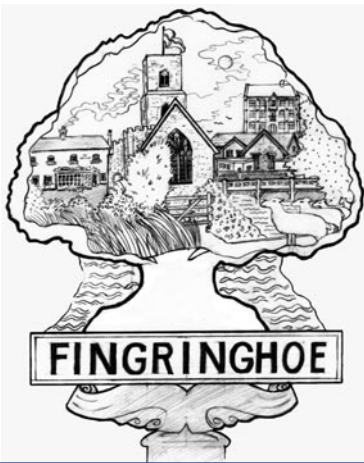




NEWS & VIEWS

JUNE 2026

WI News from the Women's Institute

We have had a couple of interesting speakers recently. In March Mark Partridge came to talk to us about Waitrose and John Lewis, a company he has worked for for over thirty years. Who knew that John Lewis had holiday homes for their employees? – sorry, not called employees, they are *partners* and they all share any profits made – it sounds wonderful! In April we had the very engaging Lucy Lewis, who was the first female bomb disposal expert in the British Army. Lucy kept us laughing with her tales of regimental dinners and such like. In March some of us went to the Mercury Theatre to see *Manningtree Witches*, a brilliant production that kept the audience spellbound. At the end of April nineteen of us travelled up to London for a guided walk entitled 'Bishops and Brothels'. We were taken around some of what would have been a pretty seedy area of Southwark in the 17th and 18th centuries, but is now a pleasant area popular with tourists.

Our darts team have played amazingly well this season and got through to the quarter-finals of the Federation of Essex Women's Institutes tournament, where they were beaten 2–3 in a closely-fought match against last year's champions, Brentwood Belles.

Our Wednesday walks have continued as the weather has been kind to us. We have taken on Bourne Valley, Wivenhoe woods – the bluebells were stunning – and also visited the Geedon Gallery and Rowhedge.

We have started a new sub group called 'Whats Up'. This meets once a month and chats about anything and everything, a good chance to get something off your chest. The book group and 'knit and natter' continue to thrive. On June 25th we have a summer coach outing going to the RHS gardens at Wisley. We have plenty of space on the coach so if you wish to join us please let me know. The cost is £20 for the coach and entry to Wisley is £19.50 or free if you are an RHS member; the coach will leave the village hall at 9am.

Be a Volunteer?

Last November researchers from several UK universities visited Fingringhoe on behalf of ARISE, a project which seeks to develop resilience within the UK's coastal communities. They ran a focus group with local people, to discuss what we understand by 'resilience' in our village. Most of those who attended were involved in some way with various voluntary groups, and all agreed first, that a sense of community is central to the wellbeing of the village and second, that this sense is nourished by various groups, mostly run by volunteers. The WI is on the front page of this issue because they are a fine example of such a group. This issue has notices from many other groups, most of them wishing to increase their membership



We have a very varied programme of events and speakers. We meet in the village hall on the second Tuesday of the month, at 7.30pm. You are welcome to come along as a visitor to see if the WI is for you, The first visit is free, after that we ask for a small donation of £5 visitor fee to help with our costs.

Jill Bellinger



Update from the Parish Council

Local Elections I am pleased to report that six out of seven of your Parish Councillors stood for re-election, meaning that it was an uncontested election and did not need to go to a vote. Neil Gordon decided to step down this year and the Council would like to thank him for his contribution to the Council and the village over the last four years. **There is now a vacancy on the Council and if anyone is interested in finding out more about the role, please contact any one of the councillors or the Parish Clerk for further information.**

Congratulations also go out to City Councillor Robert Davidson, who was re-elected as one of our Ward Councillors and Cllr Christopher Perera who is the new Essex County Councillor for Stanway and Marks Tey, which includes Fingringhoe. The new leader of Essex County Council is Cllr Andrew Harding. The Parish Council website will be updated with all the new information.

New village sign A new name sign similar in size and design to the one on Fingringhoe Road has been ordered and will be installed as soon as is possible at the junction on Haye Lane and Abberton Road.

Recreation Ground The top-up of play bark has now been laid and work is underway to clean up the gates, signs and weed the play area.

Church Green A new bin has been installed at the top of Church Green, and you might have noticed that most of the seats and the picnic bench have been taken away to be cleaned. One bench has now been returned and has been beautifully tidied up for your enjoyment. The rest will be returned as soon as they have been finished, together with a new picnic bench. Quotes for the board-walk are still in progress.

Internal Audit The books and records were submitted for examination, and I am pleased to report that the auditor commented that 'the excellent quality of the records maintained by the Clerk/RFO is acknowledged and she is thanked for her assistance during this internal audit' and 'The Annual Internal Audit Report in the year's AGAR has been signed and dated, having concluded that, in all significant respects, the Internal Control Objectives set out in that report were being achieved throughout the financial

year to a standard more than adequate to meet the needs of the Council.' The books and records will be available for inspection next month. Please look out for the notice on the website and noticeboard.

Defibrillator The clerk carries out a regular check of the defibrillator at the village hall and has just replaced the adult pads. If you see that the defibrillator needs any attention or has been removed, please let the clerk know as soon as possible.

Council meetings and information

We usually meet on the first Tuesday of each month (apart from August) at 7pm at the village hall. However, the June 2026 meeting this year will be held on Tuesday 16th June (3rd Tuesday). A list of meeting dates will be on the website and noticeboards.

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.

Email address: clerk@fingringhoe-pc.gov.uk

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.

Website address: <https://fingringhoe-pc.gov.uk/>

United Charities for the Poor, Fingringhoe

There has existed a charity for the poor in Fingringhoe since the 17th century, long before any welfare state, when the parish would endeavour to help parishioners who were in need of assistance from destitution. Other charities were formed over time and in the 20th century, when registration of charities became compulsory, they were amalgamated to form the 'United Charities for the Poor, Fingringhoe'.

The Trustees of this charity are working to see how, when and for what purpose it may be used to benefit the parish. One of its former acts was the giving of a monetary gift at Christmas time to those parishioners who have been widowed and are of state pensionable age. With a view to reviving this practice, we would like to compile an accurate list of villagers who are eligible. Please let us know if you qualify, either by email (address below), or by informing one of the trustees: Gerald Ketley, Mike Clarke, Ian Chamberlain, Sharron Law and Derek Henderson, or Jenny Henderson at St Andrews Church. The only information required is your name and address.

Derek Henderson

fingringhoeunitedcharities@gmail.com



Fingringhoe

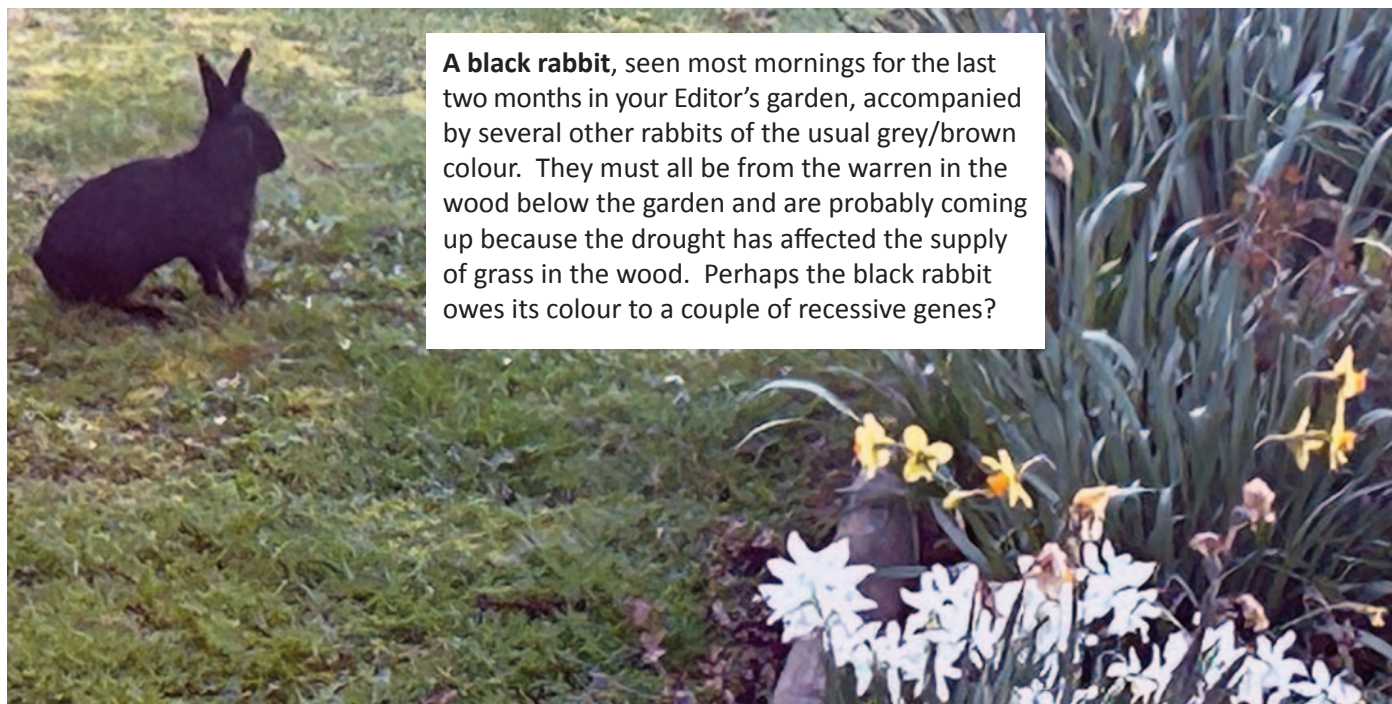
Church of England (VA) Primary School



Sir David Attenborough's landmark 100th birthday was celebrated in memorable fashion at Fingringhoe CofE Primary School, where pupils came together to form a giant human '100'. The special photograph was created to honour the broadcaster and natural historian's lifelong dedication to protecting the natural world and inspiring generations to care for the planet. The celebration also reflected the school's vision of encouraging pupils to become 'change-makers of tomorrow' – young people who will grow into thoughtful, courageous guardians of the environment and their communities.

Headteacher, Mrs Hannah Coyle said: *'Sir David Attenborough has inspired children and adults alike to look more closely at the world around us and to understand the importance of caring for it. As a school, we want our pupils to believe they can make a positive difference in the world, both now and in the future.'*

The photograph captures not only a milestone birthday for one of Britain's most beloved figures, but also the hopes of a new generation committed to protecting the planet for years to come.



A black rabbit, seen most mornings for the last two months in your Editor's garden, accompanied by several other rabbits of the usual grey/brown colour. They must all be from the warren in the wood below the garden and are probably coming up because the drought has affected the supply of grass in the wood. Perhaps the black rabbit owes its colour to a couple of recessive genes?

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

£ £



Many ways to be a volunteer.....



Founded in 1981 following the generous gift of land and buildings, Church Green Trust has dedicated over 35 years to supporting the Fingringhoe community through the provision of residential accommodation and spaces for community-

oriented and arts activities in the village. **The Trust is actively seeking volunteers** to join its Board of Trustees. Serving as a Trustee offers an opportunity to contribute to the local community and support the ongoing mission of the Trust. The role is flexible and not time-intensive, allowing volunteers to dedicate as much or as little time as they can comfortably afford. We welcome individuals with a passion for community development, housing, or arts and cultural activities to consider this rewarding opportunity. Please feel free to contact **Vince McNaught** on 07749930779



Historical Recorders of Fingringhoe

Since 1981 we have collected material about the people, buildings, activities, industries and events of the village. (press cuttings, letters, photographs, posters, trophies, books, maps and drawings that have been donated to us. Also photocopies of old documents in the Essex Records Office, such as census records and old newspapers. We also record interviews with long-term village residents, and at village events we often set up a laptop and screen for searches of our digital Archive. We have published three books: *Fingringhoe Past and Present* (1998), *The Church of St Andrew, Fingringhoe, Essex* (2016) and *Walking with History in Fingringhoe* (2024).

We were never a very large group, but in recent years our numbers have declined seriously as members have left the village (or, indeed, the world). We meet about four times a year, to discuss requests for information, updating the Archive and various projects using it.

Are you interested? If so, do please email us! fingringhoerecorders@gmail.com



Fingringhoe

Church of England (VA) Primary School

Want to make a difference?

Become a school governor.

School governors have a varied and important role. They help the school to run effectively and have three main areas of responsibility: planning the strategic direction of the school; overseeing the financial performance of the school and ensuring money is well spent; holding the Headteacher and school leadership to account.

Governors don't get involved with the day to day running of the school, but instead they support and challenge the school's leadership team to drive school improvement. They ensure strategy, policy, budgeting, and staffing are all organised in the best way possible to ensure smooth and effective running of the school. Our governing board is made up of a diverse group of people who bring a wide range of skills and expertise from their own lives (whether within education or beyond). They then use those skills to benefit the school. At Fingringhoe, governors attend around 3-5 meetings a year. Being a school governor is a commitment and a responsibility, but offers you the chance to see first-hand the impact you can make in improving education for the children in our community.

If you are interested in becoming a governor at Fingringhoe, please contact us at

admin@fingringhoe.essex.sch.uk



**The Green Group
could do with a few
more members!**

Are you interested in the environment, want to meet new friends and be involved in the community?

Then we need you!

We have achieved many great things in the village and want this to continue. We have successful litter picks that we do regularly, and we've also been helping to tidy up the outdoor classroom.

We meet every two months (or more when events are planned) either at Church Green Trust or the social club. We are a friendly group of all different ages! For more information and to find out the next meeting, email: fingringhoegreengroup@gmail.com

Lindsey Raven Emrich

From St Andrew's Church:



The Church has a couple of posts that are being covered temporarily but it would benefit from more permanent cover.

We need an **Administrator**, to keep us in order, and a **Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO)**. If you are willing to help and have any expertise in these two areas please get in touch with **Rev. Terry** 07375 305 460

merseaisland100@gmail.co

Coffee & Co and the **Family Service** group welcome new members. Please contact **Jenny**

the.hendes@btinternet.com

The 'Holy Dusters' clean the Church on a monthly basis.



The group is divided into two, making it bi-monthly for each team, so it usually only takes a couple of hours every other month.

Anyone interested in volunteering please contact **Sue Goodwin** 07815 321041 or goodwinsue21@gmail.com

Tea & Coffee at the visiting Post Office

If you enjoy a cup of coffee, tea and biscuits and a good natter with others, we can provide it all on Mondays and Fridays each week at Church Green, during Post Office opening hours (10am–1pm). Lovely volunteers host each session but we are always looking for more helpers. We like to have two assigned to each morning and it works out that each one attends about once a month.

If you are interested we would love to hear from you, please contact **Ann Taylor** on 07703 120 366



Plans are being made for another

Fingringhoe Art Exhibition

in the Church and possibly also in the Church Green Trust premises on 5 and 6 September 2026.

If you are interested in exhibiting, the details and application forms will be available from 1 June in the Post Office (Mondays and Fridays 10am–1pm, Wednesdays 1-4pm), or from me.

Please save the date and come along to support in whichever way you can.

Jenny Henderson

the.hendes@btinternet.com

Fingringhoe Church Flower Team

Our church is one of the few where there are always fresh flowers for people to enjoy. Many visitors to the church often comment on this after their visit. We are a team of ten, none of us are trained florists. We just enjoy creating arrangements



with flowers, often from our own or other gardens in the village, or from the hedgerows. We work in pairs for two-week blocks, so it works out about every five weeks. Working like this means that we help each other, create different arrangements together and enjoy seeing the results of the teamwork. This is particularly true for Christmas and Easter, when everyone works together to fill the church with glorious flowers to celebrate these Church seasons.

If you love flowers and would like to join us, please contact me. You don't need any previous experience or training. You will be very well-supported and work with one of us as you find your feet. It is a truly calming experience to be in the empty church, working with a partner to create something beautiful in our very special village church. If interested, please contact **Judy Kimmance**, on 07792 862594 and we can have a chat.

and not very far away.....



Colchester Roller Hockey Club New Players Welcome

Colchester Roller Hockey Club is a friendly local club offering children the chance to get involved in a fast-paced and exciting team sport. We train every Wednesday from 5–7pm at Colchester Leisure World and welcome new players of all abilities. Basic skating ability is helpful, but beginners are always welcome.

Roller hockey is a great way to stay active, build confidence, and be part of a supportive team. We also offer opportunities to progress, with players having the chance to follow an England pathway and take part in international tournaments.

We offer two free taster sessions to anyone interested in giving it a try. For more information, please find us on Facebook.



A stellar line-up for the Essex Book Festival

We're delighted once again to play a central role in the Essex Book Festival 2026, welcoming an inspiring range of authors into library spaces across the county throughout June. The relaxed and welcoming atmosphere of libraries makes them ideal venues, particularly for those who may feel daunted by more traditional cultural spaces.

This year's exciting line up includes: **Ellie Levenson** at Manningtree, introducing her debut novel *Room 706*; **Vaseem Khan**, an Essex Library Service favourite, discussing his *Malabar House* series and Bond spin-off novels; **Sally Magnusson** at Rayleigh with *The Shapeshifter's Daughter*; **Tim Marshall**, answering questions on the updated edition of *Prisoners of Geography*; **Sophie Hannah**, presenting the annual Dorothy L. Sayers Lecture at Witham; psychological thriller authors **B.A. Paris** (South Woodham Ferrers) and **Sarah Vaughan** (Chelmsford).

[//libraries.essex.gov.uk/digital-content/essex-book-festival](https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/digital-content/essex-book-festival)



Be a Summer Reading Challenge volunteer!

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 activity is all about music, and it's called 'Read to the Beat'. If you – or someone you know – is looking for something interesting and fun to do over the summer, this is the perfect opportunity! **The closing date for applying to be a volunteer is 22 June** [//libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/summer-reading-challenge-volunteering](https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/summer-reading-challenge-volunteering)

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!

June 7 July 5 August 2

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!

2 June	The Essex Ways, 2026 dir. Thomas Winward, UK
16 June	H is for Hawk, 2025 dir. Philippa Lowthorpe, UK
30 June	Hamnet, 2025 dir. Chloe Zhao, UK
7 July	Song Sung Blue, 2025 dir. Craig Brewer, USA

Please use the bus!

There is a 174 or 175 every hour during the daytime, making 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!





From St Andrew's Church

British Summer Time, the clocks have gone forward, longer days, time to do more in the evenings, be it more time in the garden with friends, preparing for the family BBQ, walks along the river, popping into Coffee & Co to catch up with all the latest news. Whatever you're doing this summer, remember relationships are important: phone a friend or two, and also the family member you haven't spoken to for a long time, and don't forget to knock on the neighbour's door and say hello.

Catching up on the Church repairs, we have had an expert in to cast his eye over all the windows and await an estimate for repairs. We hope also to review what we are able to do on a self-help basis, like the wobbly floor.

Rev. Terry

A Bench for Sheena

We have been receiving donations to purchase a memorial bench for Sheena Taylor, our churchwarden who died last year. If you would like to donate please scan the QR code or use the link below



<https://givealittle.co/c/3jdq32XyISRC8mfvWXZPXS>

Colchester Foodbank Collection Point

**There is a collection box
in the porch of St Andrew's Church, Fingringhoe**

Providing emergency food and practical support for people left without enough money to live on.

Please donate *in-date, non-perishable*
foods and toiletries



Shopping list

tinned meat/fish
tinned veg/fruit
cooking sauces
coffee/tea
UHT or powdered milk
cereals
long life fruit juice
tinned pudding
jam
toiletries

Colchester.foodbank.org.uk
01206 621998

St Andrew's Church Services

June

7th	10am	Thought for the day / Church open
14th	9.15am	Holy Communion
21st	9.15am	Holy Communion
28th	10am	Family Service

July

5th	10am	Thought for the day / Church open
12th	9.15am	Holy Communion
19st	9.15am	Holy Communion
26th	10am	Family Service

August

2nd	10am	Thought for the day / Church open
9th	9.15am	Holy Communion
16th	9.15am	Holy Communion
23rd	10am	Family Service
30th	10am	Benefice Service location TBC

First Tuesday of the month

Coffee & Co 2pm

Come when you can, leave when you want.

All welcome

Cream Tea Afternoon at St Andrew's Church, Fingringhoe

Saturday 18 July
2pm - 4.30pm



cream tea for £5
(cash only)

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

Friends of St Andrew's Church Fingringhoe present
Music on a Summer's Evening with



Vocalise Choir

SATURDAY 27TH JUNE

Tickets £10

St Andrew's Church, Fingringhoe
7.30pm (Doors open at 7pm)

Tickets from Church Green Post Office
 Mondays & Fridays 10am-1pm
 Wednesdays 1-4pm



Raising funds in aid of The Friends of St Andrew's Church, Registered Charity No. 1102465.

Funding News & Views

We have funds to print this issue of News & Views but after that, the piggy bank will be in need of replenishing, so if you can spare something, however little in this time of alarming increases in the cost of living, your Editor would be very grateful. Please send donations to the Editor (address below). Cheques should be payable to 'Fingringhoe PCC' and clearly identified as contributions to *News & Views*.



Thank you!

Fingringhoe

CLASSIC CAR SHOW

Saturday 13th June 2026 • 10am



We have a full complement of cars and are looking forward to The Fingringhoe Classic Car Show which is scheduled to take place in the village on Saturday 13 June between 10am and 2pm. Show cars will be at the Village Hall, the Whalebone car park and the Church Green Trust Courtyard (where the Post Office is).

There will be no charge for entry but there will be donation buckets around the event, and we plan to donate all proceeds to the local church, St Andrews.

There will be some **stalls in the Village Hall** including crafts and baked goods. Becky Scott is running a **BBQ at the Fingringhoe Social Club**, selling lovely hot food. There will be a **coffee van** outside the Church and the Church Green Trust will be offering **teas and cookies**, music and some **children's activities**.

We are making every effort to make this an enjoyable village event, we would encourage locals to walk to the event if possible, however some parking will be available at the recreation ground and there will be additional parking at Picketts Farm for a £1 donation to St Andrews Church for each car.

There will be signage and volunteers around on the day to encourage those not attending to slow down and travel with extra care through the village.

We look forward to seeing you on the day!

Marjorie Smith



Please send contributions for the next *News & Views* to Lyn Rodley (editor) **no later than 18 August 2026** to: lynrodley@btinternet.com or hard copy to Lord Nelson House, Ferry Road, Fingringhoe CO5 7BX