

# Coopersale Chronicle

Spring 2024 Volume 4, Number 1



## Get involved in our upcoming events

What?	When?	Where?	Who?
<b>Easter Egg Hunt</b> An ever-popular event organised by St Alban the Martyr Church. Solve clues, do some crafts, and get a free Easter egg.	Saturday 30 March, 12:00-14:30	St Alban the Martyr Church	Suitable for families
<b>Litter pick</b> Help us to keep our village and forest tidy. Bags and pickers provided, bring your own gloves.	Saturday 6 April, 10:00 Saturday 1 June, 10:00 Saturday 3 August, 10:00 (first Saturday, every other month)	Meet in the piazza	Suitable for everyone
<b>Coopersale Community AGM / Cheese and Wine evening</b> Stand for office and/or elect our new committee. Cheese and wine will be served (as well as soft drinks).	Friday 19 April, 19:30	Institute Hall	Suitable for adults and older children (13+)
<b>Quiz night and raffle</b> Get your team together and pit your wits against your neighbours. Bring your own food and drink. £5 per person, teams up to 8 people	Friday 7 June, doors open at 19:00 for a 19:30 start.	Institute Hall	Suitable for adults and older children (13+)
<b>Scarecrow Festival</b> We are making a change this year and holding the festival throughout the whole month of August. We will hold a 'making' day at some point nearer the time, so please keep your eye out in future editions of the Coopersale Chronicle, our website and Facebook page.	August	In gardens around Coopersale	Suitable for all ages

Check out our website ([www.coopersalecommunity.co.uk](http://www.coopersalecommunity.co.uk)) and Facebook group (Coopersale Community) for more news and local information.

The next edition of the 'Coopersale Chronicle' will be in summer 2024.

Email us your news and contributions: [coopersalecommunity@gmail.com](mailto:coopersalecommunity@gmail.com)

## Coopersale Cricket Club and the Aviva Community Broker Fund

We announced in October that Coopersale Community, in partnership with Coopersale Cricket Club and nominated by W B Baxter Insurance Brokers, was successfully awarded £10,000 to use towards making improvements to the cricket clubhouse. Due to forthcoming changes in the governance of Coopersale Cricket Club, we will unfortunately not be able to execute the scheme within the given timeframe.

The purpose of the funding was to connect more people with nature to inspire environmental action. Our aim is for more people in Coopersale to have a sense of ownership over our communal green spaces. This is something we remain very much committed to making happen.

Over the next few weeks, we are working hard to create an alternative project plan, which we will present to the funders. We will announce the outcome of this as soon as we know.

We continue to value our relationship with Coopersale Cricket Club. We continue to be supportive of all and any initiatives to retain the cricket field for the benefit of us all and for future generations.

## Essex Wildlife Trust: Gernon Bushes Nature Reserve

If you have visited the Gernon Bushes Nature Reserve recently, you may have noticed volunteers from the Essex Wildlife Trust tending the hornbeam trees, using a traditional and sustainable method of forest management. They advise that the technique is essential to benefit the greater diversity of wildlife species. As more sunlight reaches the ground, woodland plants and flowers will be able to grow, encouraging insects which then provide food for bats, birds, and small mammals. The cut wood left on site is used as a deadwood habitat by fungi and invertebrates. The 'dead hedges' around the trees will reduce the amount of damage done by deer which eat the emerging saplings and flowers.

Some people in the village disagree with this method of forest management. Some of the volunteers have been verbally abused whilst going about their work. This is unacceptable. The work they are doing will ensure our ancient woodland remains filled with the rare marsh plants and flowers that make it a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

Some of our committee members recently met with Essex Wildlife Trust staff. We are keen to work more closely together to foster a better understanding and information about the nature reserve. Watch this space.

## Speeding through Coopersale

Local Councillors have been contacted regarding a recent accident when a parked car was hit by a speeding vehicle and dragged along Coopersale Common. We are incredibly lucky that no-one was hurt in this incident. This demonstrates the importance of keeping pressure on our elected representatives about introducing measures to stop vehicles speeding through our village.

## Coopersale Community AGM

We are truly fortunate to have an excellent group of people who volunteer as Committee Members and help to plan/ run village events and make improvements around Coopersale. We are always looking for more people to join us. Please come along to our AGM on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April to hear what we have done in the last year and what we are planning for this year. If you want to be part of the Committee, that would be great. Regardless, join us for cheese and wine and let us know how we can continue to work towards making Coopersale an even better place to live.

