

# GOLDHANGER PARISH MAGAZINE

JUNE 2015



Village School, with Headmaster Mr Harry Branch, taken around 1910. *Courtesy Goldhanger*

## 120 Years of Goldhanger Parish Magazine

There has been a Parish Magazine since 1895 when the Revd. Frederick Gardner started it shortly after being appointed Rector at Goldhanger. There have been some breaks in publication, most notably during both World Wars, and in 2015 it is 120 years old.

Magazine Editors:	Stephen & Chris	788369 parishmag@goldhanger.org.uk
Magazine Advertising:	Morag Wood	788495 advertising@goldhanger.org.uk

**NB** - All copy to be submitted by midnight on the 15th of the month and advertising (including For Sale and Wanted) by midnight on the 13th of the month please.

To advertise For Sale or Wanted items in the magazine the minimum donation is £1 per advert. If you would like to donate more it would always be welcome.

Adverts and donations are to be delivered to Morag Wood, Advertising Coordinator, at Elms Bakery, Church Street (next door but one to the Cricketers).

This magazine is run entirely by volunteers and relies on donations and advertising to fund it. Please bear this in mind when submitting advertising and personal interest articles. Your donations will be gratefully received.

**Goldhanger is also on the internet at: [www.goldhanger.org.uk](http://www.goldhanger.org.uk)**

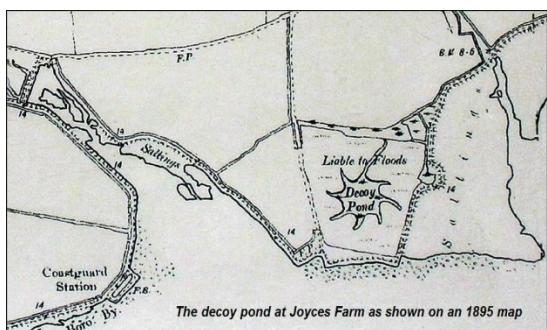
### What's on in Goldhanger this month

<b>W.I. Supper</b>	<b>Beckingham Bell</b>	<b>Wednesday 3rd</b>	<b>Meal is booked for 7.30 p.m.</b>	<b>P. 14</b>
<b>Parish Council Meeting</b>	<b>Village Hall</b>	<b>Tuesday 9th</b>	<b>7:30pm</b>	
<b>Art Society</b>	<b>Village Hall</b>	<b>Thursday 11th</b>	<b>1:30pm</b>	<b>P. 33</b>
<b>Wildlife Watching</b>	<b>Meet at Church</b>	<b>Thursday 14th</b>	<b>2:00pm</b>	<b>P. 19</b>
<b>Open Gardens</b>	<b>Various</b>	<b>Sat &amp; Sun 20th &amp; 21st</b>	<b>1:30pm - 5:00pm</b>	<b>P. 8</b>
<b>Summer Ball</b>	<b>Goldhanger Sailing Club</b>	<b>Saturday 27th</b>	<b>7:30pm</b>	<b>P. 10</b>

*extracts from the History Archives ...*  
**Decoy Ponds**

In the past there were so many wintering ducks around the estuary that their exploitation using duck decoy ponds were a good source of income for locals. The ponds were located inside the seawall so it is suggested that a seawall was necessary before the ponds became viable.

The ponds were mainly used in the 17th & 18th centuries but had ceased



to operate by the late 1800s. They were star or octopus shaped, with between four and eight "pipes". As they were on the land-side of the seawall the "hatches" were used to enable the large catches to be transported by barge to London. The Shoe is the remains of one such hatch. Tame ducks and trained dogs would lure the wild fowl up the pipes and into the traps. No guns were used. Mallard, Curlew, Teal, Pochard (or Dunbird) and Wigeon were the main catches and they were regularly sent up to Leadenhall Market. In 1811 it was reported that it took one wagon and two carts to remove one "drop" of dunbirds from a decoy at Goldhanger.

The ponds were on private property in remote situations and well protected. They were usually worked by one man, or father and son. The decoyman rented a large amount of land to keep out trespassers and to enhance the natural solitude. His income was supported by grazing sheep on the dryer portions of the land.

On pages 83 to 85 of Goldhanger - an Estuary Village, Maura Benham describes the method of working the decoy ponds and there are descriptions of five Goldhanger decoy ponds in Birds of Essex, written in 1890 by Essex historian Miller Christy. The ponds were at Gardeners, Cobbs, Bounds, Joyces and at Harveys (now Lauriston) farms.

In the last few years the Blackwater Wildfowlers Association have restored one of these decoy ponds and now maintain it as a "no-shooting" haven for wintering wildfowl.

For more about decoy ponds, Google: goldhanger past decoys

**David Newman ([www.Churchside1.plus.com/Goldhanger-past](http://www.Churchside1.plus.com/Goldhanger-past))**

# Goldhanger Church Services

## **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June**

7.30pm

### **Corpus Christi**

Holy Communion

## **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June**

8.30am

9.30am

### **Trinity 1**

#### **Environment Sunday**

Holy Communion (BCP)

Parish Communion by extension.

## **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June**

7.00pm

Evening Prayer

## **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June**

8.30am

10.00am

### **Trinity 2**

Holy Communion by extension (BCP)

Family Service (CW)

## **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May**

8.30am

9.30am

### **Trinity 3**

Holy Communion (BCP)

Morning Prayer (CW)

## **Monday 22nd June**

7.00pm

Evening Prayer

## **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June**

12.30pm

Picnic Service

## **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May**

8.30am

9.30am

### **St Peter**

Holy Communion by extension (BCP)

Parish Communion (CW)

Followed by Parish Brunch

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## **From the Parish Registers**

### **Holy Baptism**

10th May Rhodon Elektra Bibiana Mace

### **Holy Matrimony**

18th April Oliver James Firmin and Joanne Marie Millard

7th May Simon James Barrett and Sarah Jessica Marie Kersey

9th May Shaun Alfred Savill and Rachel Sarah Mitchell

### **Funeral and Interment**

6th May Audrey Joyce Burns aged 81 years

\* BCP denotes a service from The Book of Common Prayer using traditional language  
CW denotes a service from Common Worship using contemporary language.

The services at St Peter's church are for everyone. We are pleased to have children at all of the services. There is a family service once a month. We are also pleased to have people of other denominations worshipping.

Mother's Union meets on the fourth Friday of each month 1.45pm at Honeywood Hall, Hall Road, Great Totham.

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## ST. PETER'S GOLDHANGER

Rector of Goldhanger Little Totham & Great Totham	Reverend Jonathan Pearce The Rectory 1 Hall Road Great Totham CM9 8NN	01621 893150 revdjpearce@aol.com
Church Wardens:	Mr George Bunting Mrs Betty Abrey	788234 01206 384894
Flowers for Church:	Mrs Elaine Clark	788686 elaclark@me.com

Benefice website: [www.totham-goldhanger-churches.org.uk](http://www.totham-goldhanger-churches.org.uk)

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The Wednesday lunchtime Picnic Service for Parents and toddlers. Last Wednesday of the month in term time.

Please get in touch with the churchwardens if you are considering baptism for yourself or your children, for weddings, Holy Communion at home or if you would just like a visit.

### Parish Prayers

If you would like someone, an event or concern included in church prayers please write your request in the book in the Lady Chapel.

Votive candles are lit at Sunday Services.

## Flags for June 2015

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June**



**Queens official Birthday**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June**



**Prince Williams Birthday**

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June**



**St Peters Day**



We would like to give a **BIG** thank you to the person in the village who has made an *extremely* generous donation to the Parish Magazine - you will know who you are - for its upkeep and continued publishing.

We aim to use it to make the magazine even more enjoyable for you all.

#### **DIGITAL COPIES OF THE MAGAZINE**

Village residents are welcome to receive a digital copy of the current magazine in PDF format by emailing the magazine at [parishmag@goldhanger.org.uk](mailto:parishmag@goldhanger.org.uk).

Alternatively it can be downloaded at the end of each month from [www.goldhanger.org.uk](http://www.goldhanger.org.uk) and following the link under 'Community Stuff'.

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# Learning to Ring

*or*

## ***'The Ap-peal-ing Tale of a Novice Campanologist'***

by Clare Gebel



When I tell people I am learning to ring the bells this is usually followed by – what made you want to do that? (And the look from my work colleagues who now have confirmation that I am a bit mad) So I thought this would be a good place to start.

I had enjoyed listening to the bells ever since we came to Goldhanger particularly as they were ringing as we were walking around the sea wall with the dog or on Christmas Eve whilst staggering home from the pub. Carrying on from there I just felt it was important that they should continue to be heard.

I think my husband may have mentioned this to Caron and this was followed with an invitation to turn up and give it a go.

I had no real appreciation of what was involved. I could imagine the moving ropes and would have doubts about catching them (at school I was useless at any games involving either hitting a moving target or catching) and if I would be strong or fit enough ?

Therefore it took a number of months to pluck up the courage but eventually decided to try and see how I got on.

Everyone was very friendly, welcoming and very patient. After a visit up the tower to look at the bells and the mechanism, initial lessons were to stand with a helper who firstly explained how to hold the end of the rope and then pull the backstroke (with the helper handling the hand stroke and ensuring that they were ready to catch the rope should anything go wrong) A similar process is adopted on the hand stroke ( pulling the Sally, the stripy fluffy bit) and then adding in the feeling of keeping hold of the tail end in the left hand while pulling the Sally.

Progress was initially slow ,and I can after all be very impatient, so when Andrew offered the opportunity to have some longer one-2-one lessons I jumped at the chance.

*to be continued ...*

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at

# GOLDHANGER

**Saturday & Sunday**  
**20th & 21st June**  
**1.30 - 5 pm**

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- + **Plant Sale** in the Churchyard
- + **Book Stall** in St Peters Church
- + **Bellringing** demonstrations on both days
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# Summer Ball

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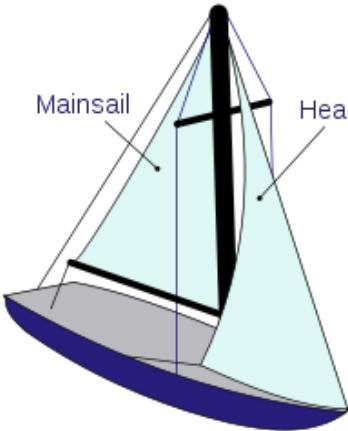
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## GOLDHANGER PAPER BOAT RACE

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**SUNDAY 30th AUGUST 2015**

**RACE TO START 13.30 Hrs.**

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- ~~ CONSTRUCTED FROM PAPER PRODUCTS, CARDBOARD, PAPER MACHE etc.
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- ~~ SAIL POWER only
- ~~ FIRST BOAT TO REACH THE OPPOSITE BANK



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## **GOLDHANGER, LITTLE TOTHAM and TOLLESHUNT MAJOR W.I.**

There will not be a meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup> as we will be having our Summer Outing on June 23<sup>rd</sup> , a trip on the Thames with lunch on board. We will, however , be meeting up at the Beckenham Bell on the evening of June 3<sup>rd</sup> for supper. Those who are walking there please meet in the square at 6.45 p.m. Our meal is booked for 7.30 p.m.

Our May meeting was our AGM and was well attended. The meeting was conducted very efficiently by Joyce and the President and members of the committee agreed to serve for a further year. We all thank Carol for her hard work in making our W.I. a most active and successful branch, attracting many new members and offering something for everyone. Pizzas were delivered for all to enjoy and we also tucked into delicious cakes and meringues supplied by members, and served with tea and coffee. We were all kept very busy with our cheque books, paying in advance for various activities and Pauline, as always, remained unflappable.

A large group of members attended the Group Meeting at Tollesbury. The speaker was excellent, relating tales of her career teaching textile skills, whilst brazenly keeping one chapter ahead of her students both here and in America. She gave sound advice on choosing new husbands with the same Christian name in order to avoid embarrassment! We all enjoyed the refreshments and cheered Rachel on coming first with her beautifully crafted 'mug rug', winning against very strong competition. The mug rugs are to be used at Farleigh Hospice.

On May 8<sup>th</sup> a large group met at Forester Park for a couple of rounds of 'pitch and putt' followed by a lovely lunch in the restaurant. It is a very popular activity and we thank Kate for organising the afternoon for us so well.

Please check on our website for information:

[www.goldhangerwi.co.uk](http://www.goldhangerwi.co.uk) or if you would like to come along to a meeting phone Carol 01621788260.

New members are welcome. Please go to [www.goldhangerwi.co.uk](http://www.goldhangerwi.co.uk) for details or tel: Carol 01621788260 to make enquiries.



## Bellringing activities for June

Bells will be rung every Wednesday between 7.30 and 9pm, and for service on Sunday

In conjunction with the Open Gardens weekend, we will be hosting a Tower Open Day on 20th June.

- ❖ Bellringing demonstrations (one short piece of ringing to open the event, and then 2 further demonstrations at around 2pm and 4pm)
- ❖ Tours up the tower to view the bells
- ❖ Video demonstrations
- ❖ Opportunities to have a go

Please drop by and see what its all about

During the plant sale on the 21st, there will also be one further short piece of ringing.

<http://www.bellringing.org/learntoring/>

## Childrens' Quiz

- 1 What is the name of the Lion in The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe?
- 2 How many wives did Henry VIII have?
- 3 From what tree do acorns come?
- 4 What is the top colour in a rainbow?
- 5 What colour are Smurfs?
- 6 What is the nickname for the bell of the clock at the Palace of Westminster in London?
- 7 How many years are there in a millennium?
- 8 What sweet food made by bees using nectar from flowers?
- 9 Name the school that Harry Potter attended?
- 10 In the nursery rhyme, who sat on a wall before having a great fall?

Answers on page 38

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## The Vicar/Rector writes,

### St. Boniface – Missionary and Martyr. True to Britain and Europe?

Boniface, (675 – 754 A.D.) is celebrated this month on June 5<sup>th</sup>, the anniversary of his martyrdom at Whitsuntide. He was an Anglo Saxon, born in the rolling Devonshire hills at Crediton. While still a child he felt the vocation to become a missionary, due to overhearing the adventures of some travelling Celtic monks. From childhood his heart and mind was on fire for his task.

He trained at Exeter, then at Nutshulling near Winchester where he became head of the Abbey school, and was ordained priest in 710. In 718 he went to Rome to receive the Pope's blessing. Frome then onwards he evangelised Bavaria, Hesse, Friesland, Thurungia and Franconia. In 723 Pope Gregory II consecrated him Bishop of the German peoples.

His mission was to the devotees of the deities Woden, Thor and Friya, whose names we use to this day in the days of the week. From the religious houses of Britain many monks and nuns went out to join Boniface in his work. Also from the homeland came gifts of money, books, food, clothing, and also vestments and altar vessels. The Abbess Eadburga of Minster sent a copy of the epistles of St. Peter lettered in gold.

Boniface will be unfamiliar to many of us because he is much better known and revered in Germany than he is here. He is known as "The Apostle of Germany," and as such stands alongside Peter, Paul, and the other great pioneers of the faith. So great was his influence that he is credited with being the founder of German civilisation and culture. He founded the great Abbey at Fulda, and many schools staffed by parties of monastics from Britain.

St. Boniface was martyred in his old age, with a number of companions with whom he had gathered to celebrate Whitsun. This was in a meadow where an altar had been erected, to celebrate Holy Communion. A band of marauders murdered them all, and he is said to have died with a copy of the gospels in his hand. His body rests at the Abbey of Fulda in a sacred shrine. In many respects his letters seem as relevant today as when they were written over 1200 years ago. The following is a small part of one of them:

"In her voyage across the oceans of this world, the Church is like a great ship being pounded by the waves of life's different stresses. Our duty is not to abandon ship but to keep her on course. Let us stand fast in what is right, and prepare our souls for trial let us wait upon God's strengthening aid, and say to him, 'O Lord, you have been our refuge in all generations.' Let us trust him who has placed this burden upon us. What we ourselves cannot bear, let us bear with the help of Christ. For he is all powerful, and tells us 'My yoke is easy and my burden light'."

Boniface's story can only remind us of our own very close and very ancient links with the European mainland. Even his Anglo Saxon genes, which make many of us Brits what we are today, came across the North Sea originally from Europe. Against this background, how do you react when the E.U. or Brussels is mentioned? It was certainly a prominent feature in the General Election last month, and the debate, of course, continues.

Speaking for myself, on the one hand I'm proud to be British, and feel that we still don't make enough of our heritage. Also, when it comes to such issues as food and provisions, I want to buy local produce whenever possible. On the other hand, there are many benefits to belonging to the E.U. including, in my case, the free movement over political boundaries for some of the best family holidays I've ever had – and indeed, by August this year, our nephew who lives in the south of France will be married to a girl from the same country of origin as our lovely daughter in law – Poland.

From a wildlife point of view, I'm definitely a European! From the tundra and deep forests of Northern Europe, through to dry Mediterranean scrub, through to our own Atlantic seaboard, no single country in Europe has all of it. On a different note there's also something lurking in the back of my mind about the two world wars of the last century that began in Europe, and the need all the more to cherish and strengthen links with our European neighbours.

Boniface was a true Brit who did his best to build a better Europe. As such, may I suggest he is a very relevant saint for us today.

*Jonathan*

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### **A message from Juliet, Derrick Bailey's daughter, following the obituary published last month**

Thank you so much for sending us the parish magazine, I was sent a copy of Mikes reflection but couldn't read his writing so to receive it typed was wonderful, thanks. I will so miss visiting Goldhanger it is an amazing village full of lovely people. My parents were very lucky to live there for so many happy years. Anyone from Goldhanger will always be welcomed to visit me in Florida. Your parish magazine is amazing I have really enjoyed reading it, Daddy had nothing but great things to say about it. Thank you for making Goldhanger so special.

Regards Juliet

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#### **Wheelchair available**

A manual wheelchair is available which can be borrowed by anyone in the village.

Please contact Andrew Christy on 01621 788432 for details.



If you would like a birthday or congratulations message included in the magazine then please let us know.

(See inside front cover)

Photos of village events are always very welcome.

## Wildwatching News.

The April Second Thursdays visit to Abberton Reservoir was very rewarding – Skylarks were displaying, and there were some Common Terns battling against the strong, cold wind over the reservoir itself, among dozens of Black headed Gulls. A Nightingale was singing by the entrance gate to the Visitors' Centre. As is so often the case, it was heard but not seen, due to their habit of singing from dense undergrowth. When Nightingales are seen, perhaps flying from bush to bush, it's usually the foxy red rump and tail that leaves a lasting impression.

Also at Abberton was a pair of displaying Great Crested Grebes. This synchronised “Dancing” behaviour on the water is proclaimed as one of the most beautiful scenes in British nature by Mark Cocker in his book “Birds Britannica.” It’s an essential prelude to nesting and mating, and involves the carrying of pieces of nesting material in their bills.

On a dried out pond opposite Billet’s Farm, several Yellow Wagtails looked like butterflies at a glance. There were some Lapwings and Egyptian Geese also present. There were hundreds of small caterpillars hatching out of silky webs on Hawthorn bushes at this location, many of which were destined, no doubt, to become food for Warblers following their northward spring migration. I’m no expert, but gather they were probably caterpillars of the Hawthorn Webber Moth.



I resisted the temptation to put on my twitcher’s hat, and go to see the Citril Finch that turned up as a mega-rarity on a beach in North Norfolk recently. They are a bird of European high-mountain conifer forests and alpine meadows. I’ve seen flocks of them in the Pyrenees, on the border between France and Spain, where they were dodging cars on the road to come down to feed on conifer and plant seeds.

A bright yellow male Brimstone Butterfly was seen at Bog Grove, Great Totham, by children and adults on the Easter holiday club day. This has been reported to Essex Wildlife Trust. It’s possible that our word “Butterfly,” (Butter coloured fly) owes its’ origin to the male Brimstone’s colouration. The Essex Wildlife Trust, Maldon district Council and Butterfly Conservation joined forces in 2013 to launch the “Buckthorn for Brimstone” campaign, to plant hundreds of Buckthorns in and around Maldon and Heybridge and throughout the Blackwater area. The brimstone’s sole food plant is the Buckthorn Shrub.



With regard to Mammals, I’ve seen no Hares locally of late in this area, including through what should have been their busiest time of the year, the “Mad March Hare” season. Has anybody been seeing them? A Muntjac at the roadside between Wickam Bishops and Hatfield Peverel is my only deer sighting of the past few weeks. Hopefully, the fortune of the Water Vole is now improving again, following the attempted removal of the invasive and highly predatory American Mink. The Water Vole is the inspiration for “Ratty,” in Kenneth Graham’s “The Wind in the Willows.” Water Vole’s could potentially return again to anywhere along the “Borrowdyke,” the ditch that runs along inside of the sea wall, or to any of the watercourses in this area. Penny Brook in Little Totham used to be a hotspot for them.



Second Thursdays  
Meet on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2pm at  
Goldhanger, all welcome

## News from the Village Hall

### Dad's Army - 18 April



by nurses, land army girls, walking wounded and even a unique appearance of Mrs Mainwaring!

Excellent supper by our caterer, Jenny Pulsford preceded brilliant entertainment and dancing to the "Bombshells".

All in all, a great evening in aid of Village Hall funds which raised nearly £800 to enable us to continue to maintain and improve the Hall. A big thank you to everyone who supported the evening and another to our Social and Fund Raising Committee who worked so hard to put the event together.

### Questionnaire

We really want to know what the village wants from our Village Hall so that we can plan for the future accordingly. This month's edition of the Parish Mag includes a questionnaire. Do please find time to complete it and return it.

Villagers and friends looking for a good night out in World War Two Goldhanger needed to look no further than the Village Hall which had been transformed into a brightly decorated 1940'S dance hall.

The evening attracted a large contingent of the local Home Guard (inspected by Captain Mainwaring) accompanied



# Goldhanger Village Hall Consultation Questionnaire 2015

It's your village hall, how can we make it better for you?

We really want to know!

This questionnaire sets out to invite the village to tell us what **you** would like the hall to provide for Goldhanger now and in future years.

**A little about you please?** Please circle

Age: 17 or under      Male / Female

18-35

36 and above      What is your Post Code.....

Please use **one** form per person. If more forms are needed please copy this form or go to one of the addresses below for additional forms.

Please pull this form from your Parish Magazine and return the completed form to one of the following Goldhanger addresses:

- 3 Maldon Road
- 20 Head Street
- 15 Fish Street
- 29 Church Street

Please return completed forms by the closing date of the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

If completing the questionnaire stimulates additional comments do please note these on the back of the form.

Many thanks for your participation and feedback. Once collated the results will be published in the Parish Magazine.

Goldhanger Village Hall Management Committee

**Hall Facilities** Please tick the relevant box.1 = low priority 4 = High priority, **only** one tick per question please

<b>How important do you rate the below</b>	1	2	3	4
Toilet Facilities				
showers				
Easy, Level (Disabled) Access to the hall				
Kitchen				
Physical Appearance of the hall				
Stage				
Lighting				
Hearing loop				
Seating and tables				
Car parking				
Heating				
Audio / Visual Information Point for visitors to Goldhanger				
Other comments please note overleaf				

**Hall Marketing**

How would you prefer to know what is going on in the village hall? Please circle

Parish Mag    Village Website    Posters    Notice boards

Other        Word of mouth        Village Hall Website

Would you consider supporting the village hall via: A working party: Yes / No

One off event: Yes / No or Charitable donation Yes / No

(Please circle) If Yes please provide contact details on the back page.

Please feel free to continue any comments on the back of this questionnaire.

Goldhanger Village Hall Charity No. 301307

## **Hall Activities** Please tick the relevant box

1 = low priority 4 = High priority, **only** one tick per question please

<b>What activities would you like the village hall to provide</b>	1	2	3	4
Village Fêtes				
Arts and crafts				
Musical Entertainment				
Café				
Clubs and Societies				
Hiring for private parties/weddings				
Social Club				
Meeting place				
Training/ Education				
Commercial Rent organisations and businesses				
Dr / Social Services				
Physical Activities e.g. keep fit. Amateur badminton, judo, etc				
Village Entertainments e.g. quiz nights, Christmas fayre, etc				
Films				
Indoor food market				
Other comments please note overleaf				

Please note additional Village Hall questionnaire comments here:

# Goldhanger Sailing Club News

At the start of this new season, some of our youngest members were keen to be out on the water. Sophie Richards (aged 5) asked for a boat for her birthday and here she is helming Dad, Henry on her first trip on the water. Little Brother, Adam (aged 3) who has a half share in "Typical Me", tried his hand at crewing.



## Our next Family Sailing events are:

- **7<sup>th</sup> June – Cruise to Osea Island for a swim and picnic @ 14:30 on the water.**
- **14<sup>th</sup> June – Family Sailing @ 09:45 on the water.**

If you would like to come, or are interested in a trial sail, lifejackets/bouyancy aids of all sizes are available at the club. All you need is a change of clothes, shoes and a towel.

Please contact Rod or Jenny Brown-Lee on 01621-788145 to arrange your sail.

If you are interested in joining the club, contact Kay Mehrtens on 01621-892612

We look forward to hearing from you and getting the opportunity to show you our wonderful sailing area.

We received a bit of local history from Dermot Balson, who now lives in Australia. Dermot's great grandfather was chief boatman at Goldhanger in the 1880s, before retiring ill in 1886 and dying in the same year. He is shown as living in Church Street in the 1881 census, when the [Coastguard] cottages were still almost new. Two of his daughters also married coastguards, at least one of whom was from Goldhanger.



James Francis Balson was born a baker's son in Plymouth, in 1836. He began work as an apprentice to his father, but at the age of 18, joined the navy, just in time for the Crimean War in 1854.

He served on the battleship *St Jean D'Acre* (*pictured left*), a traditional wooden ship with cannon and gunports, as a gunner (perhaps because he was fairly short).

One of the actions involved sending small boats close to shore with guns on them, to bombard the enemy, and

these boats were crewed by coastguards, who were expert in handling them.

Rubbing shoulders with coastguards may have been the reason that led him, once his initial service was up, to join the coastguard in 1866, but perhaps it was because it counted as navy service, so he could earn a full navy pension while being shore based and able to raise a family. As was common to prevent connivance with local smugglers, he was sent to a station distant from his birthplace, at Orford.

He married in 1869 at the age of 33, to Eliza, on her 18th birthday. There was a family story that he picked her up on a trip to Marseilles, but she was really a local Sudbourne girl, daughter of an illiterate labourer. She had six children over the next 10 years, four of whom survived childhood, and by 1880, James was chief boatman at Goldhanger, and living in one of the new coastguard cottages there. It is hard to imagine how a family of 6 was able to live in two rooms (since the upstairs and downstairs each housed a family), but somehow they did it.

In 1886, James became ill, and had to retire. He seems to have been taken back to Eliza's family in Sudbourne, where he died within 6 months.

Eliza was still relatively young, and she remarried in 1894, to a lighthouse keeper. Within a few years, she was an assistant lighthouse keeper, helping her husband and living on an on site cottage.

Her family continued the association with coastguards. Both her daughters married coastguards, one of them the son of a man who had worked under her father, so that daughter probably knew her husband from a very young age and played with him in the street.

One of Eliza's sons joined the navy, like his father, and spent his whole career working up to be ship steward. The other was my grandfather, and he never went near the sea.

James's signature on his navy application in 1853

*Names in full*

Date of Birth 7 Sept<sup>th</sup> 1836

John St

Balson.

*Place of Birth*

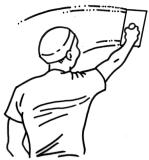
Devonport  
Devon

*A copy of part of James Balson's naval record, showing the coastguard service.*

I don't have a picture of my coastguard ancestor (but the churchside website on Goldhanger has a couple of photos of other coastguards).

However I found a striking photo of some gunners like him (*below*), on the same ship, in 1856. (I don't think any of them are him because he was aged 20 and had a scar on his forehead). You cannot fail to notice how happy they all look!





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**Jessica McMillan Dip,CFHP,MPSPract.**

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## Toenail trimming

## **Treatment of Fungal Nails**

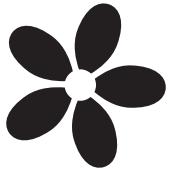
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## Corn Removal

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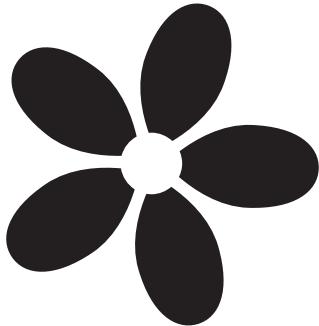


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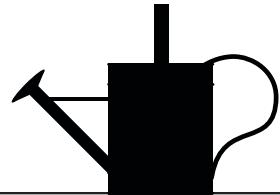


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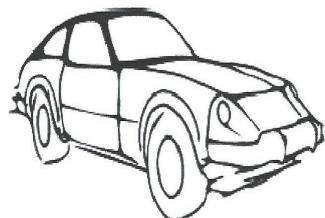
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**OFFICE :- 01206 331645**



## Calling all Kids! Family Services at St Peter's Church Second Sunday of the month

Come and share the fun at our Family Services. After each child-friendly service, there are activities for children. These include craft, science, and games and are suitable for pre-schoolers through to early teens. Drinks and biscuits are also served.



This month:

**Bring a talent service: June 14<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.**

Goldhanger's got talent! We would love children to share their talents at the service and afterwards try to learn a new talent: walking on stilts, juggling, and lots more!

Next month: July 12<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.

The theme is **Holidays**. Children will create their own postcards to send to someone they love, bring an address and children can post the cards on the day.

The village magazine is supported only by our regular advertisers and your donations. That's it!

Any articles about the village or for the benefit of the village will always be included free of charge.

Whilst we try to include all other submissions these increase the cost of the magazine, therefore any donation you feel able to make for your personal interest article will be gratefully received.

Here at Suzie's we sell our own hand-made gifts, up cycled furniture and shabby chic home wares. We also hire out shelves to lots of other clever artisans and crafters, giving them the opportunity to sell high quality goods from a busy High Street location! We are stocked full of beautiful products; there's something for every one and every home. We also have a haberdashery and craft supplies section.

We can also up-cycle and shabby chic customers own tired/old furniture - ask us for a very reasonable quote.

Our popular Art and Craft Workshops were featured in the 'Making Magazine' as some of the best in the UK! With only four students per workshop; you will receive lots of individual attention from our professional teachers. We have workshops to suit all abilities and budgets and some are ideally suited for children.

Shabby chic paint techniques, flower arranging and sewing are just some of the topics you can learn about. Come on your own or book with your friends; we can even provide party packages tailored to your needs.



# Suzie's Shop, Maldon

PosterMyWall.com

**Don't forget to fill out the Village Hall questionnaire on the centre pages.**

**You'll never get what you want to see in the Village Hall if you don't tell someone!**



If anyone is interested in having an allotment please phone or e-mail

**Clive Cheeseman**

[cheeseman3@sky.com](mailto:cheeseman3@sky.com)

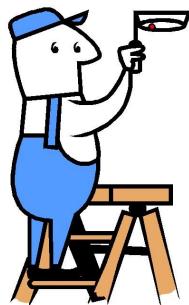
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---

**Goldhanger Art Society  
Meets in the Village Hall  
every second Thursday of the month 2pm to 4.30pm.**

- June 11th we will be having a workshop with Colin Steed. Colin is a local professional painter and writes regularly in the Leisure Painter Magazine.

£5 non members - again numbers are limited so please ring. Look forward to seeing you.

For details ring Jane 01621 892565



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**Tollesbury Surgery** visits Goldhanger Village Hall on Tuesdays and Fridays between **13.30 to 14.00**.

Requests for prescriptions and/or medication can be left at the Village Hall from 12noon on the day of the Doctor's visit.

## Note from the editors

### Courtesy

When submitting articles for the magazine please include a brief message with it. Blank emails with attachments feel a bit impersonal and don't really tell us much about what you want us to do with the article. A simple *please* and *thank you* goes a long way too.

Thank you.



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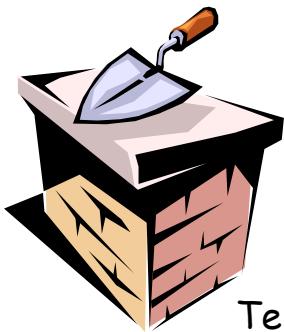
**Phone 01621 788411**

To advertise *For Sale* or *Wanted* items in the magazine, the minimum donation is £1 per advert, though if you would like to donate more that would be very welcome and helps the magazine's funds.

The donation should be given to Morag Wood, Advertising Co-ordinate when dropping in the advert.

Her address is Elms Bakery, Church St. (Next door but one to The Cricketers)





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# Recipe of the month

## Wasabi Cashews

cook 30 mins · makes 4

### INGREDIENTS

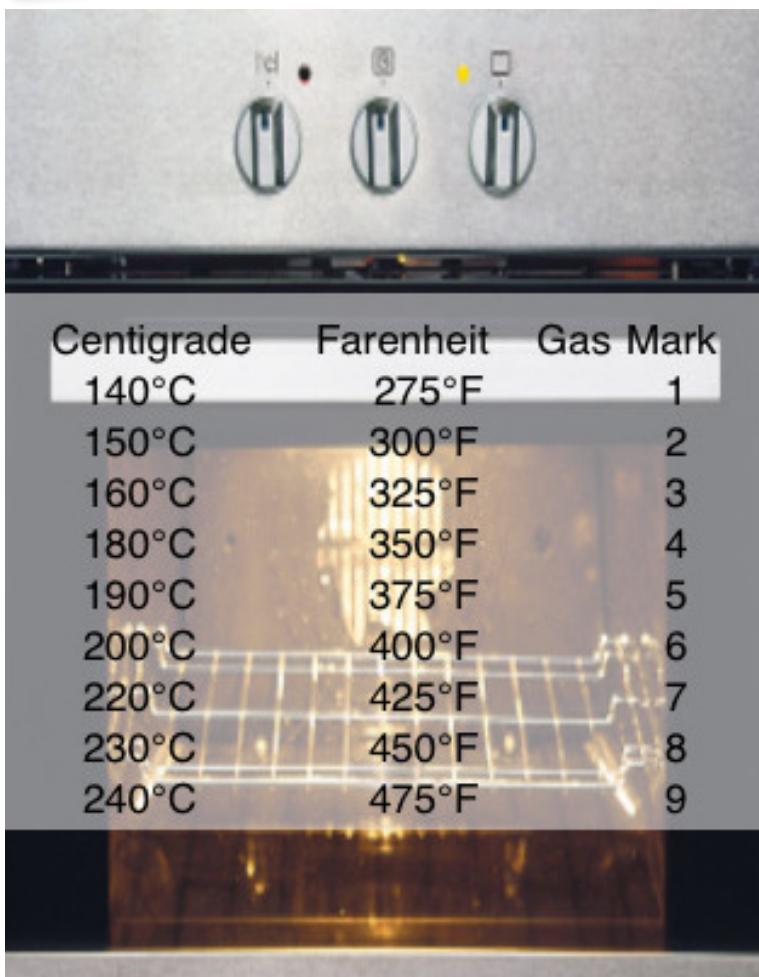
400 g whole cashew nuts  
15 g wasabi paste  
salt



### DIRECTIONS

- 1 heat the oven to 180°C
- 2 roast the nuts on a flat baking tray, continually stirring so that you have an even roast
- 3 spread wasabi paste around the sides of a bowl
- 4 Pour the hot roasted nuts into the wasabi bowl, stir around to coat each nut and add the salt
- 5 spread out to cool on the baking tray

If you have a recipe you would like to share, please send it in.



Centigrade	Farenheit	Gas Mark
140°C	275°F	1
150°C	300°F	2
160°C	325°F	3
180°C	350°F	4
190°C	375°F	5
200°C	400°F	6
220°C	425°F	7
230°C	450°F	8
240°C	475°F	9



## Goldhanger Correspondent

For your news articles about the village for inclusion in the Maldon & Burnham Standard and the Essex Chronicle.

Contact:

Kaye Shrub  
01621 788639  
07891 677157  
kayeshrubb@btinternet.com



Incorporating Fair Havens Hospice & Little Havens Children's Hospice

## Southend Half Marathon

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>  
June 2015**

Rev. Jonathan Pearce and his daughter Naomi are raising money for Havens Hospices this year.

Sponsorship forms are available from the church.

How many did you get right?

1	Aslan
2	6
3	Oak
4	Red
5	Blue
6	Big Ben
7	1000
8	Honey
9	Hogwarts
10	Humpty Dumpty

**Answers to Children's Quiz:**

## AGE UK Advocacy Support

**For more information about Citizen Advocacy please contact Gary Clinton on 01245 207013**

The service is free, confidential and impartial.

• •

## GOLDHANGER VILLAGE HALL

Available for clubs, societies, private functions etc.,

The Village Hall is also available for BBQs, wedding marquees etc.,

Bookings taken by Mr Andrew Christy telephone 788432  
[www.goldhangervillagehall.co.uk](http://www.goldhangervillagehall.co.uk)

## FOR SALE AND WANTED / LOST AND FOUND

### FOR SALE

Comprehensive wine-making equipment.  
Any offers to be donated to St Peter's Church fund

Contact 01621 788630

### FOR SALE

Two groundling (standing) tickets for a (highly acclaimed) performance of King John at the Globe Theatre in London on Saturday 27th June at 7:30pm. £7 for the two tickets.

Chris or Stephen on 788369

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**GOLDHANGER PARISH COUNCIL**  
List of councillors and officers

Parish Clerk:	Miss V Banyard 21 D'Arcy Way Tolleshunt D'Arcy CM9 8UD 01621 860265 or 07986 611660
Chair:	Councillor Michael Sargeant Wencis 15 head Street Goldhanger CM9 8AY 01621 788484 <a href="mailto:familv@sarqeant100.freeserve.co.uk">familv@sarqeant100.freeserve.co.uk</a>
Vice Chair:	Councillor Christopher Joslin 15 Fish Street Goldhanger CM9 8AT 01621 788578 / <a href="mailto:chrisandiillioslin@gmail.com">chrisandiillioslin@gmail.com</a>
Councillors:	Councillor Clive Cheeseman 3 Maldon Road Goldhanger CM9 8BG 01621 788433 / <a href="mailto:cheeseman3@sky.com">cheeseman3@sky.com</a>
	Councillor Stephen Ellis Charity Farm Cottage Maldon Road Goldhanger CM9 8BQ 01621 788739 / <a href="mailto:Stephen.ellis@talk21.com">Stephen.ellis@talk21.com</a>
	Councillor Hugh Reynolds 21 Fish Street Goldhanger CM9 8AT 01621 788307
	Councillor Keith Flynn 1 Blind Lane Goldhanger CM9 8BE 01621 788143 / <a href="mailto:keith.flynn@talktalk.net">keith.flynn@talktalk.net</a>
	Councillor Julia Bourn 17 Church Street Goldhanger CM9 8AS 01621 788298 / <a href="mailto:juliabourn@live.co.uk">juliabourn@live.co.uk</a>
District Councillors	Maddie Thompson 01621 810101 Robert Long 01621 817762

## Mobile Library dates & times

Thursday dates	Location	Stop name	Arrives	Leaves
(Later dates await confirmation from ECC)	Ulting	Does Corner	9:40	9:55
	Ulting	Ulting Lane/Water Co. Houses	10:00	10:15
	Heybridge	Colne House	10:45	11:15
	Heybridge	Coopers Avenue	11:20	11:50
	Heybridge Basin	Bus Stop	12:00	12:15
	Heybridge Basin	Daisy Meadows car park	12:20	12:50
	Goldhanger	Village Hall	14:00	14:30
	Heybridge	Plantation Hall	14:45	15:15
	Langford	Little Hills	15:30	16:00

### What goes where?



Ivy Sharman collects stamps for the Guide Dogs ~ 16 Head street telephone 788268.

### Essex Police Contacts

#### Call 999 (emergency) if:

- A crime is in progress
- Someone suspected of a crime nearby
- There is a danger to life
- Violence is being used or threatened

For any non-emergency contact with the police, call 101 which covers the whole of England and Wales. *If you call 101 but are reporting an emergency, you will be directed to the 999 service.*

Our neighbourhood officer is PCSO Carol Gladman and when she is on duty a contact number is **0797 084 4179**.

The neighbourhood constable for our area is police constable Leah Keene..

### Crimestoppers

0800 555 111

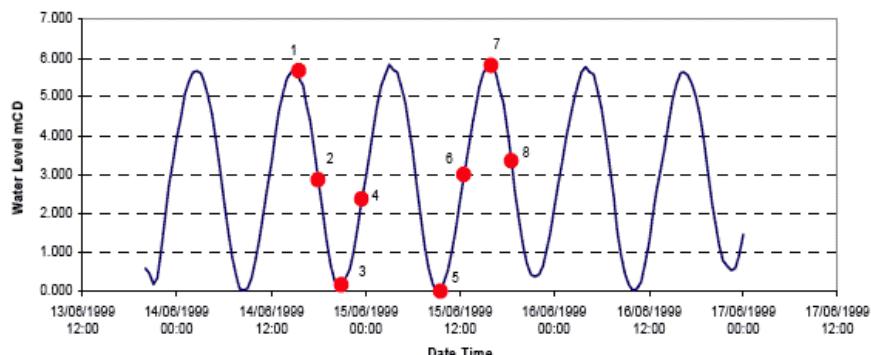
Contact them anonymously with information about crime

# Tide Times for Goldhanger

## June

		Morning		Afternoon	
		time	m	time	m
1 M		00:16	5.3	12:38	5.5
2 Tu	○	00:57	5.5	13:16	5.6
3 W		01:36	5.6	13:54	5.7
4 Th		02:15	5.7	14:31	5.7
5 F		02:54	5.8	15:10	5.7
6 Sa		03:36	5.8	15:51	5.7
7 Su		04:21	5.7	16:35	5.6
8 M		05:09	5.6	17:24	5.4
9 Tu	○	06:04	5.5	18:20	5.3
10 W		07:06	5.3	19:24	5.2
11 Th		08:15	5.3	20:33	5.2
12 F		09:24	5.3	21:44	5.3
13 Sa		10:31	5.4	22:51	5.4
14 Su		11:31	5.5	23:50	5.5
15 M				12:24	5.6
16 Tu	●	00:43	5.6	13:12	5.7
17 W		01:31	5.7	13:57	5.8
18 Th		02:17	5.8	14:38	5.7
19 F		03:00	5.8	15:18	5.7
20 Sa		03:41	5.7	15:55	5.6
21 Su		04:21	5.5	16:32	5.4
22 M		05:00	5.4	17:09	5.3
23 Tu		05:40	5.2	17:51	5.1
24 W	○	06:24	5.0	18:38	4.9
25 Th		07:15	4.8	19:33	4.7
26 F		08:13	4.8	20:37	4.7
27 Sa		09:16	4.8	21:44	4.8
28 Su		10:19	5.0	22:47	5.0
29 M		11:17	5.2	23:42	5.2
30 Tu				12:07	5.4

1. High tide, slack water
2. Ebb tide, fast water
3. Low tide, slack water
4. Flood tide, fast water
5. Low tide, slack water
6. Flood tide, fast water
7. High tide, slack water
8. Ebb tide, fast water



## 95 - BUS TIMETABLE BETWEEN TOLLESBURY & MALDON

This is an abridged timetable. Don't forget - if you don't use it, we will lose it!

► Maldon	M-S	M-S	M-S	M-F SCH SAT	NSCH	M-F St
Goldhanger Square	09:10	11:10	13:10	14:40	14:50	17:57
Bentalls	09:20	11:20	13:20	14:50	15:00	20:00
TESCO	09:23	11:23	13:23	14:53	15:03	
Maldon High Street	09:26	11:26	13:26	14:56	15:06	Set down only
Maldon Leisure Centre	09:30	11:30	13:30	15:00	15:10	

► Tollesbury	M-S	M-S	M-S	M-F	M-F	M-F St
Maldon Leisure Centre	08:55	10:00	12:00	14:00	16:30	17:35
Maldon High Street	09:00	10:05	12:05	14:05	16:35	17:40
TESCO	09:05	10:10	12:10	14:10	16:40	17:45
Bentalls	09:10	10:15	12:15	14:15	16:45	17:48
Goldhanger Square	09:20	10:25	12:25	14:25	16:55	17:57

M-F = Monday to Friday service  
 M-S = Monday to Saturday service  
 M-F SCH = Monday to Friday (School term time)  
 SAT = Saturday service  
 NSCH = Non-School days only  
 St = Stephenson's Buses

Regal Busways run the Saturday service  
 Stephensons run the weekday 17:35 service from Maldon

More information at [www.hedingham.co.uk/timetables/95](http://www.hedingham.co.uk/timetables/95)

### The Blackwater Link - 90

Runs from Maldon, Morrisons to Witham Ebenezer Close (passes Witham Station)  
 Take the 95 to Bentalls and pick up the 90 there.

For more details contact 01702-541511

Blackwater Medical Centre	876760
Longfield Medical Centre	876433
Tollesbury Surgery	869204
Maldon Citizens Advice Bureau	841195
Maldon District Council	854477
Local Police (non-emergency)	101 ( <i>puts you through to Essex Police</i> )
Abandoned Vehicles	875830
Anti-Social behaviour	875821
Dogs - (Dog warden)	875720
Fly tipping	875801
Graffiti	875706
Noise	875818
Pest Control (MDC)	875815
Vandalism	01245 491212
St Peter's Hospital <i>NHS</i> (Maldon - no A&E)	725323
Broomfield Hospital <i>NHS</i> (Chelmsford, has A&E)	01245 362000
 Social Services	854011
Victim Support	01245 422660
Women's Aid	01245 493114
Alcoholics Anonymous	01904 644026
Childline	0800 1111
The Samaritans	0345 909090
Salvation Army	853942
Gingerbread	01245 352708
Outhouse East (LGBT Charity)	0345 123 23 88 ( <i>7pm-10pm weekdays</i> )
 Loss of Electricity - EDF Energy	0800 783 8838
Gas Emergency (if you smell gas or think there is a gas leak somewhere)	0800 111 999 ( <i>Freephone</i> )
 Water	0845 782 0999
 Blackwater Leisure Centre	851898
Witham Leisure Centre	0845 260 1535
Springfield Hospital <i>Private</i> (Chelmsford)	01245 234000
National Rail Enquiries	0845 748 4950
Hedingham Omnibuses Ltd	869214
Regal Busways	01245 249001
First Eastern National Buses	0845 678 2977
Bus Station Colchester	01206 572478
Stansted Airport	0844 335 1803