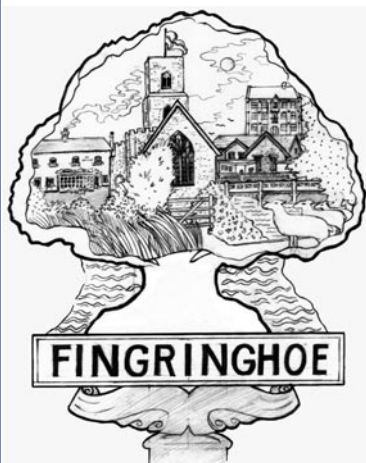




NEWS & VIEWS

JUNE 2025

Update from the Parish Council

Annual election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

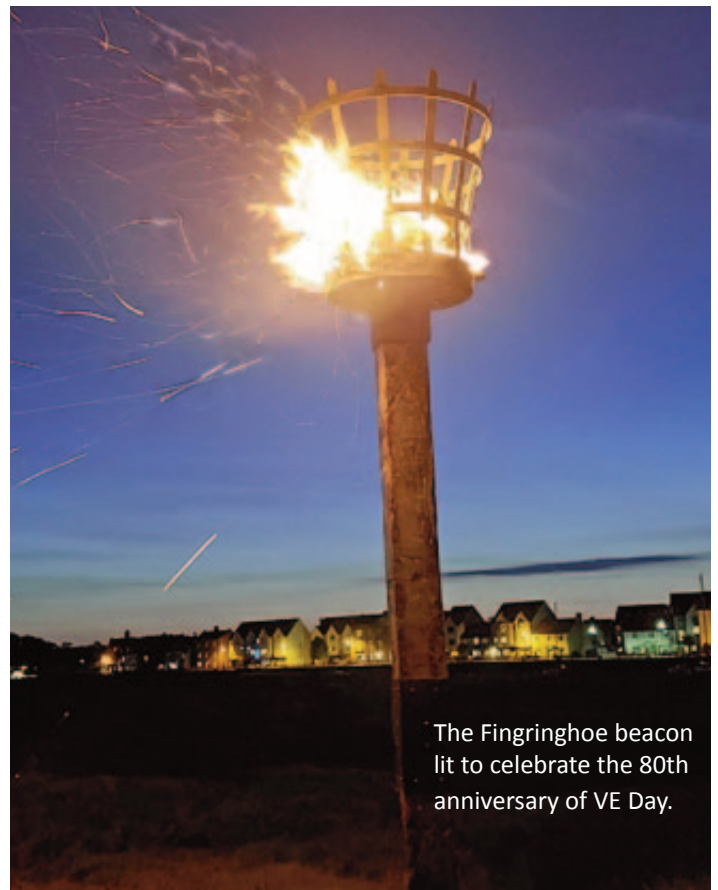
I am pleased to advise that at the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on 6 May 2025, Cllr Gerald Ketley and Cllr Sharron Law were unanimously voted in as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council, for the coming year. As reported in the last edition Mike Clarke retired after many years' service to the Council and we all enjoyed a celebration after the meeting to thank Mike.

Councillor vacancy There is now a vacancy for a new councillor, after 6 June 2025. If you have any questions about this, please contact one of the councillors or the Parish Clerk. There is more information about the process under *News* on the website and the co-option process under *Documents and Policies*.

Boardwalk in front of the village pond We are looking into getting this area repaired or replaced. More information will appear in the next edition.

Village sign We note that the village sign on Fingringhoe Road near The Mill has been stolen. This has been reported to Essex County Council, and we await their response. Meanwhile, we have commissioned another 'thief proof' sign which will be ready mid- to the end of July.

Cycle signs for John Brunning Walk We have purchased some *No Cycling* signs for the footpath and would like to remind anyone who cycles that this is a *footpath*. The reason for asking you to walk is so that the surface, which was renewed in February 2024, is not churned up and does not return to its previous state. We are pleased that the path is so well used and want everyone to be able to use it all year around.



The Fingringhoe beacon lit to celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE Day.

Call for Sites/Emerging Local Plan We have had a few enquiries about this and hope the link below is useful.
<https://www.colchester.gov.uk/local-plan/evidence-base-emerging-local-plan-2017-33/?page=evidence--base-----emerging--local--plan--2017-2033>

Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation

We have also had some queries about this, and the latest information held on the Colchester City Council and Essex County Council websites are in the link below.
<https://www.colchester.gov.uk/devolution-and-local-government-reorganisation/>
<https://www.essex.gov.uk/about-council/plans-and-strategies/our-vision-essex/devolution-and-local-government-1#>

VE Day 80 celebration A small celebration to mark the VE Day 80 was held on Thursday 8 May at 9.30pm, when the beacon at the bottom of Ferry Road was lit, along with hundreds of others up and down the country. A large gathering of around 100 people attended to see this and mark the occasion.

End of Year Audit The Council submitted our books and records to the Internal Auditor who concluded that '*in all significant respects, the internal control objectives set out in the report were being achieved throughout the financial year to a standard more than adequate to meet the needs of the Council*'. The notice of public rights and publication of the annual governance and accountability return will be made available to all local government electors and their

representatives, who will have the opportunity to question the appointed auditor about the accounting records from 3 June 2025 to 14 July 2025. However, the clerk is happy to answer questions at any time of the year.

Council meetings and information We meet on the first Tuesday of each month (apart from August) at 7pm at the village hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend and speak during the public session. The agenda will be on the website and noticeboard a few days before each meeting.

The Website is regularly updated with information about the village. If you would like something added, please let the clerk know. Agendas and Minutes of the meeting are also published on the website.

The website address is <https://www.fingringhoe.org.uk/>

The email address is
fingringhoeparishc@outlook.com

Petra Palfreyman, Parish Clerk



A view from the tower of St Andrew's church,
photo by Wendy Spinks, who deserves applause for climbing the narrow spiral staircase!



Wivenhoe, Rowhedge and Fingringhoe Ferry Fundraising Campaign for New Boat

This is the last year for our current ferry. To keep going we need to secure a replacement boat for 2026. The one we've sourced will cost £13,000. Through contributions from local businesses, organisations, and councils, we've raised £3,000 and now need to secure the remaining £10,000 to complete the purchase.

We know how much our local community loves the ferry, so we wanted to make it easy for you to contribute by setting up a crowdfunding campaign. Contributions of any amount will help to ensure we can replace our ferry and operate for years to come.

To make a donation to the fund, please visit:
<https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-fund-the-ferry>

Thank you for supporting this community project and we look forward to seeing you on the ferry this year.

Our timetable can be found at:
<https://wivenhoerowhedgeferry.co.uk/timetable/>



Recycling Children's books and Bras!



The **Asda Children's Book Collecting Project** is just inside the entrance doors at their store on the Turner Rise Retail Park. Take advantage of the wonderful selection of children's books that are on offer, read and return, again and again. All are in good condition and suitable for all ages.

And have you ever wondered how to dispose of old bras? Not many charity shops will accept them now but **Against Breast Cancer** do and they have many bright pink collection boxes in our area. One of these is at Fingringhoe Wick Nature Discovery Park.



Why not combine your visit with a walk through our lovely Essex countryside and enjoy a cup of tea while you're there.

Janet Lelliot

FINGRINGHOE FREE FIRST SUNDAYS

Display stuff you want to get rid of **FOR FREE**
outside your properties
on the first Sunday of every month

One man's junk is another man's treasure!
Let's avoid landfill at all costs!

1 June, 6 July, 3 August, 7 September



From Passenger Transport

We are preparing to launch our annual bus survey to gather public opinions on the bus services in Essex and identify ways to improve them to encourage more people to use buses. We aim to hear from both current bus users and non-users to understand how we can attract more people to use bus services in the future. The online bus survey will be available from 2 June to 30 June 2025. The face-to-face survey will take place in Colchester from 16 June to 27 June 2025. We will share the survey with all Parish, Town, and District councils and publicise the survey on the TravelEssex website and our social media channels. Here is the link to complete the survey:
[Essex Bus User Survey 2025 - Essex County Council](https://www.essex.gov.uk/transport/Essex-Bus-User-Survey-2025)
(active from 2 June)

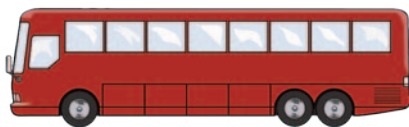
Passenger.Transport@essex.gov.uk

Please use the bus!

The bus timetable that now has a 174 or 175 bus every hour during the day (c. 8am to c. 6pm) makes it much easier to visit Colchester by public transport, instead of using a car that has to be parked in increasingly full and expensive car parks.

The more we use this service,
the more likely it is to be maintained –

So please
get on the bus!



The **visiting post office** comes three times a week to Church Green

Monday & Friday 10am – 1pm Wednesday 1– 4pm

letters & parcels: all services

home phone and broadband packages

top up mobiles



vehicle tax

travel insurance

fishing licences

order foreign currency – collect next visit



banking with all high street banks:
deposits and withdrawals

£ £



Geedon Gallery

Society of Wildlife Artists & others

Open by appointment until 15 June

Geedon Gallery
Jagers, Fingringhoe CO7DN
01206 729 334 / 728 587
07901 918 046
jataber@aol.com
www.geedongallery.co.uk



Brin Edwards, Autumn Hedgerow, Blue Tits & Chaffinches

EA Festival 2025 at Hedingham Castle

The East of England's leading ideas and literary festival returns for its fourth edition on 14–15 June 2025, with a captivating line-up of authors, thinkers, and performers set against the stunning backdrop of England's best-kept Norman keep, Hedingham Castle.

Founded as a celebration of creativity, culture, and intellectual exchange, EA Festival has quickly become a landmark event in the UK's literary calendar. This year's programme features a dynamic blend of disciplines, from cutting-edge science and global politics to gastronomy, nature writing, and spoken word poetry. Highlights from the 2025 line-up include:

Susie Alegre, international human rights lawyer and author of *Freedom to Think*, exploring AI, technology, and freedom of thought. **Marcus du Sautoy**, renowned Oxford mathematician and author of *Creative Code*, discussing artificial intelligence and creativity.

Fuchsia Dunlop, world authority on Chinese cuisine, sharing insights from her award-winning book *Invitation to a Banquet*. **James Canton and Chloe Dalton**, two authors whose books about landscapes and animals explore human beings' relationship with nature from very different perspectives. **Ben Lewis**, acclaimed art historian and author of *The Last Leonardo*, exposing the high-stakes world of art fraud. **Lord Jonathan Sumption**, historian and former Supreme Court Justice, offering a powerful analysis of modern democratic decline.

Luke Wright, one of Britain's most celebrated performance poets, returns with his electrifying new show *Pub Grub*.

The 2025 edition cements EA Festival's reputation as a platform for provocative ideas, creative excellence, and cultural curiosity. With a unique mix of headliners and hidden gems, it offers an intimate, thought-provoking experience for audiences of all ages.

Tickets and full programme available at:

www.eafestival.com



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NEWSPAPERS (Pre-Ordered only)
DRY CLEANING
VISITING POST OFFICE

OPEN
8AM TO 6PM MONDAY TO FRIDAY
9AM TO 5PM SATURDAY
9AM-NOON SUNDAY

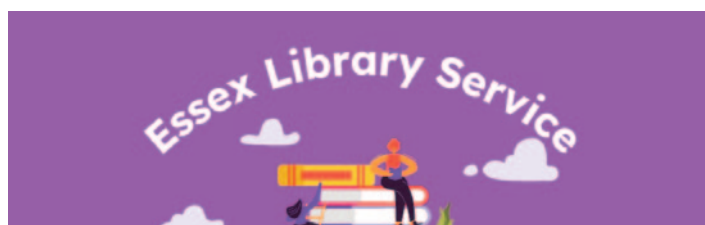
The Lion Corner Community Shop
1 Lion Corner, Langenhoe CO5 7LF
Entrance off Fingringhoe Road
07708 403292

www.lioncornercommunityshop.co.uk

Yoga with Linds

Every Thursday night during term time:
6.30-7.30pm and 7.45-9pm
at Fingringhoe Village Hall
Breathing exercises, mobility, relaxation
in a hatha yoga style

Please do get in touch for more information:
07974005441 or lindsravenemrich@gmail.com



From 1 to 14 June, we will be showing off everything we have to offer for those with visual impairments. We'll be highlighting our support and services in our libraries and on our social media, including audiobooks, braille, specialist library cards, and more!



A fantastic opportunity for readers to immerse themselves in the world of literature, meet their favourite authors, and discover new voices. Join in the celebration of books and storytelling at your local library.

We're looking for volunteers to help us run our annual Summer Reading Challenge, a fun activity that takes place through the summer break to encourage children to keep reading during the holidays. This year's theme is Story Garden. If you – or someone you know - is looking for something interesting and fun to do over the summer, this is the perfect opportunity! Come and help our garden grow! Closing date for applications is **Sunday 22 June**.

<https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/summer-reading-challenge-volunteering>



Is your little one gearing up for their first day of school this September? Join us at our Big School Meet Up events, happening at every library across Essex. These fun and relaxed

sessions are designed to help your child feel confident and ready for school. **Meet other families**, connect with other parents and children. **Enjoy engaging story sessions** that will captivate your child's imagination and foster a love for reading. **Get valuable advice** on how to prepare your child for school. Visit your local Essex Library and join the Big School Meet Up today!

Fingringhoe Art Exhibition 13 – 14 September 2025 10.30am–5pm

in Saint Andrews Church
and opposite,

in the Church Green Trust

Organised by, and proceeds to
the Church and the Trust

Refreshments will be available

Please put the date in your diary

For information on exhibiting your work, please email
Jenny Henderson: the.hendes@btinternet.com



MOVING IMAGE

Wivenhoe's volunteer-run community cinema

Just across the river, Moving Image shows high-quality contemporary films from English-speaking and other countries, as soon as possible after their release on DVD.

Films start at 7.30pm in the William Loveless Hall, Wivenhoe. Buy your tickets on the door (card only): members £5, non-members £7, students/young people FREE!

- 3 June **BIRD**
(2024 dir. Andrea Arnold, UK, Cert 15)
- 17 June **HARD TRUTHS**
(2024 dir. Mike Leigh, UK, Cert 12A)
- 1 July **I'M STILL HERE**
(2024, dir. Walter Salles, Brazil Cert. 15)
- 16 July **A COMPLETE UNKNOWN**
(2024, dir. James Mangold, USA, Cert. 19)

We have our very own NHW in Fingringhoe

What is NHW? It is about community and neighbours. It is not nervous curtain twitchers, it's people looking out and reporting suspicious behaviour. Members receive regular emails with safety information and crime reports from local areas.

To become a member email: fingringhoenhw@gmail.com



In May it was our AGM. The committee of last year all agreed to stand again – thank you all. Ann Chamberlain had decided to stand down as president – thank you for all you have done Ann, over many years. Ann is still going to stay on the committee and we hope will still be a very active member. Ann was presented with a bouquet of flowers and a bottle of her favourite tipple as a small gesture of thanks. I am the new president of Fingringhoe WI; I hope I can do a good job and keep our WI thriving. We have at present 44 members with a very wide range of interests and talents.

The **Essex WI darts tournament** has now finished for our WI for this year. We won three of our eight matches, which we were slightly disappointed with, but some of our best players have been absent through illness or other commitments, so perhaps we were just not up to strength. We will try again next year and hope for more success. Win or lose we still have fun evenings out whether it be practicing at the club on Monday evenings or travelling to other venues for matches.

Our **walking group** have been out and about enjoying the lovely weather we have had recently. In May on one of our walks around the village we visited the Geedon Gallery and were kindly provided with refreshments by Jackie Tabor – thank you Jackie for your hospitality.

Several of us took part in the **Great UK Waterblitz** in April. This is part of Earthwatch, testing sources of freshwater in rivers, streams, ponds and ditches; the information



In the Geedon Gallery

helps to put together a picture of freshwater quality throughout the UK. The spring that feeds the village pond was surprisingly high in nitrates and low in phosphates but the pond by Geedon Gallery came out very low in nitrates and fairly low in phosphates, which was encouraging.

We are looking forward to our trip to **Sissinghurst Castle and gardens** on 13 June; there are a few seats still available on the coach if you would like to join us. The cost is £45, or £30 for National Trust members; the coach will leave the village at 9am.

We also have the **Essex Federation AGM** in June, where the guest speaker will be Adam Frost, one of the gardeners regularly featured in *Gardeners World*.

We have a very varied programme of speakers lined up for the next few months, if you would like to join us or just come and see if the WI is for you, we meet on the second Tuesday of each month, except August, in the village hall.

Jill Bellinger



Fingringhoe

Church of England (VA) Primary School

There's a real buzz around school this term as we reflect on a busy and successful year while looking ahead to the many exciting things still to come! First and foremost, we would like to congratulate our amazing Year 6 pupils for showing such determination and resilience during their SATs in May. They approached the challenge with maturity and perseverance, and we are incredibly proud of each and every one of them.

As the summer term rolls on, we're looking forward to a range of activities to round off the year. Sports Day is just around the corner and pupils are already preparing to show off their skills. We also have some exciting class trips planned, along with visits to our Outdoor Classroom – always a favourite with the children!

The recent sunny weather has been perfect for enjoying breaktimes outside, especially with the brand-new play-ground equipment purchased thanks to the fantastic fund-raising efforts of our parent community and Fingringhoe PTA as part of the ASDA Cashpot Scheme, along with a generous donation from The Whalebone Public House. The children absolutely love the new additions and we'd like to say a heartfelt thank-you to everyone who helped make this possible.

Summer term is a time of reflection and anticipation – looking back at everything we've achieved this year and looking forward to what lies ahead. For many children, that means new teachers and new classrooms. For our Year 6 pupils, it's preparing for the exciting next step to secondary school – a time filled with excitement, pride, and understandably a few nerves too.

Here's to a fun, memorable, and sunshine-filled end to the school year!

Mrs H. Coyle & Ms D. Parker
Co-Headteachers

Friends of St Andrew's



This year sees the 20th anniversary of the setting up of the Friends of St Andrew's Church in response to the need to raise funds for significant and urgent repairs to our lovely but ancient Church.

We have continued to

support numerous improvements and repairs to the building and its contents, including work on the heating system, a new catering area, the sound system and most recently a replacement storage shed.

This year we have been asked for help with purchasing new stackable seating to replace the heavy and aging chairs currently in use. We believe that this will be of great benefit to all the various village organisations that make use of the church, by offering versatility to use the space in ways that best suit them. Initial investigations indicate that the cost may require a significant proportion of the funds we currently hold. The Church is also due its five-yearly survey this summer to ensure that it remains in a good state of repair. This could of course lead to further requests for our financial support.

Although we continue to hold fundraising events, our core income is members' subscriptions and over the years these have gradually dwindled. Perhaps now, in our 20th year and with the prospect of significant help for the church once again needed, would be a great time to get our membership numbers moving once again in a positive direction. If you would like to help us maintain and improve our wonderful church, for the benefit of the whole village, please get in touch either with me or our Secretary Lyn Rodley (contact as for *News & Views*) or pick up one of our leaflets in the Church. Subscriptions are £20 per person or £30 for a couple annually. If you are a taxpayer please do consider the Gift Aid option so that we can claim 25p from HMRC for every pound you donate. Paying by bank standing order is of great help to us and makes it easy for you too.

I should add that if anyone would like to offer a more hands on approach, we are nearly always in the market for new committee members. We currently have two vacancies so if you are interested please let us know.

Our next event, the Cream Tea Afternoon on 28 June, is noted on the back cover of this issue of *News & Views* and we have our ever-popular annual Quiz on 24 October, so please put those dates in your diary.

Mick Parmenter, Chair
michaelparmenter@googlemail.com

From St Andrew's Church



On a beautiful afternoon while organist Jordan was practising, his family offered to clean the candlesticks and I laid the altar and sang the hymns with him. We are blessed with all the help we have in church and out in the graveyard, from people who consider it 'our church'. Another organist will play once a month on a



regular basis so that's our Communion services covered. The school continues to come in on a Friday afternoon with parents joining them. There is also a monthly group called Open Book which tells and acts out bible stories to the school children. On Tuesday a morning service is said at 10am and on Friday mornings

there is Bible Study at 10am. Our 'Coffee & Co', which takes place on the first Tuesday of the month, continues to grow – we have the most delicious cakes and lots of laughter. A big thank you to everyone – without you we would not be able to have the church life we have.

Blessings, Sheena Taylor, Churchwarden

June Services at St Andrew's Church

- 1 Café church 10am
- 8 Communion 9.15am
- 15 Communion 9.15am
- 22 Family Service 10am
- 29 Benefice Communion 10am



An Easter display in St Andrew's

Cream Tea Afternoon

with craft stalls and a choir!

at St Andrew's Church, Fingringhoe

Cream Tea Relocated!

Cream Tea in Ann Chamberlain's garden at Gordann on Chapel Road has been a very popular summer event for many years, raising funds for the Friends of St Andrew's Church.

Although still spritely, Ann needs to cut down on her activities, so the Cream Tea has now moved to the Church – but Ann will still be making the scones!

There will also be some craft stalls and the Comrie Singers will perform at 3pm.

Do please come along!

Saturday 28 June
1pm – 4.30pm



cream tea for £5
(cash only)

the choir will sing
at 3pm



wendypinks070@btinternet.com
07733 365 652

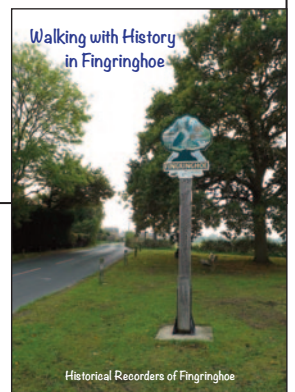


in aid of Friends of St Andrew's which raises funds to keep
Fingringhoe's lovely medieval church in good repair
Registered Charity 1112665

Historical Recorders of Fingringhoe

We will have a stall at the Cream Tea Afternoon on 28 June, where you can buy our books: *Walking with History in Fingringhoe* and *The Church of St Andrew, Fingringhoe, Essex* and consult our digital Archive for aspects of local history.

We would very much like to welcome new members to our group, so if you think you might be interested, please come and talk to us at the stall.



Please send contributions for the next *News & Views* to Lyn Rodley (editor) **no later than 18 August 2025**
to: lynrodley@btinternet.com or hard copy to Lord Nelson House, Ferry Road, Fingringhoe CO5 7BX