



Great Totham Parish
Magazine

sent to every home in Great Totham
March 2021



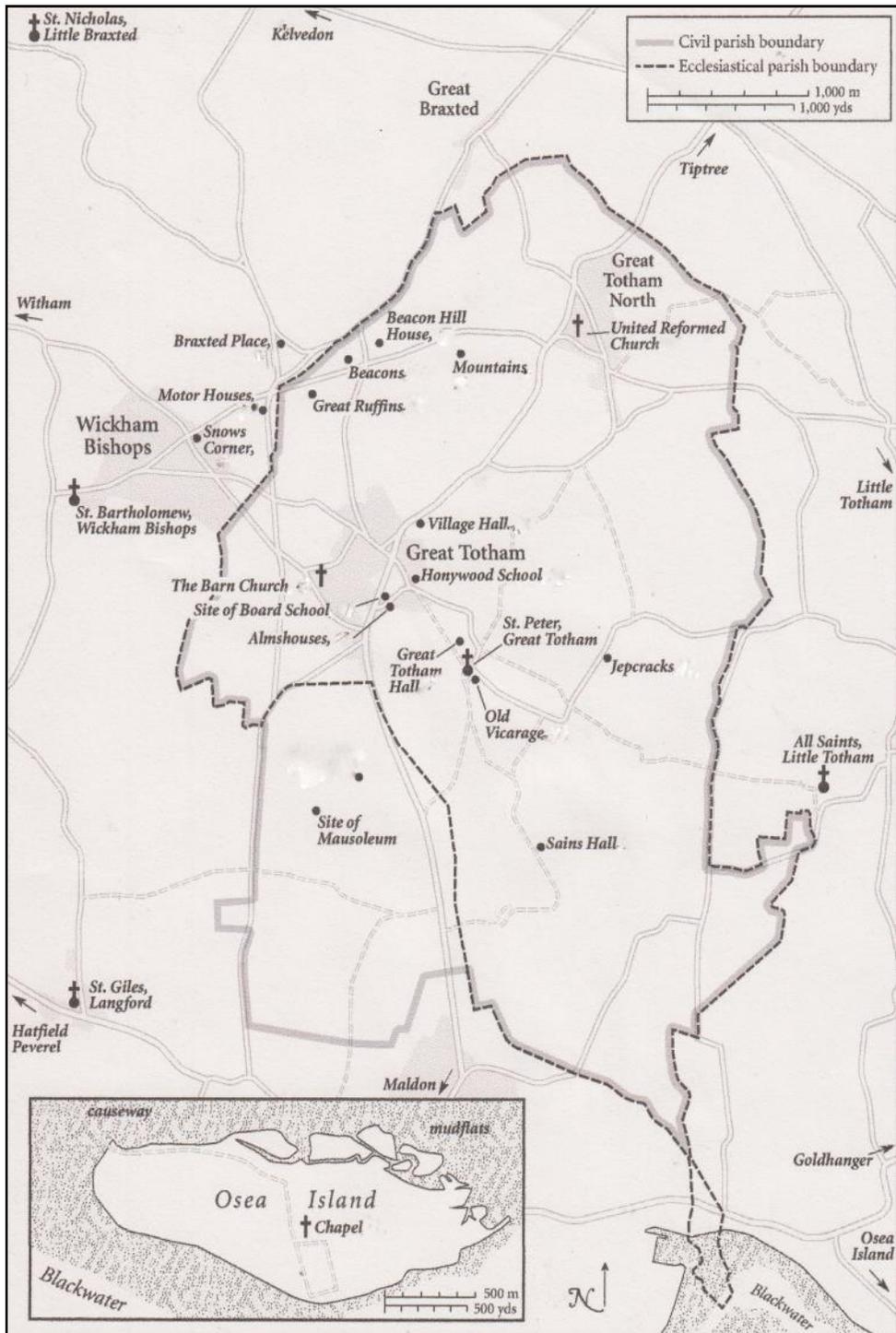
Mothers' Sunday

Sunday, 14th March

For the most up-to-date information, visit our website (details on page 3)

Inside this Edition

History of the Census
Umbrellas



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 online worship can be found on page 7.

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



Church News



Ministry Team Message



“So, do I have to give up chocolate for Lent?”

“That’s a tricky question to answer.”

“Why does the church make life so complicated?”

It’s a good question.

I like understanding things from first principles. Keeping things as simple as possible helps understanding. Then you can build on that with more complex things. The problem is that if we have limited knowledge then there can be a daunting gap between what we know and what we think needs to be understood.

Many years ago, long before the internet, I did a course about learning how to talk to people about Christianity. The concept is to ask a series of questions to help people who might be new to the church; people like wedding couples and parents wanting their baby baptised. I have no idea if I aided anyone in learning more. However, because of the simple step by step formula, it helps me to get back to first principles whenever I get confused by complexity. And, the church has had lots of barriers to understanding.

Until 1526 there was no English translation of the Bible in print and English wasn’t the normal language for services until 1549. Since then, there have been many translations aiming to get as close as possible to the original Greek texts. And that’s just the New Testament; the Old Testament was mostly written in Hebrew.

When it comes to the translations of words, the same word can mean different things to different people. As examples, a “Sidestick”, the “Primary Flight Display”, and the “Speed Brake” each mean something specific to the pilot of a large aircraft like the Airbus A320. Equally, “Left Click” and “Windows” means something to someone using a computer.

“But what does “Lent” mean?”

Lent is an Anglo-Saxon word meaning “lengthen”. It is used by the church to describe the period before Easter when the spring days begin to get longer. Both the eastern and western Christian churches observe Lent but they count the 40 days differently.

/continued on next page

Church News

/continued from previous page

These days, Christians around the world observe Lent in many ways. Those from more orthodox and traditional denominations will still strictly observe a fast, which might include abstinence of meat, fish, eggs and fats until Easter Sunday. Before Lent we traditionally use up eggs and fat on Pancake Day. Others choose to give up just one item for Lent, more commonly a 'luxury' such as chocolate, meat, or alcohol.

Or, one could explore recipes to find better vegetarian meals than one ever imagined possible. Win-win?

"So, what is the origin of the period of Lent?"

It goes back to a meeting of Christian leaders in 325AD, just under 300 years after Jesus was crucified. It was held in the town of Nicaea, in what is now north west Turkey. Until that time, there had been a wide variety of practices in the church. The purpose of the meeting was to agree a set of uniform Christian doctrines or beliefs. Since that agreement, Lent has been associated with the 40-day fast that Jesus undertook as a preparation for His ministry on earth (see Matthew chapter 4, Mark chapter 1, and Luke chapter 4).

So, there are choices that each person will make for themselves. There is no "one size fits all". If we can understand the principles behind the various traditions, then it should help us to make our own decisions.

Perhaps the question "Do I have to give up chocolate for Lent?" might be changed to "What is my way of preparing for Easter"?"

*Malcolm Holmes
St Peter's Goldhanger
Authorised Lay Preacher*

200+ Club Draw Winners

January

1st Prize: Andrew Wingate
2nd Prize: Roger Lawson
3rd Prize: Jill Butcher

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

Church News

Contact details

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

Planned Services at St Peter's Church

(check the website for latest information)

7th March	8am	Holy Communion
Third Sunday of Lent	10am	Morning Service of the Word
	6pm	Evensong (by Zoom)
14th March	8am	Morning Prayer
Fourth Sunday of Lent	10am	Family Communion
Mothering Sunday	6pm	Evensong (by Zoom)
21st March	8am	Morning Prayer
Fifth Sunday of Lent	10am	Family Communion
	6pm	Evensong (by Zoom)
28th March	8am	Morning Prayer
Palm Sunday	10am	Morning Service of the Word
	6pm	Evensong (by Zoom)

Church News



Online Worship at St Peter's Church

Rev. Tracey and others within the Blackwater Benefice are regularly broadcasting 'Morning Prayer' at 10am on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 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/>

Sunday Eucharist is available on 'YouTube' using the link on our website or direct using the 'URL' (*Uniform Resource Locator or Web address.*):



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuMHtbsdz2Enbj0TdEmE3-g/videos>

Visit the website or Facebook page for up to date information on resumption of services, or contact Rev Sue (891513), Karin Mann (891215) or Karen Tarpey (892122).

For details of Evensong by Zoom contact Rev Sue.

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>



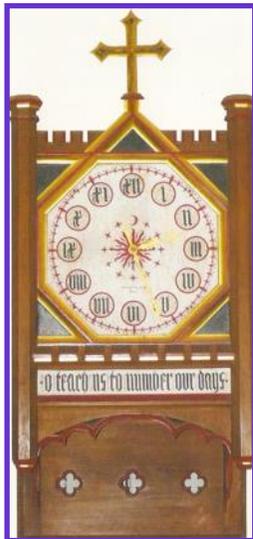
If you are considering baptism for yourself or your children, confirmation, weddings, funeral arrangements, Holy Communion at home, or you would just like a visit, please get in touch with **Rev. Tracey Harvey**, **Rev. Sue Godsmark** or the **Churchwarden** (see page 3 for contact details).

In your prayers at home this month, please include:

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

Church News

Church Clock Goes on Strike!



The church clock failure has coincided with Covid-19 lockdowns and will be repaired by Chimes of Colchester. It will have a total overhaul, be cleaned and have parts replaced as required, at a cost of £600.

The clock, by John Smith & Sons of Derby, was installed in 1884 although the original intention, funds permitting, was to have a clock in the tower. The inscription "O teach us to number our days" is from Psalm 90.

Its location in the church ensures it can be seen from both pulpit and nave, and might be considered useful to ensure sermons were kept short and to the point! It has to be wound every week, being an 8-day movement, and it is hoped our clock will be ready for when services resume.

Paul Smith

Friends of Saint Peter's

Many people, although not necessarily attending church on a regular basis, value St Peter's as an integral part of village life. A beautiful historic building, it has for centuries provided for, and responded to, local needs. Marriages and births are celebrated here and it is a place of peace for those in trouble. In normal times, it is a meeting place for clubs and venue for a variety of events, for example, the Flower Festival. The Christmas and Summer Fetes, although held more centrally at the Village Hall and Cricket Field, would not continue without the endeavours of the church community. It is important that we preserve and protect such an important asset for future generations.



The Friends of St Peter's was formed some years ago to assist with the upkeep of the church and, through the generosity of members, has raised funds to replace external doors and made a sizeable donation to the restoration of stained glass windows. The PCC is currently investigating ways in which St Peter's can be made more accessible, to those with limited mobility, an exciting project and one we would like to support.

We look forward to old Friends renewing their membership and, perhaps, new members joining us (see form on page 11) and we thank you for your continuing support.

Vicky Heaviside

Church News

Jane Elizabeth La Roche

8 September 1944 – 12 January 2021

Jane grew up in Chigwell, where she sang in the choir of St Mary's church for seven years. She also taught in the Sunday School. Jane was a very talented dressmaker and enjoyed painting and cookery.

Jane met Tony in London and they were married in 1965 and moved to Little Braxted in 1973/1974. They had two daughters.

They moved to Great Totham in the early 1980s and Jane became involved in many village and church activities. She cooked for the St Peter's Lunch Club and was on the flower rota for many years. Sadly, Tony died in 2004 just before his 60th birthday. However, Jane continued with her church activities and, in addition, took on the duties as organiser of the Great Totham branch of The Royal British Legion.

Jane's health subsequently deteriorated and she was forced to retire from some of her church and village functions, but she was always very supportive of both St Peter's Church and Great Totham village and its clubs and societies.

Jane was a true friend to me for over 40 years and was a kind and talented lady who will be sorely missed by her daughters, Amy and Sophie, and her grandson Oliver.

Pat Eaton

St Peter's Church, Great Totham

Electoral Roll 2021-2022

If you are currently on our Electoral Roll and wish to change your details, or you would like to become a new member on the Electoral Roll for this parish for 2021-2022, **please contact me to obtain an application form.**

Completed forms will need to be returned to me by 30th March.

Colin Heaviside
Electoral Roll Officer, St Peter's Church
c/o 12, Totham Hill Green, Great Totham. CM9 8DX

Email: heavicol@aol.com

Church News



Palm Sunday falls on 28th March this year and reminds us of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, marking the beginning of Holy Week.

Of over 300 Messianic prophecies in the Old Testament, this one coming from Zechariah some 600 years before, is remarkably fulfilled by Jesus and is recorded in all four Gospels. It is an annual tradition at St. Peter's church here that we process round the church singing a Gospel hymn, carrying our palm crosses. It is considered to be a joyful, celebratory event, though one that may not be able to be celebrated this year.

In the past our procession has been led by Owen, the pony from Totham Hall, which made it all the more special.

Jesus actually rode a colt of a donkey, which means a young one that would never have been ridden before. This depicts the purity of Christ The King, and compares Him to the often corrupt kings of the time, King Herod, for example.

The crowd honoured Jesus by laying down cloaks on the ground and waving palm branches in the air while shouting "Hosanna", a similar word to "Hallelujah", words expressing praise and glory.

It has been speculated that the jubilant people who shouted "hallelujah" were among those crying "crucify him" not much later, demonstrating the fickle nature of a crowd. However, a careful reading of the Gospels shows that the crowd accompanying Jesus were not the inhabitants of Jerusalem itself, although some might have joined in, of course.

As we think about the meaning of this event and Easter itself, may we catch a glimpse of its true significance and be blessed.

Paul Smith

Church News



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Signature Date

In order for us to be able to treat your membership fee and all qualifying gifts of money as Gift Aid (at no cost to you), please sign below.

Gift Aid declaration:

I/we want Friends of St. Peter's, Great Totham, to treat all donations I make from the date of this declaration, until I notify you otherwise, as Gift Aid donation.

Signature Date

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount in income tax and/or capital gains tax for each tax year that you reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I will notify you if I no longer pay an amount of income tax or capital gains tax equal to the tax you reclaim on my donations.

Please return this form to the Membership Secretary:

Colin Heaviside, 12, Totham Hill Green, Great Totham, CM9 8DX
Tel: 01621 893067

Membership fees can be paid in cash or by bank transfer to The Friends of St Peter's Church Account Number 03166198, Sort Code 20-97-40.

Please add your name as reference.

We would prefer not to receive cheques this year due to difficulties experienced with posting them.

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 892059

Church News

Text for the Week: March

7th March

You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched Land where there is no water.

Psalm 63:1

14th March

He tends his flock like a shepherd; he gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

Isaiah 40:11

21st March

The woman to be admired and praised is the woman who lives in the fear-of-God. Give her everything she deserves! Festoon her life with praises!

Proverbs 31:30

28th March

The Lord longs to be gracious to you; therefore he will rise up to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!

Isaiah 30:18

Bible Readings: March

7th March

Third Sunday of Lent

Ps. 19
1 Cor. 1. 18-25
(Gospel) John 2. 13-22

14th March

Fourth Sunday of Lent Mothering Sunday

Exod. 2. 1-10
Col. 3. 12-17
(Gospel) Luke 2. 33-35

21st March

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Jer. 31. 31-34
Heb. 5. 5-10
(Gospel) John 12. 20-33

28th March

Palm Sunday

Ps. 31. 9-16
Phil. 2. 5-11
(Gospel) Mark 14. 1-15

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.

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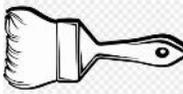


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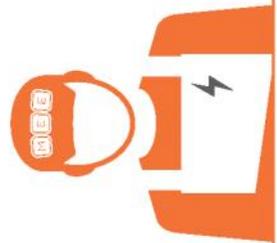
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Village News

Great Totham in February





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We will salute the sun and invite its energy to encourage growth

Rest and restore and re-set

Practice will be gentle, yet focused; self-caring and yet with awareness of purpose

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yogarestores@gmail.com**

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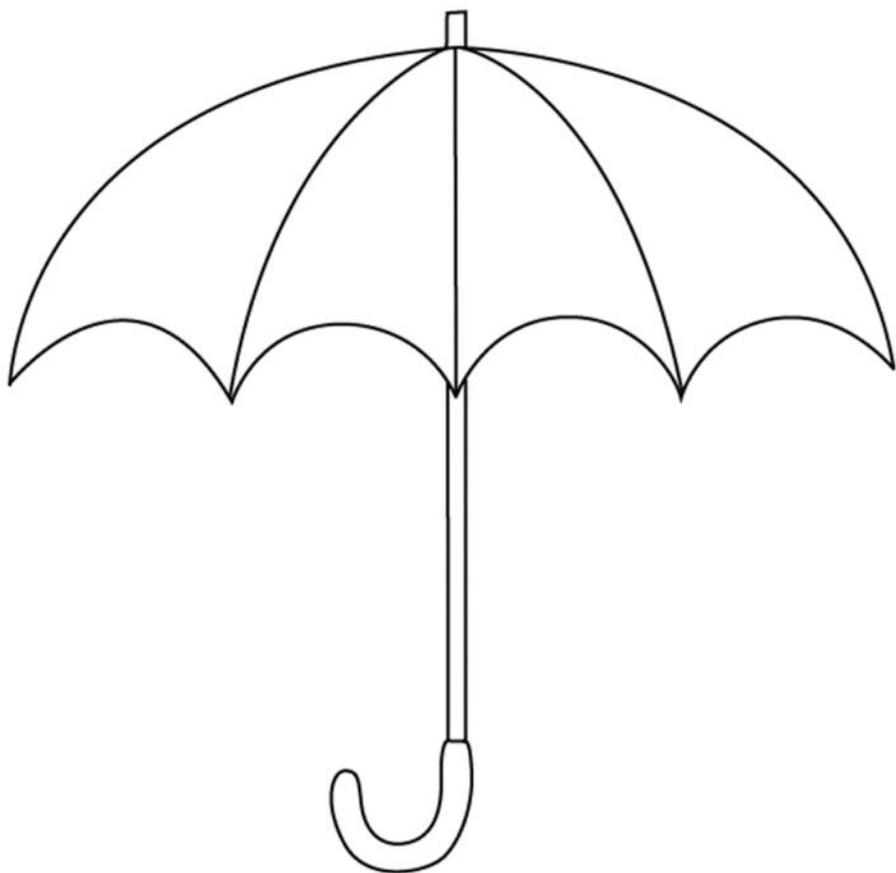
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Children's ColouringPage

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Sourced by June Eaton

POST LOCKDOWN MEETING



Words and Pictures: Keith Brooks

Pre-lockdown, the Beacon Hill Classic Car Club had a meet-up in the local pub once a month.

Post-Lockdown, back in August, Henry Bass decided he would hold a car meeting for the local classic car club in his back garden. It was well organised and the normal distancing restrictions were observed, although masks were not necessary as it was outdoors.



Weatherwise it was the perfect evening, not too hot and not too cold. A total of fifteen cars were present including my Monaro CV8. There was a varied mix of motoring history present ranging from a 1908 Model T Ford to my 2006 Monaro. In between those years there was a very nice 1930's Rolls Royce 20/25. During this period Rolls Royce just built the mechanicals up to the rolling chassis. The bodies were built by the coachbuilders of the day, such as Park Ward, Thrupp & Maberly, Mulliner, Carlton

and Hooper. I don't know the name of the coachbuilder of this car but it looks like the Hooper version.

An Austin 10 from the early 1930's was there with its chrome radiator grille. From 1933 onwards the grilles were painted body colour. A rare 1950's Daimler Conquest roadster arrived and apparently there were only forty-eight roadsters built. A 1956 split-window Morris Minor saloon re-painted in its original sage green.



The Citroen Traction Avant was in excellent condition and was a post-1952 model having its side lights mounted on the front wings. The replacement for the Traction Avant in 1955/56 was the Citroen DS and the model at the meeting was the estate version called the Safari and as this car was first registered in 1976 it was probably one of the last built as the DS was replaced by the Citroen CX in 1976.

Village News

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A late-fifties/early-sixties Mk11 Ford Zodiac Convertible 'Lowline' which seems to have been painted in a later Ford colour, Ermine White, was there. Another very nice early 1960's car, was an Austin Healey 3000 and obviously had a full restoration as they were known to rust away when they were just a few years old and this one was immaculate. A red mid-1960 Triumph TR4A was the first TR to have independent rear suspension and it replaced the TR4 in 1965. An immaculate blue third generation Mercedes SL arrived and these were built from 1971 to 1989. It was no surprise to learn that the owner of the SL had his own professional panel and paint shop. The Mk3 Spitfire was built from 1967 to 1970 and would have been fitted with the 1300cc engine. The

spitfire arrived at the meeting under its own steam but failed to start when it was time to leave. Next was a 1974/75 Reliant Scimitar. The paint work was flawless and this car was also owned by a former paint and panel shop proprietor. Last but not least was a 1993 TVR Griffith 500; these came with various options of the Rover V8 engine ranging from a 4.0 litre 240bhp to a 5.0 litre 340bhp (in 1993).

This was a great impromptu meeting in a relaxed and safe environment and I am already looking forward to the next year's meetings. Many thanks to Straight Six News for allowing us to publish this article.



Submitted by Tim Wyman

Village News

The Census and Local and Family History

21 March 2021 is Census Day. Every 10 years in the United Kingdom, a national census of households is carried out by the Government. I served as a census enumerator at a small Essex village in 1981 and remember it especially well as a dog bit me. We had to call twice at each household to deliver a form and then collect and summarise it. We can now complete it on-line.

The first census in 1801, was a basic count of houses, the people in them and their occupations, together with data on baptisms, marriages and burials. The enumerator, often an overseer of the poor or parish clerk, visited each household to collect the information. After the data was extracted and collated, almost all the forms were destroyed. The modern style of census, which included Ireland, began in 1841, requiring information, such as ages, gender, employment details, county of birth. The extract below shows the 1841 enumeration for Great Totham Vicarage, when Thomas Foote-Gower was the minister.

A handwritten census form for Great Totham Vicarage, 1841. The form is a grid with columns for names, ages, and occupations. The entries are as follows:

Name	Age	Occupation
Thomas Foote-Gower	75	Minister
Elizabeth	80	Wid.
Joseph Garwood	35	Ag. S.
Eliza Potts	35	Ag. S.
Ann Smith	35	Ag. S.

Names, ages and occupations are shown; Mrs Foote-Gower, who was of independent means and Joseph Garwood, Eliza Potts and Ann Smith, who were all servants, who 'lived in'.

The only year since then that the Census has not been conducted was in 1941 when the Second World War prevented it. In its place was a basic survey carried out in 1939. The Census informs Central and Local Government and other agencies in planning / developing community polices and services and the information required is regularly updated, for example, the 2021 Census includes a question about working from home.

In Great Totham, the population count in 1801 was 528, rising to 840 in 1851, falling to 627 in 1901 and was 2930 in the latest census in 2011. As well as organic growth, reasons for this include enclosure of the heath-land, boundary changes, improvements and mechanisation in agriculture, and the factory employment available in the towns.

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Village News

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Prince of Wales 1		William Hewton	Head	m	58	
		Elizabeth	Do	Wife	m	50
		William J.	Do	Son	29	
		Walter E.	Do	son	26	
		Jack	Do	son	9	
Do Cottage 1		Henry Edward Hewton	Head	m	26	
		Alice Maud	Do	Wife	m	26
		Eleanor J.	Daughter	f	6	
		Thomas Hammond	Boarder	f	30	

The enumerator's books remain confidential for 100 years, when they become a valuable resource for local and family historians; the 1921 books will be available early next year, whilst the 1939 Survey is available now. They are especially important in linking other sources of information, for example, the WW1 Memorial Plaque in the Parish Church shows a Walter Newton who died, but where did he live? Above is an extract from the 1901 Census Enumerators Book, showing part of the entry for the Prince of Wales Public House and the cottage which was once part of the pub. Here we find Walter living there in 1901, with Thomas Hammond next door, who took many local photographs; his entry also shows (but not here) that he was born in West Kirby on the Wirral and we were able to visit his birthplace.

So take care when filling in your census form; a relative or local history researcher may take great interest in looking at the result in 2122!

Clive Potter



The census is coming

Sunday **21 March**

it's about us
census 2021

The Most Famous Fighter Plane of them All



The sound of the Rolls-Royce Merlin engine is highly evocative to many people and its silhouette in the sky is easily recognisable. Pilots who flew the plane during the Battle of Britain and since wax lyrical about its manoeuvrability, sensitivity and performance. It is of course the **Supermarine Spitfire**.

The Spitfire is now a world-renowned name and inspires people to gaze wistfully into the sky. I well remember, a few years ago, staring in awe as eight Spitfires flew in formation over the Goodwood racetrack. I wonder, though, if people would feel quite the same way if the plane's designer, Reginald J Mitchell, had succeeded in naming it the *Shrew* or the *Scarab* as he had wanted! The name Spitfire is said to have come from Sir Robert MacLean, who was the Chairman of Vickers (Aviation) which had acquired the Supermarine Aviation Works in 1928. Sir Robert MacLean suggested the name should be Spitfire after his daughter Annie, whom he often described as a "little spitfire". This name was adopted by the Air Ministry in 1936, although not welcomed by RJ Mitchell.

The aircraft developed from Supermarine's attempts to win the Schneider Trophy. This was a prestigious air race held 11 times between 1913 and 1931 to test the speed and endurance of seaplanes since these were the future of long-distance aviation at the time. Supermarine first won the race in 1922 with an aircraft achieving an average speed of 145mph, but had then lost successive competitions to the US. The US plane used a Curtiss liquid cooled D12 engine which probably inspired the F.XI engine which was the precursor to the Merlin. Supermarine won the final 3 Schneider Trophy races with planes all designed by RJ Mitchell. These had large floats but, if removed, each successive development came to look more and more like the Spitfire. The win by Supermarine in 1929 was recorded at an average speed of 328.63mph. This directly led to the Air Ministry specifications for a new generation of fast fighters in 1930.

As ever with these things, nothing is easy, and the company struggled to replicate the earlier speed achieved as it developed a lighter aircraft. In fact, the first effort only achieved speeds of around 230mph. In 1934 both

/continued on next page

Village News

/continued from previous page

RJ Mitchell and Sydney Camm, who was developing the Hurricane at Hawker at the same time, were asked to incorporate the proposed new Rolls-Royce 12-piston Merlin engine into their designs, together with the facility for eight machine guns. After overcoming continued problems with the propeller and aerodynamics, the first prototype of the yet unnamed Spitfire flew at Eastleigh airport near Southampton on 5 March 1936, 85 years ago this month. This flight was just two days before Hitler marched into the demilitarised Rhineland in a clear contradiction of the Treaty of Versailles.

People often wonder why there were more Hurricane aircraft in the Battle of Britain than Spitfires. The simple answer is that although the Spitfire was faster (362mph compared with 328mph of the Hurricane) and was more manoeuvrable, it was also more difficult to manufacture as a result of its high technological aspects. In fact, the first orders placed for the RAF just three months after the first flight, were for 310 Spitfires, compared with 600 for the Hurricane ordered at the same time.

The first Spitfires were delivered to 19 Squadron at Duxford in August 1938. This, of course, was the Mark 1 and there were many different variants throughout its history. The Spitfire was the only fighter plane to be manufactured throughout the Second World War and beyond, with production not ceasing until 1947. By then, 20,334 Spitfires had been made, of which 18,281 were powered by the numerous versions of the Rolls-Royce Merlin engine and 2,053 were powered by the Griffon engine.

Sadly, the designer RJ Mitchell only ever saw the prototype Spitfire, as he passed away on 11 June 1937 from cancer, aged just 42. All variants of the Spitfire were designed by his replacement, Joseph Smith, and his team. Overall there were five different wing types used and, in total, 24 different Marks and sub-variants built, including the Seafire, the Royal Navy equivalent for use on aircraft carriers. More Spitfire Mk Vs were built than any other at 6,487, with the Mk IXs following at 5,656 in number. There were also a total of 2,646 Seafires built. Today, only around 60 airworthy Spitfires remain, or just 0.3% of the number produced, with around another 70 used for static displays and 110 currently held in storage or being restored.

Chris Bingham

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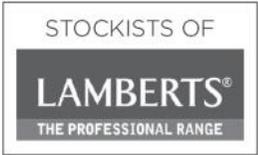
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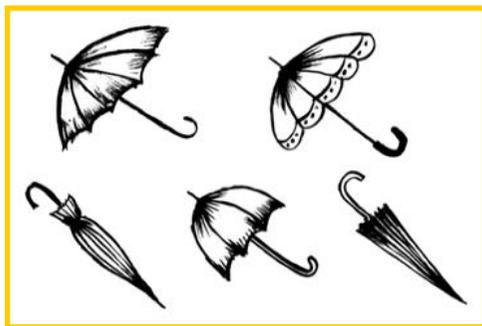
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Children's Page

March is National Umbrella Month



How would we survive one of the rainiest months in the year without the ultimate hand-held weather accessory?

Thomas Edward Knibb began celebrating March as National Umbrella Month back in 2013. As the world realised just how underrated umbrellas really are, the idea to celebrate them for an entire month started

catching on—and we've never looked back.

Activities you might like to do

Make a DIY umbrella

Raid your craft drawer for stencils, sponges, craft paint, and painter's tape. Then, go crazy creating the umbrella of your dreams. Whether you stick to sleek and sophisticated stripes or crazy, coloured polka-dots, the possibilities are endless.

Do a photoshoot

Gather a couple of your family and head outdoors to do an umbrella photoshoot. Bring along a few different styles of umbrellas to be used as props, and spend a couple of hours exercising your creativity.

Enter our competition

Using our umbrella template or drawing your own, make a poster to put in your window to cheer up your neighbours. If you send in a photo of your poster to us at

parishmagazinetotham@yahoo.co.uk

with your name, age and phone number by 12th March, you could win an Easter Egg and the pictures will be in our April Magazine.



Sourced by June Eaton



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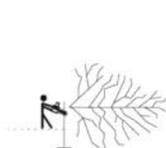


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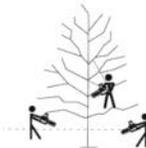
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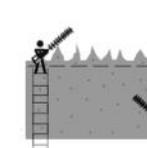
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Village News

National Umbrella Month



Here is a little fun! How many people know that March is National Umbrella Month? You can be forgiven if you didn't know as this is a relatively new thing established just 8 years



ago in 2013 by Thomas Edward Knibb.

It may seem a little surprising that March was chosen as National Umbrella Month (although Umbrella Day is on 10 February!), as most people often think of April showers. However, April is not the wettest month (on average) in the UK, nor is March for that matter. In fact, the wettest months in the UK on average are also the warmest, namely July and August. The driest periods of the year are late winter/spring (February to March) and wettest period is October to January.

So, when were umbrellas invented? We don't know, but they are thought to have been around for over 4000 years and were first used in mainland China to give protection against sun and rain. However, examples have been found globally from Ancient Egypt dating back to the 5th Dynasty around 2450 BC, and in the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlan. These, of course, were primarily parasols, which is the sun equivalent of the umbrella. The name umbrella comes from the Latin "umbella", meaning shaded or shadow, and the name is thought to have been first used for the portable rain canopy in 1610. The word "parasol" comes from French with "para", meaning to stop or to shield, and "sol" meaning sun.



Parasols were first used in Europe in Ancient Greece in around 1230-1190 BC. The first lightweight folding umbrellas as we generally know them were probably first used in 1710 in Paris. These devices were invented by a French merchant called Jean Marius. Pocket folding umbrellas did not really come into use until 1923.

How many umbrellas do you own? Apparently a household has 3.8 umbrellas on average (I guess the 0.8 of an umbrella is the broken one shoved in a cupboard!), but the number owned over a person's lifetime depends on how often that person loses one!

Chris Bingham

Village News

Great Totham Parish Council Report

February



I am sure many people are currently experiencing Covid overload, however, with the vaccination programme ongoing, the following items may be of interest.

Initially, people were asked to wait to be contacted for a vaccination, however, anyone aged 70 and over and has not yet received the vaccine but would like to, is now asked to contact the NHS to arrange an appointment. The national booking service can be accessed at www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination. Anyone unable to book online can call 119 free of charge between 7am and 11pm, seven days a week. There are also Walk in Test Centres for those without symptoms, the nearest being the West Maldon Community Centre, Colchester Leisure Centre and the Central Baptist Church in Chelmsford.

Essex County Council has secured an extra £3m from Government Covid funds to provide financial support to residents who need to self-isolate. The funds are designed to provide one-off £500 support payments to people unable to work and who do not qualify for the Government's Test and Trace support payments. To apply for either the Government or discretionary grant see <https://www.essex.gov.uk/test-and-trace-support-payment>

Subsequent to the January Parish Report, the Neighbourhood Watch representative provided me with two additional contacts for Essex Police that he had been given via the NW network. We thought four contacts rather excessive for a village of our size and, on checking, it seems that we actually only have one: candmcp@essex.police.uk. I am assured this is monitored by all the sergeants on the Community Policing Team, that they are aware of recent issues within the village and are investigating.

I was also assured by a polite young lady from Essex and Suffolk Water that a duct cover, disappearing rather haphazardly into the pavement in Chapel Road and becoming a danger, would be 'dealt with'. Less than 48 hours later, someone has obviously come to assess it and, hopefully, it will indeed be 'dealt with' in the not too distant future.

I have to confess, my dealings with Census Returns is usually limited to family research, and any in which I am personally mentioned will be under lock and key for some years. The primary purpose of the modern Census, however, is to inform decisions regarding community funding. Each year, billions of pounds are allocated to local services using Census based information. The Office for National Statistics has now announced Sunday, March 21st, 2021 as the date of the next Census. For the first time, this will be 'digital-first', although paper copies will be available for those who require them. Each household should have received a promotional postcard and information pack by 13th March.

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Village News

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Finally, may I reassure residents that Great Totham Parish Council Meetings are nothing like the one that recently gained notoriety on the net. It is important that Councillors can offer personal opinions on a variety of topics, but our discussions are conducted in a decorous manner and a consensus always agreed. Therefore, should you feel inclined to respond to the advertisement for an additional member, rest assured you would be joining a group of people dedicated to working for the benefit of the village - and not entering a bear pit!

Vicky Heaviside

Parish Council of Great Totham

PUBLIC NOTICE

Local Government Act 1972

Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) Rules 1986

CASUAL VACANCY FOR PARISH COUNCILLOR

There is a vacancy for a parish councillor on the Great Totham Parish Council which the Council are to fill by co-option of a qualified person.

Application forms and a guide to qualification are available from the Clerk to the Parish Council at the address below. General Information on the powers and duties of a parish council are also available.

Completed application forms must be returned to the same address by 5pm on 28 March 2021.

Dated this 28th day of February 2021

C R Potter
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Village News

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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/>



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'Say Hi As We Pass By'

Written by Lyndsey Phillips

Village News



MALDON DISTRICT COUNCIL

Message from the District Councillor



A new testing centre has been set up in Maldon for anyone who does not have symptoms but thinks they may be asymptomatic. You can get a lateral flow test conducted at the West Maldon Community Centre. You will need to book an appointment, but results are given in 30 minutes. For details go to:

<https://www.maldon.gov.uk/communitytesting>

If you have symptoms, please go to a Covid-19 testing site.

A new vaccination centre is being created in the district at the Leisure Centre in Burnham on Crouch. It is anticipated that it will be ready to give vaccinations at the end of February.

Residents may remember that, just over a year ago, the Council discussed raising the wharfage fees for the barges at the Hythe, which proved controversial at the time, and the fee increase was postponed. This was discussed again at the Strategy and Resources Committee and we made the decision to offer the barge owners a 50% discount in their wharfage fees for the 2021/22 year. This is to assist them through their current financial difficulties and to ensure that we support our maritime heritage as Maldon means barges. This decision will have to be voted on at full Council.

We have also started donating old IT equipment to the recycling scheme for schools. This is at an early stage, however, I am hoping that, during this year, more equipment will be donated, so that those children in Essex who are in need have access to their own technology.

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

Stay safe and well.

Richard

Village News



Great Totham Evening WI



The majority of our members were able to join us for two Zoom meetings, whilst contact has been made with those who do not have the technology to do so.

In January, we heard a talk by Danny Crates, former Paralympian, Great Totham resident, neighbour of one of our members and now a motivational speaker. Danny spoke about his life, beginning with a car accident in Australia, as a result of which he lost his arm. We followed his journey to the stage where he excelled as a Paralympian to become 800 metre world championship medal winner. One of his proudest moments was to be the British team flag bearer at Beijing in 2008. After his retirement, Danny has commentated on athletics for Channel 4 and taken part in many challenges. During the pandemic, he encouraged us to focus on the things over which we have control.

At our February meeting, we welcomed Sheila Gunson, former advisor for Essex WI. Her talk, entitled 'Me, Denman and a Bedspread', summarised her life in the WI over the past 40 years. Very early on, she took advantage of the many craft courses that were available and progressed to become a tutor at Denman College. To celebrate the Essex Federation Centenary, Sheila organised the production of a tapestry depicting a range of activities undertaken by the WI, appliqued on to an outline map of the county. The group then went on to produce a bedspread for the Essex bedroom at Denman, a mixture of quilting and pictures of Maldon, Thaxted, Harwich and Canary Wharf. After the college closed, Sheila retrieved the bedspread and brought it back to Essex, with the intention of visiting various WI branches once lockdown is over.

For more information please consult our website:

www.greattothamwi.weebly.com or email greattothamwi@gmail.com

Sue Pulford



Great Totham Neighbourhood Plan Consultation

Thank you to everyone who took the time and trouble to provide feedback on the consultation. It was particularly gratifying to read the many positive comments of support, which has helped to confirm that we have been listening to what you've told us and we are on the right track. It isn't possible to reply to everyone individually, however, many of you highlighted concerns over some of the policies or the particular wording in the documents. All your comments have been recorded and will appear in the Consultation Statement. Where appropriate, modifications to the content, wording (and spelling) will be made before the Plan moves onto the next stage.

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

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You usually need to apply to stay in the UK if you're from:

- a country in the EU, European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland.
- another country and you are the family member of someone who is from the EU, EEA or Switzerland.

You can apply for 'pre-settled status' or 'settled status' under the EU Settlement Scheme. You might also be able to apply for British citizenship, but it is a good idea to apply for pre-settled or settled status too – it's faster and it's free.

It is worth applying to stay in the UK straight away. After 30 June 2021 you might be asked to prove your right to do things like get a job or use the NHS.

Your family members might be able to apply to the scheme if you started living in the UK by 31 December 2020. It also depends on when they arrived in the UK and how they are related to you.

You usually have to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme online. There are a few situations when you must use a paper form. You don't need to be in the UK to apply.

Applications are made from: www.gov.uk

Case Study

I'm from Austria and I know I need to apply for Settled Status but I'm really confused about what documents I need in order to apply for me and my children. We've lived in England for six years and I'm worried that if we don't apply soon, we might have to leave.

You should apply as soon as you can to avoid any delays. After 30 June 2021 you might be asked to prove your right to do things like get a job or use a service like the NHS. Having your status sorted will make this more straightforward.

/continued on next page

Village News

/continued from previous page

To get settled status, you need evidence that you have lived in the UK for 6 out of every 12 months for 5 years in a row. As you say you and your children have lived in the UK for six years, you should be eligible for this.

To apply, you will need to have a few things. These include a passport or national ID card, a digital photo, your National Insurance number, or proof of how long you have lived in the UK, a mobile number and an email address. If you have been working, you can find your National Insurance number on your payslip. If not, contact HM Revenue and Customs National Insurance Helpline on 0300 200 3500 to help find it.

It may be easier to make your children's application after you've made your own. This way you will be able to 'link' your child's application to yours, using the application number you got when you applied for yourself.

You can do this at any time after you have applied - you do not need to wait for a decision. And if your own application is successful, your child will get the same status as you.

To apply on behalf of your children, you will need to have proof of your relationship - for example, a birth certificate.

You can apply online:

www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families/applying-for-settled-status

If you need any extra help with your application, your local Citizens Advice is on hand to help.

Please contact us for advice on any subject by:

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

Sally Babbage

**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**

News from Great Totham Primary School

www.greattotham.essex.sch.uk



School News

Sadly, the school has remained closed to most pupils throughout the first spring half term, but the children have still been learning and working hard at home. We have been extremely impressed with their super motivation and positive attitude.

Here are some examples of the amazing work completed by Year 6.

Year 6's Mythical Beasts

Linked to their Ancient Greece unit of work, Year 6 enjoyed researching, creating and drawing their own mythical beasts.



By Jasmine



By Calli

They were also asked to write a paragraph to describe their mythical beast.

Vile and malevolent, the Cogle departs from its rotting lair at night to hunt sleeping citizens who obey Heracles. With eyes of an eagle, seeing up to eight times the distance of a human being, the Cogle is sure to detect its worst foe, the one and only Heracles. As it slithers towards its ever growing list of enemies, not a sound can be heard. Then it glides up to their necks and disaster strikes, one bite and the poison has assassinated them. Only 1 foot tall ensures that it can hide easily without being seen before the strike happens. To call it a lethal killing machine would be an understatement for no one wants to have this beast wishing them goodnight. Sent by its master, Hera, the Cogle never disobeys. To kill Heracles is its latest command but who will be victorious?



Written by Emma H

Children's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week took place from 1st-7th February. Each year group were asked to complete activities linked to mental health and wellbeing.

Well done to Madeleine who enjoyed drawing and baking on her 'Wellbeing Day'.

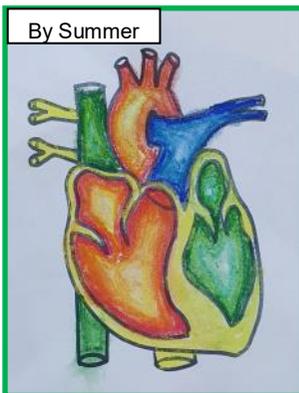
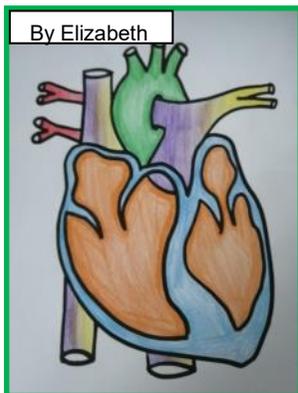
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Anatomy Art Project

The children combined their learning about the body in science with developing their artistic skills. After practising how to use colour and tone effectively, they experimented with complimentary colours and were asked to colour a picture of the heart using colouring pencils, paints or pastels.



The Big Sandy Beach

On the big sandy beach, I saw a beautiful bouncing horse gallop gracefully
He looked as elegant as a swan splashing through the waves on the shore
Feeling happy, I watched the horse slow down to a trot
As the tide slowly trickled in

On the big sandy beach, I happily sat and watched the waves wonderfully wash
in

The sun was shimmering softly like a shining star
As the horse started to carefully canter, I wished that I could be on that horse
When I am really sad I imagine that I am riding a black horse called Raven

On the big sandy beach, I laugh as I watch the heaps of people as they enjoy
the beauty of the sea

I see the reflection of the sun beaming on the water and the huge rolling waves
I feel calm and happy sitting, watching the red, glowing sun as it disappears out
of sight

It is now time to say goodbye to the lovely sandy beach and wander home to my
bed

On the big sandy beach, I have had a lovely day and I now sit back and relax
I start to dream as I think about the magical day I have had
The sun, the sea, the beautiful horse and the crowds of people enjoying their
wonderful day

A feather gently floated down to the beach and maybe it was just a dream after
all

by Chloe Pettitt, aged 8

Village News

Village Diary

1st March	St. David's Day
14th March	Mothering Sunday
28th March	Clocks go forward
1st April	Maundy Thursday
2nd April	Good Friday
4th April	Easter Sunday
5th April	Easter Monday Bank Holiday



British Summer Time

Remember to put your clocks and watches forward one hour when you go to bed on Saturday, 27th March, as British Summer Time begins on Sunday, 28th March.

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 for us to make other arrangements.



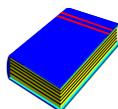
Covers created by
Purple Rabbit Designer



Rotas	Church Flowers	Church Cleaning
7th March 14th March 21st March 28th March	Lent Lent Lent Lent	Mr and Mrs Campbell - Mr and Mrs Kemsley -

Church Kitchen Cleaning February: Rita Patten

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		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



Palm Sunday

Sunday, 28th March

For the most up-to-date information, visit our website (details on page 3)

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 April edition by: 3rd March.

Email: parishmagazinetotham@yahoo.co.uk

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