

**The Mundens with Sacombe
Church and Parish
Newsletter
JANUARY 2018**

Tuesday 9th January

9.30am Holy Communion BCP Sacombe

Wednesday 10th January

9.15am Holy Communion CW Standon

Sunday 14th January

9.15am Family Worship CW Little Munden
10.45am Holy Communion CW Standon
4.45pm St Mary's at the School Roger de Clare School

Tuesday 16th January

9.30am Holy Communion BCP Sacombe

Wednesday 17th January

9.15am Holy Communion CW Standon

Sunday 21st January

8.00am Holy Communion BCP Little Munden
10.45am United Worship with Confirmation
by the Bishop of Hertford (CW) Standon
4.45pm St Mary's at the School Roger de Clare School

Tuesday 23rd January

9.30am Holy Communion BCP Sacombe

Wednesday 24th January

9.15am Holy Communion CW Standon

Sunday 28th January

9.15am Holy Communion CW Little Munden
10.45am Family Worship CW Standon
6.00pm Choral Evensong BCP Standon

Tuesday 30th January

9.30am Holy Communion BCP Sacombe

Wednesday 31st January

9.15am Holy Communion CW Standon

Sunday 4th February

8.00am Holy Communion BCP Standon
10.45am United Worship CW Little Munden
4.45pm St Mary's at the School Roger de Clare School

Tuesday 6th February

9.30am Holy Communion BCP Sacombe

Wednesday 7th February

9.15am Holy Communion CW Standon

Prayers will be said on Thursdays at 9.15am in the Upper Room at All Saints, except in the week of the Village lunch.

Rector: Revd Alan Comfort, The Vicarage, Standon 01920 318864

Churchwardens:

Little Munden	Jeremy White	438575		
Sacombe	Peter Hudson	438379	Derek Wheeler	438875

Website: www.ubsms.org.uk

www.facebook.com/unitedbenefice3

Twitter: @unitedbenefice3

Readings for January:

14 th January	2 nd Sunday of Epiphany
21 st January	3 rd Sunday of Epiphany
28 th January	4 th Sunday of Epiphany
4 th February	2 nd Sunday before Lent

Revelation 5: 1-10,	John 1: 43-end
Revelation 19: 6-10,	John 2: 1-11
(morning) Psalm 26,	Matthew 13: 10-17
Psalm 23,	Mark 1: 29-39

Letter from the Rector

Returning to work, or your 'normal routine', can be a little depressing as the Christmas and New Year break abruptly ends. I know there are some who are glad when it's all over, but many of us love this festive time to celebrate with family and friends. We celebrated my mother's 80th birthday on New Year's Eve with family and friends at a Golf Club in Hampshire. My mum is remarkable, still swimming every morning at 6am, still driving her little Fiat 500 and still making the most of every opportunity. I am so proud of her, having lost my Dad and 'big' sister in the past two and a bit years yet she remains optimistic despite several setbacks. A most infectious quality. Are you feeling optimistic about 2018?

The husband of Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe, Richard Ratcliffe, remains impressively hopeful that his wife will be released from prison in Iran, having been locked away for the past eighteen months for allegedly plotting to topple the regime there. I am sure he is especially hopeful that Boris Johnson does not intervene again, having already made things decidedly worse. This is the most sensitive of situations but soon, we pray, Nazanin will be set free as she should be.

Being optimistic has a faith equivalent in the Bible. In Hebrews 11 v 1 it says: 'Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.' There are many situations that we find ourselves in, when we don't know what will happen next, when the worst thing could happen. Being 'optimistic' is to believe that the best could happen, so facing your struggle with hopefulness. There is no doubt such an approach affects you and those around you, but faith is slightly different to this. The faith we read of in Hebrews 11 is rooted in the promises of God as recorded in the Bible, and already experienced in the lives of individuals.

Let me give you an example: Isaiah 41 v 10 says; 'So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.' This is a certain promise of God, not a hope, but a promise that,

when we face trials, God WILL strengthen and help us. Let me give you a personal example; as a young professional footballer and new Christian, my career and personal life went through a very difficult period. I remember a very mature Christian telling me that, through my struggles, God was preparing me for the future He had planned for me. His words, and the strength from God that filled my inner being, helped me to look forward hopefully and without fear. I knew I could trust God's plan for my future even if some things were difficult. This is a promise I have seen fulfilled many times over.

I pray this coming year will bring all the happiness you hope for, but why not 'come back' to church, or join an Alpha Course to question and think through what a faith in God could mean for you? Be blessed in 2018.

Revd. Alan Comfort - Rector of All Saints & St. Catherine's

VILLAGE LUNCH

for Dane End and around

hosted by Little Munden Church

Thursday 18th January

12 noon

Memorial Hall

Delicious main course, pudding and coffee.

Great fun and friendship,

and a short thought from the Rector.

Suggested donation from £5

Lifts can be arranged.

Call Deborah on 01920 438436

or email deborahovens27@gmail.com

Another thank you to those who helped with the church yard clear up in November. We will be meeting again on 4th Saturday of every month. **January 27th will be the next one, between 10am-12pm.** As usual there will be refreshments provided. Do come along and help.

COUNTRY MATTERS (December 12th)

Stock farmers, like ourselves here, are never happy when it snows, as it makes a lot of extra work, not only feeding hay or silage to out-wintered cattle and sheep, but even yarded animals need more bedding than usual, and snow blows into buildings resulting in the straw getting wet. It's certainly unusual to have this sort of weather so early in the winter.

The birds in our garden are certainly tucking into their daily ration of peanuts and fat-balls. Small birds, especially wrens, will be suffering from the intense cold that we are experiencing at the moment. However, one small benefit of having this covering of snow is that the local herd of fallow deer (fifty-five counted this week) won't be having their nightly grazing at our expense. Plucking the turkeys will commence this week, not a popular job, and it seems to come around sooner each year - homemade bread and soup for the pluckers at lunch time is a tradition in our house.

We never quite finished picking all our apples this autumn, but what's left isn't being wasted, as a number of fieldfares, and a few blackbirds as well, have been feeding on them every day. About fifty redwings seem to prefer the sloes at another part of the farm. I recently saw a carrion crow fly up about fifty or sixty feet above the ground and drop something, which I realised was a walnut, but it was no accident, because the bird came down, found the nut and repeated the process, obviously trying to break it. He had no success because the grass in the field cushioned the nut's fall; however, he might previously have had success on the road, or in our concrete yard.

Bird of the Month WOODCOCK

Most of our woodcock are winter migrants, and the harder the weather on the continent, the more that come here. They probe damp ground for worms, mostly in woodland, and feed mainly at night. Unfortunately they are a popular quarry for sportsmen and are good to eat, but as their numbers are declining, I think they should be protected. They have beautiful plumage which matches the woodland floor, and in dead bracken they are absolutely invisible. I remember in my youth hearing gamekeepers say that there was one small feather on each wing that was valued by some artists as a paint brush, even being sent to Sir Winston Churchill, who was an amateur artist.

The few that remain to breed, in large woods, can be seen in the evenings of May, as the males do their roding, which is patrolling their territory, flying slowly and croaking to ward off any other males. The female, meanwhile, sits on her four eggs somewhere on the ground nearby.

About a century or so ago almost the whole of Tresco Island in the Isles of Scilly was planted with the cover preferred by woodcock, for sporting purposes.

Tony Spackman



The Ripples of tide

Not long ago it was December.
The month of end to the years reign,
And the future dawns on us, still unscathed,
A new year is dawning, a new rhythm played.

To hear the animals uproot from their burrows below,
A presence of flowers beaming in the splashes,
From the riverbed. Where I lay my head and scream at the sky...
It ignores me like an itch given by a fly.

So many plans lay jumbled beneath,
Like a daze where reality hasn't rotted your berth,
A dreamless sensation of year yet to come;
A destiny written from stone shadowed by sun.

This wonder and gaze can be list so clear,
But if you let your dreams unite,
The magic of freedom can upturn and appear.
A new bird begins, fears due to subside,
The most strangest things can happen, The ripples of Tide.
*****A*****

Update on Unauthorised Travellers Development at Wheelwrights Farm, Rowney Lane, Dane End, Herts SG12 0JY. Planning Application Ref: 3/17/0781/FUL (Retrospective Application).

*****DATE OF PUBLIC INQUIRY 15TH-17TH MAY 2018 at 10.00am*** VENUE: East Herts District Council, Wallfields, Pegs Lane, Hertford SG13 8EQ**

As you should now be aware, the Appeal Hearing has been escalated to a Public Inquiry. FORL has obtained Rule 6 Status, which will allow us to represent the community on an equal level with the Appellant, their Agents and East Herts District Council.

The Inquiry is scheduled to last three days and we would encourage as many of you as possible to attend in order to demonstrate to the Inspector the strength of local feeling on this issue. We would like to reiterate our offer of providing transport for those who would not otherwise be able to attend the Inquiry. If you would like further details, please email

friendsofrowneylane@yahoo.com or give Gary Abbott a call on 07763 127719. If you would like to view documents regarding the planning application, please visit <https://publicaccess.eastherts.gov.uk> and in the search criteria, type in the Application Ref:

3/17/0781/FUL. Once again, FORL would like to thank everyone for their continued support.

Friends of Rowney Lane (FORL)

Take time for yourself!

Dane End Midweek Meditation Group

Did you know that regular meditation can help you to reduce stress, lower blood pressure/cholesterol, improve sleep – as well as aiding emotional stability, positive thinking and a sense of inner peace?

Come and join our friendly weekly meditation group held in:

Easington Road every Wednesday evening between 7.30 and 8.30pm, in a comfortable and relaxing environment.

Sessions cost only £5 per week.

Please call Kim on 07400 546246 to find out more, or to book your place.

1-2-1 meditation sessions are available.

NEWS FROM THE GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

Winter came quite early to the Gardens and we are hoping for a nice crisp and cold January too – so that our snowdrops stay snug, as hopefully you all are, and are at their best for our snowdrop open days on 18th and 25th February!

Our marker for winter is the first snow at the Gardens and we worked in driving snow as we raked up the leaves at the end of November. Unfortunately we hadn't yet made a start on the walled garden closed season work, so that has had to wait till the ground softens! But we had completed the viewing platform at the bottom of the Glade – see for yourself by looking at our Garden News on the website.

We are very much looking forward to our snowdrop open days. In 2017 the snowdrops (and aconites) were looking fabulous at the end of February and we had great weather and record numbers of visitors. We are keeping our fingers crossed for beautiful sunny days and hope to see you all there. We will make lots of soup, pick up enormous amounts of bacon from our local supplier (Priors Hall Farm), and bake even more cakes than usual so that we minimise the risk of running short!

Finally, have you remembered us when setting your new year's resolutions? We are always looking for extra volunteers to help us on Open Days... so if you like baking, working in a busy café environment, doing craft activities with children, greeting visitors or car park assisting... amongst other things, come and join us – we will not hold you to helping on all nine open days through the season! There is information about volunteering on our website www.eastonlodge.co.uk and you can call 01371 876979 to find out more.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Employment and court scams warning

Hertfordshire Constabulary is warning residents to be aware of two different scams which have been reported in other parts of the county in recent weeks.

The first scam targets job seekers who have been contacted by bogus recruiters after adding their details to various job websites. Students and graduates are being especially targeted, with fraudster trying to obtain their personal or banking details and even arranging interviews, as part of the scam. Another scam that residents should be aware of involves emails being sent out claiming to be from the court service. The emails inform people that they are being summonsed to court as witnesses and encourages the victim to click a link to see more details. Once the link is clicked malware is downloaded onto the victim's device.

If you receive unsolicited emails asking for personal or banking details or payments, always treat such requests with suspicion and make sure you check out their credibility before handing over anything over.

Protect yourself from fraud by following this crime prevention advice:

- Check emails and documents for poor spelling and grammar – this is often a sign that fraudsters are at work.
- Carry out thorough research to confirm that the organisation contacting you actually exists. If it does exist, contact the organisation directly using contact details obtained through your own research or their website.
- Never click links in emails unless you are sure it is from a trusted source.
- If you think your bank details have been compromised or if you believe you have been defrauded contact your bank immediately.
- Warn the operators of the job website you used that their site is being used by fraudsters.

If you have been affected by this, or any other type of fraud, report it to Action Fraud by visiting www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling **0300 123 2040**. For more advice on avoiding fraud visit: www.getsafeonline.co.uk.

Detectives in Hertfordshire are warning people to remain vigilant following reports of an elaborate scam to trick people out of vast sums of money and high-value jewellery.

Victims in North Herts have reportedly been approached by an offender claiming to be an illegal immigrant who has won the lottery.

The offender states that they are unable to claim the lottery win due to their immigration status and asks the victim to claim it on their behalf, in return for a cut of the prize money. The offender then asks for a surety from the victim, which is typically cash or high-value jewellery.

Five reports have been received so far with some victims losing up to £5,000.

The incidents are being investigated by Operation Manhunt, Hertfordshire Constabulary's specialist team which deals with distraction burglary and other crimes which target the elderly and vulnerable.

If you have been approached in similar circumstances, please contact police on the non-emergency number 101.

Alternatively, you can contact the independent crime-fighting charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or through their Anonymous Online Form at www.crimestoppers-uk.org. No personal details are taken, information cannot be traced or recorded.

Purse dipping/ pickpocketing offences are on the increase in Hertfordshire.

This increase is possibly the attractiveness of stolen contactless cards, and crimes have mostly taken place in shopping locations or near ATM machines.

The other concerning statistic is most of the victims have been vulnerable, elderly females. That's a lot of our mums, grans, aunts and neighbours.

Please be vigilant and spread the word about this problem, together with our advice:

DON'T GET DIPPED, KEEP YOUR BAG ZIPPED.

- Use a handbag that can be closed properly, make sure it is zipped up, so that it is more difficult for someone to open it and reach in to get your purse. Never leave it unattended or leave it in a shopping trolley.
- Be aware of people around you.

IS SOMEONE WATCHING YOU ?

- Always look after your Bank Card, never let it out of your sight.
- Always shield your PIN number when paying for items in shops or at cash machines.
- Never tell anyone your PIN number, it is only for you to use at Bank or Payment machines. Ensure your PIN number is not kept near your card

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

We are currently experiencing an increased demand of non-emergency 101 calls to our control room.

Did you know you can report incidents or crimes online now? <https://www.contacthertspolice.uk/>

We also have a web chat facility where you can contact an operator online:

www.contacthertspolice.uk/Contact/NonEmergency.aspx

Please always dial 999 in an emergency.

Did you receive a mobile device for Christmas?

Mobile devices attract thieves. Keep them concealed when possible and don't leave them unattended. Also, record the IMEI number and install a tracking app.

Put a PIN on your device – it's the first line of defence against unauthorised use if lost, stolen, or falling into little hands. It's fast and easy to do.

Losing precious photos or contact details can be devastating.

Ensure everything on your device is backed up online.

Download a reputable security app and keep it updated, to avoid malware like spyware.

Don't store passwords or other confidential information in notes or documents on your device. Lose it, and your information may no longer be private.

Take care when using your device in public: someone may look over your shoulder. When doing something personal or entering confidential details, don't use Wi-Fi in public places like cafés or hotel rooms, they may be insecure.

Use only app sources like Google Play, App Store or Microsoft Store. Never download apps from random sites.

The internet fascinates children, but they need protection against unsuitable content. Use filters and parental apps, and work with your children to foster safe use of the internet, social media and texting. Our printable factsheet (attached) recommends sources of advice.

Many online games let you (or your children) run up bills for in-app purchases, so take care to keep track. Choose options requiring a password for purchases in the app store itself. If children are playing games, ensure they're age-appropriate, and monitor who they communicate with.

The government has given Police and Crime

Commissioners the flexibility to apply an increase equivalent to £1 a month on the average household to fund local policing. In Hertfordshire, this will be spent on protecting neighbourhood policing teams and investing in additional police officers for Hertfordshire's specialist [Operation Scorpion](#) units to help tackle burglary, anti-social behaviour and drug-related crime.

Additional funding will also be placed into the Force Control Room, where 999 and 101 calls have risen dramatically since the terrorist attacks in Manchester and London.

There will also be more funding for crime investigation teams to make sure that victims of crime receive the best care possible.

You can read my Open Letter attached to this email, or at the [website](#), where you can also see the press release and FAQs.

Under these proposals, Hertfordshire will continue to have one of the lowest council tax levels in the whole country.

I welcome your views on this proposal - please email your.views@herts.pcc.pnn.gov.uk or write to:

Precept Consultation

Police and Crime Commissioner

Harpenden Police Station

15, Vaughan Road, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 4GZ

Hertfordshire Year of Physical Activity 2018

From 1st January, 2018 will be designated the 'Hertfordshire Year of Physical Activity' and will see a number of organisations from both in, and out of the sporting arena working together in support of making Hertfordshire the most active county.

Driven by the Hertfordshire County Council and Herts Sports Partnership, the campaign builds on previous 'Years of' which have already taken place for cycling, walking, mental health and volunteering. Approximately one in every five adults in

Hertfordshire currently does less than thirty minutes of activity per week, and so it is hoped that the opportunities for participating in large scale events will help to improve this statistic.

The campaign, known informally as Herts YOPA, will follow a format of themed months which highlight particular target groups including women and girls; New Year, New You; workplace wellbeing and older adults among others. A friendly mascot will be making its way around Hertfordshire to many local events, and to encourage children and adults alike to get involved.

John O'Callaghan, Director at Herts Sports Partnership said: 'We are pleased to be one of the leading organisations in what will hopefully be a momentous year for sport and physical activity in Hertfordshire. We continually strive to get more people, more active, more often, and are thankful to our partners' ongoing support in doing so.'

Over the coming months there will be opportunities for clubs and organisations to promote their own activities through social media messages linked to the campaign.

For more information, or to get involved in the campaign, contact Jane Parker at j.parker20@herts.ac.uk.

Do you know of an Isolated Neighbour?

East Herts. District Council now have a Social Prescribing Officer, Kathrine Foy, working in this area. Her job entails signposting socially isolated individuals towards social clubs, sports activities/clubs and other clubs /societies where they may interact with other like-minded people. It is East Herts. intention that a Mentor would be assigned to each individual to go with them to the first two or three meetings until they feel comfortable. Therefore, if you are aware of a neighbour who is socially isolated and does not get out much, please get in touch with Kathrine.

Her contact details are as follows:-

Email address : kathrine.foy@eastherts.gov.uk.

Phone no. (Direct) 01992 – 531472

LITTLE MUNDEN SCHOOL

Thank you for keeping your dogs under control while we run.

Since last January, the pupils of Little Munden School have been running approximately a mile a day during school term time .We are lucky to be able to utilise the fields and woodland adjacent to our school for this purpose.

In order to keep themselves safe, the children have been told how to behave around the dogs they sometimes come across, but we would particularly like to thank members of the local community for their support and for keeping their dogs under control while our children run past; we really appreciate your consideration.

When we started our daily runs a lot of children were unable to keep running for the whole 15 minutes but now they can do it easily. We have noticed a considerable difference in the children's fitness and confidence levels over the year and they come into class wide awake and ready to learn!



Volunteers Needed!

Isabel Hospice has over 600 volunteers who donate their time in supporting the local charity throughout eastern Hertfordshire. As the need for their specialist end-of-life services increase, so does the need for more volunteers. The Hospice offers full training and has a variety of roles in which help is needed. These include driving patients to and from Hospice Living Well with Isabel Day sessions, helping in the hospices shops and helping in fundraising to put on mass events. If you feel you could donate a few hours a week on a regular basis, please get in touch as we really need your help! Find out more at www.isabelhospice.org.uk/volunteer or ring the Volunteer Office on 01707 382500.

LITTLE MUNDEN PARISH COUNCIL

The next Parish Council meeting

Will be held on

THURSDAY 18th January

at 8 pm in

LITTLE MUNDEN MEMORIAL HALL

Dane End

ALL PARISHIONERS

ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

If you are unable to attend the meeting and would like the Parish Council to consider any concerns or comments you may have, please contact the Clerk who will be happy to put these forward at the meeting.

Geraldine Ward (Clerk)

Email: g.osullivan789@gmail.com

Tel: 01920 438145

THE MUNDENS WEBSITES

www.mundens.net

webmaster@mundens.net

www.themundenssource.myfreeforum.org

www.hertsmemories.org.uk

www.walkinginherts.co.uk

www.hertsdirect.org/highwayfaults

littlemundenmemorialhall.co.uk

www.greatmundenpc.org.uk

LITTLE MUNDEN MEMORIAL HALL

Children's parties : £10 per hour (up to 6.30pm)

Other functions : £15 per hour

For further information: David Hart 438976

email: dane-endhallbookings@outlook.com

To find out more about the hall, it's current activities and how to hire it, please visit the website:

www.littlemundenmemorialhall.co.uk

EMERGENCY/CRIME

OCCURRING NOW 999

Non-emergency number 101

Or 01707 354000

Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111

Call anonymously with information about crime.



DEAF, HARD OF HEARING?

Please text **07786 207 091** including who is needed: Police, Fire or Ambulance, where they are needed and what the problem is.

Angel4Elders - Giving back independence for elders

Phone: Karen Smith 0785 448 9088

Email: karen@angel4elders.co.uk

Website: www.angel4elders.co.uk

Here is Love!

(a musical extravaganza)

will take place for one night only

on

Saturday 3rd February

at 7.30 pm

in All Saints Church

Little Munden

Tickets: £15

Drinks and canapes will be

Served during the interval

Parking available

Tickets available from Barbara Springate

01920 438277

EATING IN THE UK IN THE FIFTIES

No-one had heard of pasta.

Curry was a surname.

A takeaway was a mathematical problem.

A pizza was something to do with a leaning tower.

Bananas and oranges only appeared at Christmas time.

All crisps were plain; the only choice we had was

whether to put the salt on or not.

A Chinese chippy was a foreign carpenter.

Rice was a milk pudding, and never, ever part of our dinner.

A Big Mac was what we wore when it was raining.

Brown bread was something only poor people ate.

Oil was for lubricating, fat was for cooking

Tea was made in a teapot using tea leaves and never green.

Coffee was Camp, and came in a bottle.

Cubed sugar was regarded as posh.

Only Heinz made beans.

Fish didn't have fingers in those days.

Eating raw fish was called poverty, not sushi.

None of us had ever heard of yoghurt.

Healthy food consisted of anything edible.

People who didn't peel potatoes were regarded as lazy.

Indian restaurants were only found in India.

Cooking outside was called camping.

Seaweed was not a recognised food.

"Kebab" was not even a word never mind a food.

Sugar enjoyed a good press in those days, and was

regarded as being white gold.

Prunes were medicinal.

Surprisingly muesli was readily available, it was called cattle feed.

Pineapples came in chunks in a tin; we had only ever seen a picture of a real one.

Water came out of the tap, if someone had suggested bottling it and charging more than petrol for it they would have become a laughing stock.

The one thing that we never ever had on our table in the fifties .. was elbows!

Soul Midwife / Joy Addison

End of life companion, providing holistic and spiritual care for everyone.

Please call for further information,

or collect a leaflet from our local shop.

email: joyaddison@yahoo.com

01920 438618 or 07739 476 595

THE BOOT

Happy New Year to all our customers and hope you had a lovely Christmas.

Supper Club

The next Supper Club will be held on Thursday **25th January**.

The theme for the evening is Burns Night.

Please book your place by calling

01920 438770 or behind the bar.

Food to be served from 7.30pm

Bingo

There is no bingo in January



Boot Coffee Mornings

Our next two coffee mornings will be: **Friday 2nd February and Friday 2nd March 10.30am - 12.30pm**. Come along and enjoy a selection of homemade cakes with your tea/coffee, and some great company.



Sunday Lunches

Served every Sunday 1 – 4pm

Booking essential as limited availability.

Food is served:

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 6-9pm

Saturday 1-5pm Sunday 1-4pm

If you are interested in holding a party or any event in the pub please either call **Matt on 01920 438770** or pop in during opening times. **Mick & Matt**



JP Oil Boilers

Oil Boilers & AGA's.
Servicing & Breakdowns

01920 438483

Email: Info@jpoilboilers.co.uk

Visit: www.jpoilboilers.co.uk

Registered
Heating
Business



Any views or opinions presented are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the Editor.

Please take your news to Barbara Springate at:
Horseshoe Villa, Munden Road
or email jackiemorris@tesco.net

