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Chairman’s Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

A warm welcome to all of you representing the many clubs and activities in the village. It’s always good to hear the reports of your activities and to have the opportunity to thank you all for your contributions, enthusiasm and dedication throughout yet another year.

I shall start with a topic which has very much occupied our minds for many months now – the planning proposal in various forms for the field just opposite the MVCC here.

Much of the Parish Council’s time in recent months has been taken up with considering the detail of the applications. Following the public village meeting which was very well attended, the strength of opposition to this was clear and the Parish Council has endeavoured to follow up all aspects of this and to reflect the strength of feeling in the village. Thank you for your support and hard work to ensure everyone is aware of the details and implications of this proposal and able to make informed comments.

We are currently waiting to hear further information on the application.

This time last year we reported that we had been runners up to Berden in the Rural Community Council of Essex awards for village of the year – this year, as you may remember , we were delighted to learn that all our hard work to illustrate the various aspects of our community had paid off and we won our category. Thanks again to everyone involved in village life and those who help keep it as it is – the litter pick was once again well attended and several sacks of rubbish were collected.

The Parish Council as ever has been keeping a close eye on expenditure as you will see from the Financial report. We keep the precept as low as possible while continuing to support village activities and looking for best value for money.

The village Christmas party – organised jointly with the MVCC -was a great success – with Steve Sausage drawing parents and children in – we look forward to another performance from Steve at this year’s party.

Gigaclear have kept us and the surrounding population entertained in recent months – hopefully all the noise, disruption, closures and diversions will be worthwhile when ultrafast broadband speeds are achieved in due course.

In addition to Gigaclear and planning issues; footpaths, grass cutting, hedges, drains, ditches, dog poo and overhanging trees are all topics which continue to generate much discussion at our meetings – we thank the respective land owners for their co-operation throughout the year.

Our sub-committees have once again been very busy all year – the Scarecrow trail enjoyed record breaking success once again; the Musical Mayhem / Opens Gardens team continues to go from strength to strength and the Fun Run was once again well supported, with the Parish Council funding the attendance of the St Johns Ambulance volunteers.

All of these events take a considerable amount of time and energy from a number of people to organise and we are very grateful to all of them.

In October, we were honoured to receive the prestigious Council of the Year Award from the Essex Association of Local Councils, fighting off stiff competition from much larger councils, in recognition of the contribution of the Parish Council to the village.

Just before we move on to the reports from our multitude of clubs and societies, I should like to add some thanks -

We lost Lizzie Mclean from the Parish Council as she moved to Stansted – and has been replaced by Jane Tresadern. I should like to thank Lizzie once again for her energy and dedication to the Parish Council and in particular the part she played in getting the playground up and running.

Just before we move on to the reports from our multitude of clubs and societies, I need to say some thanks

I should just like to thank you all for your support to the council and to me in particular – this is my final AGM and I thank all my fellow councillors, past and present for making this such an interesting and enjoyable experience over the past 12 or so years.

I shall end by thanking our Clerk Charles for keeping me in order and ensuring that we keep to time and that we continue to comply with the ever increasing volume of regulations and red tape which needs to be borne in mind. Thanks as ever to Ray and Janice our local and County Councillors for their continued support and I wish everyone continued success in the future

Julie Kershaw

Manuden Village Community Centre - Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

Now in it's fifth year, the Centre continues to offer a welcoming and inclusive focal point for the village, playing host to a wide range of clubs and organisations for all ages and interests.

The hall is regularly used for children's parties and as its good reputation spreads, it has become a popular choice as an excellent wedding reception venue. This year the Centre will be hosting 7 wedding receptions.

Externally, the football pitches and multi-use games area provide a great facility for Manuden United and other local teams while Manuden Cricket Club continues to provide an entertaining spectacle for cricket enthusiasts on a sunny summer's afternoon. The play park is a great asset for families with younger children in the village.

Events such as the Sing-along evenings, the Village Christmas party and Scarecrow Trail are all well attended and important social events in the Manuden village calendar.

The financial position continues to be stable. The Centre is constantly maintained and additional equipment is periodically bought to enhance the facilities, such as the recent purchase of 14 round tables.

Richard Dale–Cooke joined as the new caretaker and is now an essential and valued member of the Centre team.

Thank you to the Management Committee for their year-round invaluable support and to all the villagers who use the facilities, making it a great asset for the village.

Chris Bailey
Manager

MANUDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL – Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

“Nurturing life skills and inspiring achievement for today and tomorrow”

Our school continues to grow and improve under the Headship of Mrs Bratley. The collaboration with Chrishall provides wider learning opportunities for the children as well as personal development opportunities for the staff. We have a good working relationship with both staff and Governors at Chrishall and intend to build on this partnership in the years ahead. Manuden also benefits from our being a member of the Uttlesford schools’ consortium – comprising around a dozen similar schools – it allows us to benchmark performance and share best practice around the area.

Over the past 12 months we have seen a significant change in the Governing Body. Having had a series of resignations, I am delighted to be able to report that the Board is back up to full strength (10 members) including our latest recruit, Rev. Margaret Davis. With the new team now ready to take on the challenge, and the school in a strong and stable position, I have taken the decision to stand down as Chair this July. After over 8 years, and coinciding with my youngest son leaving Year 6, I feel this is the right time for me and the school to let someone else have a go. I hope to be able to announce my successor shortly.

We do still continue to watch the pennies and the pounds and are not immune from the endless cost increases, funding cuts and expectation rises in education. This coming financial year we will, for the first time I can remember, need to spend some of our surplus just to cover the normal day-to-day running costs of the school. We also have to spend around £20k on repairing and maintaining the fabric of the school – including; a new heating system (part-funded by ECC) and re-landscaping the outside play area for Snowy Owl class.

However, we are in a better position than many schools with a healthy surplus to draw on – and we continue to enjoy the fantastic support, generosity and hard work of our families, the PTFA and the wider community. Thank you.

Contact: John Oglesby
Chair of Governors

OWLETS PLAYGROUP REPORT TO PARISH MEETING

Owlets has enjoyed another busy year. Emma left the team in September once her daughter started school and Owlets is very grateful to her for her years of service! Leni and Nerys continue to run the sessions between them with the indispensable help of Sheila and some ad hoc support from Glynis. Lesley has taken over from Emma, providing additional support with our Facebook page and helping run sessions. Hanna and Charlotte also continue to be invaluable members of our set-up team but we shall be looking for some new faces once their youngest leave the group to start school in September.

Our activities have remained varied and we have welcomed our usual outsiders including Flamingo Cards, Crazy Pottery and Usborne Books. Jo Ellis has also attended brining street dance to the toddlers. The children have indulged in a vast array of craft and physical activities and we have welcomed lots of new faces.

We managed to replace our ride on cars and replenish our craft stocks with the help of various village fundraising groups. Many thanks to all those that continue to attend our sessions and make it such a welcoming place for carers and children alike.

Leni, Nerys and Lesley (Owlets Team)

MANUDEN GUIDES REPORT TO PARISH MEETING

As reported last year, we still have a small unit but the girls are keen, get on well together, and we have a good time.

Although the girls usually decide what activities to do each week, we have been trying out some of the new programme ideas which have been different, most enjoyable and, resulted in gaining several new badges and learning new skills too.

One of the highlights of the year was going to The Shard on a beautiful summer day in July, a wonderful experience with amazing views, thanks to the Jack Petchey Foundation. We also loved the BSMT Youth group's performance of Hairspray at the Rhodes Theatre.

Some members joined with the Brownies for a holiday at Chigwell Row Campsite, responding well to being the older ones and giving a lead. As well as the usual activities, the Zipwire was on offer for the first time, which became the new favourite. We were also able to go kayaking on Redricks Lake, Sawbridgeworth.

We joined in village events by making and serving cakes for the Refreshments at the Open Gardens and decorating a tree for the Christmas Tree Festival. We carried on with our tradition of wrapping and filling boxes for the Operation Christmas Child appeal, hopefully improving Christmas for those in need.

We would like to thank the Fun Run, Open Gardens and Scarecrow trail committees for their most welcome donations to our funds, ensuring that we can continue to offer girls such opportunities.

Glynis Prothero

Manuden Brownies Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

Manuden Brownies have had another great year doing lots of interesting things. The unit currently has 25 girls, and , although we have just welcomed another qualified leader, we will have to have a waiting list.

In the Summer Term, we made the most of the good weather by having a Water Fun Evening with water spray and slide, building shelters, having a Sports Evening, racing against girls from a Stansted unit, visiting Hatfield Forest, and ,of course, going on our annual holiday to Chigwell Row.

This is always a highlight of the year when we have the opportunity to face new challenges, try favourite activities such as water zorbing and climbing , become more independent, and spend time getting to know each other better.

We made a scarecrow again for the Scarecrow Trail, danced at the Village Picnic in the churchyard, and decorated a tree for the Christmas Tree Festival. We invited Elsenham Brownies to join us for an evening, and hosted the District Thinking Day event in February.

We have enjoyed several Sleepovers in our wonderful hall, been swimming in Bishop's Stortford, and tried out many of the activities from the new Brownie Programme, gaining several badges along the way.

We would like to record our thanks to the committees of the Scarecrow Trail, the Open Gardens and the Fun Run for their contributions to our funds, enabling us to deliver good Guiding without the worry of covering costs.

Glynis Prothero

REPORT FROM ST MARY'S CHURCH, MANUDEN

Church services continue with the addition of monthly Messy Church which have proved very popular. Family and All-Age services are held on Mothering Sunday, Easter and Harvest.

During the last quarter of the year the Rev'd Margaret Davis was on Sabbatical so the majority of the services were taken by the Rev'd Canon Chris Bishop.

Ian Priest and the Manuden Singers gave a concert at Easter and then in June sang for a Choral Evensong which was led by Ken Pratley.

The Village School held two church services, Easter and Christmas.

Christmas Services were well attended. A Carol Service, a Crib Service, where the church was bursting at the seams, plus a service for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Mums and Chums continues to thrive as a meeting place for mothers and as a feeder into Messy Church.

The Village Picnic was enjoyed by all who came, with gorgeous flower arrangements on a Royal Wedding theme plus the popular Teddy Tumble.

There are copies of the Manuden map that can be purchased, prints or fridge magnets, kindly organised and donated by Fiona Bengtsen.

December saw the first Christmas Tree festival, thanks to Glynis. The church was festooned with trees of all sizes and by organisations or individuals.

We have had mice under the organ and a leaking roof. The mice are being eliminated and the roof and ceiling work is planned for January 2019.

New kneelers are being sewn to depict people and buildings in the village.

In the churchyard, the gate post has been repaired so that it can be used.

Six unsafe headstones by the church tower have been made stable with the cost being covered by the takings from the picnic.

In September, the History Society and Parish Council organised a short re-dedication service for the cleaned and renovated War Memorial, built to honour the dead from WW1.

The church would like to thank the Parish Council for their continuing help with the churchyard grass cutting.

The church is also lucky to have regular visits from the Community Service workers to keep the churchyards tidy.

BELL RINGERS REPORT TO PARISH MEETING

The Tuesday evening practise sessions continue to be well attended, attracting ringers from a wide surrounding area. The popularity of these practice evenings is a combination of the high quality of our bells and the experienced ringers who attend, which enables ringers of all levels to develop their skills. The excellent guidance and support available provides an ideal forum for prospective ringers.

However, the number of regular ringers is declining and we need more parishioners to learn to ring the bells, or to return to bell ringing. If anyone would like to learn to ring church bells, or want more information, please contact the Tower Captain, Ken Pratley, on 01279 814466 or e-mail thekenofman46@btinternet.com

Ken Pratley, Tower Captain

The Friendship Club – Report to the Annual Parish Meeting May 2019

The Club currently has 18 members, aged mostly in our 70s and 80s.

We continue to enjoy one another's company at our monthly meetings in the Club Room at the MVCC, on every third Tuesday of the month, from 2.10 – 4.10pm.

This past year we have had two Speakers – one on ' Lifeline ', from the UDC, and one from a Bank, on ' Fraud on customers '.

We also held other activities, such as Tea Parties in members' houses, and Pub lunches, including our Christmas Lunch. We have visited ' Oklahoma ' at the Rhodes Centre, and supported local events such as the Manuden Village Picnic and the Manuden Fun Run.

We are financially stable – our warmest thanks to the Open Gardens, Scarecrow Trail and Fun Run Committees, and two anonymous persons, for their most generous cheques.

Anyone interested in joining the Club is invited to come as a guest to try it out, but please phone me first, on 01279 814145.

Bill Prothero Chairman

Manuden Singers and Players– Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

Our Spring Concert programme included a Royal Wedding Anthem by Handel, a wonderful set of Mozart Vespers and Bach's Easter Oratorio. Sadly, this turned out to be our last full concert performance as, following a Choral Evensong in St Mary's Church on 15 July, our Musical Director Ian Priest fell ill and stepped down from running the Singers.

This brought to a close his 18 year stint as MD, during which the choir has performed many of the major works of the choral repertoire including Messiah, as well as numerous *Chandos* and *Coronation* anthems by Handel, Haydn's *Creation* and *Seasons* oratorios, Bach's St John Passion and his Oratorios for Christmas,

Easter and Ascension, and the great Requiems by Mozart and Brahms. Professional musicians travelled from afar to support us in these ventures, giving their services without fee to enable us to donate all concert proceeds to local charities. We have also given fifteen 'Village Glyndebourne' summer picnic concerts featuring lighthearted programmes including Gilbert & Sullivan choruses and Kurt Weil's Cantata on Magna Carta, performed to commemorate the 800th anniversary of its signature.

Over the same period the Singers have fulfilled their secondary objective of donating concert proceeds to local charities and have raised over £55,000. Recipients have included Grove Cottage, Support4Sight and Herts & Essex (Ware) Samaritans.

Ian's retirement as MD leaves a gap in the musical life of the village, one waiting to be filled by the next generation. We thank our audiences for their wonderful support throughout these years.

Manuden Junior FC – President's Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

I stood down as chairman of the club three months ago to allow someone younger to take over. I have served for over 20 years and I think I will be able to leave it in secure hands. I am very proud to have been made Honorary Life President.

This season the club fielded Under 9s, Under 10s, Under 11s, Under 12s and Under 13s has had a good season so far and long may it continue.

Vaughan Atkinson - President

Manuden Junior FC – Chairman's season review 2018/19

The under 9's have had a fantastic first season at Manuden. The boys have played the game in the right spirit and made some amazing friends along the way. Win, lose or draw everyone from parents to players has had a smile on their face and taken home some wonderful memories.

The Under 10s have had a very good season scoring over 100 goals in the process. A late start to training in August meant a slow start to the season but the team went from strength to strength from November and are currently on a 10 game unbeaten run (winning streak). Next year they look forward to longer games on bigger pitches for a very able group of local children. With tournament season starting in the next few weeks the team are hungry for success.

The U11's had the best start to the season in winning the Hatfield Youth Open 6 a side tournament over the summer. The new season also marked a move to 9 a side matches (previously 7 a side) with larger pitches and goals. Despite being a small and local team we played in the top 2 leagues this season. Our players continue to train hard and develop their skills as we look to end the season with hopefully more silverware.

A topsy turvy season for the under 12s in which we played our best games against the better sides and all the players were really good despite being moved into different positions. Sadly there won't be an under 13s next year but I have truly enjoyed the past 5 years and I hope all the players go on to bigger and better things. Thanks to all the parents and coaches for their help over the years as it has been a real pleasure to coach the team.

The under 13's started another season with a large 20 boy squad. We got through to the semi final of the cup but lost in a very hard fought match - 1-0. We struggled in the league against some good quality opposition but the boys still enjoyed playing week in/week out, in rain, snow, wind and sun.

Going forward Manuden JFC have plans to make the club more sustainable. As the new chairman at the helm I am committed to working alongside the MVCC to offer consistency and continuity to the community. With our committed coaches, diligent committee and excellent facilities alongside a new head coach, face book page and website we are keen to promote the club and realise our potential.

Manuden JFC wishes to thank all at the MVCC, especially Chris, for your patience, accommodation and diligence over the past season.

Tim Mather Chairman

MANUDEN UNITED FC – Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

Football Started in Manuden in 1919 but we have no records of the following 20 years leading up to the outbreak of World War 2 when play was suspended for the duration. Play resumed 1946 and the first league win for Manuden was in the 1948/49 in the Bishop's Stortford League. In 2009 I was fortunate to meet two of the goal scorers , Bert Outlaw and Ken Stott.

In the following 6 decades we had many successes winning the league and various cup finals. In 1980 it was decided to change the name of the club from Manuden FC to Manuden United FC. We had to ask permission from Manchester United, which was finally given after 3 months of waiting!

During my time as chairman we have had some great results, with the best ever being the 2011/12 season, winning the League and 3 cups. Our Head Coach, Chris Rowe has served 40 years as player, coach and manager but he has finally decided to stand down. In the last few years we have struggled to attract new signings and there seems to be much less commitment from the players than in days gone by. It is, therefore, with great sadness that I have to announce that unless someone would like to step up and take over managing this club Manuden United FC will be folding at the end of this season.

My heartfelt thanks to everyone who has been involved in the club over the last 100 years.

Vaughan Atkinson - Chairman

Manuden Golf Society – Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

Membership totalled 34 and the format and venues remained unchanged.

Our season started with the first Individual Stableford on the 11th May at Gog Magogs. Alan Stoyell retained the Spring Cup.

On the 6th June we played at Toot Hill and the Overall winner was Ros Hawkins. On the 16th July we played the annual match against Quendon & Rickling at Saffron Walden Golf Club. Unfortunately we were second again.

The final Stableford was at East Herts on the 3rd October, with Trevor Downham regaining the Autumn Cup.

All of these events started at 1 pm and were followed by supper at the respective Clubs where we were joined by partners and prizes were presented.

On the 6 December we played the Xmas Crackers competitions, which means just 3 clubs & a putter.

Our thanks the Captains of the Day at each of these events. They were Mark Summers, Barbara Cheney, John Burgess, Trevor Downham & Chris Yates.

The Christmas Party & AGM took place on 7 December at the Bury Barn with many thanks to Fiona & Frank Bengtsen. The AGM noted that 2019 is the Society's 20th Anniversary, of which more anon!

For more information about the Society please contact Jeff Attfield at jeff@maggotts.co.uk or 812701

Jeff Attfield

Manuden WI Committee Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

Manuden WI was founded in 1919 and we are celebrating our centenary this year with a boat trip along the River Lea. We have 44 members, with several new and returning members attending this year. We meet in the Manuden Village Community Centre, and our guests often comment on how impressive the hall is.

Throughout the year we have had some very interesting speakers and demonstrators. We have learnt how to make handmade soaps and all about the history of DNA and how fingerprints are used to catch criminals. We have also had presentations from local auctioneers and gemstone specialists and, as part of the WWI Remembrance celebrations, we had a joint talk with the Manuden History Society from historian Dr Vivien Newman.

The July Garden Meeting was held at the home of Susan Preston. As well as serving a lovely cream tea in her delightful garden, she very kindly set up a television screen for the football fans among us – fortunately the beautiful flowers in her garden put on a better show than the England football team on the night!

In September, our meeting was taken by the members and we were entertained by local resident, Robin Merwood, with his jazz saxophone and also shown how he composes music using a loop pedal – just like Ed Sheeran does!

In December we held our Christmas Meal at the Chequers in Ugly and the WI Carols at the Yew Tree – both were well attended and at the Carols we raised £238 for the Essex & Herts Air Ambulance.

Our Ramblers, Craft, Book, Cookery and Gardening groups are very popular. We have had demonstrations of how to make Hot Cross Buns, held a canapes evening and have visited several local Open Gardens as well as the Beth Chatto Gardens. We have a Facebook page which gives details of our planned events and regular groups.

The National WI meeting was held in Cardiff and a delegate from Ugly attended on our group's behalf. It was here that voting took place on this year's Resolution – Mental Health Matters.

Our fundraising efforts have included running a stall at the Manuden Church Picnic as well as helping out with the Scarecrow Trail and the Fun Run and making cakes for Open Gardens. We laid a poppy wreath at

the WWI Remembrance service at the Church memorial and also participated in the Church Christmas Tree festival with our members decorating 4 trees.

We had several outings this year, ranging from our annual punting venture on the Cam, several theatre trips and a visit to Holkham Hall in Norfolk. Several members attended the Essex County Annual Meeting in Colchester where we were entertained by showbiz vicar, the Reverend Richard Coles, and an Abba tribute band. Our annual 3-day walking trip is still very popular and is now in its 9th year.

Our Group Meeting was hosted by Stansted WI. The speaker was Peter Lawrence, an ex-policeman who spoke about his experiences in the Metropolitan Police during the 60s/70s/80s. We were responsible for 'entertainment' and performed a sketch entitled 'We are not the Calendar Girls' which was very well received!

Both Essex Federation of Women's Institutes and Denman College hold many classes and demonstrations, for which we award an annual Bursary. One of our members, Pat Pratley, is the Denman Ambassador and organises a well-attended annual taster weekend at Denman. There are many cookery and craft courses on offer, as well as courses on history, gardening, creative writing and photography.

We were recently very pleased to have found and retrieved the WI Rose Bowl, which will now be used for the monthly President's flowers.

Jane Tresadern, Secretary

Footpaths – Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

We have received a few complaints this year regarding some of the footpaths and bridleways. These issues have been raised with the appropriate landowners and farmers. Some of the fields are now being worked right up to the edges leaving no grassy border. This is in order to maximise the efficiency of the farming. However, it does mean that in some locations, where walkers may have taken an unofficial route around the side of a field, to avoid using a muddy cross-field footpath, this is no longer possible. It is therefore even more important that these cross field footpaths are kept clearly marked and flattened to a satisfactory level.

Some of the bridleways, especially on the eastern side of the village, get very churned up over the winter months, with the frequent use of quad bikes by farm workers. Complaints have been made by walkers, runners and cyclists about this. These comments have been passed on and the landowner has spoken with the farm workers to ask them to vary their routes, so as not to keep churning up the same patches of ground.

Otherwise, hopefully people are still enjoying getting out and about on our beautiful village paths. Please stick to the official footpaths and bridleways. Maps of these can be emailed to anyone who is unsure of them.

Katrina Hardy May 2019

Manuden & Berden History Society – Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

2018 saw us continuing and completing the commemoration of the centenary of the end of WW1.

April – “WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?” Janice Sharpe of the SW Family History Society gave a talk to help us with Genealogy for WW1 Ancestors. The class was free and took place in Bury Barn,.

May - History Walks around the Village for residents – in aid of the Church Roof Fund.

31 May - War Memorial cleaned/restored, a tree was removed and the ground reseeded.

Sunday 30 September The Re-Dedication of Manuden WW1 Memorial Service, by Rev. Paddy Cable followed by refreshments in church. Over 40 people attended.

11 NOVEMBER 2018 - WW1 EXHIBITION IN MVCC attended by over 100 people.

14 November in support of the WW1 programme and in conjunction with the Manuden WI – we invited a speaker to give a talk on the Emancipation of Women during WW1.

24 Novemer again as part of the WW1 programme and in conjunction with Manuden Musical Mayhem we screened the Film **War Horse** in MVCC on the new cinema screen.

Pre-film talk by Matt Burgess – in West End Production.

The programme of events concluded with a meal out at Yew Tree On **31 Jan** 2019 for those who had helped us throughout the project.

Huge thanks to John Archer and Parish Council for all their support throughout the WW1 project

Fiona Bengtsen

Manuden Open Gardens

I am pleased to report that the Open Gardens for 2018 was a great success we had in excess of 250 visitors, an amazing sunny day and made over £1800! You may remember last summer’s scorching hot weather and despite the harsh conditions everyone appreciated the lovely gardens. We are having a rest this year but hope to be back with even more gardens in 2020!

It is worth reiterating that the money made benefited MVCC, Guides and Brownies, Cricket Club, Friendship Club, Messy Church and Manuden School PTFA.

Richard Dale-Cooke

Manuden Musical Mayhem

We have had two sing-a-longs since last year’s report- ‘Chitty Chitty Bang Bang’ and ‘The Greatest Showman’! The Mayhem juggernaut continues and the draw of Barnum proved a sell out! The proceeds from these have purchased a new cinema screen for the MVCC. We have also supported the History Society with their presentation of ‘War Horse’. We now have a new dvd player and the funds for a new projector. The next two events are being planned, one for 12th October ‘Mamma Mia 2 Here we go again’! The following sing-a-long date is the 29th February 2020 with the film to be announced!

In the meantime we have launched a film show evening. We showed ‘Les Misérables’ and were pleased that about forty people attended and we also made a small profit to go towards the projector. Following this success we are launching ‘Friday Night is Film Night’ in Manuden! We plan to show an operetta, ‘The

Merry Widow', on 27th September and then, to commemorate Remembrance weekend, we plan to show 'Dunkirk'! The large (4 meter) screen really shows off these epic films to the best of effect! All suggestions for future presentations are welcome!

Just for information we have had six sing-a-longs. So far the total raised has been £9159.98. We have given away over £5,000 to good causes and spent over £3,500 on benches equipment etc! Since the last AGM income has been over £4,750!

Richard Dale-Cooke

Manuden Cricket Club – Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

MCC 2018/19

The Manuden Cricket Club had an enjoyable season in 2018 – giving opportunities to young and old to play on the lovely ground next to the MVCC, winning more than we lost and consistently providing the best teas on the circuit. Numbers were tighter than in recent times, however, and so we are always on the lookout for new players (13+) to join in the fun. The season is already underway with a narrow loss against Thorley in a match played in great spirit with both sides fielding a number of juniors.

Phil Houltt

Manuden 10K – Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

The Manuden Fun Run was another success in 2018 – the day was bright and sunny, but not too hot for runners.

Numbers were slightly down on the previous year, possibly due to the popularity of the free Park Runs, one of which takes place in Bishops Stortford.

Despite the lower numbers, we still raised £2,400 and are extremely grateful to our sponsors – Gigaclear, Koru Gym, LA Fitness, Harlow Garden Services and City & County.

Money raised was donated to Pancreatic Cancer UK in memory of Maggie Archer and also the following village organisations, who all provide helpers on the day - Guides, Brownies, Owlets, Friendship Club, WI, Cricket Club, School PFA & PCC.

Many thanks to all our supporters and helpers

The run will take place this year on Sunday 6th October 2019, starting at 11am. As always, there will be 10k, 5k and 1k runs and entries are now open at: www.manuden.org.uk/funrun.asp. This year we will be raising money for St Clare's hospice and all the village organisations and we are pleased to announce that we already have one sponsor for 2019 – Russell Properties Estate Agents

To carry on making this event the success it has become over the last decade we need sponsors for 2019, so if you are able to help us, or know anyone who might be interested, please get in touch at funrun@manuden.org.uk Sponsors get coverage on all our publicity materials, including flyers and emails which are sent to all past runners, local gyms, local running clubs, schools etc. They also feature on our website for the whole year.

We also need lots of runners, so please put the date in your diaries and tell your friends and families.

We are also keen to attract a few more individuals to help out on the day – please let us know if you are able to help with setting up, clearing away, registration or marshalling by emailing

funrun@manuden.org.uk

Pauline Burnard

Badminton Club – Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

The badminton club has now met (Roger tells us!) for over 3 years and we continue to enjoy our Wednesday mixed doubles games at the MVCC between 7 and 8.30.

We have about 12 active members and we usually get a good few games of doubles in on the night. Abilities are such that we welcome any new members in the knowledge that they will not be out of their depth, as long as they have played a little in the past. So do come along and have a go with us on a Wednesday, even if “it’s been a while”!! We do occasionally hit the pub too for a social and as a well-earned break from our gruelling training schedule (ha ha!).

Do contact us via Chris at the MVCC if you want to give us a try.

info@mvcc.manuden.org.uk

Adam Wilder

Short Mat Bowls Club – Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

Manuden Short Mat Bowls Club is now in its fourth year and members continue to enjoy playing on Tuesday mornings at the MVCC. The session runs from 10.00 until 12.45 and anyone interested in joining would be very welcome to come along for a free session to find out how enjoyable the game is. No experience of the game is needed and you do not need to bring bowling woods as we have spares available for visitors.

During the past twelve months members have had a very enjoyable visit to Southwold and we are hoping to be able to arrange a similar outing this summer. We have also enjoyed club lunches at various pubs during the year, but our Christmas lunch at the Yew Tree was so successful that we have recently been there again as we are keen to support our local pub. We have supported other village activities by providing a royal wedding themed floral display for the Village Picnic and also a decorated Christmas tree for the Tree Festival held in the church.

Manuden Scarecrow Trail

2018 saw the 4th Manuden Scarecrow Trail. We were incredibly lucky with the weather, having 3 glorious days of sunshine. Overall we sold a record 1030 maps and raised £5500, which was shared between the Sick Children’s Trust and local causes. A big thank you to everyone in the village who helped bake cakes, make scarecrows, manned the stand and came and participated in the trail.

The trail returns again this year on the 31st May to the 2nd June with the theme of ‘Best of British’.

Hanna Barraclough

Valks! – Report to the Annual Parish Meeting

Valks! launched in October 2018 as a weekly walking group. It was set up in memory of the Pratley's beloved English Springer Spaniel, Vinni, who sadly died in July 2018. Valks! aims to contribute to the maintenance of the public footpaths and to promote physical and mental fitness through:

- walking;
- a shared gratitude for our countryside; and
- creating a community.

Meeting in the Churchyard at 7.30am each Friday, we have a brisk one-hour Valk! before starting our day. We cover about 3-5k around the surrounding footpaths, with many villagers discovering areas of the village they have not visited before. Walkers are encouraged to suggest and share routes that they would like to Valk! so that everyone is actively involved in the group.

Since its launch, Valks! has had approximately 25 different attendees, with a usual weekly turn out of between 6 and 9 Walkers from Manuden. And we mustn't forget the lovely dogs; Drummer, Dougie, Jackdaw and Tilly being the most regular canine Walkers!

Walkers have reported that being a Walker has benefited them through sometimes difficult times. Therefore, our hope for the future is that Valks! continues to bring benefits to its members and is therefore consistently well attended.

All are welcome so please spread the word and join us! There is no need to commit but if you want to make contact or find out more I'm available on 07958464777 or vikki@skylark.life

Vikki Pratley May 2019

Appendix – Financial Report

See below:-

MANUDEN PARISH COUNCIL

Receipts and Payments Accounts for the year ended 31st. March 2019

		£	£
Opening balance c/f 31/03/18			11,096.26
Receipts year ended 31/03/19			12,807.82
Precept	£	9,020.00	
Village of the Year award	£	150.00	
VAT reclaimed	£	1,820.21	
Parish news	£	500.00	
New Homes Bonus	£	500.00	
	£	-	
Loans and donations from Parish Council Sub Committees			
War Memorial refund	£	211.48	
Manuden Fun Run (repayment of invoices paid)	£	474.98	
Christmas party refund	£	130.00	
Bank Interest	£	1.15	
Total Receipts		£ 12,807.82	
			£ 23,904.08
Payments year ended 31/03/19			
Administration Expenses			
Insurance	£	332.14	
Grass Cutting Carter's Hill & Play Area	£	780.00	
Extra copies of Parish News	£	109.50	
Defibrillator Battery	£	235.00	
UDC C/A Green Waste Skip	£	1,122.00	
Village Christmas Party	£	887.99	
Playground Inspection	£	113.40	
Transfer to petty Cash	£	125.00	
Manuden Church grass cutting	£	2,586.00	
Printing costs of leaflets	£	36.00	
Refreshment costs	£	119.79	
Hire of Community Centre	£	356.00	
APM refreshments	£	94.97	
Village Picnic flower display	£	35.00	
Web Hosting	£	73.26	
Affiliation Fees			
Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC)	£	200.32	
Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE)	£	36.00	
Rural Community Council of Essex (RCCE)	£	72.60	
Friends of Historic Essex	£	12.00	
Payments on behalf of Parish Council Sub Committees			
Manuden Fun Run	£	569.98	
EALC Training			
Councillor Training	£	196.80	
First Aid Course	£	175.00	
War Memorial			
	£	-	
Clerk's Salary			
C Bartram	£	2,800.00	
HMSC PAYE	£	700.00	
Donations			
Air Ambulance	£	300.00	
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	£	50.00	
St Johns Ambulance for Fun Run	£	418.56	

Total Payments		£	<u>12,537.31</u>
Balance at 31/03/18		£	11,366.77
Bank Reconciliation	31st March 2019		
Lloyds TSB			
	Treasurer's Account	£	9,075.90
	Business Account	£	2,290.87
	Closing Balance	£	11,366.77