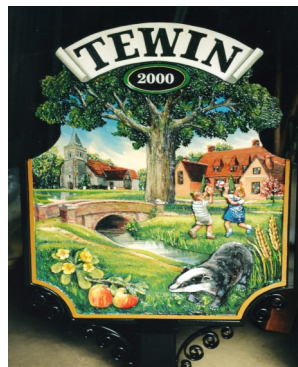




# *Tewin Magazine*

May 2025



Price 80p



**Stands the Church clock at ten to three?  
And is there honey still for tea?**

# Tewin in Bloom



Welcome to the May 2025 edition of the Tewin Magazine.

Our cover photo, with echoes of Rupert Brooke's poem, was taken by Colin Minton. Those on page two by Martin Taylor, Deborah Hoare, Linda Crawford and Deirdre Hatt.

I am always happy to receive photos for possible inclusion in the Magazine. Please send to [tewinmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:tewinmagazine@gmail.com).

**Events this month are:**

Maypole dancing on the 2nd (p9) and the Spring Picnic on the 5th (p9).

Tewin Stores are serving a lunch of Egg/Ham and Wedges on 24th (p29).

The bowls Club have their Open Days on 24th and 26th (p24), Screen on the Green is showing '*Ex-Machina*' on 19th (p10) and the Technology Advice Sessions are on 15th and 29th (p30).

Messy Church this month is on the 18th (p18).

Further afield

St Mary's Church, Welwyn are hosting their lunchtime recital on 10th (p16) and Datchworth are hosting their Open Gardens on 25th (p28).

Other events can be found in Dates For Your Diary (p33).

Visitors always comment on how beautiful our church and churchyard are. This does not happen by itself. A dedicated band clean the church every week and once a year it is given a thorough spring clean. The annual spring clean is taking place this month on 16th and 17th. Can you help? See p13 for details. There are also regular work parties in the churchyard to keep it looking neat and tidy. The next work party is on the 10th (p21).

**Trussells Butcher's Van** is outside the shop on Fridays from 1.30-2.45pm. Call 01438 812304 if you wish to order in advance.

**A Mobile Fish Van** is at Burnham Green on Wednesdays from 12-12.30pm. Call Kelvin on 07847 176847 for orders.

Please continue to send contributions for future editions of the magazine to [tewinmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:tewinmagazine@gmail.com). The deadline is the **15th** of the month, but the earlier the better.—Jackie Murphy, Editor

Views expressed in the '*Tewin Magazine*' are not always those held by the Parish Council or by the Parochial Church Council

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### Tewin Parish Council Annual Chairman's Report 2025

**This year**, I am writing about our local roads. Basically there are too many rural roads, there is too much to do and there is never going to be enough money to do it.

**When** they metalled the old cart tracks, labour was cheap, traffic was light, and they did not realise the scale of the problem they would leave for today when costs are higher and traffic is heavier.

**Hertfordshire Highways** is part of Hertfordshire County Council, but nowadays, most of the work is done by outside contractors, under contract to Highways. The trouble with contracts is that contractors stick to them. So that if time or money run out, they may not complete the work until a new contract is agreed. And if you ask “why did they not do this while they were here doing that”, then the answer is that it was not in the contract.

**There** is an ongoing contract on the repair of potholes, but they only do the ones that have been reported, so please help by reporting them. But be aware that if it is not at least 50mm deep, then it may not be classed as a pothole, even if it feels deeper when you drive over it. Some roads have a top layer of tarmac which is under 50 mm deep. If this should start to lift off then you might get a very rough road, but they do not qualify as potholes.

**Pothole repairs** have a reputation for being temporary, but proper works, such as the recent resurfacing of the Churchfield Road bridge, are done to a high standard.

**Our County Councillor**, Ken Crofton, has a Highways Locality Budget, which he can use to pay for specific works, or to pump-prime works funded by Highways. We have been lucky enough to get his help on several projects in Tewin in recent years. In addition, Tewin Parish Council paid for the warning signs either side of the Churchfield Road bridge and for an extra Give Way sign to improve safety at Hollybushes. Friends of Tewin paid for the new “Welcome to Tewin” signs.

**Projects** such as the cycle highway over the bridge to Welwyn Garden City and the raised platforms at bus stops, are usually funded externally, so they do not come from the Highways budget, even though ultimately it is still your money being spent.

**Highways gulleys** are cleared out every year or so, but that only clears the silt from the gulleys. Clearing blockages in any pipework between gulleys is of low priority, so be prepared for more water on the road surface in wet weather.



**Emergency works** can close a road at very short notice, but the work to reinstate and re-open the road is not part of the emergency, and may not proceed with the same urgency.

**Highways** have been assessing over 500 potential 20mph zones, but none in Tewin as far as we know. In general, 20mph zones are only installed where the road conditions already constrain the majority of traffic to that speed.

**The 2025-26 Parish Precept** is £43,500. The household charge is circa £50pa Band D (£101pa Band H).

**My thanks** go to the other members of the Parish Council, and the Parish Clerk for their help and support.

**Thanks also** go to our County Councillor, Ken Crofton, our District Councillor, Bob Deering and to volunteers who help the Parish Council throughout the year. All Parish Councillors are unpaid volunteers and all Council business is decided by a majority vote. Parish Council documentation is on the Tewin Village website.

### **NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING -**

**Monday 12th May 2025 starting at 7.45pm** at Tewin Memorial Hall.

### **PARISH COUNCIL INFORMATION**

**Website:** [www.tewinvillage.co.uk](http://www.tewinvillage.co.uk)

**Agenda:** Please notify the Clerk at least one week before the meeting if you wish to suggest items for discussion. The agenda is published on the Notice Board outside Tewin Stores & website 3 working days before the meeting.  
*All Parishioners are welcome to attend and can make comments at the start of the meeting.*

**Minutes:** These are displayed at Tewin Stores, Tewin Memorial Hall and on the website. The minutes are not published until approved and signed at the subsequent meeting.

**Meeting Dates and Newsletters:** These are published on the website.

#### **Queries :**

Chairman, Keith St Pier                      Tel: 01438-717551

Clerk, Caroline McFarlane                      Tel: 01438-798969

E-mail - [tewinparishclerk@btinternet.com](mailto:tewinparishclerk@btinternet.com)

#### **East Herts District Councillor - North & South Wards:**

Cllr Bob Deering                      Tel: 07903 073234

#### **Herts County Councillor:**

Cllr Ken Crofton                      Tel: 01438 869650

**Herts Highways Fault Line: 0300 1234047** or [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk) - for fault reporting.

**East Herts District Council: 01279-655261** or [www.eastherts.gov.uk](http://www.eastherts.gov.uk)

**Police** For suspicious incidents call: 101, for Emergencies please call: 999.

### **Celebration of the Life of Ann Lee**

This will take place on **Wednesday 30th April at noon** in St Peter's Church. Please wear something cheerful.

Ann had lived in Tewin for 60 years and was involved in many aspects of village life. Amongst other things, she was a member of the Tewin Players, volunteered in Tewin Stores and helped at various events.

All are welcome.

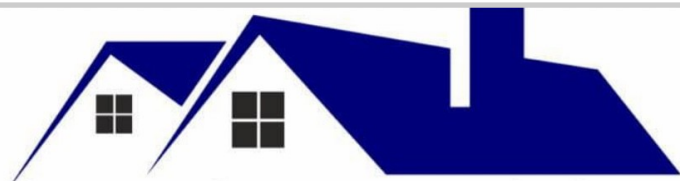
### **Spring Book Sale**

Depending when you receive this magazine I hope you either attended the Book Sale at the Memorial Hall on **April 26th** or you can't wait for the next one!

Linda Crawford

### **Plant Swap Stall Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June 10am-3pm Lower Green, Tewin**

Have you too many plants? Why not donate them to the plant stall which will feature on Lower Green on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June from 10am-3pm. Or come and buy additions for your own garden...you know they like local growing conditions. Proceeds from the sale will go to the churchyard fund to help with the upkeep of the churchyard.



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## PAUL GRAY

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**Mobile: 07833 517843**

**References on Request**



## Notes from an Apiary

We are well into spring and have had some gloriously sunny days. Our bees are active, and we can see them buzzing around the hives as they leave on foraging flights. They are orientating themselves to the position of forage that has been discovered. This is known as the Waggle Dance and is a very accurate method of passing on directions to foragers, it is great to see an active hive.

Work starts now in preparation for the harvest. I learned in mid-March that most local beekeepers had done first inspection of their colonies. I had considered it a little early, but always willing to learn, we promptly inspected the bees on a sunny Saturday.

The reason for this first inspection was to assess the condition of the colony. We check for strength by assessing the colony size. How much brood do they have. How many frames have eggs, larva and capped brood (pupa), referred to as els. Can we see a Queen. Do they have sufficient stores. Any signs of disease or stress.

We found we had three strong colonies, thriving, with hives full of bees and brood, so much so we decided to give them more space by adding “super” boxes, the space they need to store their excess honey. We make notes of the condition we find them in at each inspection so we can track progress. The notes help plan our next inspection and actions, all great in practice but inevitably bees being bees they tend to do the unexpected and throw plans into disarray.

The next inspections will also have a focus on the colonies making plans to “swarm”, the method by which colonies increase in number and secure the future of the species. More of that next time, but we are already making plans to prevent swarming. It is a constant spring and summer struggle between bees and beekeeper to control swarming and keep the bees in the apiary. Well, it is bee KEEPING after all.

Fun fact. It takes an estimated 55,000 miles of flight and the collection of nectar from two million flowers for a colony of honeybees to produce one pound of honey. Bees fly at about 12 miles per hour so that’s about 4,600 hours of flying time. So, with nectar collection and processing, we could be looking at upwards of 10,000 bee hours per pound. If I paid my bees minimum wages that would be over £100 thousand pounds per jar! Tewin Stores still has supplies of our Tewin Honey from last summer. Buy some, what a bargain, and enjoy the taste of a summer day.

Phil



## Friends of Tewin



Hopefully, your Magazine will have popped through your door just in time to remind you that the Year 3 children from Tewin Cowper School will be entertaining us with their dancing skills around the **Maypole on Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May**. We will all be gathering on Lower Green at 10am so please come along to support them as they perform their intricate steps – it is a lovely time honoured village event.

As I mentioned in last month's magazine, after the announcement by the Government of the plans for events in commemoration of the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day, our plans for a **Tewin Spring Picnic** on Lower Green on **Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> May** are well under way and you will have seen the posters around the Village. The event will start at 2 pm. We will, of course, be tempting you with our fabulous home-made cakes, teas, coffees and juice and Frank and his popular Ice Cream Van will be with us too. There will be live music, face painting and children's races – adults too, if you're brave enough!! So, please come and join us - all you need to do is bring your picnic, tables, comfy chairs, rugs (there will be limited seating and tables available) and join in a family fun afternoon.

The **Classic Car and Craft Show** is our next big event on **17<sup>th</sup> August** and we are about to launch that any moment. So e-mails will soon be landing with our Classic Car owners and our loyal band of volunteers. We look forward to you all joining us again this year and if you would like to be involved in any way, volunteering on the day, maybe in the car park, on the field or in the tea tent/pavilion or baking a cake for us, we are always grateful for all the help we get, so, if you would like to become one of them please just drop us a line at our e-mail address **friendsoftewin@gmail.com**

Shirley, Chair

Friends of Tewin

## Screen On The Green

On **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May** we will be showing *Ex-Machina* (2014), a low budget British science-fiction film starring Alicia Vikander, Domhnall Gleeson and Oscar Isaac.

It follows a talented programmer in a global internet company who is asked by his CEO to test an “intelligent” humanoid android robot to see if it can behave like a human. If you can imagine that it's possible to create such an android with artificial intelligence it raises big questions, e.g. if you create a better one is it ethical to turn off the old one?

The director, Alex Garland, first had the idea when he was a young teenager programming and experimenting with his own computer and developed his ideas for the film in the following years. It was first released in the UK following a showing at *British Film Institute Southbank* and received various British Academy Film nominations.

With a small cast it's a sci-fi film of ideas rather than visual spectacle.

Coming Up:

16<sup>th</sup> June    *Chinatown* (1974)

**MONDAY 19 MAY**

**Doors open 7pm for 7.45pm start at Tewin Memorial Hall.**

**Complimentary tea or coffee. Ice cream on sale.**

**Tickets from Tewin Stores or on the door, priced £4.**

**Bring your own drinks and nibbles.**

Marie St Pier



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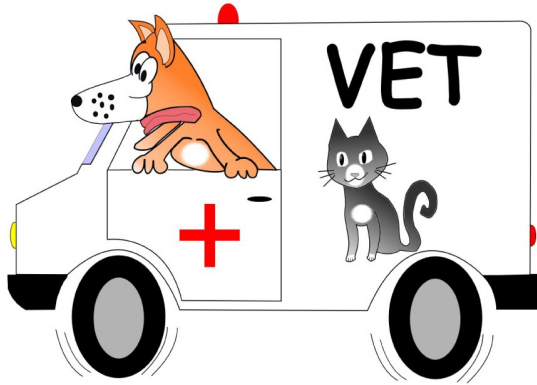
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Chris Wearne BVSc(Hons I) MRCVS



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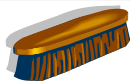


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## Church Spring Cleaning



Spring has sprung and it's time to give our church a thorough cleaning. Many hands make light work and extra help is needed for this task. Please put your name on the form at the back of the Church or contact **Nicky Hadley on [nicky.hadley@btinternet.com](mailto:nicky.hadley@btinternet.com)** to let her know what help you can give and when.....

### **Friday 16th May 5pm –8pm**

Able bodied volunteers needed to clean beams and windows, move furniture, kneelers, etc.

### **Saturday 17th May 8am to 2pm**

Volunteers needed to help scrub floors, polish woodwork and restore order.

The sun is shining so now is the time to get out there and enjoy our lovely countryside with the added bonus that walking is good for your health. Through the website **<https://tinyurl.com/Herts-Direct>** Hertfordshire residents can keep up to date with the latest organised walking events and links to existing walking groups across the county, such as the Hertfordshire Health Walks ([www.hertfordshirehealthwalks.org](http://www.hertfordshirehealthwalks.org)).

### **Take a step challenge**

Most people take on average 3,000 steps per day, while the recommendation for maintaining good health is around 10,000 according to exercise experts. Aim to increase your daily steps by 500 on a weekly basis until you're closer to that target.

### **Steps and distance conversion chart**

Steps	500	1,000	2,000	3,000	4,000	5,000	7,500	10,000
Miles	0.25	0.50	0.99	1.49	1.99	2.49	3.73	4.97
Km	0.40	0.80	1.60	2.40	3.20	4.00	6.00	8.00

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## **Post Office Times**

### **Burnham Green Village Hall Post Office Open:**

Tues 12.30pm until 16.00pm

Fri 9.30am until 13.00pm

### **Tewin Stores Post Office Open:**

Mon 13.30pm until 15.30pm **Closed on Mondays until further notice.**

Wed 9.30am until 11.30am

Fri 9.30am until 11.30am

### **Datchworth Village Hall Post Office Open:**

Tues 9.30am until 12.00 pm

## **Wellness Hub**

In our lovely village there are many people who are comparatively elderly and/or disabled in ways that restrict their ability to get the aerobic exercise so essential to continued good health. There are many ways in Tewin to get exercise, but they may not be accessible for everyone.

I'm writing to recommend the Hatfield Leisure Centre in Travellers Lane Hatfield which has an excellent gym, but also has a facility, the Wellness Hub, with "assisted machines" called Shapemaster which provide some power-assisted help for people who for whatever reason might find "normal" gym machinery too difficult. I am both comparatively elderly and disabled and have been using the Shapemaster machines for some months with great benefit. The rates charged seem to me very reasonable and on Tuesday and Saturday mornings there are sessions overseen by a very nice lady named Carol, though the facility is open every day for people who wish to "drop in".

Give it a try! The number to contact them is 01707-629596.

Mike Horsman

## **Ukraine fundraiser – a special concert in St Mary’s on 10 May at 12 noon**

The ‘Second Saturday Recital’ on 10 May will be given by the Ukrainian soprano Alla Kravchuk with her compatriot Oksana Germanchuk on piano. Proceeds from the retiring collection will go to support victims of the war in Ukraine (see below). The programme will include Brahms and Ukrainian songs, and solo piano pieces by Chopin.

Alla trained at the Kyiv Conservatory in her native Ukraine before finishing her studies in London with Vera Rosza. She now lives in the UK after being based in Germany for ten years as a soloist with the Hannover Opera, with whom she appeared at the Edinburgh International festival and the Vienna Festival. Alla has appeared as a guest soloist all over Germany, including the opera houses of Dusseldorf, Nurnberg, Freiburg and Weimar. She has performed recitals and oratorio in the Queen Elizabeth Hall and the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford.

Oksana studied piano at the Kyiv Conservatory and graduated as performer, accompanist and teacher. She arrived in England as a refugee in May 2022. She gives piano lessons and is the rehearsal pianist for St Albans Chamber Opera.

Since the invasion of Ukraine in 2022 St Mary’s has been very active in supplying desperately needed aid and is now working in close collaboration with a charity known as UK-Aid. In 2024 alone the charity sent over 74,000 kg of aid to over 40 organisations as well as a large number of children and adults with disabilities, wounded servicemen, and internally displaced people.

**The concert starts at 12 noon and lasts for one hour. All are welcome and the concert is free to attend, no tickets required.**

*By Stephen Foster, Director of the Second Saturday Recitals*



## Team Vicar's Letter

There is panic in the Rectory garden. Bob is working his way through a to do list. A smoke house is being revarnished. A summer house scrubbed. Rotten decking replaced. Raised beds filled with new compost. Weeds weeded. Hedges cut. Grass mown. Yes folks – this is not just any year – this is a Datchworth Open Gardens year!

In this special celebratory year of All Saints church's 850<sup>th</sup> anniversary we are hoping that this will be a particularly special event. 14 gardens will be open. There will be live music and a special *Here Comes the Bride* flower display in church. There will be cream teas and cakes, a barbeque and Pimms AND ...

...more work for Bob...

... because in between the One Bob working in the garden the Two Bobs are busy making a special celebratory ale for this anniversary year. Two Bob's '1175' ale will be for sale in the Rectory garden during Open Gardens and during other key events this year. All profits from its sale will go to the restoration and redecoration of All Saints church. Profits from Open Gardens will also be supporting our village school too.

So come along and enjoy a plethora of peonies, petunias, periwinkles and a pint (or indeed a Pimm's).

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May 12:30pm – 5pm. Parking available at the village hall and behind the church. £8 adults, children free.

Susannah

## Weather Lore for May

A wet May makes a big load of hay.

A cold May is kindly and fills the barn finely.

A swarm of bees in May is worth a load of hay.

Mist in May, heat in June makes the hay come right soon.

## ST PETER'S CHURCH SERVICES

DATE	DAY	SERVICE	TIME	MINISTER	1 <sup>ST</sup> READING	2 <sup>ND</sup> READING	GOSPEL
MAY 4th	3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER	HOLY COMMUNION	9.30am	REV SUSANNAH UNDERWOOD	ZEPHA- NIAH 3:14 - 20	ACTS 9:1-6, 7-20	JOHN 21: 1 – 19
11th	4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER	HOLY COMMUNION	9.30am	REV RYAN GILFEATHER	GENESIS 7:1-5,11-18, 8:6-18, 9:8-13	ACTS 9:36-43	JOHN 10: 22 – 30
18th	5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER	MESSY CHURCH	3.00 P.M	REV SUSANNAH UNDERWOOD			
		EVENSONG	6.30 P.M..	REV SUSANNAH UNDERWOOD	GENESIS 22:1-18	ACTS 11:1-18	JOHN 13:31-35
25th	6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER	HOLY COMMUNION	9.30am	REV SUSANNAH UNDERWOOD	EZEKIEL 37: 1- 14	ACTS 16: 9 –15	JOHN 14: 23 – 29

**Service of Said Evening Prayer is held every Monday at 5pm— except on Bank Holidays**

**The Church will be floodlit on 1st May in memory of Alan Lawson, on behalf of Joy and Kristina and the Lawson family and friends**

ROTAS					
SERVER	READER	SIDESMEN	COFFEE	FLOWERS	CLEANER
MAY 4th ANGELA	PAULINE BROWN	DI BRADLEY & SPIKE NICHOLSON	LINDA GILLEY	PAULINE BROWN	VOLUNTEER NEEDED
11th ALED	NICK WHITING	CLARE RAWLINS & SABINE STANLEY	SUZANNE CARDALE	QUEENIE SIMMONS	GLORIA KERSEY
18th					
	LINDA GILLEY	MARK SWANN	DI BRADLEY	ELAINE FOWLER	ANGELA WILLIAMS
25th DAVID	ALED OWEN	CLARE RAWLINS & SABINE STANLEY	JANET ROBINS	MAVIS HAGGAR	PAULINE SPRING

FUNERAL

4th April 2025 Brenda Olive Langton

## St Peter's News

*A church at the heart of the village, with space for all*

I see the magnolia is out at Tewin Lodge and for once the frost is not about to ruin it! The weather is glorious and sunny and quite warm for April.

Messy church took place in March and was followed on Easter Saturday by an afternoon of crafts and an Easter egg trail. The spring flowers have been out in the churchyard and people passing through have commented on how much it raises the spirits. I have given several groups of visitors short guides around the church. People are always amazed at how beautiful the church is, even without flowers decorating the interior during Lent, and they particularly admire our Millennium kneelers.

The Lent course has continued during the month with a study of the way different groups pray. We have looked at the way early Christian Celtic peoples saw life as a pilgrimage, their prayers refer often to everyday life, and they had a vivid sense of saints, angels and the unseen world. The Franciscans who followed St Francis, lived a life of charity and humble service, selflessly sharing and caring for all, including the natural world. The Jesuits were missionaries, especially in the New World, and encouraged people to reflect twice a day on the events of that day, by remembering always that one is in the presence of God, to thank God for the blessings of the day, to review how one has lived that day, to ask for forgiveness and to offer a prayer of hopeful recommitment. In week four we looked in detail at the Book of Common Prayer used in the Church of England since Tudor times, with its rhythm of confession, prayer and praise. Finally we discussed Charismatic Christian spirituality which became a significant global movement in the 1980s, blending traditional theology with the dynamic experience of the Holy Spirit. Each session was accompanied by music and art and a sense of calm and wellbeing.

Tewin Cowper school came to celebrate Easter on 4 April just before they broke up for their Easter break and then Passiontide began on 6 April. We celebrated Palm Sunday with the distribution of palms to



the congregation, and a dramatic reading of the story of the Last Supper and the Crucifixion according to Luke.

The PCC has reviewed the way services have been carried out on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in the month for the past two years. We have had a service of Morning Prayer at 9.30am, with Messy Church at 3pm, and an evening service at 6.30pm which was either Evensong or Holy Communion. Messy Church has worked well and been well attended, but the congregation has been stretched to attend two further services on a Sunday. In addition, in the winter we have had to heat the church all day, which is quite expensive. We have decided to alter services on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in the month, so that from May to October inclusive we will have no Morning service but there will be Evensong each month at 6.30pm, including the Welwyn Team Summer Evensongs. From November to April we will have Morning Prayer at 9.30am. Evening Services in the winter will still take place for All Souls in November, and our Annual Carol Service and Midnight Mass around Christmas. We will review how well this has worked in 12 months' time.

In May, the **churchyard working party** will be tidying the churchyard on **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May from 9 – 11 am**. Do come to help if you are free. Please let Gerry know on [gerry.murphyjag@btinternet.com](mailto:gerry.murphyjag@btinternet.com).

Our **Annual Spring Cleaning days** will take place on **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May from 5 – 8pm and Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May 8am – 2pm**. Everyone is welcome to help with polishing and scrubbing. Please bring rubber gloves and polish. We expect the contractor will come during June to carry out repairs to the north wall and preventative work to stop the damp.

If you need support, have lost loved ones recently, or are in poor health or spirits, please remember the Welwyn team of clergy are always there for you.

Contact : The Rev'd Susannah Underwood  
[team.vicar@welwyn.org.uk](mailto:team.vicar@welwyn.org.uk) 01438 817183

All good wishes

Linda Gilley Churchwarden

[alannio@btinternet.com](mailto:alannio@btinternet.com) 01438 717385 / 07803 248423



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## Tewin Tennis Club

As I write this we have had several weeks of lovely Spring sunshine, perfect for a casual or serious game of tennis. The courts have been getting good use, so you need to check Tewin Tennis Club website online for court availability. We take extra care to make sure courts are available for everyone, by minimising block booking unless it is for club-sanctioned events.

One of these is the popular ABC League on Friday evenings, starting on May 23. All club members are invited to take part, you'll be assigned a team and asked to play two or three matches until August. The finals night finishes with the annual pizza party at the pavilion.

A new initiative is our Summer Camp for youngsters aged 8 and upwards. Running soon after schools break up, the event will take place on July 28 – 30. Coaching and fun sessions will take place each morning, at a cost of £20 per morning, all ably run by our coach Josh Cozens. Put the dates in your diary and we'll tell you more shortly.

More immediately, our Wednesday night social play has kicked off for this year. Maria Yanev is the organiser who makes it all happen. She'll put you on the WhatsApp group for regular updates but initially, just drop down any Wednesday around 7pm for a chat and an enjoyable game of tennis.

As I have mentioned previously we refurbished the practice court behind the two main courts last year. Now we are wondering how much members make us of it. We have anecdotal evidence of some play there, but we'd like to hear from anyone who does use it, even just for the odd warm up. Please let me know.

Finally, Keith Duerden captained a steady squad of senior players in the Men's Over 70s Doubles competition over the winter. The season's campaign ended with a home match against a very strong Bishops Stortford squad who fielded a player of some considerable talent to gain the 3 -1 victory over Tewin. Oh well. Tewin finished sixth in the table, and David Rawlins received the Most Valuable Player award for our squad

Peter Burgess



## **Shire Park (Tewin) Bowls Club**

With all the sunshine and blue skies over the last few weeks Spring is finally here which can mean only one thing – a new bowls season! Our members are eager with anticipation and looking forward to Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April when the green finally reopens. We all look forward to bowling and sipping drinks long into the evening watching the sunsets. If anyone would like to have a go why not come along to our Open Day in May (see below) or contact our Membership Secretary, Chris on 07956 641897.

A couple of other dates for your diary:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> May Kevin's Crazy Quiz with a VE theme – fancy dress optional. £5
- 24<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> May Club Open Days for the general public to come along and have a bowl and sample the club's facilities ( 11am – 4 pm) – no cost, no equipment needed (other than a flat pair of shoes) and if you decide you want to join it's 50% off the normal membership!

Sadly our clubhouse was broken into on the 5<sup>th</sup> April and all of our trophies (which had next to no value apart from to past winners and the club's cost of replacing them) and some cash were stolen. As a result the bar will now only be taking card payments.

We would also like to formally thank Paul Orr (Tewin Mill) for his sponsorship of the new club shirts last year. If any other local business would like to support the club, maybe sponsor and present a new trophy, especially as we now have to replace them all, please contact me on 07850 759651.

Thanks

Ian Kirsch

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## **May Traditions**

### **May Dew**

First thing in the morning on 1st May, young girls used to rush out into the garden to wash their faces in the May dew. Why? It was believed that May dew had magical properties and that anyone who has washed their face in it would have a beautiful complexion all through the year. This dew was supposed also to remove freckles, spots and pimples.

### **Maypole Dancing**

Maypoles were once common all over England and were kept from one year to the next. Schools would practice skipping round the pole for weeks before the final show on the village green to mark the end of winter and the start of fine weather enabling planting to begin. This is a tradition carried on by our own Tewin Cowper School. Come and enjoy the show on Friday 2nd May at 10am. The children (and staff) work very hard to perfect their dances and it is a very enjoyable sight. The tallest maypole is said to have been erected in London in the Strand in 1661; it stood at 143ft (43.5m) high. It was felled in 1717 when it was used by Isaac Newton to support Huygen's new reflecting telescope.

### **Oak Apple Day**

This is the day that people traditionally wear oak apples or oak leaves pinned to them to remember that on 29th May King Charles II returned to London in triumph after the restoration of the monarchy in 1660. The wearing of the oak apple was to celebrate the King's narrow escape from capture by Cromwell's soldiers by hiding in an oak tree.

### **Rochester Sweeps Festival**

Rochester's annual Sweeps Festival celebrates the traditional holiday that sweeps used to enjoy on 1st May. It was the time of year when sweeps could put away their tools and have some fun. The Festival is a colourful mix of music, dancing and entertainment and is an opportunity to see some of the traditional dances and hear the songs passed down from generation to generation.



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## Tewin Stores and Cafe

I hope you all had a good Easter and the weather was kind to us. We have enjoyed seeing people in the shop courtyard recently with the wonderful sunshine, having lunch or just tea and coffee with cake; but even on wet days it's still good to be there because it does have a roof.

One of the items we have managed to stock again recently is quiches. Now it is just one flavour but we are working on extending that.

It's also the time to enjoy ice cream and lollies which we have in stock in the small freezer by the post office; but we are in the process of buying a really big ice cream cabinet which will hold all your favourites. Like anyone else ordering anything new these days you have to wait for delivery; but we hope it will be in place really soon. So watch that space!

One of the items I forgot to mention last month was that your local shop has now been running as a community shop for 17 years. Yes, really!

Time has taken its toll over that period so it is in need of some sprucing up. Amongst other things we would like some walls painted and we wonder if there are any decorators out there who would help us. If you feel you could spare a few hours, please let the shop know and we will organise a painting day.

In the meantime, we are going to help promote the shop by attending local events and selling Tewin shop labelled products. The first is Knebworth Festival week when they have a Fun Day on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June. If you feel you could help us at that please contact me ([lindarichard@talktalk.net](mailto:lindarichard@talktalk.net)) and I will explain what is involved.

The next Saturday lunch is 24<sup>th</sup> May and will be egg/ham and wedges.

The 100 Club winners for April were:

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	Christine Sheridan	£46.50
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	Susan Lewis	£23.25
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	David Kempson	£13 95

There are several Bank Holidays coming up, so please check the shop door for opening times.

### **Normal Opening Hours:**

**Monday - Friday 8.30am - 4pm**

**Saturday 8.30am - 12 Noon**

**Sunday 9.00am - 12 Noon**

# Need help with technology?

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## NEXT FREE DROP-IN SESSIONS

**NO SESSION on 1st May**

**15th May**

**29th May**

**12th June**

**26th June**

2.00 to 3:30pm, Kimberley Room, Tewin Memorial Hall

## Interested?

Contact Kristina Lawson:

**01438 717256**

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# Tewin Community Bus Saturday shopping trips

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## News from Danesbury and the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospitals

Now that May is here summer should not be too far behind. The beautiful grounds surrounding the two hospitals are already looking lovely with bedding plants donated and planted by the Friends of Danesbury and the QVM. There are seats and planters and a pond also provided with funds raised by the Friends. Those patients who are able to go outside really enjoy sitting in the beautiful grounds. No one likes being in hospital but the position where our two hospitals are could not be more beautiful – high on the hill at the end of School Lane surrounded by countryside and with a gorgeous view over the fields opposite.

Our shop in Welwyn High Street continues to be very profitable and in recent weeks shoppers have been most generous – the season has been changing and there have been lovely summer dresses and we have been able to have a rail of new clothes still with their labels on. As always we are so grateful for all those kind people who donate such lovely clothes to us. I should also like to say thank you to the trustees of a local charitable trust who have recently given us a generous donation.

The shop also has lots of other exciting items – new and nearly new shoes, handbags of all kinds, including exclusive makes, children's clothes including school uniforms, sportswear, clothes for men including evening dress should you be going out, and beautiful Prom dresses for that special dance at the end of school. Everything we put into the shop is checked very carefully and is either new or nearly new and all items are reasonably priced.

There are also pretty antique tea sets and china of all kinds as well as lots of glasses from beautiful cut glass to everyday wine glasses and tumblers. There are sheets and other bedding, knitting wool and craft making materials, curtains and bedspreads, cushions, mirrors and pictures.

The profits the Friends make are all spent on the patients in the hospitals. As I have already explained funds have recently been spent on the beautiful gardens and last month I told you about the very expensive Xcite 2 electrical stimulation device which the Friends have funded for the Danesbury Hospital. This is something the staff are very excited about which will help spinal cord injury patients, stroke patients and those with other neurological diagnoses. I hope you all enjoy the spring bank holiday and we hope to see you in our friendly Welwyn High Street shop soon. **Email: [info@daneshburyqvm.co.uk](mailto:info@daneshburyqvm.co.uk)**



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## Dates For Your Diary

Mon	Rose & Crown	10.30am-noon	Knit and Natter
Tues	Tewin School	7-9 pm	Table Tennis
Wed	Memorial Hall	9.30– 11am	Parent and Toddler Group
Wed	Burnham Green	12-12.30pm	Mobile Fish Van
Wed	Memorial Hall	7.30-9pm	Tewin Ukelele Group (TUG)
Thurs	Lower Green	9.25am & 10am	Footpath walks of Tewin
Thurs	Memorial Hall	1.30-4.30pm	50+ Club
Fri	Tewin Stores	1.30-2.45pm	Trussells Butcher's Van
Thurs 2nd, 15th & 29th	Bowls Club	2-5pm	Bridge
Thurs 15th & 29th	Memorial Hall	2-3.30pm	Technology Advice
Fri 2nd	Lower Green	10am	Maypole Dancing
Mon 5th	Lower Green	2pm	Spring Picnic
Fri 16th Sat 17th	St Peter's	5-8pm 8-2pm	Annual Spring Clean
Sun 18th	St Peter's	3-4.30pm	Messy Church
Mon 19th	Memorial Hall	7 for 7.45pm	Screen on the Green 'Ex-Machina'
Sat 24th	Tewin Stores	12.15pm-1.30pm	Lunch 'Egg/Ham and Wedges'

**Team Vicar:** Rev'd Susannah Underwood, The Rectory,  
Brookbridge Lane, Datchworth, SG3 6SU tel: 01438 817183  
*e-mail:* team.vicar@welwyn.org.uk

**Team Rector:** Rev'd Dr David Munchin, 1 Ottway Walk,  
Welwyn, AL6 9AS tel: 01438 714150

**Parish Office:** Mon,Tues 9-1pm, Fri 9-Noon tel: 01438 840964

**Clergy Surgery:** Saturdays at St Mary's 10.00—11.00 am

**Churchwarden:** Mrs Linda Gilley, 30 Godfries Close, Tewin, AL6  
0LQ tel: 01438 717385

### **Parochial Church Council:**

**Hon Secretary:** Ms Deborah Hoare, 35 Lower Green, Tewin,AL6  
0LA tel: 01438 587408

**Treasurer:** Mrs Diana Bradley, 25 Firs Walk, Tewin,AL6 0NY,  
tel: 01438 798478

**Stewardship Officer:** Mr Graham Spring, 2b Hertford Road,  
Tewin, AL6 0JY tel: 01438 416071

**Bell Tower Capt.:** Mr David Hall, tel: 01707 884274

## Useful Phone Numbers

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Lea Wharf Medical, Hertford .....	01992 550541
Watton Place Clinic, Watton-at-Stone .....	01920 830033
Moors Walk Surgery, Panshanger, WGC .....	01707 335151
Tewin Vets .....	01438 840028
Tewin Stores & Post Office .....	01438 717929
Tewin Memorial Hall .....	01438 717581
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