

The Native

March 2026

The Parish Magazine for Brightlingsea



J. Soames Upholstery

PAINTING & DECORATING

NEW FURNITURE MANUFACTURERS

RECOVERING & RESTORATION



84 New Street

Brightlingsea Essex CO7 0DD

01206 302601

07432661467

jemandshell@hotmail.co.uk



Dorothy Bond

more than 20 Years experience.

Primary to GCSE

Tailored support for your child
including Special Learning Needs/

Great Bentley & in home visits

07875168097

dorothybond@btinternet.com

£30/hr. 10% off 10+ hrs booked

COMMUNITY CORNER

WINTERFEST MONTH Huge thanks to Winterfest organisers who have once again come up with a fantastic range of activities and amusements to brighten our wintertime. Thanks also go to everyone who has come along to make the events such a success and have dug deeply into their pockets to raise money for such a worthy cause.

Sun 1 Mar JOG-WALK-RUN 5K or 10K from Sailing Club 9 am. Fun event – no formal timing. Course along Prom and old railway line.

Sun 8 Mar INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY at Colne Yacht Club. 9 am – 4pm. Free entry – drop in as your time allows.

Full programme of interesting speakers on wide range of topics, each lasting up to 30 mins. Lunchtime music from Women in Harmony. Refreshments available from the bar.

Sat 21 Mar Brightlingsea In Bloom **SPRING COFFEE MORNING** 9.30am to 12noon at the YMCA. Raffle and our usual stalls including plants, books, nearly new and cakes for sale. Any contributions/donations. Contact: Chris Kitchen, 12 Dean Street, phone **01206 304245**.

CARNIVAL ASSOCIATION CAR BOOT SALES & SALE TRAILS

We will be holding Car Boot sales every Bank Holiday Monday at Western Promenade Green. No need to book pitches.

Set up from 6.30 am. Sales from 8 am to noon. Cars £5; Car with trailer; camper vans & small vans £7.50; large van £10.

Our Garage Sale trails will be **Apr 18/19; Jul 25/26; Sept26/27**

Forms will be available from Spirals .

20 Jun Carnival Day on the Recreation Ground, Regent Road, including Car Boot Sale. Any information please call Tracey on **07813 721614**

DISCOVER BRIGHTLINGSEA New Official Town Guide now available free in many outlets around town, with lots of up-to-date information about what's going on in Brightlingsea.

EARTH HOUR - SATURDAY 28 MAR

This annual event to raise awareness of climate change, is organised by the World Wildlife Fund and encourages people to switch off lights for an hour on this day between 8.30pm and 9.30pm.

This year's focus is to do something positive for the environment in those 60 minutes that connects you with nature; a walk, tree-planting or some eco-friendly activity.

C.R.FRENCH

HEATING AND PLUMBING

SMALL JOB SPECIALIST

BOILER INSTALLATIONS, SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE

HEATING AND RADIATOR MAINTENANCE AND UPGRADES

LANDLORD/HOMEOWNER GAS SAFETY CERTIFICATES

UNVENTED HOT AND COLD WATER SYSTEM INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE

BATHROOM MAINTENANCE AND INSTALLATIONS

CALL, TEXT OR WHAT'S APP

07739 385617

EMAIL: c.r.frenchplumbing@gmail.com



639566

Your Local Brightlingsea Solicitor



01206 302694 | 12 Victoria Place, Brightlingsea, Essex, CO7 0BX

CHURCH DIARY

SATURDAY COFFEE weekly in St James' 9.30am–noon.

Sun 8 Mar FOREST CHURCH 2.30pm in our usual space at the bottom of All Saints' churchyard.

Mon 9 Mar OPEN HOUSE at 38 High Street 10.30am. All welcome.

Wed 11 Mar AFTERNOON TEA SERVICE 3 pm in St James'. Theme: Lent. Short service of bible readings, prayers and songs, with tea, cake and fellowship. Dementia friendly. All welcome.

Sat 21 Mar BIG BREAKFAST 9–10.30am in St James' – full English or light-bites. Thanks to some younger volunteers, the Breakfast continues into 2026. There is still opportunity to join the team.

ST JAMES SINGERS practice each Thursday in St James' at 7.30 pm. (except 2nd Thursday of the month). New singers always welcome.

Sun 26 Apr ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING will be held in St. James' after the morning service, around 11.15 am. Please come along and show support for your PCC and our Ministry Team as we review that past year and plan for moving forward.

BRIGHTLINGSEA COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT

At the recent Town Show AGM, Emma Evans explained how this enterprise was set up a couple of years ago and all the benefits that the volunteers can enjoy by coming together on the plot to sow, hoe, grow, water, harvest and eat. If you think one noticeable word is missing, that's because they mainly work on a No-Dig method, which is fast gaining favour with lots of gardening gurus.

This project is not a free-for-all, but a core of volunteers helps to give structure to activities on the community plots. Tea-breaks are as important as the work, but with a rule that no politics are discussed.

Links have been made with the Food Bank, which can benefit from surplus veg in due season. Perhaps some of their clients may come along and join in to grow their own.

And those wider benefits? Togetherness – shared interests – an increasing feeling of wellbeing and improved mental health. It reduces stress levels and social isolation, offering friendship and a sense of achievement through planting, growing and nurturing within one's own capabilities.

If you think this might be for you, or someone you know, you can look for the Group on Facebook, Instagram, or email: Brightlingseaca@gmail.com or phone **07733 262474**

Clear To See
Print & Graphics Centre

Signs, Banners,
Vehicle Graphics & Shops

Work & Fun Clothing
Printed or Embroidered

Printing - Short-run
and Commercial

Print & Graphics
Centre

www.cleartosea.com

The complete Marine Graphics service
for commercial and leisure boats.

Friendly & Competitive
from Design to Delivery

Tel: 01206 303592


www.cleartosea.co.uk

Little Boat Gifts

1 New Street, Brightlingsea
Tel: 304555

- Orange Tree Wooden Toys
- Scented Soy Candles
- Wrendale Designs Homeware Range
- Wraptious Cushions
- Ready Made Picture Frames
- Bespoke Framing Service
- Hand Painted Local Souvenirs
- Wide Range of Greeting Cards
- (Including New In-Store Personalised Cards)

www.littleboatgifts.co.uk



Nicola Stephens, MSc, MCSP, MMACP

Chartered Physiotherapist and Practice Owner

Consulting Room: Life Care Mobility Limited,
47 Victoria Place, Brightlingsea, Essex CO7 0AB

Email: Brightlingseaphysio@hotmail.com
Tel: 07496 401011

We can help with:

Muscle & joint injuries	Sports & dance injuries	Back & neck pain
Sprains & strains	Arthritic problems	Neurology & stroke

.....and much more!
Call or email for more details

www.brightlingseaphysiotherapy.com

St James'

THE CHURCH AT THE 'HEART' OF THE HIGH STREET

MARCH : WORSHIP AND PRAYER

St. James' will be open for personal prayer Mon to Fri. 8am - 2pm

Sun 1 Mar 8am Holy Communion 10am All-Age Communion service
11:30am Online service (Zoom)

Sun 8 Mar 8am Morning Prayer
10am Holy Communion 11:30am Online service (Zoom)

Sun 15 Mar 8am BCP Holy Communion *in All Saints'*
10am Holy Communion *in All Saints'*
10am Sparklers Sunday School Group *in St James'*
11:30am Online service (Zoom)

Sun 22 Mar 8am Morning Prayer
10am Holy Communion
11:30am Online service (Zoom)

Sun 29 Mar **PALM SUNDAY SERVICES**
please see Easter Services page for full details

Tue 9-9:30am Parish Prayers
in St James'


Wed 10am Holy Communion

NOTABLE DATES: March

1	St David
15	Mothering Sunday
17	St Patrick
25	Feast of the Annunciation
29	Palm Sunday
29	British Summer Time begins

EASTER EVENTS

3 April	Good Friday
5 April	Easter Day
APCM	26 April – our church Annual Meeting, 11.30am





Is your old roof in need of repair? Is the woodwork wearing out? Are a few tiles missing?

With over 30 years experience, our team of experts have developed a wealth of knowledge that can be used to meet your roofing requirements.

Our roof construction services:

- Pitched roofing
- Flat roofing
- Slate roofing
- Roof construction services
- Roof repairs
- Lead work
- Chimney repairs

In addition to roofing, you can also rely on us for fascia and soffit installations

Solar panel second fitting service

If you've had solar panels fitted on your roof, you'll need an expert to come and do a 'second fitting.' This entails fixing tiles that have been removed or damaged when the solar panels were installed and ensuring your roof is watertight and safe.

For high-quality roofing services in and around Colchester, call . . .

01206 302 691 or 07775 862 269

3 George Avenue | Brightlingsea | Colchester | Essex | CO7 0NE

Email: aliburch@btinternet.com

www.bjbroofing.co.uk

FROM THE VICAR

RED FLAGS/ GREEN FLAGS

The snowdrops are shining, the daffodils are dancing, the buds are bursting and we have reached another Spring.

For us in the Church, we have eaten our pancakes on Shrove Tue, and been marked with ash crosses on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday and are now in Lent – a time for reflection, forgiveness of past wrongs, making a new start, prayer and considering our lives, words and actions in the light of the eternity towards which we are travelling.

Some of us give things up, either bad habits for good, or good things for a time in order to spare time for God and good work, or money, energy and resources for good causes.

Making room for good things and cutting out things that are harmful or just getting in the way is something many of us are doing in our gardens...in our houses as we Spring clean...in our wardrobes as we switch from winter to summer...in our activities as we take up new things and drop old habits. But it's worth thinking about these things in our relationships too.

There is an ongoing trend in our culture about watching out for 'red flags' or warnings when getting to know someone – when someone shows a flash of their 'true colours' and you don't like what you see or find it worrying.

Commonly cited 'red flags' are: mistreating people in the service industry such as shop assistants or waiting staff; tailgating in traffic; racism, sexism or prejudice even 'as a joke'; holding grudges; gossiping about others; being jealous or controlling; a flashpoint temper; not taking responsibility and saying things like "you made me..."; putting others down or belittling their achievements and so on... These 'red flags'* give a glimpse of a person's character, or how they might treat you if you end up on their 'bad side'.

But here's a thought: what are the 'green flags' when contemplating friendships and relationships, colleagues and fellow volunteers? The traits that say, it's safe to get closer, this is a good person to trust and to be around. These can be uplifting to look for.

For me, these 'green flags' include someone being kind to those who can't pay it back; putting rubbish in a (preferably recycling) bin; treating animals and children with kindness; sharing; giving; being well informed and able to be wrong and say sorry with grace; celebrating others' accomplishments; speaking about others in the same way to their face as behind their back; looking for the good in others; being trustworthy, loyal and reliable.

Lent is a time to think about our character and how that character shows in small ways and great. If our small actions are unworthy of the person we want others to think we are – if we act differently when we are seen than when we are unseen



- we might want to work on that. Let's celebrate and point out the good we see in those around us, because even the simplest compliment can make someone's day. Lent is also a time to think about the character of God – which is the character of Jesus Christ. That's quite a benchmark. Rather than comparing ourselves to others and deciding we're 'not as bad as...' we aim for the best and highest. So, this Lent I am working on these things in my own life, and I invite you to do the same.

*If, in your home life, you have people showing a lot of 'red flags' and you feel unsafe, please speak to someone about it and get help. Contact Essex domestic abuse helpline by calling 0330 333 7444 from 8am to 8pm weekdays, and 8am to 1pm weekends

Every Blessing, Caroline

CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL 2026 REVISION

This year we only have to record any small changes to our electoral roll so we are asking for anyone who isn't on the roll as yet to please complete a form. We welcome anyone to join the roll who is a baptised member of the Church of England, aged 16 or over and comes regularly to our services. Forms will be available in church or from me during March and **must be completed by Sat 11 April**. Contact Elizabeth Foss-Smith on **07899 776620** if you have any questions.

ASSEMBLY BANGERS

SINGALONG EVENT

SUNDAY 1st MARCH 5:00-8:00pm

ST. JAMES' CHURCH,

BRIGHTLINGSEA HIGH STREET



**GOOD FOOD,
GOOD MUSIC,
GOOD TIME
FOR ALL THE
FAMILY!**

Enjoy again the songs you remember from primary school!

'School dinner' of bangers and mash and pudding included. Bar available.

ADULTS £12,
CHILDREN £10,
FAMILY £40



from SPIRALS & LITTLE BOAT GIFTS
or online from TICKETSOURCE
via QR code or here:
<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/stjamesevents>

FREE RADIO SKILLS & PODCASTING TRAINING



**BRIGHTLINGSEA
WinterFest**

JOIN US FOR A 5 WEEK TRAINING COURSE YOU WILL LEARN VALUABLE RADIO & PODCASTING SKILLS. THE 5 SESSIONS WILL BE HELD ON THE FOLLOWING SATURDAYS: 14 - 21 & 28 FEBRUARY 26, 14 & 21 MARCH 25. NO PRIOR KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED! ALL ABILITIES WELCOME! PRE-BOOKING ESSENTIAL! EMAIL: will@colneradio.net TO BOOK YOUR PLACE! LOCATION: BRIGHTLINGSEA COMMUNITY CENTRE. TIME: 10AM - 3PM. LEARN NEW SKILLS, MEET NEW PEOPLE AND WINK SOME HOSES!

106.8 FM COLNE RADIO
106.8FM | ONLINE | SMART SPEAKER



L & K Funeral Directors

St Osyth, Great Bentley & Felixstowe

01255 318524 / 01206 370812 24hr

lksfuneralservices@yahoo.co.uk

Local Independent & Family Owned, Providing
Modern & Traditional Funerals



Introducing Our Pure & Simple Funeral
This is non-attend Cremation at a local Crematorium

Our Services Includes:

Collection Day or Night Of Your Love One, A Coffin
Suitable For Cremation, A Hearse & Bearing Staff,
Crematorium Fees, Return Of Ashes,
Doctors Fees, **£1195.00 Inclusive**



Proud provider of Ecclesiastical Funeral Plans. Please contact us
for further information or go to our website:
www.lksfuneraldirectors.co.uk | Approved and regulated by the FPA

Constablecare



Local care for local people

Our Purpose

To provide high quality, reliable care for you and your loved ones at home. Our staff are compassionate and sensitive to your needs. We aim to preserve your dignity and privacy to the highest degree.

How we can help:

- Personal care
- Medication management
- Incontinence management
- Preparation of meals
- Light domestic duties
- Palliative care

Care and support in the privacy of your own home.
For Brightlingsea residents and the surrounding areas.

Constable Care Ltd, 2a High St, Brightlingsea, Essex CO7 0AE.

01206 808 505

Quiet

Space

Palm Sunday

*Astride the colt and claimed as King
that Sunday morning in the spring,
He passed a thornbush flowering red
that one would plait to crown his head.*

*He passed a vineyard where the wine
was grown for men of royal line
and where the dregs were also brewed
into a gall for Calvary's rood.*

*A purple robe was cast his way,
then caught and kept until that day
when, with its use, a trial would be
profaned into a mockery.*

*His entourage was forced to wait
to let a timber through the gate,
a shaft that all these might have known
would be an altar and a throne.*

Marie J Post, 20th century

FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE...

Mondays STEPPING STONES/ TOY LIBRARY in St James' 9.15 – 11.15am. £2.50 per child.

Wednesdays TEENS2TWENTIES 7 – 9pm in St James' (ages 14 -29)

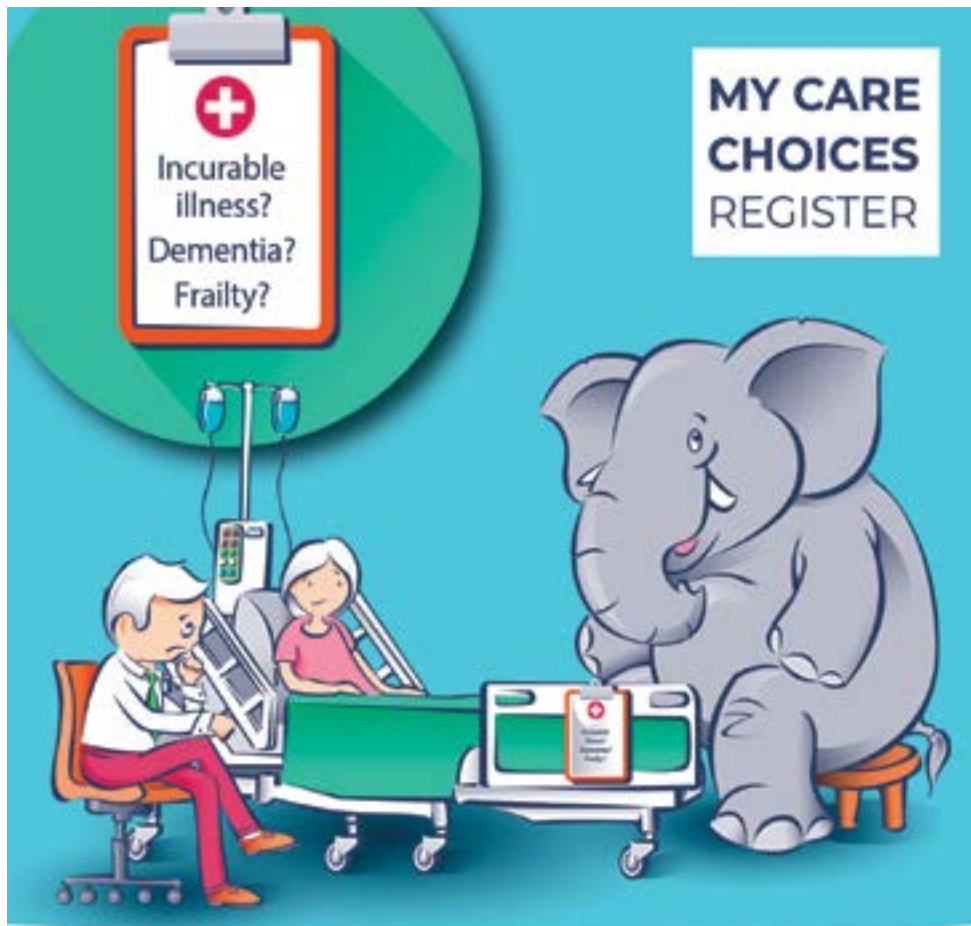
Thursdays LEGO CHURCH for 9 – 13-year-olds meets weekly at 5.30pm in St James'. Tuck shop available.

Fridays CHURCH LADS AND GIRLS BRIGADE meets in St James'

Sun 8 Mar FOREST CHURCH will be held every 2nd Sunday in the month, all at 2.30pm, in our special corner down All Saints' churchyard. Future Dates: **12 Apr, 10 May, 12 Jul, 9 Aug, 13 Sep, 11 Oct, 13 Dec**

Tue 10 & 24 Mar 2026 BRIGHTLINGSEA BEARS meets in St James' 10am till 11.15. Warm welcome to toddlers and mums/carers.

Sun 15 Mar SPARKLERS Sunday group meets on the third Sundays in St James' from 10 -11 am



Is it time to start talking about the elephant in the room?

Have you considered your plans for future care?

Talk to your loved ones about your priorities for your future healthcare, then ask your GP about the My Care Choices Register.

www.mycarechoices.online



CHURCHES TOGETHER BRIGHTLINGSEA

Fri 6 Mar SOUP LUNCH 12.30–1.30pm Choice of home-made soups with roll and cheese, tea & coffee. These lunches continue to raise money for Christian Aid. **Next Soup Lunch Fri 10 Apr.**

Thu 12 Mar and 26 Mar COLNE COMMUNITY FRIENDSHIP GROUP at the United Church Hall, Chapel Rd. Now runs on the second and fourth Thursdays 10.30am - 12.30pm. £2.50 per session, includes coffee & cake, board games, speakers, community support.

Tue 17 Mar CTB FRIENDLY LUNCH @ Victoria Café, 12 for 12:15 pm. 12 for 12:15 pm. If you plan to come along, please let Alison know so there is enough table space. These lunches are held in the Victoria Cafe, always on the third Tuesday of the month at 12 noon for 12.15 pm.

Sat 21 Mar SUPERSALE @ St Sabina's Church, Richard Ave, 9.30am. Lots of bargains. All welcome.

CRADLE ROLL

Celebrating the birthdays of those children who were baptised in our churches

Kobi Arthur Bortics-Kinnaird

AERIAL ELECTRONICS OF BRIGHTLINGSEA

DIGITAL AERIAL & SATELLITE INSTALLATIONS
EXTRA TV, SKY & TELEPHONE POINTS
WIND DAMAGE, TUNING IN SERVICE

CONTACT RAY SCOTT ON
01206 302654

MOBILE: 07885191530

EMAIL: terriscott2@tiscali.co.uk



13 ELM DRIVE BRIGHTLINGSEA ESSEX CO7 0LA

St James' swings into Easter in proper style

St James' firmly placed itself at the centre of the town's community in the run-up to the Easter season.

The Mardi Gras spirit of Shrove



Tuesday was clear to see as dozens of people came into church to enjoy pancakes with a wealth of toppings served up by the hard-working kitchen volunteers. And to help work off the calories there were a range of games and activities, including a very tightly-fought round of Balloon Volleyball, refereed by the Vicar.



Other half-term activities included a drop-in session of Lego Church where young visitors were able to channel their creativity in fascinating ways.

On the Saturday Night the church was transformed for the Winterfest Music by Candlelight, which saw a capacity crowd enjoy the sheer

musical power of the 17-piece Swing Express presenting a series of big band favourites from the 30s, 40s and 50s.

They were backed by local heroes Loxley's Corner and the remarkable Katy Bingham-Best bringing

the joy of light-opera and comedic songs.

Performers and crew alike commented after the event about how wonderful the Church's acoustics were and what a wonderful venue it was for musical events.





20 – 21 Victoria Place,
Brightlingsea,
Essex CO7 0BX
01206 302138

YOUR LOCAL SPAR
AT THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY

DANES
LAUNDRERS & DRY CLEANERS
Since 1985

Open 7 days a week
6 am to 10 pm



THE WATERSIDE
QUALITY
FISH and CHIPS
Restaurant and
Take Away

OPEN 12 pm—8 pm
7 DAYS A WEEK

01206 302710
TELEPHONE ORDERS WELCOME

Waterside, Brightlingsea,
Essex CO7 0DB



FOOT CLINIC

Trish Parker MAFHP MCFHP MINA • 12 Years Experience

LATE NIGHTS • CONSULTATIONS • CLINIC OPEN IN BRIGHTLINGSEA
5 DAYS A WEEK • DIABETIC PATIENTS WELCOME

PROFESSIONAL TREATMENTS COVERING ALL FOOT DISORDERS

Removal of Corns • Hard Skin • Ingrown Toe Nails • Infections • Fungal Infections • Athlete's Foot • Thickened/Deformed Nails • Verruca's • Cracked and Painful Heels • Fallen Arches



Call Trish Now To Book
An Appointment:

Prices From Only £17

01206 307884 • 07808 938563

Clinic Held at: 66 Seaview Road, Brightlingsea

ALL SAINTS' UPDATE

Repair of the bells has started, although only at preliminary stages. The upkeep of the Brasses is underway with new felt coverings and advice taken for next steps.

We are always on the lookout for volunteers who can help in many ways. Currently we are advertising through the newly established GOVO, which is a digital volunteering platform developed by the Royal Volunteering Service.

The aim is to reduce barriers to participation by providing a flexible way of volunteering and roles that fit in with different lifestyles and interests. If you know of anyone who might be interested in assisting with our events or serving refreshments or taking a back-seat role at home but handling publicity and social media, we should love to hear from you.

A quietly restorative afternoon was held on **Jan 20 - HALF A YARD AND A YARN** - offering tea, cake and the chance to pick up some ideas and skills in crochet, patchwork and tapestry.

Mon 30 Mar ACTIVITY MORNING - Easter/spring theme 10am – 12noon (quiet session available).

For more info on activities check our Facebook [@CofEBrightlingsea](#) and Instagram [@all.saints.and.st.james.bsea](#) Bookings taken via email AllSaints_Activities_Brightlingsea@outlook.com by messenger or calling the church office on **01206 302738**

TOWER TOURS

Mar 14 ,22, 28, 29 Apr 19, 25 - must be booked in advance.

Usual start time is 2pm and the tours cost £7 per adult and £4.50 for children (only those over 8yrs allowed). Please be confident you can comfortably meet the access requirements of the tower before making a booking.

Full details can be found at www.friendsofallsaintsbrightlingsea.com/tower-tours/ Bookings via email and phone as above.

ADVANCE DATE:

Sat 6 Jun SPRING BAZAAR in St James' 9.30am

As we have no stock left from the last bazaar, please start to look out any saleable items for the usual stalls as well as bottles for the Tombola (soft drinks, alcohol or toiletries) or good Raffle prizes. Plants and garden produce welcome. From early May there will be a box in church to receive these. Offers or queries to Kathy Tidman **01206 302482**.

Mobile

fresh fish shop

Derrick Allen



Outside King's Head
8.00 – 12.30 Fridays

Phone: 01206 303104
or Mobile: 0796 77 55 771

R G Prentice Ltd

Carpet & Flooring

4 Victoria Place, Brightlingsea, CO7
0BX. Tel 01206 302527

A family run business, established over 35
years

All type of flooring supplied and fitted see our
web page

Rugs Doormats Runners
Vinyls Luxury Vinyl Tiles Carpets



Prenticecarpets.co.uk

NATIVITY POSTSCRIPT From Ruby Summers

Although it seems a while ago now, I have special memories of this year's Nativity service. It was so special and the children were so lovely.

They were very young Angels, but how they sang out. Melanie had trained them so well and we were very proud of them all. They reminded us all how God sent his Son into the world, not born in the comfort of a cosy hotel, but in a cold stable with the animals standing by.

Mary had no comfort or special treatment, she was a humble young woman, looking forward to marrying Joseph.

Every year on Christmas Eve we are reminded of the Birth of Jesus. For me it is the beginning of Christmas, and every year the Nativity reminds me how much God loves us,

As I entered church on Christmas Eve, I just felt a special feeling seeing all the empty chairs – but soon they would be filled with people, yes, coming to watch the Nativity.

But my prayer is that everyone who came to church on Christmas Eve to watch the Nativity will have come closer to God.

We are living in troubled times, but it is good to remind ourselves of God's love. As I have got older, I have realised how good it is to have time, and not to be too busy, with more time for God.

We were able to send a gift of £289.49 raised from the Nativity service and Sparklers, also the Four Youth group who decorated small bags filled with money they had saved. This was sent to Barnabas Aid, who do such wonderful work with families and young people in need around the world.

My special thanks to Melanie for all the preparation and hard work for the Nativity.

God bless, Ruby

PARISH BANK ACCOUNTS

Reminder - Please note that the Lloyds Bank account is now closed.

If you wish to pay money to the Parish by Standing Order or Bank Transfer please contact our Treasurer David Wiggins - treasurer4stjames@gmail.com (07982 770471) - and he will be able to give you details of our Barclays Bank account.

Those who give by Standing Order to the Lloyds Account should have received a letter from David.

Our very own small, independent, local florist



Flo's flowers
BY DONNA

07985 172016 • flosflowersbydonna@outlook.com

Shop based on our Brightlingsea High Street, serving our local community for all your

floral requirements, flowers, plants, candles and much more.

Say it with flowers, say it with Flo's flowers, lovingly arranged by Donna.

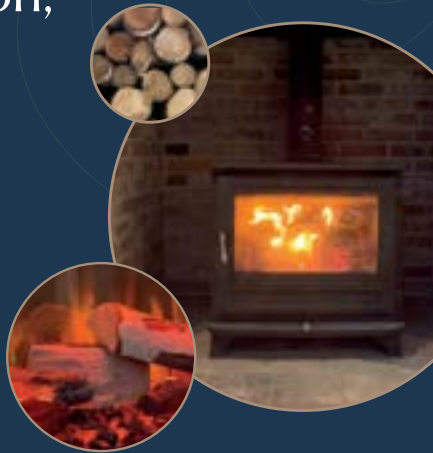


www.bfsheating.co.uk

Embracing Tradition, Elevating Comfort

Experience the warmth and tradition of Bentley Fire Shop.

From timeless wood-burning stoves to eco-conscious MCZ pellet stoves, along with energy-efficient, cost-effective gas and electric options, we offer a range of heating solutions to suit your needs.



Our services include:

- * Mantel & fireplace installations
- * Modern media walls
- * Bespoke brickwork
- * Stove servicing



Prepare for the seasons ahead with our chimney sweeps and maintenance services, ensuring your home is cosy and comfortable year-round.

Visit our showroom at
Plough Road, Great Bentley, Colchester, CO7 8LG,
to experience the warmth of Bentley Fire Shop.

Contact us on **01206 251118**
or email **sales@bfsheating.co.uk**



REFLECTION

YOU HAVE ANOTHER MINUTE, LORD?

In a culture where speed and the ability to ‘pack more in’ becomes self-defeating, many people are crying out for space – in modern parlance, ‘Me-time’. Individually, we need to build some slowing down time into our lives, for our own wellbeing.

This is also a vital step in our early journey into Prayer. It’s the difference between a high-speed train journey or taking the slow train that calls at the smaller stations, offering interesting things or people to see.

When you go for a walk, why not deliberately walk more slowly. Breathe gently, look around you, enjoy being with yourself. Relish the chance to do anything, or nothing. That’s when you may find Someone Special waiting to meet you. And then you may feel the need to say something, in the way that you might talk things through with a good friend who knows and understands you.

We need not say a lot; quantity is not as important as sincerity. We don’t need special words and elegant phrases. What we do need is to be natural and honest; our God knows each of us so well, there is no need to put on a show for him. ‘Just as I am, without one plea’ as the hymn says.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Sun 1 – Sat 7 Mar At the beginning of **NO MORE WEEK**, which raises awareness to end domestic abuse and sexual violence, we pray for healing for all those who have been victims of abuse. As your church, may we demonstrate your love and care to victims, and point them to you.



Tue 3 Mar On **WORLD WILDLIFE DAY**, we remember that God gave us the Earth to cherish and steward, convict us to do what we can to protect all you have created. ‘*The Earth is the Lord’s and everything in it.*’ (Psalm 24:1)

Sun 22 Mar On **WORLD WATER DAY**, we pray for the billions of people without access to safe water due to the water and sanitation crisis. In our desire to love our global neighbours, convict and compel us to rethink how we use water, and how we can support those in need.

In mid-March there will again be **PRAYER TRAIL ACTIVITY SESSIONS** for children from the Primary School to widen their understanding of Easter. Please pray a special blessing on the leaders and volunteers at this time, as well as the children.

In addition, please remember our Ministry Team who face a very busy few weeks in the run up to Easter Day.



**WINDOWS DOORS
CONSERVATORIES
ORANGERIES
EXTENSIONS**

01206 258 056

Local family business No pressure sales 20 years in industry
10 year insurance backed guarantees

CERTASS

Registered Installer

Marley

Registered Trade Installer
of UK's leading UK Blinds



FEDERATION OF
**MASTER
BUILDERS**
fmb.org.uk



Ultra Installer

Church Road Business Centre
Brightlingsea, CO7 0GG

www.spectrumglazing.co.uk

EASTER SERVICES 2026

PALM SUNDAY 29 MAR

- 8am Holy Communion for Palm Sunday
- 9.45am Procession from **Victoria Place** fountain
for 10.00am Holy Communion for Palm Sunday in **St James**
- 12noon Zoom service
- 4.30pm Service of readings and music for Holy Week

MON 30 MAR

- 7pm Stations of the Cross

TUE 31 MAR

- 5.30pm Stations of the Cross

WEDNESDAY 1 APRIL

- 7pm Stations of the Cross

MAUNDY THURSDAY 2 APRIL

- 8pm Holy Communion with optional Foot Washing followed at
9pm by silent Vigil for the willing

GOOD FRIDAY 3 APRIL

- 10.15am Churches Together service in **St James'** and Walk of Witness
to **Gandergoose Green** (Station Road) if weather and
mobility allow. **Return to St James'** for hot crossed buns
and hot drinks, 11.30 onwards.
- 2.30pm Last Hour at the Cross
- 6pm Good Friday Meditation in words and music

HOLY SATURDAY 4 APRIL

- 5pm First Fires All Age service at **St James'**. Music and activities

EASTER DAY 5 APRIL

- 6am Dawn service in **All Saints' churchyard**
- 10am Holy Communion for Easter Day in **St James'**
- 10:30am **United Church, Chapel Road** Easter Sunday Service with
Holy Communion led by Revd Dr Marion Cole
- 12noon Zoom service

John J. Smith

Independent Family Funeral Directors



Our Exclusively Owned Rolls Royce and Bentley Hearses



24 hour Personal Service

BRIGHTLINGSEA
01206 308400
Tower Street

COLCHESTER
01206 761800
Mersea Road

GREAT CLACTON
01255 423262
Old Road

Golden Charter
Later Life Planning 



"Our family caring for your family"

THE BARGAIN STORE

Victoria Place, Brightlingsea,
Tel: 01206 303868

**GIFTS, TOYS, CHILDREN'S BOOKS,
DIY ITEMS, PET FOODS,
CHINAWARE, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS,
GLASSWARE, SLIPPERS**



Plus **GAMES, NOVELTIES, STATIONERY,
CARDS, TOILETRIES, PRETTY POLLY
TIGHTS, BOOTS, TOWELS, FARMHOUSE
JAMS** and much, much more

ALL UNDER ONE ROOF LOCALLY

Anthony Coe

Dental Laboratory

1 James Street
Brightlingsea
Essex
CO7 0DA

A.J. Coe Ltd
Telephone 01206 305069



BRITAU SCAFFOLD LTD



BRIGHTLINGSEA BASED FIRM WITH OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE,
PROVIDING A COMPLETE SCAFFOLDING SERVICE THROUGHOUT ESSEX,
SUFFOLK, NORFOLK & CAMBRIDGESHIRE COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND
DOMESTIC WORK UNDERTAKEN, ALL CARRIED OUT BY HIGHLY TRAINED
AND EXPERIENCED OPERATIVES. CONTINUALLY SUPPORTING THE LOCAL
COMMUNITY - PROUD SPONSORS OF BRIGHTLINGSEA REGENT FC
& BRIGHTLINGSEA RUGBY CLUB LOCAL PEOPLE FOR LOCAL WORK - HONEST
SERVICE COMPETITIVE PRICES
CONTACT US FOR A FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTE ON

01206 304022 / 07831808219 / email: britaultd@hotmail.co.uk



Office 01206 307108
Mobile 07786332150

brightsparksbrightlingsea@gmail.com
www.brightsparksbrightlingsea.com

LUCAS
ESTATE AGENTS AND VALUERS
Established 1935

RESIDENTIAL SALES
& LETTINGS

www.lucasestates.com


YOUR ORIGINAL LOCAL INDEPENDENT ESTATE AGENT

FREE no obligation valuations

Competitive commission rates

NO SALE NO FEE

Tel: 01206 302639 Email: info@lucasestates.com

16 VICTORIA PLACE, BRIGHTLINGSEA, ESSEX CO7 0BX 

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

FLOODLIGHTING THE TOWER AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

MARCH

- 19 Remembering Alf (Pop) Rothwell. A very special Dad and Grandad.
- 15 In loving memory of my Mum, Peggy Welham, on her birthday. Still greatly missed.
- 23 Aliyah Tidman Happy 1st Birthday
- 24 162nd Anniversary of Court Lifeboat 4390, Ancient Order of Foresters, Brightlingsea
- 26 In loving memory of Nancy Naish, beloved and greatly missed Grandma, Wife, Sister and Mother
- 28 In loving memory of my dear wife, Marianne Gascoyne, on the anniversary of her birthday.

To light the tower at All Saints' Church, please get your request in **by the 6th of the previous month**. Minimum donation £8 per entry.

Requests for this special form of remembrance should be directed to Claudia Campbell via the Church Office at St James' Church, or by email: claudiacampbell@hotmail.co.uk; or by mobile: **07753 660 779**

Payment to be made either by cash or cheque payable to "The Friends of All Saints' Church, Brightlingsea" addressed to Claudia Campbell, c/o The Church Office, St James' Church, Victoria Place, CO7 0AB.

HOW WE CELEBRATE EASTER - A SHORT HISTORY

The Great Fifty Days of Eastertide form a single festival period in which the tone of joy created at the Easter Vigil is sustained through the next seven weeks, and the Church celebrates the gloriously risen Christ.

Early Christians gave the name Pentecost to this whole fifty-day span of rejoicing, which Tertullian calls 'this most joyful period' (laetissimum spatium). It is sometimes also called 'Great Sunday'. Decorations emphasize the joy and brightness of the season.

On the fortieth day there has from the late fourth century been a particular celebration of Christ's ascension. He commissions his disciples to continue his work, he promises the gift of the Holy Spirit, and then he is no longer among them in the flesh. The ascension is therefore closely connected with the theme of mission. The arrival of the promised gift of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost completes and crowns the Easter Festival.

R. BARLOW MEMORIALS

We know you want the perfect tribute to
remember your loved ones.



New special offer
£650 with
silver inscription &
1 flower container

Unit A12B, Plough Road,
Great Bentley, Essex CO7 8LG
Telephone: 07972 813437

Email: rbarlowmemorials@hotmail.co.uk



Stepping Stones Toy Library




At St James' Church
Term-time Mondays
9:15- 11:15 am

All Welcome

£2.50 for the first two children
(additional children £1)

For additional information email
saintjames2024allsaints@gmail.com
Or call 01206 302378

SMITHS BUTCHERS



Suppliers of finest quality meats



- *Homemade Sausages and Burgers*
- *Home Cooked Pies*
- *Specialist Products*

- *Years of Experience*
- *Excellent Friendly Service*
- *Locally Sourced Meats*



Tel: 01206 302939

14 High Street
Brightlingsea
Essex
CO7 0AE

MARCH RECIPE

IRISH STEW

March 17 is St. Patrick's Day and a fine day to celebrate the early missionaries and saints.

This is really quite a frugal dish, and my recipe dates back to Victorian times when lamb or mutton was cheaper and like now, potatoes & onions freely available. Sometimes carrots, turnips or other vegetables are added, and occasionally Guinness or beer added with the stock.

Ingredients

- 600 g stewing lamb/mutton
- 1 kg potatoes
- 500 g onions
- 250 ml stock
- 250 ml beer
- Salt, pepper
- Pinch of mixed herbs
- Gravy Granules (if a thicker stock is preferred)
- Parsley

Method

1. Heat oven to Gas 3 or 160° C.
2. Cut meat into pieces, trim off some of the fat.
3. Peel & slice the potatoes and onions.
4. Starting and ending with a layer of potatoes, layer up all the ingredients in a casserole, sprinkling with seasoning & herbs as you go.
5. Pour the stock and beer over and bring to the boil.
6. Cover tightly and cook in oven for 2 hours.
7. If you prefer a thicker gravy – just before serving, pour off the liquid stock and thicken up separately with gravy granules.
8. Serve with chopped parsley sprinkled on top.

Recipe supplied by Elizabeth Foss-Smith

THE NATIVE

Copies of The Native are available at Spar, Spirals, Wine Well, Little Boat Gifts, Flo's Flowers and Lucas Estate Agents, as well as St James' Church.

Also available by subscription - contact the Parish Office for details.

Cover: Snowdrops at All Saints'

Deadline for April issue – please submit items by 18 March

Please send any articles of future interest to Carole Maytum via the Church Office. Email: brightlingseaparish@btconnect.com

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Administrator: Fiona Hunter will be in the Office at the following times: **Mon, Wed, Fri from 9am – 12pm**

Church Office Victoria Place, Brightlingsea, CO7 0AB Tel: 302378

Email: saintjames2024allsaints@gmail.com

**Parish Website: www.allsaintswithstjamesb-sea.co.uk
and www.facebook.com/CofEBrightlingsea**

If you wish to seek confidential advice, request prayer for the sick or infirm, or receive the sacraments, please contact:

Rev Caroline Beckett, The Vicarage, Richard Avenue, Brightlingsea
CO7 0LP **Tel: 07454 244914 Email: revcarolinebeckett@gmail.com**

Vicar's Day Off Friday (*Please respect this – Caroline needs time to recharge.*)

Curate Rev Judith Gibbons (Non-working days Mon & Thu)
Email: revjudithgibbons@outlook.com

Sacristan Mary Bugbee Tel: 01206 302629

Baptisms Catherine Graham Mob: 07484 112600

Weddings Linda Salmon salmonlinda978@gmail.com

Funeral Enquiries The Church Office

Churchyard Records Sally Goodenough Tel: 01206 303749

Electoral Roll Elizabeth Foss-Smith Tel: 01206 305120

Sparklers & Bears Ruby Summers Tel: 01206 304481

Church Lads & Girls Brigade Facebook: [@brightlingsea.brigade](https://www.facebook.com/@brightlingsea.brigade)