

# News & Views

Inc. Stanford Rivers Parish Council News Letter

July/August 2018

Issue No. 98

## Toot Hill Country Show – Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> August



### The Blue Falcons Gymnastic Display Team

"thrilling audiences across the United Kingdom with their spectacular aerial gymnastics display."



### Conquest K9

"A superb, lively display based around Security / Police Dog work with an informative and entertaining commentary."

We also have Classic Cars, a Craft Tent, numerous stalls and side shows, Dog Show and the "Competition Marquee"

It is 100 years since women over 30 with a property qualification were given the right to vote. It would be another 10 years before the vote was given to all women over 21, the same voting rights as men. At this year's Show we have picked up the electoral theme by getting you, our loyal visitor, to vote for the best exhibit in the recycling sculpture class. However, it will not be by putting an X in a box. Wanting to do something a little different but continuing with the theme of women, we would like you to vote with UK denominational coins, one coin one vote: the money raised will go to **the Women's Aid refuge at Chelmsford**. When safe and possible to do so many of the women at Chelmsford are set up in new homes, and to help them get started they are given starter packs of toiletries and cleaning products: to this end **there will be collection boxes in the main marquee for any donations of new toiletries e.g. toothpaste, deodorant, soap etc. and cleaning products e.g. dusters, polish, rubber gloves etc.**

On behalf of the Show organisers a big thank you in advance - we know you won't let us down. Find us at [www.toothillshow.co.uk](http://www.toothillshow.co.uk) and on Facebook and twitter

**Open at noon**  
**Adults £3 Children £2**

## Finally The Finger Posts Have Returned

As I am sure some of you may have noticed, after over 4 years, the Fingers Posts in Toot Hill, opposite Toot Hill Road, have finally be replaced. This is after a mammoth effort by the Parish Council, which eventually resulted in the Parish Council funding and organising the replacement itself. The replacement of street furniture is the responsibility of the Highway Authority, in this case Essex County Council. The missing finger posts were reported to Essex County Council (ECC) on five separate occasions in a 2 year period, however due to ECC's reduced budget, they were not deemed to be a priority. The issue of missing finger posts was becoming an issue throughout the Epping Forest District, and a Theydon Bois Councillor lobbied the Local Highway Panel (managed by Epping Forest District Council, and having a budget to complete various Highway works in the District) and managed to secure funding towards the replacement of Finger Posts in our area. Despite this Councillor's best efforts, red tape in the approval process meant that after a further year of trying get these posts replaced via this medium, their replacement had still not been approved. This

proved so frustrating for the Parish Council, that it was felt there was no option left but to simply take the job on and get it done. This does raise the issue of double taxation, as residents pay Council tax to ECC to manage their responsibilities which includes Highway works, and also pay an element of Council Tax to the Parish Council to undertake different other responsibilities. However the Parish Council hope you agree that getting the job done after over 4 years was a priority. **If you want a job doing, do it yourself!**



# Epping Forest Community Hub Opening

A new joint District Community Safety Hub bringing Epping Forest District Council and Essex Police closer together in the fight against local crime was officially launched on 20 July 2018. The Council and Essex Police joined forces, together with other agencies, to create the Hub, at the Civic Offices in Epping. Guests, including Rt. Hon. Dame Eleanor Laing MP, Roger Hirst (Essex Police Fire and Crime Commissioner), Assistant Chief Constable Andy Prophet, Council Chairman Richard Bassett, and local councillors, joined Council and Police officers to open the Hub which has been in operation since the end of June 2018. The launch marks an even stronger partnership between Epping Forest District Council and Essex Police. The Hub comprises the Council's Community Safety Team, a Police Sergeant and two experienced Police Constables all funded and tasked by the Council. The team is already working together with other partners involved with crime prevention and community safety. The Council's Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Community Safety, Councillor Sam Kane, hosted the Launch and said "Over recent years there has been a sustained demand for councils to increase the use of their powers to deal with anti-social behaviour, disorder and environmental crime. At the same time, the Government has introduced significant new legislation giving police and councils effective new powers to deal with these issues. Epping Forest District Council is already making use of the new powers but enforcement is often the main responsibility of the Police, which can lead to a disjointed approach. Better coordination

through the creation of this unique Community Safety Hub will prove to be revolutionary for the District." Rt. Hon. Dame Eleanor Laing unveiled the plaque for the Launch and said: "This is a brilliant initiative. I am genuinely delighted to unveil the plaque to mark the launch of the Epping Forest Community Safety Hub. There is in our area increasing fear of a rise in crime and I am pleased to be able to tell people that Epping Forest District Council in conjunction with Essex Police and our local community are doing something about it. "I would like thank the district council, Essex Police and everyone who has been involved in making this groundbreaking initiative come together." Councillor Sam Kane said "I believe this is the first initiative of a district council both funding and tasking police officers anywhere in the country. I am confident it will become a flagship for others to follow. The Council and Essex Police are proud of the close links that we already have. The new Community Safety Hub is a powerful demonstration of our continuing and innovative partnership working." Chief Inspector Lewis Basford, District Commander for Epping Forest and Brentwood added: "This commitment is a fantastic demonstration of what local partnerships can do. It means more police, more problems solved, better engagement and ultimately safer communities." Epping Forest District Council will review its commitment to fund the three police officers after three years. If you want any further information, contact the Community Safety Team at

[saferecommunities@eppingforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:saferecommunities@eppingforestdc.gov.uk)

## Celebrating The Toot Hill Village Hall

On 20<sup>th</sup> June, members of the community joined both the Toot Hill Village Hall Committee, and members of the Parish Council, to celebrate the completion of improvement works at Toot Hill Village Hall, and the installation of the new Defibrillator. Funding from the Essex County Council Community Initiatives Fund totalling £6,065 enabled work to be carried out on a dilapidated garage and on installing new fencing along the entrance road and decking at the front of the hall. The event also marked the official launch of the community defibrillator which has been funded by both the British Heart Foundation and the parish council. Stanford Rivers Parish Council chairman John Glover said: "As time moves on, the meaning of the word 'community' is changing, with the younger generation opting for a more 'electronic' sense of community. However places such as local village halls or community centres, like Toot Hill Village Hall, continue to be places where local people are able to meet socially, or to perhaps take part in an activity or two. It is for this reason that the parish council is committed to doing what it can to support this vital community asset. This is the latest in a number of improvements carried out to the hall, such as the resurfaced car park area and external lighting." Let's hope the hall has a bright and successful future.



# Stanford Rivers Neighbourhood Watch



1. **Share sexually explicit images of you – either online or not**
2. **Restrict your access to money**
3. **Repeatedly put you down**
4. **Stop you seeing friends or family**
5. **Scare you**
6. **Threaten to reveal private things about you**
7. **Put tracking devices on your phone**
8. **Being extremely jealous**
9. **Make you obey their rules**
10. **Control what you wear**
11. **Forcing you to do things you don't want to**

These new powers mean this behaviour, which is particularly relevant to cases of domestic abuse, can now be prosecuted in its own right. Police and prosecutors are being trained to recognise patterns of abusive behaviour which can be regarded as criminal abuse. **If you, or someone you know, is in an abusive relationship, you can report your concerns to police by calling 999 or 101**

**Your main coordinator is John Adams:**  
[srpcnw@gmail.com](mailto:srpcnw@gmail.com) Tel 01277 362194

We live in constantly evolving times and the criminal is often one step ahead of the law which has to constantly adapt to keep up. And relationships are no different. Trusting another person is difficult enough but the range of technologies available these days means that if someone has malice in mind, they can damage your life at the stroke of a keyboard. And advances in psychology have shown how many abusers use psychological coercion and manipulation to control and suppress the partner they are abusing. And so, with all this in mind, the law has been updated for modern times and there are 11 things which are newly classed as illegal offences. Domestic abuse does not always have to be violent to be abuse, though this is what most people will think of first. These 11 things are all behaviours which victims of abusive relationships may not even realise are actually crimes:

## I'm Simply Fed Up With Fly Tipping – Here's My Solutions

A Local Resident recently became so exasperated with the ever growing problem of fly tipping, that he took pen to paper and wrote to the Rt Hon. Michael Gove MP with two simple solutions:

1. Help should be given to riparian owners where ditches are filled (currently the councils will NOT remove from ditches stating it is the responsibility of the farmers).
2. ALL closed tip sites should be reopened and a small charge made to any visitor, perhaps £5 for local domestic usage and £30 for heavier goods. This way we could eradicate this situation overnight. The added benefit would be a huge income to our councils including the profits from recycling.

The Response from the Secretary of State's office states that "Flytipping is a serious crime that damages the environment and blights local communities. The Government is committed to tackling the scourge of flytipping and we make sure that local authorities (LAs) have the tools they need to tackle it. In recent years we have given LAs the power to issue t400 fixed penalty notices for flytipping offences and have enhanced the powers available to LAs and the Environment Agency (EA), such as the ability to search and seize the vehicles of suspected fly-tippers. LAs and the EA are responsible for investigating and clearing up fly-tipping on public land. However, they do not have a legal obligation to clear waste from private land, as this is the responsibility of the landowner. We expect all LAs to investigate fly-tipping incidents on private land, prosecuting the flytippers and recovering clearance costs where possible. LAs are independent bodies and are accountable to their electorate rather than to Ministers or Government Departments. Where a member of the public has a concern about an action,

service or decision of their LA, we suggest, that first and foremost they make a complaint to the LA using its formal complaints system. This can not only result in action, but can also alert the authority to an issue it did not know existed. As part of this Government's Resources and Waste Strategy, we are developing our strategic approach to waste crime. This will include plans to enhance partnership working and intelligence sharing to tackle flytipping. We are also committed to working with the court system to ensure that sentences act as a suitable deterrent. The Environmental Protection Act 1990 requires waste disposal authorities to provide places at which residents in their areas may deposit their household waste free of charge. Not all waste from domestic property is 'household' waste for these purposes, and there is no duty to accept non-household waste at such sites. A LA can make arrangements with a neighbouring LA for its residents to use the neighbouring authority's facilities. Some of the geographically larger waste disposal authorities have extensive cross-border arrangements in place to ensure that residents do not have to travel long distances to find a suitable site".

**Does this response really solve our problems?**



# CROWNLANDS GARAGE

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## Have A Jam With The Folk Club

Whether you can play an instrument, sing, clap, wiggle your toes or just tap your fingers you are welcome to join Brian, Bill and myself Matt, at the next gathering. This now infamous club has been in existence for nearly 8 years and during that time a number of timeless classics have been performed to such a high level that passing cyclists have been known to swear that they heard The Eagles / Willie Nelson / Elvis / Dubliners / U2 / BeeGees / John Denver / Ed Sheeran / Johnny Cash / Alison Moyet / Clancy Bros and many more, as the melodic renditions drifted across the road.

This is not your traditional 'wait your turn and no-one joins in' type of club. From its inception Brian and myself tried to create an atmosphere where performers could be joined by other musicians or chorus line singers to produce a community spirit. Of course, there is a level of organisation and you perform in rotation but if you know the words or the chords then in you go! We look forward to seeing you at the Village Hall where you bring your own beverages and snacks and

can take advantage of the welcoming atmosphere that awaits you. Our next meeting is Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September, then Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October and Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. Start time is 7.30

**Toot Hill Folk Club at the Village  
Hall, Toot Hill**

**Next Meet - Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September  
2018**

Matt <http://toothillfolkclub.com>



## Have You Registered To Vote?

**ARE YOU  
REGISTERED  
TO VOTE?**



Household Enquiry Forms will be dropping through letterboxes over the next few weeks and it is essential that every home within the Epping Forest District responds by 21 August 2018. If you live at an address in the district, did you know you are **legally required** to respond, and EFDC is urging local residents to do it as soon as the form arrives to help cut down the £20,000 cost of reminders last year. The form also ensures that Epping Forest can keep the electoral register up to date and that you are able to vote should there be an unexpected election.

# Fyfield Film Club

Run by Fyfield Parish Council



**Tuesday 25th September from 12.30pm to c.4pm\***

Ticket price is £6 to include a two course lunch\*\* and a film

AT

**Zinc Arts Centre\*\*\*,  
High Street,  
Ongar, CM5 0AD**

Fyfield Parish Council have organised an event for our lovely Fyfield community (and the surrounding villages) to get out of their homes and we hope do something a bit different. Perhaps to meet or make some new friends, or just enjoy an old film on a big screen in the very comfortable surroundings of the Zinc Arts Centre in their wonderful theatre space.

Please RSVP by Friday 21 September to Liselle on 01277 899 262 to confirm numbers for catering purposes and any allergy requirements. Please do ask Liselle what the film is (if you don't already know) as we can't advertise it! Any payments not received beforehand can be paid on the day.

We very much look forward to welcoming you and please tell anyone who you think may also enjoy or benefit from an outing to our Fyfield Film Club.

# COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Is a charity that meets the needs of local people who for various reasons are unable to use conventional public transport.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Car Drivers  
Minibus Drivers**

Do you want to give something back to the Community?  
If so volunteering is a great way to do this,  
Out of pocket expenses are reimbursed.

Email: [efct@efcommunitytransport.org.uk](mailto:efct@efcommunitytransport.org.uk)  
Website: [www.efcommunitytransport.co.uk](http://www.efcommunitytransport.co.uk)

## First Aid Workshop Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> August 9am till 4pm

We have a new Defibrillator in the Village Hall and people have expressed a desire to learn to use it as well as learning more about First Aid. There is a 6 Hour Emergency First Aid at Work workshop on Tuesday August 28<sup>th</sup> at the Village Hall. This is a Nationally recognised qualification and all attendees will receive a certification of competence from an awarding body. The course is designed for people who want to receive training in First Aid and you will cover basic life-saving first aid, including the following:

**The role of the first aider**

**Managing an emergency**

**Communication and casualty care**

**Bleeding (minor and severe)**

**Burns**

**Choking (adult)**

**Defibrillator prompts and how to respond**

**Resuscitation (adult CPR)**

**Seizures (adult)**

**Shock**

**Unresponsive casualty**

**Defibrillator pad placement**



**For Further Details Contact Matt Tallon 07855170256 or email [matt.tallon@includingsport.co.uk](mailto:matt.tallon@includingsport.co.uk)**



**Toot Hill Village Hall - Hire the Hall**  
Parties – Weddings – Community Events – Reasonable Rates  
Also available for hire – cutlery – crockery – folding chairs  
Contact the booking secretary Vicky on 01992 523402

**Want to Advertise in this Magazine?**

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deadline for next copy 7<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Advert/ Frequency	Per edition (6 per year)	Per Annum (6 editions)
Quarter Page	£20.00	£100.00
Half Page	£30.00	£150.00
Full Page (A4)	£50.00	£200.00



# Stanford Rivers Parish Council Newsletter

## Toot Hill Village Hall event

We were absolutely delighted to join local residents at the event at Toot Hill Village Hall on 20<sup>th</sup> June, mentioned earlier in the newsletter. The event was to thank Essex County Council Community Initiatives Fund for their financial support for works to the hall, and to officially launch the new defibrillator. We have learnt that since this time, the defibrillator has actually been used, however sadly it is understood the individual had already passed away prior to use. Our thoughts are with the family involved.

## Finger Post Signs

The picture on the front page says it all! The cost to replace these finger post was £420.

## Epping Forest Local Plan - update.

The High Court has dismissed the legal challenge to

the Epping Forest District Council's Local Plan Submission Version 2017 paving the way for the Council to submit the Local Plan to the Secretary of State for Independent Examination. The Court rejected all four grounds of challenge brought by property development company CK Properties (Theydon Bois) Ltd, endorsing the lawfulness of the Council decision to approve the Local Plan for 11,400 new homes over the Plan period up to 2033.

## Website

Details of agendas, minutes, accounts, audit, and much more can be found on our website – [www.stanfordrivers-pc.gov.uk](http://www.stanfordrivers-pc.gov.uk)

Why not pop along to our next meeting - **5.30pm on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2018**



EPF/1397/18	Colemans Farm Toot Hill Road Ongar CM5 9QN	Use of land for tourist accommodation including the erection of 2 treetop lodges and a 'tinyhouse'. <b><i>The Parish Council has no objection to this proposal subject to there being suitable WC and washing facilities made available on site, and Essex County Council Highways having no objection to the site lines at the entrance indicated on the plans. It should be noted that it is not clear whether or not the bridge over the brook along the access road is suitable and safe for vehicles, and whether or not the access road will remain grass or some other surface laid. These points should be clarified.</i></b>
EPF/0926/18	12 Garden Fields Stanford Rivers Ongar CM5 9PL	Building carport with flat -sedum roof. <b><i>The Parish Council has no objection to this application subject to there being no neighbour objections.</i></b>
EPF/1256/18	Little Paddocks London Road Stanford Rivers Ongar CM5 9PP	Two storey side extension (revision to EPF/2971/17) <b><i>No Objection</i></b>

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# Supernatural In and Around Stanford Rivers?

Ever had an unexplained experience, spooky sighting or ghostly encounter? Essex is said to be the most haunted county in England, with different people speaking of how they have seen ghosts, felt someone watching them or have just been genuinely scared about a certain place. Like a man named Evan Andrew, who was so spooked by what he had witnessed when he was younger that he didn't share his story until 60 years later! He spoke to the Guardian about his time stationed at Hill Hall, Theydon Mount during the 1940's, this was whilst he served the Royal Artillery.



Picture: Hill Hall

Hill Hall is a big, beautiful, Elizabethan mansion. It is so old that it boasts some of the oldest classical decoration on a surviving building in Britain. The present building on the site of Hill Hall was built by Sir Thomas Smyth between 1569 and 1575, this was to replace a 12th century house on the site. All was going smoothly at Hill Hall, with the building being used as a maternity home during WW2, then turning into a billet for RAF officers until becoming abandoned in 1942. After that the house was converted into a female prison which opened 10 years after the building was left. Then things took a turn for the worst, when a devastating fire was started by one of the inmates at the time, in 1969. The house was badly damaged but has since been restored. Andrew's story as told to the Guardian states "I was batman to two officers, one a Major and the other a Captain. They picked their bedroom which was off the Great Hall. The first job I was given the next morning was to find another room for the two officers. It seems that during the night, both men were disturbed by some experience they could not account for, but they refused to sleep in the same room again. I thought no more of it until, a few days later, the same two officers returned. They asked where they were to sleep and on being told that they had the same room, they replied that there was no way on earth they would sleep in there and they would even be prepared to sleep outside rather than in that room." So, if even the officers, who are loyal to law and will do most things for their job, could not stay in Hill Hall imagine how everyone else who has to stay or work there must feel. Andrew is not the only one with a story to tell of Hill Hall. A lady named Ann tells a story of her ghostly encounter whilst working on a project at the age of 17. She was said to

be round the back of the house with her Dad, when she spotted a woman in a long, white dress. Ann was fixated on her for about a minute until she finally asked her Dad who he thought the woman was. When he replied that he didn't see a woman Ann looked again, but just like a horror movie the woman was gone, with nowhere to go, she had vanished. The building is supposedly haunted by the lady who started the fire in 1969.

In 2003, the highway man Dick Turpin was sought after by a paranormal investigation show. Turpin was born in 1705 and opened a butcher's shop in Buckhurst Hill. In his later life he was most known for the criminal activities he committed in the forest. In the live broadcast, Turpin is said to have presented himself to the camera crew, and lead them farther into the forest, where they eventually had to call for help to be rescued. They were originally filming at Loughton Camp, which Turpin used as a hideout, and where there is said to have been much paranormal activity. The site was thought to be used as an army base by Queen Boudica. People think that the spirits of the dead soldiers haunt the base and there has been reports of people hearing marching drums, perhaps from the dead soldiers, and even reports of spirits taking material form.

There have also been reports of spirits emerging from a pond in the forest in the 1960s. But perhaps the most spine chilling ghostly phenomenon, is the restless spirits at Hangman's Hill. It is said to be the place where a murderer hung his victims from a tree at the end of a road. Many people visit the place now for one scary reason - cars seem to roll up the hill. Yes, I mean there are actual videos of cars rolling up the hill with the engine switched off. Many people believe that it is the notorious hangman dragging his victims to their deaths at the tree. There is however a scientific explanation for this particular phenomenon, that it is an optical illusion as the road only appears to be sloping upwards when in actual fact it is at a slight angle downwards. Although the rolling car phenomenon is solved, it doesn't make it any less creepy – after all, that there was a murderous killer who hung people there.



Picture: Hangman's Hill

**Got a Spooky Story? Email me at [claudiwick123@gmail.com](mailto:claudiwick123@gmail.com)**



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## ONLY FOR ONE NIGHT A THEATRE EVENT

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at 7.30PM**

**At The "ZINC ARTS" Theatre in Ongar**

**The Rotarians of Kelvedon Hatch and Villages**

present **"THE MARINER"**

*A play based on the life of Samuel Coleridge, author of  
"The Rime of the Ancient Mariner"*

*by The Common Ground Theatre Company.*

**Tickets are £15 each from the Common Ground Theatre  
Company website [www.commongroundtc](http://www.commongroundtc) click on**

**"The Mariner".**

**Tickets may also be available on the door, any ticket  
queries phone Gill Club Officer on 01277 352444**

**We look forward to seeing you!**

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