



Great Totham Parish Magazine

sent to every home in Great Totham
November 2020

Remembrance Sunday

8th November

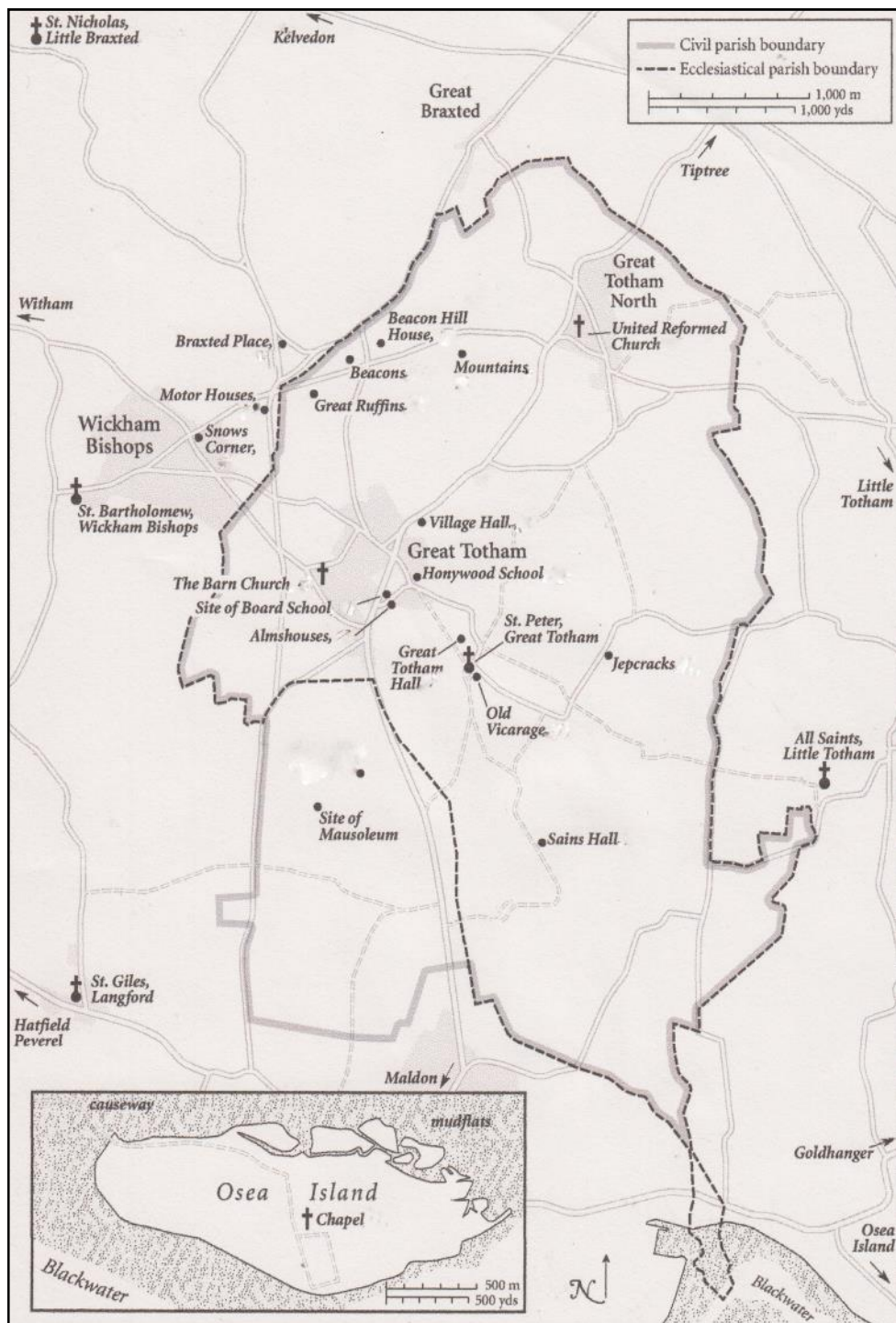
10:50 am Service of Remembrance

St Peter's Church, Great Totham

Please register if you would like to attend
by contacting Karin Mann on
01621 891215



Inside this Edition - Harvest Celebrations
News from Maldon CAB



St Peter's Church Contact Details



Blackwater
Benefice



Blackwater
Benefice

Parish Contacts:

Priest in Charge

Rev. Tracey Caswell

07742 999633

Email: revtlcaswell@gmail.com



Associate Priest

Rev. Sue Godsmark

01621 891513

Email : suegodsmark@aol.com



If you are unable to contact the Priest or Associate Priest please speak to the Churchwarden:

Churchwarden

Karen Tarpey: 01621 892122

Services

Details of services can be found on page 6.

Baptisms

For enquiries about baptisms, please contact Rev'd Sue Godsmark.

Magazine:

Enquiries: Helen Mutton: 01621 891067

Adverts: Pauline Stebbing: 01621 892059

Email: parishmagazinetotham@yahoo.co.uk

Website:

www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6657



Ministry Team Message

What does Advent mean to you?

“Advent??” I hear you cry. “But it’s only November!” In the modern Church, Advent starts on the fourth Sunday before Christmas. This year, 29th November, it barely even makes it into November! If you go by the children’s Advent Calendars you would think Advent started on 1st December, when they open the first door and these days munch on chocolate. (There was no chocolate in my day, not that I’m jealous of course!) But for me, Advent starts on the evening of 15th November, because I follow Celtic Advent.

So again I ask you, what does Advent mean to you? Or perhaps I should ask what *did* it mean in a pre-Covid world? What did Advent look like for you last year?

Does Advent mean a flurry of shopping, buy, buy, buy – food, alcohol, presents? Fighting your way through the hordes and coming home exhausted? No social distancing last year! Does it mean wracking up a huge credit card bill and ignoring the implications until January? Does it mean putting up your Christmas decorations, buying a tree, ensuring the presents beneath it are in perfectly coordinated wrapping so as to complete the picture? For many of us it means working out who we’re going to spend Christmas Day with, and Boxing Day, and New Year’s Eve.

Then there’s the work Christmas “do” and over-excited children begging visits to Santa’s Grotto. Perhaps a party or two? The race to submit annual leave requests before anyone else to ensure you get the time off that you want!

Hopefully, somewhere in all that bustle, excitement and stress, there might even be a church service thrown in for good measure. A precious hour to remind ourselves of the real reason for the season – the Carol Service, Christingle, Midnight Mass.

As a Priest, I would love to tell you that I spend Advent fasting and praying and generally being holy. Sadly I am a Priest in the 21st century and my Advent includes many of the things I have detailed above! That is precisely why I have adopted the practice of Celtic Advent.

In ancient Britain and Ireland, the Celtic Christians observed three periods of 40 days during the course of the year when they would fast, and especially devote themselves to deepening their relationship with God. The period we are more familiar with is Lent, the 40 days leading up to Easter, when traditionally people give something up as an act of penance. This would be followed by a further 40 days beginning at Pentecost. Then the Celts would observe another 40 days at Advent, which is why Celtic Advent begins on 15th November, 40 days before Christmas Day.

/continued on page 5

Church News

/continued from page 4

By starting that bit earlier, I get at least a couple of weeks of “normal life” before the madness of December begins. I have more opportunity to pause, to reflect on what Christmas really means, to remind myself that we are in the run up to perhaps the most extraordinary event in history. The moment when God, a being whom we cannot begin to imagine, whose very existence we struggle to grasp, chose to come down to earth to live amongst us as a human being. Chose to experience life as we know it, with all its difficulties its emotions, its trials and its joys.

One of the things I find helpful during Advent is to read a devotional book. It helps to keep me focused and to prepare for the coming of Jesus. If you would like to experience Advent with the Celtic Christians, I would recommend a book called “Celtic Advent; 40 Days of Devotions to Christmas” by David Cole. Alternatively, if you would like something which is not specifically Celtic in flavour, then I would recommend “Watch For The Light; Readings for Advent and Christmas” which includes contributions from many well respected Christian writers, such as CS Lewis, Philip Yancey, Henri Nouwen, Thomas Merton and Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

I would also commend to you, not just for Advent but all through the year, an excellent website called Godspacelight, which has wonderful resources for the different seasons of the year, including Advent, and also offers a daily blog.

This year, who knows how much of our “normal” Christmas preparations and festivities will be possible, but perhaps we can fill the gaps with a little more prayer, a little more reflection and a little more time with God. I pray that God will bless you richly in the weeks to come.

Revd Tracey Caswell



Maldon Food Pantry at Elim Church, Maldon

Many thanks for your generous gifts for the food bank received and blessed at St Peter's Church Harvest Festival celebration. Our car was fully loaded and the produce gratefully received on behalf of those in need.

Sandra Smith



In your prayers at home this month, please include:

Our 'Friendship Church' - Bragernes Kirke, Drammen, Norway;
Adam, Keith, Mick, John, Pat, Sylvia, Dennis, Laura and David.

Church News

Online Worship at St Peter's Church

Rev. Tracey and others within the Blackwater Benefice are regularly broadcasting 'Morning Prayer' on our Facebook page. Follow the link from our website under the heading 'Morning Prayer for Today':

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6657/>



<https://www.facebook.com/StPetersChurchGreatTotham/>

North Blackwater Parishes have produced pages specifically for young children, found by downloading their page on our website.

In addition, the Church of England is providing a 'Daily Hope' line which offers music, prayers and reflections, as well as full worship services, at the end of a telephone line. This may be found at:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-parishes/daily-hope-phone-line>

Services at St Peter's Church, Great Totham

Please let Karin Mann know if you are planning to attend services, particularly Remembrance Sunday, by phoning her on 891215.

For details of Evensong contact Rev Sue on 891513.

1st November	8am	Holy Communion
All Saints and All Souls Day	10am	Morning Service of the Word
	6pm	Evensong (by Zoom)
8th November	8am	Morning Prayer
Remembrance Sunday	10.50am	Family Communion
	6pm	Evensong (by Zoom)
15th November	8am	Morning Prayer
The Second Sunday before Advent	10am	Family Communion
	6pm	Evensong (by Zoom)
22nd November	8am	Morning Prayer
Christ the King	10am	Morning Service of the Word
	6pm	Evensong (by Zoom)
29th November	8am	Morning Prayer
The First Sunday of Advent	10am	Pick and Mix
	6pm	Evensong (by Zoom)

Church News



"The Peace" at St Peter's Church

During our Communion Services at St Peter's church, at about 10.30am on Sundays, we have always shared The Peace. It's our way of sharing our certainty



of God's blessing with all our fellow worshippers, whilst keeping in mind a far wider group of people that we care about deeply. Even though we can now do this face to face, we would like to say to you (with a virtual hand shake or hug) "The Peace of the Lord be always with you."

God Bless you and your family from the whole church of St Peter's, Great Totham.

If you would like your name added to the list of those receiving this message by e-mail, please let me know: suegodsmark@aol.com

Rev. Sue

Photographs

On many occasions, photographs are taken of adults and children for the Parish Magazine, Church Website and Church Facebook page to record the life and work of the church in Great Totham. If at any time you would prefer that a photograph was neither kept nor used, please indicate this to the photographer who will delete the image.

If you are considering baptism for yourself or your children, confirmation, weddings, funeral arrangements, Holy Communion at home, or you would just like a visit, please get in touch with **Rev. Tracey Harvey, Rev. Sue Godsmark** or the **Churchwarden** (see page 3 for contact details).

200+ Club Draw Winners

September

1st Prize: Jane La Roche

2nd Prize: James Bettley

3rd Prize: Roger Clark

If you would like to join the scheme, whose proceeds benefit the church, please contact Roger Allen on 892334.

Church News

St. Peter's Church Great Totham.

The All Saints/All Souls service will be celebrated on Sunday November 1st 10.00am at St Peter's (there will be no Benefice service at Little Totham this year). If anybody would like a name of a departed to be read out or a candle lit at this service, can they please contact Karin Mann E-Mail: karinmann@hotmail.co.uk

☎ 01621 891215

Contact details

For anyone self-isolating, we would love you to chat to us between 4pm and 8pm:

Bob Tarpey	01621 892122 (after 6 o'clock)
Sheila Allen	01621 892334
Isobel Doubleday	01621 891329 (try at any reasonable time)
Mary Owers	01621 892885
Paul Smith	01621 893153
Sandra Smith	01621 893153
Janet Gleghorn	01621 892746
Philippa Hardy-King	01621 892387
Martyn Hardy-King	01621 892387
Janice Spalding	01621 892197
Sue Keyes	01621 891220
Vanessa Ellams	01621 893148
June Eaton	01621 891315
Karin Mann	01621 891215
Nick Scholey	01621 891172
Rev'd Sue Godsmark	01621 891513 (try at any reasonable time)

Church News



St Peter's Church Great Totham Annual Meeting



Delayed from April, the Annual Vestry Meeting for the Election of Churchwardens, followed by the Annual Church Meeting for the year ending December 2019 was held on Sunday, 27th September after the 10am service.

Those attending were pleased that Karen Tarpey is willing to stand as Churchwarden again this year and she was duly elected. Isobel Doubleday had decided to stand down and we thank her for her sterling work during the previous three years. Karin Mann and Mary Owers were elected as Deputy Churchwardens, together with members of the PCC and the Deanery Synod Representative.

The Churchwardens' report, presented by Karen, outlined key highlights of 2019, one being Rev Tracey's three month placement with Great and Little Totham, Goldhanger and the North Blackwater parishes. Thanks were given to Rev Sue for her leadership and support, to Rev Elspeth Bland for leading various services and to Bob Tarpey and David Barclay for taking the 8am Morning Prayer services. Many other people supported services and activities, including the Church and Community choirs, organists, bellringers, Sunday Club, those who upkeep the church, churchyard and Honywood, and others who prepare the church for services or organise service, cleaning and flower rotas.

On a sadder note 2019 was a year where we said goodbye to many friends and members of our church family, including David Barclay, Daphne Davies, Geoff Metzger, Pat Newton, Mike Owers and Brenda Phillibrown. Karen made special mention of Philippa, Martyn and Adam for their efforts in trying to pick up David's work on the accounts and the other many tasks which he undertook.

Reports describing the work of the Parochial Church Council (PCC), finances, fabric, goods and ornaments and Deanery Synod were also presented. It was noted that we were able to pay the Family Purse in full in 2019.

The meeting closed with an open discussion of general church matters.

The provisional date of the next Annual Church Meeting is Sunday, 18th April 2021.

Philippa Hardy-King

Church News

News from the Belfry

On Sunday, 20th September I rang a bell at St. Peter's Church for the first time since lockdown on Sunday, 15th March. The only bell I had rung during this intervening period was at Scripps Farm. The saying goes that once you have learnt to ride a bicycle you will never forget how to do so. I can confirm from my own experience that this also applies to bell ringing. In August 1997, I spent 18 months on secondment working in Zurich and obviously had to take a break from ringing the bells at St. Peter's.

Upon my return, my wife and I started hand bell ringing at St. Luke's Church, Tiptree. The ringing was led by Alistair and Janet Donaldson, both experienced tower bell ringers. A few years after we started hand bell ringing, they celebrated their Silver Wedding and they wished to mark their anniversary by ringing the bells at St. Mary's Church, Kelvedon. I was invited to join them for the occasion, making this the first time I had rung a church bell since returning from Zurich. The bells at St. Mary's are in fact much heavier than those at St. Peter's. I rang one of the lighter bells and found that I had not lost my touch, despite the fact that the tenor at St Mary's weighs 19.75 cwt and their treble is heavier than St. Peter's tenor bell. I then resumed ringing at Tollesbury as their practice evening was more convenient. However, when we moved to Great Totham in 2007, I put in a transfer request to ring once again at St. Peter's Church.

On Sunday, 20th September Duncan rang bell two, Janice, bell six, and I rang bell four in order to maintain social distancing. We rang the bells up and then started to ring rounds two four six and so on. It was time to ring call changes, so bell two became one, four became two, and six became three. Confused? Well I certainly was, and in fact this was more challenging than ringing on the customary six bells. Janice did her best by calling the bell changes, but I still found it incredibly hard and it took all my concentration to get it right! We were then called back into rounds and then rang the bells down. Social distancing meant that we missed Brian coming into church to say good morning and commenting on our standard of ringing as he entered the church via the extension.

I trust that you are all continuing to keep well and hopefully we will be able to ring in a more conventional fashion in the not too distant future.

Andrew Hood

Church News

Knit and Natter at the Honywood

While normal life has not been anything like “normal”, our needles have never stopped clicking away, nor have masks reduced our ability to natter!

We have amassed a large number of cot blankets, baby jackets and hats and trauma teddies. Trauma teddies bring comfort to small children when they are in hospital. Also provided are lap blankets for the elderly which provide a “home comfort” connection with life outside of hospital. Baby items bring a touch of softness and colour amongst all the essential medical “machinery”.



These have all been gratefully received by Mid Essex Charity at Broomfield Hospital.

Sandra Smith

C. HARRINGTON Fencing

All Types of Fencing &
Gates Erected

FREE ESTIMATES

Mobile: 07946 612222

Robert King

LCC UEI C&G

Landscapes

Established 1973

- * All Garden Work & Maintenance
- * Jobs Large and Small
- * Patios
- * Fencing
- * Garden Design
- * Tree Surgery
- * Driveway Construction

Phone 01621 788411
Mob. 07748 638530

01621 212671

CALL GARETH TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

MEE

MID ESSEX ELECTRICIANS

RELIABLE - CERTIFIED - INSURED

SMALL JOBS
MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS
OUTSIDE LIGHTS
FAULT FINDING
HEATING
EXTRA SOCKETS
NEWBUILDS
REWIRES

City & Guilds

NICEIC REGISTRATION NUMBER DB00120

JOE MURRELL



UPVC Doors Windows
Conservatories
Double Glazing Repairs
Fascias Soffits & Cladding

Free Quotations



Tel 01621 891716
Mobile 07814 759733

Fensa

Registered Company
10 Year Guarantee

Church News

Text for the Week: November

1st November

Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart.

Deuteronomy 6 4-6

8th November

It is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins.

Hebrews 10 10-11

15th November

Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:6

22nd November

Learn to do right, seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.

Isaiah 1:17

29th November

John to the seven churches that are in Asia. Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and Dominion for ever and ever. Amen

Revelation 1: 4-7

Bible Readings: November

1st November

All Saints and All Souls Day

Rev. 7. 9-end
1 John 3. 1-3
(Gospel) Matt 5. 1-12

8th November

Remembrance Sunday

Amos 5. 18-24
1 Thess. 4. 13-end
(Gospel) Matt. 25. 1-13

15th November

The Second Sunday before Advent

Zeph. 1. 7, 12-end
1 Thess. 5. 1-11
(Gospel) Matt. 25. 14-30

22nd November

Christ the King

Ps. 95. 1-7
Eph. 1. 15-end
(Gospel) Matt. 25. 31-end

29th November

The First Sunday of Advent

Isa. 64. 1-9
1 Cor. 1. 3-9
(Gospel) Mark 13. 24-end

HUGHES AND SON LANDSCAPES

DRIVEWAY AND PATIO PAVING
SPECIALISTS
HARD AND SOFT LANDSCAPING
BLOCK PAVING AND NATURAL
STONE
SLABS AND FENCING
REPAIRS, CLEANING AND SEALING

QUALIFIED WRITTLE COLLEGE FD /
HND
WELL ESTABLISHED LOCALLY (EST
1999)

FREE NO OBLIGATION ESTIMATES
PUBLIC LIABILITY -
APPROVED WASTE CARRIER

01621892789/0776207833
8
BASED IN GREAT TOTHAM

ACCOUNTANT & TAX CONSULTANT

Small Businesses
& Family Company Accounts

Self Assessment Tax Returns

Exceptional Service

Pleased to Visit

Call : JONATHAN R CLARK , FCCA

**CHARTERED CERTIFIED
ACCOUNTANT**

Tel : 01621- 892324

Great Totham Garage ***2 Hall Road, Great Totham,*** ***Maldon, Essex, CM9 8NN***

A family run business for over 40
years, providing all aspects of
vehicle repair and maintenance.

Providing free local collection &
delivery. Courtesy car on request.



SERVICING



MOT



DIAGNOSTICS

PROUD MEMBER OF "GOOD
GARAGE SCHEME.CO.UK" WITH
AN OVER 99%
RECOMMENDATION.

MOT TESTS £45
TELEPHONE: 01621 891264

B P A Kennedy Plumbing and Heating Engineer

Gas and oil boiler servicing/repair
New boilers

Central heating up grades/repair
New radiators

Desludging available

New bathrooms

Ball valves etc

Telephone :

Home 01621 890039

Mobile 07879 643583

mobile 07879

643583



Gas



Oil

PC MISBEHAVING?

Get your PC problems fixed!

PC Care for PCs and Macs

For all your problems
including

Virus removal,
performance tuning, software,
hardware & network installations
& repairs



Your local computer support

Nick Smith
01621 893290 or
07986 405838

pc.care.essex@gmail.com
www.pccareessex.co.uk



New Build, Extensions, Renovations, Alterations,

Ground works, Brickwork, Roofing,
Plastering, Carpentry, Joinery,
Decorating, Electrical and
Plumbing works undertaken.

All tailored to suit your requirements.

Qualified within The Chartered Institute of Building. CSCS Registered.



R.A. LEE

Builders and Contractors Ltd.

...Built on Quality.

Tel/Fax: 01621 892503
Mobile: 07974 256348
Email: russ@ralee.co.uk



Deborah Cannom

Bespoke Painting & Decorating
Est 1995

Locally based, professionally qualified
painter and decorator with over 20
years' experience specialising in both
interior and exterior painting

Bespoke service which offers as little
disruption to your home environment
as possible



Tel: 01621 850927
Mob: 07790 337895

deborahcannom@y7mail.com

SCHOOLSERVE

Helping you to achieve your goals

Schoolserve offers individual coaching
and tutoring classes at Centre.

- 11+ Entrance Exam
- SATS and GCSE
- Special Needs
- Home Schooling
- Adult Learners

Email: enquiries@schoolserve.info

Telephone: **01376 502561**

WWW.SCHOOLSERVE.INFO

Schoolserve Ltd, Lockram Villas,
7 Collingwood Rd, Witham, Essex, CM8 2DY

WICKHAM FLOORING

OF MALDON

1 THE OLD IRONWORKS, FULLBRIDGE, MALDON, ESSEX. CM9 4LE
TEL: 01621 841300 E.MAIL: SALES@WICKHAM-FLOORING.CO.UK



OVER 40 YEARS EXPERIENCE SUPPLYING YOUR BEST QUALITY CARPETS,
VINYL,
LAMINATES AND LVT FLOORINGS USING OUR FREE ESTIMATING SERVICE,
AND EXPERIENCED FITTERS.
LARGE SHOWROOM WITH MOST MANUFACTURERS ON OFFER.
AMPLE FREE PARKING.

Church News

WORLD'S BIGGEST
COFFEE
MORNING

MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

£ **225.00**

RAISED FOR MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

The Honywood Knit and Natter ladies **espresso** their thanks to all who contributed to the **NO COFFEE** morning with this magnificent sum.

Sandra Smith



November, Saints and “an Embarrassment of Riches”

November is considered to be the last month of autumn, but also signals the beginning of winter in the northern hemisphere, as evidenced by the heating in our homes being firmly switched “on”.

Thoughts of happy Christmas celebrations are higher this year in the Christian world, as we try to come to terms with what has been a most extraordinary year for us all.

Each month of the year has at least one saint associated with it, but November has all the saints! All Saints’ Day is celebrated on 1st November in most western Christian churches in the conformist tradition.

Many churches are dedicated to a saint, often referred to as the patron saint. Some churches might have two, such as St. Peter & St. Paul. Others, perhaps not wishing to show favouritism or, feeling that there is an “embarrassment of riches”, cover their bets with All Saints.

Many of us were named after a saint, following the idea of having a “Christian” name. This practice has largely ceased and the term itself has been replaced with “first name” to allow for those of other faiths. Interestingly, male names from the Old Testament such as Noah, Jacob and Joshua, are now more popular than New Testament ones.

But what is a Saint anyway?

While we might think of a saint as a very holy, pious person, the true definition is a “saved sinner”, or better, a follower of Jesus and His teachings. It is not given to mean a perfect person, phew! In the letters of the Apostle Paul, he addresses all his readers as “saints”, from the Latin sanctus.

Paul Smith



Yoga Classes

Restore balance to your life by re-kindling the breath, mind, body connection

Classes take place 10am on Thursdays

Prances Scout Hall, Great Totham Road, Wickham Bishops CM8 3NP

Beginners to Intermediate

Please note pre-booking essential

90-minute one-to-one sessions, tailored to the individual, available on request

**Contact Karen 07903850389
yogarestores@gmail.com**

Published by the PCC of St Peter's Church, Great Totham

The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Parochial Church Council of Great Totham nor can the Church guarantee the credentials or performance of any of the advertisers within this publication. Please mention the Parish Magazine when contacting our advertisers.

Prices per edition:

Full page: £56
Half page: £28
Quarter page: £14
Small ads: £3.50

Advert Enquiries:

Pauline Stebbing
☎ 892059

SOUTHWOOD TIMBER

SUPPLIERS OF TIMBER & FENCING TO TRADE & GENERAL PUBLIC

Treated Sawn Timber, Posts & Sleepers

Machined Rounds & Half Rounds

Post & Rail, Field Gates.

Regularised Treated Timber

Fence Panels, Concrete Posts & Gravel Boards

Trellis

Purpose Made Timber Products including Sheds, Stables,

Field Shelters, Pergolas, Gazeboes, Rose Arches

and almost anything so long as its made from Timber.

Flat Pack Log Cabins & Children's Play Houses.

Logs, Coal & Kindling

Electric & Stock Fencing

Call in and see Sam or Jack

Open Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm

Saturday 8am to 1pm

Broad Street Green Road, Gt. Totham, 01621 891999

www.southwoodtimber.co.uk

Village News

The Unknown Warrior

At the west end of the nave in Westminster Abbey lies a tomb containing the body of someone who nobody knows the identity of. Often referred to as the Unknown Soldier, this is the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior. This is actually the first 'monument' that visitors to the Abbey see when they enter the Great West Door and the spot was chosen for this specific reason.

The idea for such a tomb was first mooted by army chaplain, the Reverend David Railton, in 1916. However it was not until 1920 that the decision was made to commemorate the Fallen of the Great War in this way. The idea was to take the body of an unknown soldier, sailor or airman from one of the thousands of unmarked graves in the main British battle zones in Europe.

Organised by Lord Curzon of Kedleston, six bodies were exhumed from across these sites on 7 November 1920. They were then taken to the chapel in St Pol-Sur-Ternoise in France and each covered with a Union Jack flag. The commander of the British forces in France, Brigadier General L J Wyatt, then randomly picked one and the remaining bodies were reburied. Brigadier General Wyatt performed this act alongside Lieutenant Colonel EAS Gell of the Directorate of Graves Registration and Enquiries. However, neither man knew from which battlefield the bodies had been chosen from and the Brigadier General made his choice with his eyes closed.

The selected body was placed in a coffin and taken to Boulogne. On the following day, the coffin was placed in a casket made from oak timbers taken from trees at Hampton Court Palace, with a medieval crusader's sword attached to the top. This sword had been chosen by King George V. On top of this was placed a shield with the inscription "A British Warrior who fell in the Great War 1914-1918 for King and Country". The casket was then transported by HMS Verdun to Dover, where it travelled by rail to London (interestingly in the same rail carriage that had transported the bodies Edith Cavell and Charles Fryatt), enabling it to take part in the procession on Armistice Day on 11 November 1920 to the Cenotaph. The Cenotaph itself, designed by Edwin Lutyens, was also unveiled for the first time on this date by King George V. After the two-minute silence, it was then finally interred in the tomb in Westminster Abbey.

This monument remains a poignant testimony to the men who died in the First World War.

(Note: Edith Cavell was the British nurse shot by a German firing squad for helping about 200 Allied soldiers to escape from German-occupied Belgium. Charles Fryatt was the merchant navy captain who, in 1915, attempted to ram the German submarine (U-33) with his ship, the Great Central Railway ship the SS Wrexham. He was executed by firing squad for this act of defiance).

Chris Bingham

Church News

Harvest Festival Sunday Club



On Sunday, 4th October, we welcomed children back to Sunday Club at St Peter's! Due to current restrictions, we are limited with what we can do now, but we didn't let that put us off – and the same applied to the weather!! We dressed up warm and donned our wellies for a scavenger hunt around the churchyard. seven children ranging from four to 14 in age all enjoyed exploring the grounds of the churchyard, finding conkers, acorns, a variety of leaves, stones, flowers, berries, fungi and even an old 10 pence piece! They used their senses to experience autumn. We also looked at the bug hotel which was set up by previous members of Sunday Club and

were pleased to find some bugs in residence! Everyone agreed that it was great to be outdoors in the fresh air embracing nature and the change in season.

Rosie Pollock



Church News

Harvest Celebrations at St Peter's Church

The church was beautifully decorated for our (socially distanced, of course) celebration of Harvest on Sunday, 4th October, led by Rev. Sue. Many thanks to all those who prepared for and contributed in any way to the service.



Village News

School Days

Some of us loved our time at school, others not so much, but have you ever thought what schooling used to be like? Back in the early 19th century, there was hardly any 'formal' schooling. Before 1870, elementary education was largely provided by the Church of England's National Society, although there were also some non-conformist British and Foreign School Societies. These bodies were chiefly funded by government grants which first became available from 1833.

If we look even further back in time, we see that education in the medieval period before 597 was merely done orally, but then Augustine established a church in Canterbury in 598. This was basically a school for studying religious texts (largely with the aim of becoming priests) and few of the general population actually went. Schools then became established, teaching Latin grammar to the sons of aristocracy, but it wasn't until the reign of Edward VI that "free" grammar schools started. However, these too became learning places for the priesthood. There were then various government Acts concerning education throughout the ensuing centuries, but it wasn't until 150 years ago that the UK Education Act was established, leading to schooling more as we know it today. (There are many aspects to the history of the UK school and education, including Sunday Schools, 'Ragged Schools' etc but space is limited).

Before 1870 though, the education system was very 'hit-and-miss' in this country and many children simply missed out as there was no real monitoring of education back then. In 1870, there were around 4.3 million children of primary school age, with about 1 million attending voluntary schools and 1.3 million going to state aided schools, and the rest (i.e. 2 million) having no access to any schools whatsoever. Even then education consisted merely of reading, writing and very rudimentary arithmetic.



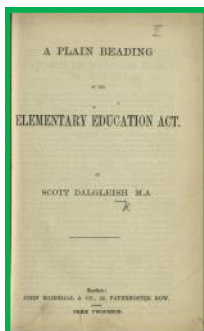
In 1870, the Elementary Education Act was introduced by the government, supported by the National Education League led by William Forster, a Liberal MP. The main aims of the NEL were to establish elementary education for all children which was free from religious control. The Education Act largely encompassed this by providing a framework for schooling of all children between the ages of 5 and 13 in England and Wales.

/continued on next page

Village News

/continued from previous page

However the introduction of the Act into law was delayed due to objections that the working poor should finance their own education.



Interestingly, the Act didn't really enforce compulsory education as all it said was that school boards could, if they wanted to, establish local byelaws forcing compulsory attendance between the ages of 5 and 13, but there had to be exemptions for any child over the age of 10 who had reached the required standard! Of course, this standard also varied from board to board and other children were also exempt if they were ill or went to work or lived too far away from a particular school. So really a lot of kids just didn't go. It wasn't until 1880 that a further Act of Parliament came in requiring compulsory education to be enforced by school boards, but even then that was only for children between the ages of 5 and 10. That said, children sent out to work from the age of 10 had to have a certificate showing that they reached the required standard of education.

A number of Education Acts have followed since, with a chief element involving leaving ages. The School Attendance Act of 1893 raised the minimum leaving age to 11. This Act was also extended to allow blind and deaf children to have a formal education and, 6 years later, it was amended to raise the minimum leaving age to 12. In 1900, education between the ages of 5 and 14 was made compulsory and, in 1902, school boards were abolished to be replaced by local education authorities. The Fisher Act in 1918 allowed for the provision of compulsory part-time education for all 14-to-18 year olds, although this Act was not implemented until a further Act in 1921 had been passed. The Butler Act of 1944 encompassed some more major changes, raising the leaving age to 15. It also introduced the 11+ exam and established the tri-partite system involving secondary modern schools, grammar schools and technical colleges. It wasn't until 1971 that the leaving age as we know it today of 16 was established. Of course, there have been many tweaks of the system since, including the establishment of comprehensive schools, the changes from 'O' Levels and CSEs to GCSEs, the introduction of diplomas, and the changes to the national curriculum. So schooling has changed a lot in the last 150 years.

Chris Bingham

Village News

Message from the District Councillor



MALDON DISTRICT COUNCIL



Five Corners junction – there will be a feasibility study conducted into improving this junction. This will take place by the end of the year, with proposals being put forward for discussion in the new year. It is good that we will get a solution for this very dangerous road junction.

The council is introducing public participation during committee meetings. To do this you will still have to submit a request through the usual way, then if your request is approved, then you will be informed how to attend and speak at a meeting. This is especially important at planning meetings.

Changes for the High Street have been proposed and are being put out to consultation. If you want to have your say on the measures, then please go to the council website. They include a one-way system and restricting the access of all cars to the High Street. I feel this may not be beneficial to the town and is likely to cause issues for the town centre.

The Local Government review to changes to local councils has now been postponed for the foreseeable future.

At the October meeting of the full council, the council approved the sanctions against the previous leader of the council. I was of course pleased that these were agreed. During the meeting and due to the way the votes were cast, it showed that the majority of the Conservatives in the council did not agree to the sanctions.

This has made me take the very difficult decision to leave the Conservative party. I will now sit as an independent Councillor at Maldon District Council. I can reassure you that I will continue to work hard for the Great Totham ward. I will ensure that you are effectively represented and that you have a strong independent voice at the council.

Please contact me at any time either by email or telephone 01621 890809 cllr.richard.siddall@maldon.gov.uk

Stay safe and well.

Richard

Village News

Great Totham in October



Photos courtesy of Vicky Heavyside

TONY POULTER



**Kitchens
Bathrooms
General Building
Plumbing
Electrics
Wall Tiling
Plastering**

Project Management

**35 Years of Experience
Friendly and Reliable Service**

Mobile: 07835 653199

Email:

tonypoulter@manxmotorcyclehire.co.uk

Morley Skips Ltd

SKIP HIRE

**Top Soil Delivered
Asbestos Removal and Disposal**

**Fast Reliable Local Service
at Competitive Prices**

Phone 01621 815287

morleyskips.co.uk

SEELEY CERAMICS

(R.J.SEELEY)

**CERAMIC WALL AND
FLOOR TILING
25 YEARS EXPERIENCE
FREE ESTIMATES
ALL FIXING
MATERIALS SUPPLIED
LOCAL AND RELIABLE
SERVICE**

TIPTREE

Tel: (01621) 816 983

Mob: 07801 700 955



Domestic Specialists

Professional, Reliable & Friendly

**Warren Bennett
07736 445923
01621 332492**



www.wlbelectricalservices.co.uk



Maypole
— HEALTH —
TAILOR-MADE THERAPIES

STOCKISTS OF

LAMBERTS®
THE PROFESSIONAL RANGE

THERAPIES COVERED INCLUDE:

Osteopathy ⑦ Cranial Osteopathy ⑦ Reflexology ⑦ Chiropody
Sports and Remedial Massage ⑦ Acupuncture and Chinese Herbs
Exercise Rehabilitation and Personal Training ⑦ Myofascial Release

Exercise Classes, Pilates, Baby Massage, Yoga all available in our fitness studio

Joanne Cole & Associates

3 The Barns, Howells Farm, Maypole Road, Maldon, Essex, CM9 4SY
01621 88 80 80 | info@maypolehealth.co.uk | www.maypolehealth.co.uk

Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/maypolehealth

wild things
PEST SOLUTIONS

DOMESTIC . COMMERCIAL. AGRICULTURAL

Your local and personal pest control service,
insured and fully qualified to deal with all your
pest problems:

- ◇ RATS
- ◇ MICE
- ◇ MOLES
- ◇ WASPS
- ◇ FLEAS
- ◇ BED BUGS



AND MUCH MORE

Call or email for free, no obligation quotes

T: 07771 356731
H: 01245 491327

info@wildthings-pestsolutions.com
wildthings-pestsolutions.com



PC Doctor
Operations Limited

**For all your computer
requirements including:**

Virus prevention, detection & removal
Broadband, Networking, Wireless & Firewall set up
Email & SPAM filtering
Hardware Repairs & Upgrades
Software Faults & Crashes
Backup Solutions & Data Recovery
Software Installation & Removal
Hardware & Software Supplied
Website Management • Computer Training



Office: 01621 891064 • Mobile: 07990 565336

Email: support@pcdocops.co.uk

Website: www.pcdocops.co.uk

Monthly subscription service available to provide complete "peace
of mind" and allow you to spread the cost of your IT requirements.

Please contact for further information.

COME AND RELAX IN OUR COMFORTABLE AND ELEGANT SALON

Aquarius
HAIR est 1999

Serving the community in
and around Wickham Bishops
since 1999

PROFESSIONAL • FRIENDLY • CARING

OPENING TIMES: TUES 9am - 5pm WEDS 9am - 2pm THURS 9am - 8pm FRI 9am - 5pm
SAT 9am - 4pm SUN & MON CLOSED

Tel: 01621 892888 • 38 THE STREET • WICKHAM BISHOPS • WITHAM • ESSEX CM9 3NN

UNISEX • FREE PARKING • LOYALTY CARDS • STUDENT DISCOUNTS

Paul Clary Painter & Decorator



- Interior & Exterior
- Painting & Decorating
- Plastering and all general renovation work
- Please call for a free estimate
- Friendly & Professional Service
- All work guaranteed



9 Wellands Close, Wickham Bishops,
Essex, CM8 3NE
Mob: 07734 869966
Tel: 01621 868355

A.G. Smith

Funeral Directors & Monumental Masons



Serving our local community since 1912

- Private chapel of rest
- Mercedes Benz hearse & limousines
- 24 hour service
- Hand crafted memorials
- Home visits by appointment
- Prepayment funeral plans



Maldon - 01621 854 293
7 Spital Road, Maldon, CM9 6DY

Southminster - 01621 774 557
Hallmark House, 44 Station Road, Southminster, CM0 7EW

agsmithfunerals.co.uk

Children's Page

Then and Now

Can you match the items used for education then and now by drawing a line from one to the other?

You may find some items have more than one thing which matches.



Sourced by June Eaton



Your Local Tree & Hedge Specialist

**All Types of Tree & Hedge Work
Fully Qualified & Insured**



Felling



Crown Lifting



Crown Thinning



Crown Reduction



Dead Wood
Removal



Pollarding



Stump Grinding



Hedge Cutting
& Reductions

Logs & Woodchip Always Available

Friendly Flexible Service

Free Quotations & Advice

Call Chris on 07753 452 085



www.wickhambishopswoodlands.co.uk

Please be aware that we may be working or operating machinery. If we are unable to answer your call immediately, please bear with us and do leave a message – we will return your call as soon as possible!

Fun Quiz

Ian Fleming's 007 Novels

As most, if not all, the Bond movies have been shown on television over the summer, I thought you may like to fill in the blanks to see if you know your "Bond, James Bond".

Also do you know the year they were written?

June Eaton

1. Dr N _ 19_8
2. C _ _ s _ n _ R _ y _ l _ 19_3
3. M _ _ n r _ k _ r 19_5
4. F _ r Y _ _ r _ y _ s _ n l y 19_0
5. Th _ S p y W h _ L _ v _ d M _ 19_2
6. Th _ M _ n W _ t h t h _ G _ l d _ n G _ n 19_5
7. L _ v _ _ n d L _ t D _ _ 195_
8. Fr _ m R _ s s _ _ , w _ t h L _ v _ 195_
9. Y _ u _ n l y L _ v _ T w _ c _ 19_4
10. _ c t _ p _ s s y 19_6
11. G _ l d f _ n g _ r 19_9
12. D _ _ m _ n d s _ r _ F _ r _ v _ r 19_6
13. Th _ L _ v _ n g D _ y l _ g h t s 196_
14. Th _ n d _ r b _ l l 196_
15. _ n H _ r M _ j _ s t y ' s S _ c r _ t S _ r v _ c _ 196_

Village News

Great Totham Parish Council Report

This month an application was made to the Secretary of State for Health that Essex be moved into high level measures in response to a worsening Covid-19 situation. Although the Parish Council was not consulted, it was provided with data used to inform the decision. Although in comparison with other areas of the country, hospital admissions and deaths are low, in recent weeks cases of infection have been doubling in Essex.

Despite all Maldon District Council and Committee meetings being suspended for the time being, the Parish Council continues to be consulted on planning applications within Great Totham, returning comments as appropriate. Councillors respond to information disseminated by the Clerk, but residents can also comment directly to Maldon District Council on its website.

Members were notified of a road traffic accident in which the village sign at Totham North was knocked over. The sign, the work of local sculptor John Doubleday, together with the plaque commemorating the deaths of two Gloster Meteorite pilots in 2002, were removed for safety.

Councillor Mrs Adams and I, suitably masked, took advantage of a sunny spell to walk around the village and follow up issues raised by residents. We were surprised by a strange wooden structure that had appeared by the memorial bus shelter at Totham South and concerned that a delivery driver, having parked outside the Post Office right on the corner of Hall Road, thought it safe to reverse onto the B1022 before driving away.

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group presented the Design Statement to the Council for approval prior to it being submitted to Maldon. It is a comprehensive and well-illustrated document, reflecting the opinions of residents as expressed in recent questionnaires. Overwhelmingly, it was felt that any new development should 'respect the landscape and character of the village in scale, pattern and material', and natural habitats should be 'maintained and enhanced'.

During the last difficult months there have been numerous examples of kindness and consideration in our community. It was, therefore, particularly disappointing to read on Totham Online of the vandalism at the Jubilee Recreation Ground. These facilities are for all to share and both the Football Club and the Council work hard to ensure this is a safe and pleasant place. [Maldon Rangers and the Police have been notified and](#) residents are asked to be vigilant. Please report any unacceptable behaviour to Cllr Atkinson or the Parish Clerk.

Finally, thank you to Paul for identifying a pothole in Prince of Wales Road. Paul also went to the trouble of explaining why potholes are so called. I investigated further and discovered that someone in London has taken to planting cyclamen in potholes on pavements, to alert pedestrians to the possibility of trip hazards. I understand some areas are quite colourful!

Vicky Heaviside

Little Mountains

FARM FRESH TURKEYS

Order your Top Quality Fresh Christmas Turkey, reared on the farm and fed on home-grown cereals, to ensure 100% traceability.



 ORDER ONLINE OR BY PHONE:

01621 891215 www.littlemountainsfarm.co.uk

Little Mountains Farm, Great Totham, Maldon, Essex CM9 8BY



Keeping the county warm



Fuel Services

Contact BFS for prompt delivery of your domestic heating oil direct from our local Danbury Fuel Services depot. You'll find no better service, no better value.

T 01245 425251 www.bfsfuelservices.uk

TMS

Roofing and Fascias

- Fascias, Soffits, Guttering & Cladding
- Flat Roofs, Best Quality Materials used - 10 year Guarantee
- Tiled and Slated Roofs
- Any repairs undertaken
- FREE ESTIMATES
- No job too small

Tel: 01621 815604

Mob: 07866 551630

KEVIN BARBER

Gas & Oil Services

Installations / Service / Breakdowns

Tel. 01621 860277 / Mob. 07889084767

E.mail / kevinbarber837@yahoo.com

Gas / Oil / Lpg. Engineer

Full central heating

Boiler changes / System updates / Radiators

Cookers / Fires / Water heaters

Landlord safety certificates

Power flushing



Gas
150084



Oil
C1483

*"Great food and staff.
Lovely place for wed-
dings and family gath-
erings or hosting any
events. Very personal
touch." Moira P*



*"Delicious Sunday Roast,
very reasonably priced
and excellent service.
Highly recommended and
will definitely be booking
lunch again." Lucie T*

FORRESTER PARK, GREAT TOTHAM YOU'RE WELCOME!

Open to all for breakfast, coffee, lunch and tea.

Food served daily 7.30am-2.30pm, roast lunch every Sunday.

Several areas for dining and socializing.

Cosy bar with woodburner open all day.

Available all year round for birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, fundraisers, meetings and more. All sizes of party welcome.

Golf, Tennis, Croquet, Swimming on site.

Call, email or drop in to find out more:

Forrester Park, Beckingham Road, Great Totham CM9 8EA

info@forrester-park.co.uk ~ www.forrester-park.co.uk

01621 891406

Heidi's Here...

With over 20 years experience of home making and of working in a caring environment.

Whether you are 25 or 95, single or part of a family, in great health or managing physical or mental health concerns.

Heidi's here to help with:

*Housework/spring cleaning *Supporting you in completing household tasks * Shopping * Preparing meals * Organising your diary *Personal care *Company & support during gentle exercise * Transport to and from appointments * Companionship

A personal service, tailored to your individual needs.

Call Heidi on 07854 156745

References available



Purple Rabbit Designs

Bespoke Design Solution

Offering design services for:

- ▶ Wedding Stationery
- ▶ T-shirt Designs
- ▶ Garden Designs
- ▶ Logos & Corporate Identities
- ▶ Flyers, Leaflets & Brochures
- ▶ Business Cards

contact@purplerabbitdesigns.com

www.purplerabbitdesigns.com



THE BELL INN



The Bell Inn is available for private events e.g. christenings & wakes.

We are open Tuesday to Sunday. We serve food every day (12-2pm Tues to Saturday and 6-9pm in the evening). Our renowned Sunday roast is served 12pm to 3.30pm.

Over 55's Menu (£4.75) is available Tuesday to Saturday lunchtime and Tuesday to Saturday evening (6pm-7pm only)

Join us for Steak Night on Tuesdays and Thursdays (£29.75)

2 x 8oz Sirloin Steaks, all the trimmings for two guests and a bottle of wine.

Sunday Roast (£11.95) with a choice from three meats or if you can't choose then opt for the Trio of meats (£14.95).

We have a Gin Bar as well as Real Ales and low/no alcohol drinks.

Pool, darts, dominoes and other table games available for your use as well as our Petanque court in the summer.



Follow us on
Facebook,
@TheBellFeering

Caroline & Keith Isaacs
The Bell Inn, The Street, Feering, Essex
CO5 9QQ – Tel: 01376 573306





SH
SIMON HOULDING
EST. 1997

CURTAINS & UPHOLSTERY

- TRADITIONAL AND MODERN UPHOLSTERY
- CURTAINS AND BLINDS
- BESPOKE FURNITURE
- CONSERVATORY BLINDS
- JACARANDA RUGS
- BESPOKE LEATHER FRENCH CLUB CHAIRS
- VOYAGE MAISON RETAILER
- FABRICS AND WALLPAPER

01621 859 484
07990 972 676

www.simonhoulding.co.uk Unit F, Stock Chase, Heybridge, Maldon, Essex CM9 4AA

R. CLARK LANDSCAPES



GARDEN CARE

18 YEARS
EXPERIENCE

PATIOS DECKING
FENCING BRICKWORK
TURFING TREE SURGERY
PERGOLAS SLEEPERS

SPRAYING - ALL TYPES
TURF MAINTENANCE - RENOVATION
(SPRING-AUTUMN)
PRUNING

TREE PLANTING
GARDEN MAINTENANCE

FULLY INSURED, FREE ESTIMATES

TEL: 01206 575102
MOB: 07914 712453

TaxAssist Accountants - Specialising in Small Businesses

- Business Accounts
- Bookkeeping, VAT & Payroll
- CIS
- Start ups
- Business Plans
- Fixed Fees agreed in advance
- Flexible Payment Methods

Call **Christina Pease** for a free initial discussion without obligation on

01621 855822

or email christinapease@taxassist.co.uk



'The Small Business Champions'
1 Ware View Terrace, Spital Road, Maldon CM9 6GD



LORKIN HEATING

Est. 1948

OIL HEATING SPECIALISTS
SERVICING
REPAIRS
BREAKDOWNS
ALSO GENERAL PLUMBING

CONTACT
BRIAN OR SIMON LORKIN
ON

01621 891336

27 HILL GREEN
GREAT TOTHAM

SM

Find us on
Facebook

TREE & LANDSCAPING SERVICES

Pruning, Topping, Reductions & Trees taken down

Hedge Cutting • Jet Washing & Sealing

Garden Tidy Ups • Garden Clearance

Fencing • Turfing • Patios & Driveways

Gravel Areas and more
Email : smtreeandlandscaping@yahoo.co.uk

01621 730376

07922 690972



Yell.com Public liability Insured - Waste Carrier Licenced - Free Quotes

☆euronics Foulkes Electrical

Foulkes Electrical is a family run, independent electrical retailer with over 30 years of experience. We stock a wide range of home entertainment and kitchen appliances.

104 High Street, Maldon

You can visit our store on Maldon High Street, order through our website, or give us a call.

free local delivery

www.foulkeselectrical.co.uk

tel: 01621 853148



DYSON SAMSUNG SMEG NEFF HOOVER LG
SONY BEKO BOSCH HOTPOINT PANASONIC

Village News

Contacting the Police

In an emergency dial 999.

For non-emergencies dial 101 extension 412335 / 01245 491491

Send non-emergency police related information/intelligence to your North Blackwater Neighbourhood Policing Team at:

<http://www.essex.police.uk/> or text 07624 80010

Maldon Police

0300 333 4444 or 101

Maldon District Council Offices

Princes Road

Maldon

Monday—Thursday:

9am—5pm

Friday:

8.30am—4.30pm

Great Totham Neighbourhood Watch

Visit Maldon District Neighbourhood Watch website for up to date local crime reports, non-urgent news and links to the police and national NHW websites: <http://www.maldondistrictnhw.co.uk/index.htm>

For Totham Hill Green, phone Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator, Ian Barratt, on 891949. Email: ianpb3@gmail.com

For local crime reports, visit <https://www.police.uk/essex/28/crime/>



Neighbourhood Plan

We have been making steady progress over recent months. The Parish Council have now endorsed the draft Neighbourhood Plan and the supporting Village Design Statement. Maldon District Council have also seen it and made very positive comments. We are about to embark on what is known as the Regulation 14 Consultation, which involves publicising the Plan to the community. The Plan will be uploaded to the internet and each household in the village will receive a letter advising you how to view it and comment. If you don't have internet access, the letter will explain how you can obtain a paper copy.

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Village News

Croquet

Passing down Beckingham Road from the main road, you may glimpse through the hedge, part of the practice ground at Forrester Park Golf Club, Great Totham. A large, closely mown area is the home of Maldon Croquet Club, where, on playing days, hoops are set out, through which the balls are hit. This is the modern equivalent of the lawns used by our Victorian forebears, although they used vicarage lawns and similar facilities at large country houses. The game became established in this country in the mid-nineteenth century, and was an extremely popular summer activity, coupled as it was with afternoon tea on the terrace after the matches.

Times have moved on and a sport enjoyed by a privileged few is now being enjoyed throughout the country by all and sundry. The version played in the village is known as 'Golf Croquet', and is played either as singles or doubles with special mallets and sets of four balls, one for each player, or two each in singles matches. The game can be likened to outdoor snooker, in that a certain amount of technical skill is combined with tactical position of balls to defend against an opponent, to enable a hoop to be 'run'. The team or player wins when seven hoops out of 13 are run, or time runs out and one side has more hoops than the other.

Maldon Croquet Club was formed in 2008 and initially played at Drapers Farm, Heybridge, but then re-located to Forrester Park. The Club has moved from strength to strength, socially and competitively. Last year, one of the Club teams won the East Anglian Croquet Federation Handicap competition. They were due to play in the National Finals representing East Anglia this year, but of course this has had to be postponed.

This year, special arrangements have been made to ensure safety of members and the community against the spread of Covid19, with pre-booked slots and no more than four players on each of two lawns. This has meant no outside groups or guests have been able to play.

In normal seasons W.I. members, Rotarians and U3A members, as well as other Clubs and Societies, have been hosted for a social get together in 'taster' sessions. Individual visitors and guests are welcome, and special arrangements have been made for disadvantaged guests and groups with medical disabilities to be accommodated by carers, with Club members showing them the ropes.

Play this year ends in October, and fingers are crossed for next year, commencing in April, for a resumption of a full normal season. Perhaps there may then be the opportunity for villagers to explore the lawns at close quarters, and enjoy gentle exercise in the outdoors with friendly and helpful like-minded individuals.

More information can be found at: maldoncroquetclub.org.uk

Neil Clark

Village News



@GTCCupdates



gttothamcricket@gmail.com



@greattothamcricket

greattothamcc.co.uk



GREAT TOTHAM CRICKET CLUB 2020 CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW

A few months ago I didn't believe we would get any cricket in 2020 however in the end it presented a real opportunity for some normality to return. Once the government and ECB gave the green light, and despite the T-Rippon and NECL Leagues not going ahead, the captains busily created a mini local league, gaining Saturday, Sunday and Colts fixtures. I was further encouraged when sheer demand dictated that we needed to frantically organise for the first time in our long history a Saturday 4th XI.

I remember the first game and just being on the playing field with the sun on my back after several months stuck at home felt very special and I had a big smile on my face throughout. The cricket that Totham played had the standard highs and lows but always in the right spirit; some would argue that just getting on the field of play was the biggest achievement. That being said the 1st team won their mini league, while the Sunday side and the junior cricket pretty much had a waiting list for players! Another major plus was the inclusion of a number of talented lady cricketers on a Saturday and we hope to launch a ladies friendly side next season, please get in touch if you are interested.

The clubs committee have been fantastic and been incredibly flexible, proactive and dedicated to getting cricket played at the opportune moment in spite of Covid. All in all the club is in rude health and with over 90 players involved this season, 2020 will be remembered a huge success.

Yours,

Richard Dickenson

Magazine Delivery

If you are one of our deliverers and are unable to assist due to holiday or illness, please contact Karen Tarpey on 892122 and we will endeavour to make other arrangements.

**SMALL WARM HALL TO HIRE IN
GREAT TOTHAM NORTH**

Suitable for meetings and small
children's parties.

For further details ☎ 819419

**LOSE ACHES AND TENSION
with the Alexander Technique
Lessons and workshops locally
www.ainb.co.uk
or ring Tricia on 07749 283963**

**Selling Your Home?
Let us do the Dirty Work!**



**Sell Your Home
with Temme English**

01621 735005 maldon@temmeenglish.co.uk

14 High Street, Maldon CM9 5PJ

www.temmeenglish.co.uk

Totham Lodge

HOME FOR THE ELDERLY

Broad Street Green Road, Great Totham, Maldon, Essex CM9 8NU

- A private care home for over 40 years.
- Set in 35 acres of private grounds.
- Permanent, respite and dementia care.
- 24hr care provided by fully trained staff.
- Traditional home cooking.



For all enquiries please telephone: 01621 891 209

Visit our website: www.tothamlodge.com

Email: tothamlodge@btconnect.com





At Maldon & District Citizens Advice, we can help you find a way forward, by giving free, confidential advice in all subject areas.

Warm Homes Energy Advice

This month we are highlighting the advice we can give about problems heating your home. With winter fast approaching, you may be worried about your energy bills or be finding it difficult to keep your home warm. We have a dedicated Warm Homes Adviser who can give you advice on the various options available. Please get in touch.

Warm Home Discount

You might be able to get £140 off your electricity bill under the Warm Home Discount Scheme if you're either:

- getting the guarantee credit part of Pension Credit;
- on a low income.

Check with your supplier to see if they offer the Warm Home Discount - not all suppliers are part of the scheme.

Energy trust fund

If you're in debt to your energy supplier, you might be able to get a grant from a charitable trust to help pay it off. British Gas and other big suppliers have their own charitable trusts. They like you to show that you have received debt advice before you apply. Debt advice can help you manage your debts and increase your chances of making a successful application. We can help you with this.

Home insulation and heating grants

You might be able to make improvements to your home - for example, adding insulation or installing a better heating system which will cut your energy bills. We can help you work out if you might be eligible for financial assistance with this.

Energy supplier switching

You'll probably save money on your gas and electricity bills by switching to a new supplier. You should start by:

- checking which type of meter you have;
- finding out if your contract has an 'exit fee' for leaving early - it's usually on your bill;
- looking at your current suppliers tariffs.

Once you've got this information we can help you get some quotes and you can

/continued on next page

Village News

/continued from previous page

see how much you could save. Citizens Advice have our own energy price comparison tool:

<https://energycompare.citizensadvice.org.uk/>

Please contact us for advice on any subject by:

- Phoning 01621 875774: leave a message and an adviser will return your call that day; or
- Emailing bureau@maldoncab.cabnet.org.uk

*Caroline Halfacre
Warm Homes Adviser*



GREAT TOTHAM NURSERY

Registered charity number 1083152

On Thursday, 3rd September, Great Totham Nursery opened their doors again, having been unable to operate due to Covid-19. Staff were delighted to welcome back children who previously attended and greet new ones! They also had a new member of staff to join their dedicated team of childcare assistants.

With Covid-19 restrictions in place, the staff have worked hard to make sure that the setting is as safe as possible. We endeavour to provide a secure and stimulating environment in which children feel confident to explore; enabling them to thrive and develop whilst learning through play.

Did you know we are a registered CHARITY?! Great Totham Nursery is a non-profit organisation and run by a committee of volunteers. Fundraising is an essential part of our role to ensure that the setting can survive. However, we are unable to host our usual events due to social distancing. It's a tricky time to be asking for financial contributions, however if you have ever considered supporting a local charity, look no further than Great Totham Nursery! We would be incredibly grateful for any kind of donation, whether it's financial or a pack of baby wipes! We rely on the support of our community (not just the parents/carers of the children) and in turn the community benefits from the nursery. We offer a high standard of childcare, provide local employment, host fun events for all to enjoy (pandemic aside!) and we hire the village hall five days a week, thereby making full use of local amenities.

For more information or any queries, please email committeechair@greattothamnursery.co.uk

Rosie Pollock



Village News

A Tribute to Rodney Lister Bass OBE 8 October 1945 – 14 July 2020

Distinguished Councillor, Freemason and Champion of Great Totham, Rodney Bass died peacefully at Five Corners, his beloved lifetime home, aged 74.

Rodney was born at the Brentwood Warescot Nursing Home on 8th October 1945. His elder sisters, Alison (who predeceased him) and Julia, were born before the war and brother Henry appeared in 1949. After a year at Great Totham Primary, Rodney went to Heathcote School in Danbury and then on to Chelmsford Edward VI Grammar. On leaving school he spent three years at Newcastle University, after which he followed in the family tradition to join Midland Bank, rising to become Chief General Manager of HSBC UK.

Henry explained to me that Rodney played cricket for Wickham Bishops for many years and in later life played the odd round of golf. He loved visiting Scotland and bought a holiday house in Aberfeldy. He was fond of cars, particularly classics, his last purchase being a 1934 Rolls Royce.

In 2010, Rodney married Margaret, who told me: "I first met Rodney in 2001, when he accompanied our niece on holiday to Italy. I had seen him before and thought he was a lovely man. Our romance blossomed over nine years, until he popped the question at Aberfeldy in 2009.

"We were married at a fairy-tale wedding at Five Corners on 14 August 2010. Indeed, during one of his many speeches, Rodney described 'three life changing events for me in 2010, In reverse order of importance: I became ECC Chairman I had dinner with the Queen, and I married my wife, Margaret.'

Our 10 years of married life were happy ones, during which time we travelled many times to Italy together. Rodney's achievements were never ending, and in 2017, he was awarded an OBE for services to local government. I was so proud of him and Rodney being Rodney, with his sharp wit during the ceremony at Buckingham Palace, even managed to make the Queen chuckle!

Sadly, in May 2019, Rodney was diagnosed with lung cancer and our world fell apart. We did, however, spend long summer days together walking and enjoying our garden and indeed, lockdown brought us much closer together. Rodney was also a marvellous step-father to Emilio and Lydia. He will be sadly missed by his dear family. Rodney passed peacefully away at the home where he lived all his life as a single, then married, man. His legacy will live on beyond his grave.

Outside of work and family life, Rodney devoted much of his time to local government. He had served on, and chaired, all three levels of local authority in Essex; the County Council (20 years), Maldon District Council (50 years) and, during lockdown, he reached his 50th year of being a member of Great Totham Parish Council. This milestone was recorded in the Parish Council minutes of Covid-19 events and actions and Rodney was pleased with this recognition.

/continued on next page

Village News

/continued from previous page

When Rodney started his service with Maldon District Council, the Great Totham big issues were siting of the new school and inadequacy of the sewage system. In 1970, he was elected onto the Parish Council and, at his first meeting on 28 May, seemed to be given a rough ride as his election address had referred to some members "having vested interests". Rodney survived with distinction for, by 1974 he was made Chairman.

Over the next three years, the Council decided on a major re-development of the Pit, later renamed the Jubilee Recreation Ground for the Silver Jubilee in 1977. Rodney's second period as Chair was from 1983 to 1986, when the Cricket Field was acquired as a planning gain for extra houses at Seagers. Extending the development limits was controversial and was decided by a parish "referendum". A third period of chairmanship started in 1992 when the Council purchased Bull Green from Essex County Council who had wanted to sell it for housing; Rodney mowed the green for the first few years after purchase.

I had personal experience of working with Rodney for 46 years; he was always helpful and supportive to all. The Parish Council usually forms a "guard of honour" at the funeral of a member or former member, but Covid-19 restrictions prevented this, so members lined part of the cortege route.

During his County and District Council work, Rodney championed his home parish at every opportunity. He was keen on improving efficiency and local decision making and not averse to courting controversy. His introduction of car park charges and barriers in Maldon during the 1970s made local headlines for weeks and is a memorable example of the former, whilst his introduction of Local Highways Panels for prioritising highway improvement an example of the latter.

On retiring from the County Council in 2017, Rodney was appointed as Honorary Alderman in recognition of his service and also awarded the OBE.

Rodney was a Freemason for many years, eventually becoming Essex Provincial Grand Master. Earlier this year, he launched a fundraising effort among the county's 300 Masonic Lodges to raise £120,000 for charities impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

Rodney embraced new electronic technology early on, so it was fitting that he was the subject of a record breaking "biggest ever Zoom tribute" when more than 8,000 freemasons took part in a solemn toast to his memory on 29 July. He was said to have transformed the image of Essex freemasonry, instilling a spirit of openness and ensuring members worked to make a difference in their communities.

Throughout his life Rodney Lister Bass most certainly made a difference in his community.

Clive Potter

Fun Quiz Answers

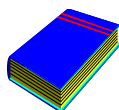
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| 1. Dr No | 1958 |
| 2. Casino Royal | 1953 |
| 3. Moonraker | 1955 |
| 4. For Your Eyes Only | 1960 |
| 5. The Spy Who Loved Me | 1962 |
| 6. The Man with the Golden Gun | 1965 |
| 7. Live and Let Die | 1954 |
| 8. From Russia, with Love | 1957 |
| 9. You Only Live Twice | 1964 |
| 10. Octopussy | 1966 |
| 11. Goldfinger | 1959 |
| 12. Diamonds are Forever | 1956 |
| 13. The Living Daylights | 1966 |
| 14. Thunderball | 1961 |
| 15. On Her Majesty's Secret Service | 1963 |



Covers created by
Purple Rabbit Designer



Rotas	Church Flowers	Church Cleaning
1 November	Sally Thake	Mrs Potter and Mrs Thake
8 November	Remembrance	-
15 November	Sue Morgan	Mr and Mrs Hardy-King
22 November	Lucy Bettley	-
29 November	Melanie Scholey	Jenny Walling
Church Kitchen Cleaning November: Karin Mann		



Wickham Bishops Library

Monday	2pm-6pm
Wednesday	2pm-6pm
Saturday	9am-1pm

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES (See page 3 for church activities)

Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers		www.girlguiding.org.uk	
Scouts, Cubs, Beavers at Prances	Brenda Heal	bjheal@btinternet.com	
Great Totham Cricket Club Colts	Paul Marks	07709 793958	
Nursery Group Village Hall	Tracey Bezant	07960 947931	
Edward Bear Club (Toddler Group)	St Peter's Church	Sue Godsmark	891513
Gardening Club	Village Hall	Fred Steptoe	891808
W.I. GT Evening 2nd Thurs. 8pm	Village Hall	Sue Pulford	892063
GT & WB last Thurs. 2pm	St.B Church Hall	Di Mellor	892247
St Peter's Lunch Club Tues.	Honywood Hall	Sheila Allen	892334
Day Centre Weds.	URC	Jean Johnstone	892293
Carpet Bowls Tue & Thur 7.30pm	Village Hall	Jean Cloughton	892286
Tollesbury Table Tennis Club	T'bury Parish Rms	Paul Freeman	862510
mobile 07855 204505, email: freemans21@hotmail.com			
Maldon Croquet Club	Forrester Park	Philippa Hardy-King	892387
Wickham Bishops Drama Club	Roger Lyons	www.wickhambishopsdrama.co.uk	
Great Totham Community Choir	Colin Heaviside	heavicol@aol.com	893067
Knit and Natter, Friday Mornings	Sandra Smith (Honywood Hall)		893153

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Honywood Hall Hire		Karin Mann	891215
St Peter's Church Extension Hire		Karin Mann	891215
Village Hall hire	Sue Pulford		892063
URC hall hire	Janet Davies		819419
St Peter's—Interment of Ashes and Iron Crosses		Chris Munton	891817
Great Totham Parish Council	Clerk: Clive Potter		891474
District Councillors	John Keyes		891388
	Richard Siddall	07979 853947 /	890809
County Councillor Mark Durham	01245 227249	mobile: 07850	967239
Great Totham Primary School			891091
Maldon District Council			854477
Maldon Citizens Advice Bureau			875774
Police Community Support Officer			101
Water			01245 491234
Electricity			0845 6014516
Frank (Drugs Helpline) (free)			0300 1236600
Childline Helpline for children			0800 1111 (free)
Maldon District Health / Wellbeing advice		emily.fallon@maldon.gov.uk	
NSPCC 24 hr helpline for children			0800 800 500 (free)
The Samaritans			116 123
DIAL UK (Disability Information & Advice Line)		www.dialuk.info	
Church of England, St. Peter's	Rev'd Sue Godsmark		891513
Totham Barn Free Evangelical Church	Elder Bob Bell		893085
United Reformed Church	Vacant		
Wickham Bishops Church	Rev'd Hilary Le Sève		892867
Maldon Methodist Church Office	Rev'd Clifford Newman		853423
Maldon Roman Catholic Church	Parish Priest - Fr.James Joseph		852259
Society of Friends (Quakers)	Clerk to the meeting - Sue Smith		854056
Salvation Army			853942
Christian Growth Centre (CGC), Maldon	Rob & Jeannie Saggs Pastors		855855



100 year anniversary

of the burial of the
Unknown Warrior
at Westminster Abbey
on 11th November 1920



Great Totham Parish Magazine is published by The Parish Church to help everyone feel part of the community, recognising people's achievements and the value of community activity, and to encourage support of local businesses.

Please contribute by sending us your good news, suggestions and details of any events and advertisements for the December/January edition by 3rd November.

Email: parishmagazinetotham@yahoo.co.uk

Disk & Paper: 17 Goat Lodge Road, Great Totham CM9 8BU.

Printed by Colt Press Ltd. Witham, Essex