trustee for the purposes thereof or receive any remuneration or be interested in the supply of work or goods at the cost of the Charity.'

The initial trustees were John Tomlins, Max Prasser, Brian Hobden, Merle Pipe, Glynis Yuill, Jill Gothard, Anne Anderson, Hannah Robinson, Caroline Spong and Margaret Watson, but mention should also be made of Cilla Driver and Albert Chaplin who have been stalwart supporters from the very beginning. Over the years there have been retirements and new appointments, but three of the original trustees (John, Merle and Caroline) remain in place. If you google the Charity Commission website you can see updated information for the charity. Although under the original deed the legal title of the leasehold interest was vested in John from Ulting, and Max (from the School House, Langford) as nominees of the Village Hall Committee, that title has been transferred to the Official Custodian for Charities. This ensures that there is no problem with the legal title however many changes in trustees there are, but the obligations under the lease nevertheless remain with the committee! As required under the terms of the Charity Deed, an Annual General Meeting is held each year, usually in October, and all inhabitants of the parish are welcome to attend, when reports and accounts are presented and trustees appointed.

The deed also stipulated that after satisfying its obligations regarding repairs and insurance, the Committee should '...as and when it thinks fit apply the net yearly income for the purposes of the charity.' It also said that 'Any sum of cash at any time belonging to the Charity and not needed as a balance for working purposes shall (unless otherwise directed by the Charity Commissioners) be invested'. So over the years, since the village hall has generally operated at a profit, a healthy balance has been built up and substantially maintained, providing the ability to properly look after the premises, to deal with emergencies (such as flooding and vandalism). This came into force with the floods of 2001 which left eleven inches of water in the building and put the Village Hall out of action for several months; a lot of work and expenditure was needed to put it back into serviceable use again. It was also required when various acts of mindless vandalism to both the building and the fencing required instant attention. But there have also been several improvements,

such as the entrance hall addition, the storage building, the provision of a decent (and extended) car parking area and the management and replacement of trees and shrubs. In order to fulfil its obligations with regard to the building and its environs, the Village Hall Management Committee, in April 1996, purchased its own mower to maintain the grassed areas. In 2014 the floor was refurbished, and this year the Management Committee will be redecorating the interior of the building and repointing the exterior brickwork.

Despite fears from some residents at the time the



village hall proposal was mooted that no-one would use it, the hall has proved extremely popular for both weekday and evening use, and is a much sought-after venue for wedding receptions, birthday parties and other celebrations. In 1994 the Little Oaks Nursery School was set up during term times, and continues to this day.

The next village event will be the annual Art Show, generally reckoned to be the best for miles around, which will take place on the weekend of the 28th/29th March from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is a great event and an excellent opportunity to see some fantastic works of art and meet other villagers, so we do hope we will see you there.

This is one of the most successful and user-friendly village halls in the county, with excellent facilities for disabled users and, as such, is in constant use with dates booked well in advance. We should be very proud of this wonderful village asset and grateful to those whose prudent efforts made it possible.

### **Can you identify any of these players?**

This is a snapshot of the Langford Cricket Team,



and although we know who some of them are, regrettably we cannot put names to them all. If you can help remedy this I would be very pleased to hear from you. Do you have other sporting pictures of either Langford or Ulting? Did you play yourself? Do let me know ([irenea@lepra.org.uk](mailto:irenea@lepra.org.uk))

## Community Agents Update



A new service was launched in July 2014 to support older people and their informal carers to help themselves or one another to find and

implement independent living solutions. In just five months Community Agents have visited over 1,000 clients across Essex. Thirty four of the planned 36 Community Agents have been recruited countywide with vacancies in Basildon and Brentwood. Recruitment is taking place for the remaining two posts and the shortfall is currently being covered by other agents working additional hours.

Age UK Essex Voice Network has successfully recruited 26 volunteers to engage with clubs and groups for older people in Essex and promote the benefits of Community Agents. Support volunteers are in the process of being recruited. Anyone interested should contact the Service Coordinator on 01245 291024. Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators are being invited to join the project to spread the word at street level. Awareness and communications training is planned for this year to help them identify those who would benefit from the services Community Agents offers and to encourage potential clients to come forward. Social Care Customer Service Operators are being offered the opportunity to shadow an agent to see how the project works on the ground. At the same time experienced agents will sit with operators to help them maximise appropriate referrals. Extensive engagement activity has been taking place with clinical commissioning groups, Essex Police, Police and Crime Commissioner, Essex Fire and Rescue and District/Borough/City Councils.

At a local level agents and the project team are researching and linking directly with community, faith and other groups. They are attending meetings with local organisations such as health and wellbeing boards, CVSs and CABs to ensure the Community Agent scheme is recognised and integrated as a major community support provider for older people in Essex. If you would like to discuss links with the project please call the enquiries line on 0800 977 5858 or 01376 574341, Case studies on key successes will be uploaded to the Community Agents website, [www.communityagentsessex.org.uk](http://www.communityagentsessex.org.uk) later this year. The website content is being updated as the project progresses.

## The Great War Remembered

Pte. Frederick Alfred Barker – an Ulting Boy



Frederick was born in Woodham Walter, the fifth child and third son of Edward and Harriet Barker. Edward was an Agricultural Labourer, some 14 years older than his wife, and in all there were seven children in the family: Rosa (1890), Frank (1891), Mary (1894 - although she died, at just 8 months old the same year), Arthur (1896), Frederick (1898), Edith

(1900) and Evelyn (1902). Frederick and his elder brother Arthur were baptised together in St. Michael's Church, Woodham Walter, on 23rd October 1898 by Rev. R.H. Falkener.

In 1901 the family had moved from Woodham Walter to Bumfords Road, Ulting, where Edward was an Agricultural Labourer and there were five children at home. In 1902 the last child, Evelyn May was born in Ulting, but sadly, barely two years later, her mother Harriet died, and was buried in Ulting Churchyard on 30th August 1904 aged just 39. In 1911 the family lived in Barnfields Cottages, Ulting. Samuel (68), Arthur (14) and Frederick (13) worked as Farm Labourers, and Rosa (21) kept house for them in the absence of her mother. Edith (11) was at school, and Evelyn (9) was at home.

When war broke out, Frederick joined up at just 16 years old. He became Pte. Barker 2574 in the 5th Battalion, Essex Regiment, and later transferred to the Labour Corps (622168) but sadly died of wounds on 28th April 1919 at the General Military Hospital in Colchester aged 21. That was a sad year for the family, as Samuel died just before his son and was buried in Ulting churchyard on 28th March 1919, and his son followed him in All Saints' Burial Register on 2nd May 1919, both interments being carried out by Rev. H.M. Lang, Vicar. Frederick has a military headstone.

On 24th March 1924, Frank Barker applied for his dead brother's medals – a sad keepsake of a much-loved sibling.

In future issues we will be looking at other boys from the Ulting War Memorial. Do you have any information or photographs of them?

Do you fancy doing some voluntary work to help your village? As spring arrives and the miserable weather recedes there are lots of jobs that need doing – litter picking being one of the most important – but have you ever thought of adopting a grave? Right now we are trying to restore our churchyards by clearing graves, planting wildflowers and tidying up borders. If you feel you would like to help, and are willing to give up an hour or two at some time, please contact one of your Councillors who will put you in touch with the right people.

## Hedging for wildlife

With so many hedges having been grubbed out over the years, our wildlife are finding it increasingly difficult to find nesting sites. So, if you are thinking of renewing your fences or putting in hard boundary materials, why not think about planting a hedge instead? Hedge plants are cheap,



easy to plant and form an attractive boundary more quickly than many gardeners imagine. As well as providing structure to the garden, hedges are perfect for wildlife - particularly nesting birds. Planting a mixture of hedging

plants provide much needed food, shelter and nesting sites for our birds and they can give year-round colour and interest.

In the past hedgerows were considered essential for marking ownership boundaries, and for keeping livestock in or out of fields. Although hedgerows remain vitally important for agriculture, those early reasons for keeping hedges are less valid now, with the easy availability of accurate maps, GPS and wire fencing. However, there are very good reasons for looking after existing hedgerows and for planting more. The UK is rightly known throughout the world for its rich and varied patterns of hedgerows which are part of our cultural and landscape heritage.

Some people believe that hedgerows are fairly recent additions to the countryside, having been planted across an open landscape under the Enclosure Acts of the early 19th Century. In fact, at least half our hedges are older than this, and many are hundreds, if not thousands, of years old, being remnants of the original wildwood that covered Britain and Ireland long before man began cultivating the soil. So, a great many of our hedgerows are ancient and of historical interest in their own right. This is particularly true where they mark parish boundaries, ancient monuments or other such features.

Hedgerows are very important for wildlife in their own right, and are recognised as a priority habitat for conservation action within the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP). Hedgerows contain a wealth of different plant and animal species, and across large swathes of the countryside are an essential habitat and refuge for the majority of our wildlife, especially for a large number of threatened or rare species. The very high importance of hedgerows for birds is clear from the following facts. No less than 21 priority BAP bird species are associated with hedgerows, and for 13 of these, hedgerows are their primary habitat. Similarly, as many as 16 out of the 19 birds used by the Government to assess the state of farmland wildlife are associated with hedgerows, with 10 using them as a primary habitat. We also have a rich tradition of different hedgerow management techniques, particularly of hedge laying, and this too is an important part of our cultural heritage, one which helps to give both a sense of continuity and one of place to

local communities.

Hedgerows are also invaluable in helping to conserve essential natural resources such as soil and water, and in helping to prevent pollution. Although this has been appreciated in Europe for many years, only recently in the UK are we too coming to appreciate the highly significant role hedgerows can play in these respects, in part because of increasing concerns over climate change. So many hedges were grubbed out to make fields bigger and 'easier to manage' but the damage to wildlife and indeed, as was shown later, to agriculture itself, was immense.

Hedgerows can be very effective at preventing loss of soil from fields, either through reducing wind erosion or through acting as a barrier to water-borne run-off. They also help to prevent drifting in times of heavy snowfall, and play a valuable role in reducing the amount of polluting fertilisers, pesticides and sediment that reach watercourses, by acting as a physical barrier. For this reason they are often planted along contours above ditches, streams and rivers, and are very effective at regulating water supply for crops, in several ways. Firstly, through decreasing wind speed over the ground surface, hedgerows reduce water loss



through evaporation in areas prone to drought. Secondly, hedges can help to store water for later use, and thirdly, because of their deep roots, hedgerows remove water faster from the soil than crops during periods of excessive rainfall. Together with woods, hedges reduce the rate of flow of water within catchments, so help to reduce flooding downstream.

So, by planting a hedge in your garden, or on the borders of your fields if you are a farmer, you will be doing your bit to help our struggling wildlife. Although it is recognised that not everyone has the space (or the patience) for a hedge, there is no doubt that hedges provide a lasting, living and, with the right plants, a colourful addition to the beauty of your property. Many people choose to grow hedges instead of installing wooden or wire fences because the hedges blend into the fauna around them; another advantage is their height, which can reach over 15 feet (or 5 metres). Depending on how large you want your hedge to be, you can use any number of plants, from short azaleas to taller Japanese yews (although we would not recommend leylandii which can become very tall and cause neighbourly disputes!). Most hedges take about 3-5 years to become established, but then they just need a little bit of pruning to keep them looking at their best, and you can congratulate yourself on having done your bit for wildlife and the environment.



## Clubs, Societies and Voluntary Bodies

### Parish Council

[www.essexinfo.net/langford-ulting/](http://www.essexinfo.net/langford-ulting/)

**Chairman** – Andrew Tween

(Tel: 01245 381598)

[andrewtween@btinternet.com](mailto:andrewtween@btinternet.com)

**Vice-Chairman** – Irene Allen

(Tel: 01621 855447)

[irenea@lepra.org.uk](mailto:irenea@lepra.org.uk)

### Councillors:

Vicky Anfilogoff (Tel: 01621 840532)

[anfilogoff@gmail.com](mailto:anfilogoff@gmail.com)

Kathy Palmer (Tel: 01245 382417)

[Katherinepalmer@live.co.uk](mailto:Katherinepalmer@live.co.uk)

Richard Perry (Tel: 01621 841518)

[Millhousehotel@uk2.net](mailto:Millhousehotel@uk2.net)

**Clerk** – Jenny Clemo (Tel: 01245 380852)

[Ultingcattery@gmail.com](mailto:Ultingcattery@gmail.com)

### Village Hall Committee

John Tomlins (Chairman 01245 380359)

Vicky Anfilogoff (Secretary 01621 840532)

Sarah Buckley (Bookings 07887 658190)

Members: Albert Chaplin, Leigh Daynes,  
Peter Downs, Cilla Driver, Sally Marks,  
Merle Pipe, Caroline Sponge

**Bowls Club** – Monday eve & Wednesday afternoon

Contact Albert Chaplin (Tel: 01621 857179)

**Teams Bridge Club** – 2nd & 4th Tuesdays

Contact Julie Lake (Tel: 01621 857639)

**Quilting Group** – 1st & 3rd Friday (1-4 p.m.)

Contact Suzanne Benbow (01621 868610)

**Line Dancing** – Friday evenings

Contact Rosie Grimwade (Tel: 07802 322868)

**Friends of St. Giles' Church** – Chairman –

Irene Allen

(Tel: 01621 855447)

**Little Oaks Nursery**, Langford & Ulting Village

Hall, Maldon Road, Langford CM9 4SS

(01621 788777 or 07910 767226)

[www.wheatlandsandlittleoaksnurseries.co.uk](http://www.wheatlandsandlittleoaksnurseries.co.uk)

**Local History Recorder** – Mrs. Irene Allen

(Tel: 01621 855447)

[Irenea@lepra.org.uk](mailto:Irenea@lepra.org.uk)

**Museum of Power**, Hatfield Road, Langford

(Tel: 01621 843183)

[enquiries@museumofpower.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@museumofpower.org.uk)

[www.museumofpower.org.uk](http://www.museumofpower.org.uk)

**Maldon Golf Club**, Beeleigh, Langford,

Maldon, CM9 4SS

(Tel: 01621 853212)

[www.maldon-golf.co.uk](http://www.maldon-golf.co.uk)

**Heavenly Supplies Community Shop**

St. Giles' Church, Maldon Road, Langford

(Tel: 01621 855447)

[Irenea@lepra.org.uk](mailto:Irenea@lepra.org.uk)

[www.stgileslangford.org.uk](http://www.stgileslangford.org.uk)

**Karate Club** – Saturday mornings (0930-1100, LUVH)

Contact Leslie Hart (Tel: 01376 584126)

## Businesses

**Archers Pest Control Services** Bumble Bee Cottage, Hatfield

Road, Langford, CM9 6QA

(Tel: 01621 841800); (Mob: 07917 887835)

Email: [archerspc@aol.com](mailto:archerspc@aol.com)

**C.J. Ashby Forestry Ltd**, Willow Barn, Witham Road,

Langford, Maldon CM9 4ST Email: [cj@ashby.co.uk](mailto:cj@ashby.co.uk)

**Baytree Kitchen** Baytree Cottages, Ulting CM9 6QG

(Tel: 07931 166916) [www.baytreekitchen.co.uk](http://www.baytreekitchen.co.uk)

**Blackwater Clinic** [Osteopath] Unit 3, the Barns, Howells Farm

Offices, Maypole Road, Langford, CM9 4SY (Tel: 01621 850111)

[info@blackwaterclinic.co.uk](mailto:info@blackwaterclinic.co.uk) [www.blackwaterclinic.co.uk](http://www.blackwaterclinic.co.uk)

**CML Microsystems** Oval Park, Langford, CM9 6WG

(Tel: 01621 875500) (Fax: 01621 875606)

[group@cmlmicroplc.com](mailto:group@cmlmicroplc.com) [www.cmlmicroplc.com](http://www.cmlmicroplc.com)

**Ernest Doe & Sons Limited**

Ulting, Maldon CM9 6QH (Tel: 01245 380311)

[www.ernestdoe.com](http://www.ernestdoe.com) Open Mon-Fri 8-5.30, Sat. 8-4

**Essex & Suffolk Water** Langford Treatment

Works, Hatfield Road, Langford, Maldon CM9 6QA

**Feathered Nest** Household sundries

Jeanette Gribble (Tel: 01621 842132) [Kevin.gribble@virgin.net](mailto:Kevin.gribble@virgin.net)

**Glenn Mayes, Toastmaster & Independent Celebrant**

4 Brockley Cottages, Ulting, CM9 6QX (Tel: 01245 381577);

(Mob: 07826 339498) Email: [the.toastmaster@btinternet.com](mailto:the.toastmaster@btinternet.com)

[www.east-anglia-toastmaster.com](http://www.east-anglia-toastmaster.com)

**Jason Anderson Roofing**, Birch Cottage, Maldon Road, Langford,

CM9 6QD (Tel: 01621 843454)

[info@j-andersonroofingandupvc.co.uk](mailto:info@j-andersonroofingandupvc.co.uk)

[www.j-anderson-roofingandupvc.co.uk](http://www.j-anderson-roofingandupvc.co.uk)

**Keith Yuill Photographic**, White Lodge, Maypole Road, Langford,

CM9 4SX (Tel: 01621 853143) (Fax: 01621 842221)

**Kevin Gribble, Joiner**

(Tel: 01621 842132) [Kevin.gribble@virgin.net](mailto:Kevin.gribble@virgin.net)

**Louise Rich Garden Design**, Little Mill Cottages, Maldon Road,

Ulting CM9 6PZ (01245 222966 / 07966 360983)

[sales@richgardens.co.uk](mailto:sales@richgardens.co.uk) [www.richgardens.co.uk](http://www.richgardens.co.uk)

**Landscape Centre**, Does Corner, Ulting, Maldon

(Tel: 01245 382161) [www.landscapesuppliesdirect.com](http://www.landscapesuppliesdirect.com)

**Maldon Fruit Supplies**, Furzeland Farm Barn, Maypole Road,

Langford, CM9 4SZ (Tel: 01621 859613)

**Mill House Hotel**, Maldon Road, Langford, CM9 4SS

(Tel: 01621 841518) [millhousehotel@uk2.net](mailto:millhousehotel@uk2.net)

[www.smoothhound.co.uk/hotels/millhouse-maldon.html](http://www.smoothhound.co.uk/hotels/millhouse-maldon.html)

**P J Downs and Sons** (Boat movers & Showmen)

5 Little Hills, Langford Road, Langford, CM9 4SU

(Tel: 01621 854388) (Fax: 01621 854390) (Mob. 07860 641174)

[www.pjdownsandsons.co.uk](http://www.pjdownsandsons.co.uk)

**Peartree Pantry**, Peartree Farm, Spring Lane,

Hatfield Peverel, CM3 2JW (Tel: 01245 381461)

**R. Pipe Insurance**, Langford Lee &, 83 High Street, Maldon,

CM9 5EP (Tel: 01621 8556665)

[garypipe@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:garypipe@hotmail.co.uk) / [piperoy@aol.com](mailto:piperoy@aol.com)

[www.roypipeinsurance.co.uk](http://www.roypipeinsurance.co.uk)

**Rich Garden Services (Landscapers)**, Little Mill Cottages, Maldon

Road, Ulting CM9 6PZ (01245 222966/ 078660581733)

[sales@richgardens.co.uk](mailto:sales@richgardens.co.uk) [www.richgardens.co.uk](http://www.richgardens.co.uk)

**Ulting Cattery**, Robins, Ulting, CM9 6QS

(Tel: 01245 380852) [Ultingcattery@googlemail.com](mailto:Ultingcattery@googlemail.com)

[www.ultingcattery.co.uk](http://www.ultingcattery.co.uk)

**Watson Farms**, Langford Hall, Witham Road,

Langford, CM9 (Tel: 01621 853083) [Watson.farms@virgin.net](mailto:Watson.farms@virgin.net)

If you would like to contribute an article or other content for future issues of the Newsletter, contact the Editor: Irene Allen

**Editor's note:** If your club, group or business is not listed above, please provide details to me and I will make sure it features in the next issue of the Newsletter.

