



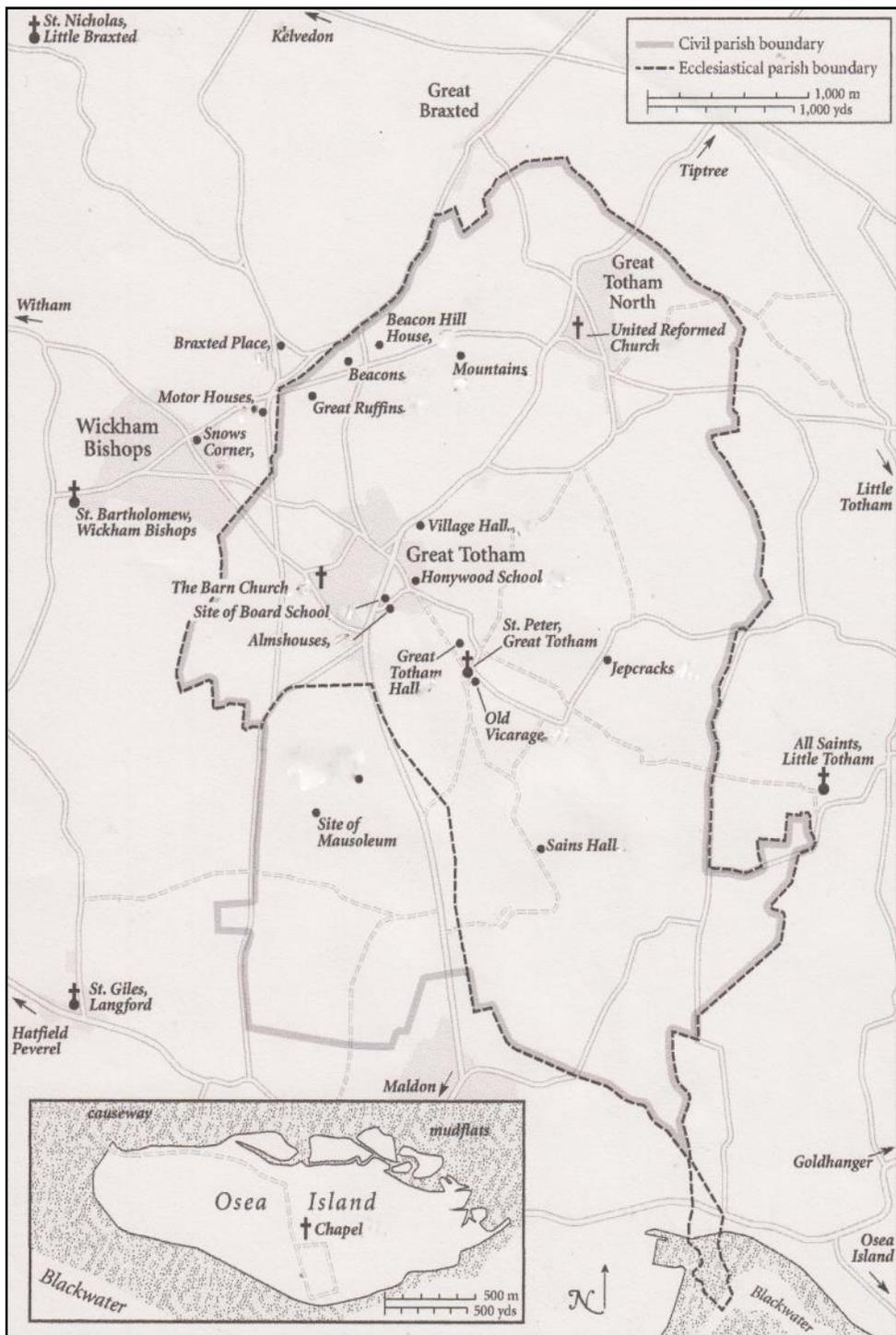
Great Totham Parish Magazine

sent to every home in Great Totham
May 2021

Visit St Peter's Church this month for
Ascension Day, Rogation Sunday and Trinity Sunday
See page 6 for details of services

Inside this Edition

Churchyard and Memorials Update
Parish Council Report



St Peter's Church Contact Details



Blackwater
Benefice



Blackwater
Benefice

Parish Contacts:

Priest in Charge

Rev. Tracey Caswell
07742 999633



01621 335471

Email: blackwaterbenefice@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 planned services and online worship can be found on pages 6 and 7

Baptisms

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

Magazine:

Enquiries: Helen Mutton: 01621 891067

Adverts: Pauline Stebbing: 01621 892059

Email:



Church News

Blackwater Benefice Ministry Message



The second Sunday in May this year is Rogation Sunday; Rogation Sunday is always the Sunday before Ascension Day (which is the Thursday of the fifth week of Easter). The days in between are Rogation days.

Rogation Sunday and Rogation Days are a time when prayers are offered by the church for God's blessing on the fruits of the earth and the sea and on human labour.

Rogation is one of the four festivals when we focus on God's generosity of providing us with the essentials for our survival. The others being Plough Sunday, Lammas or the Feast of the First Fruits when traditionally loaves, taken from the first ripened corn, are taken to church to be blessed, and Harvest Thanksgiving.

Rogation can include such traditions like Beating the Bounds, Well Dressing and Sea Blessing.

Beating the Bounds is an ancient tradition when villagers, along with the Rector and other dignitaries would walk the parish bounds. The youngsters would carry sticks to beat the parish boundary markers, or have their heads bumped on the stones or even given the 'Bumps'. This was all done in order that the younger members of the parish would remember where the boundaries were.

Nowadays, of course, it's not so important, we can find our parish boundaries on a map. You only have to look of the 'A Church Near You' website to see the boundaries. Interestingly they show up things that perhaps you might not expect, like Osea Island being part of Great Totham parish, or the parish of Goldhanger being divided into two by Tolleshunt Major, or an isolated triangle of Little Totham by Wash Bridge in Maldon Road, Goldhanger. Every parish in our benefice having a boundary that includes the Blackwater Estuary.

Boundaries are still important in our lives, we have probably become more aware of them in the past year of the pandemic, with the extra

/continued on next page

Church News

/continued from previous page

boundaries of who we can meet and where, social distancing, which shops can open and where we can travel. Our whole life is governed by boundaries be they legal, ethical considerations or moral.

We can still take our services outside on Rogation Sunday, perhaps just in the churchyard to ask God's blessing not only on the fruits of the Earth and humankind's part in its production but on all kinds of commerce. This year we are much more aware of the need as our country, indeed the whole world, seeks to recover from the economic effects of the pandemic.

Or we could take a socially distanced Parish Walk, perhaps not on our exact boundaries but on the local footpaths and at points stop for prayer.

Heavenly Father,

We bring before you all those whose lives and livelihoods revolve around land and season.

We pray for all who till the soil and tend the crops,

For all who cherish beast and fowl,

For all who harvest and prepare our food.

We ask that you will protect them from harm as they go about their daily duties.

Guard them from the dangers of fatigue and loneliness.

Share the burden of climate and financial worries.

Above all Father, bring them home safely at the end of each day.

We ask this in the name of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen

(Written by Sue Johns, Norfolk, for free use and wide circulation)

*George Bunting
Authorised Local Preacher, St Peter, Goldhanger*

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.

Church News

Planned Services at St Peter's Church

(check the website for any last minute changes)

If you are planning to attend services, please book by phoning Karin Mann on 891215 or email karinmann@hotmail.co.uk

St Peter's Church is currently open for private prayer 10am-4pm on Saturdays and 11am-4pm on Sundays.

Sunday, 2nd May	8am	Holy Communion
Fifth Sunday of Easter	10am	Morning Service of the Word
	6pm	Evensong (by Zoom)
Sunday, 9th May	8am	Morning Prayer
Sixth Sunday of Easter	10am	Family Communion
	6pm	Evensong (by Zoom)
Sunday, 16th May	8am	Morning Prayer
Seventh Sunday of Easter	10am	Morning Service of the Word
Rogation Sunday	6pm	Evensong (by Zoom)
Sunday, 23rd May	8am	Morning Prayer
Day of Pentecost	10am	Morning Service of the Word
Whit Sunday	6pm	Evensong (by Zoom)
Sunday, 30th May	8am	Morning Prayer
Trinity Sunday	10am	Morning Service of the Word
	6pm	Evensong (by Zoom)

St Peter's Church Annual Parochial Church Meeting

We will be holding our Annual Church Meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 18th May. As long as the Government's Covid-19 roadmap is still on track, this will take place in the church extension (or church, depending on numbers).

If you are planning to attend and/or are on the Electoral Roll and would like a copy of the Agenda, Minutes and Reports, please email Philippa Hardy-King on greattothampcc@gmail.com

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 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 Caswell**, **Rev. Sue Godsmark** or the **Churchwarden** (see page 3 for 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.

Constitution Day in Norway

17th May is a celebration of the Norwegian Constitution which was signed on that day in 1814. The Constitution declared Norway as an independent country after a 400 year union with Denmark, but after Norway lost a brief war with Sweden, Norway was forced to enter into a union with Sweden in 1814. The Swedes tried to give Norway a sense of independence by allowing the Norwegians to maintain their parliament, their own army and judiciary. However, they shared one monarch and had a single foreign policy, but Norway's economy was more dependent on trading. Norway had stronger ties with England, as well as countries outside Europe, while Sweden's relations were much more focused on Germany. Finally, Norway was becoming increasingly liberal, limiting the powers of the King as much as possible.

The Constitution Day celebrations began among students, but the Swedish king did not approve, as it seemed like an uprising against Swedish sovereignty, and King Carl Johan initially banned celebrating the day. An enthusiastic crowd gathered to protest in the main square of Christiania (Oslo) and during the 1860s, 17th May became more established.

The first children's parade was launched in 1870, consisting of boys only. It was only in 1899 when girls were allowed to join the parade. In 1905, when the union with Sweden was dissolved, Norway gained true independence and is such a relatively young country, despite its long history.

Prince Carl of Denmark was chosen to be King. Prince Carl was related on his father's side to medieval Norwegian kings, providing a link to Norway's past history and his mother, Louise of Sweden, ensured that a link to the royal house of Sweden was preserved. Also, Carl was married to Maud, daughter of King Edward VII of the United Kingdom. By bringing in a British-born queen, it was hoped that Norway could court Britain's support. Another advantage was that Prince Carl was already the father of a two-year-old son, Alexander, ensuring that a successor would be in position to continue the line. Prince Carl chose the name Haakon, a traditional name used by Norwegian kings, and his son was renamed Olav.

In 2009, a group from St Peter's church visited our friendship church, Bragernes Kirke in Drammen, one weekend in May. It was a memorable trip, which coincided with the 17th May celebration. Every nation has a national day, but probably very few of them are so enthusiastically and uniquely celebrated as 17th May. What makes this day so remarkable is the sheer scale of celebrations, enough to invoke a true sense of passion, community and belonging. This is not a small group of people set on living in the past, but a country deeply unified despite its large size and the wide geographical spread of

/continued on next page

Church News

/continued from previous page

its population. From the smallest mountain hamlets to the largest towns, the day has become more of a party for the children rather than a day of patriotic pride.



In front of Bragernes Church



Parade over Drammen Town Bridge

An aspect of the Norwegian Constitution Day is its very non-military nature. Designated a national holiday, shops and offices are closed. The biggest part of the event is dedicated to the children. Each school is represented in the children's parades, the school's marching band is followed by both pupils and teachers waving flags and carrying school banners. All sorts of local organisations are also represented, football teams, student associations, scouts and others. Parades can vary in size from a few dozen people in the villages to several tens of thousands in Oslo. After the children's parade, people gather at their local school for games and different activities.



The Karl Johan Street leading up to the royal palace in Oslo

It's also a day when women and children wear traditional outfits called 'bunad', which is common to wear at folk dances, weddings and formal occasions. There are hundreds of different ones and the style and colour indicate where in Norway the owner's ancestry lies. Food plays a big part too; hot dogs, waffles, ice cream, cream gateaux and other goods to eat are abundant.

Many Norwegians living abroad and those who have Norwegian roots also share the enthusiasm for the mother land, particularly Norwegian embassies, churches and student organisations. In London, 17th May starts off with a church service at the Norwegian church, followed by a parade, speeches and activities in Southwark Park. The day ends with a meal at the church.

/continued on next page

Church News

/continued from page 9

The non-militaristic and generally joyous atmosphere makes the day a largely uncontroversial affair, but it has not always been a conflict-free day. On several occasions, certain immigrant groups wanted to carry their original countries' flags along with the Norwegian flag, but they encountered fierce opposition and a ban on the public display of non-Norwegian flags. Facing the opposition, some municipalities abolished the ban based on the demand of certain immigrant groups.

Karin Mann

Easter at St Peter's Church

The 10am service on a sunny Easter Sunday was the first we were able to attend in person since the start of the most recent lockdown. What a joy it was to be there again and see so many familiar faces. We were greeted by a small band of tower bellringers and Rev'd Sue led the service in the beautifully decorated church. Social distancing meant that people sat in both the church and the extension; those seated in the extension were able to enjoy the service more fully with the help of the projector set up by Bob and Adam Tarpey. Although the congregation were not able to sing, David Grove played well-known Easter hymns on the organ. The children enjoyed 'Sunday Club' outside in the churchyard, where we joined them to chat at the end of the service.

Helen Mutton



Church News

Easter at St Peter's Church



Following the success of the Christmas display at church and a local family mentioning how much they missed it whilst out walking, we decided to have an Easter/spring display in the window of the church extension.



With the help of 1st Beacon Hill Rainbows, children from Sunday Club, parishioners and local children Esme and Ruben, we put together a scene of Easter bunnies, eggs, flowers, chicks and the Easter garden with a tomb made using rocks to remind us of the reason we celebrate this important festival.

We hope that many walkers enjoyed seeing the children's artwork as they strolled through the churchyard!



Rainbows meet at the church extension on a Monday evening from 5.30-6.30pm (for more information or to enquire about joining, log onto <https://go.girlguiding.org.uk/>).

Sunday Club meets at 10am in the extension during the Sunday service. Each week we have a variety of crafts/activities and everyone's welcome to come along! We were really pleased to welcome nine children back on Easter Sunday! They enjoyed an Easter egg hunt and decorating rocks.

Rosie Pollock

JOE MURRELL



Misted Windows

Broken Locks

***We Can Supply And Fit:
Replacement Sealed Units***

***Hinges, Locks and
Handles***



**Tel 01621 891716
Mobile 07814 759733**

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**

**M & Company
Established 2002**



Windows, doors and
conservatories
supplied and fitted
Fascias, soffits and cladding

All work guaranteed
Free estimates

**Telephone Mark on
01621 892435
Mobile: 07799 882094**

**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

Church News

Text for the Week: May

2nd May

If you obey the Lord your God, here are the blessings that will come to you and remain with you. You will be blessed in the cities. You will be blessed out in the country.

Deuteronomy 28:2-3

9th May

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

16th May

I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope. I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning.

Psalms 130:5-6

23rd May

The coming of the kingdom of God is not something that can be observed, nor will people say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,' because the kingdom of God is in your midst.

Luke 17:21

30th May

You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

Acts 1:8

Bible Readings: May

2nd May

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8. 26-end
1 John 4. 7-end
(Gospel) John 15. 1-8

9th May

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Isa. 55. 1-11
Acts 10. 44-end
(Gospel) John 15. 9-17

13th May

Ascension Day

Ps. 47
Acts 1. 1-11
(Gospel) John 16. 12-15

16th May

Rogation Sunday Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1. 15-17, 21-end
1 John 5. 9-13
(Gospel) John 17. 6-19

23rd May

Day of Pentecost Whit Sunday

Acts 2. 1-21
Rom. 8. 22-27
(Gospel) John 15. 26-27, 16. 4-15

30th May

Trinity Sunday

Ps. 29
Rom. 8. 12-17
(Gospel) John 3. 1-17

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

MEE
MID ESSEX ELECTRICIANS

01621 212671
CALL GARETH TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

RELIABLE - CERTIFIED - INSURED

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

City & Guilds
NICEIC REGISTRATION NUMBER DB512120

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



Essex Village Chimney Sweeps



Based in Wickham Bishops, I am trained and accredited by The Guild of Master Chimney Sweeps

I provide fully insured services, chimney sweeping (all flue types), CCTV inspections, chimney cowl fitting and repairs to solid fuel stoves and burners

Friendly and professional local service keeping you safe and warm

Contact Richard Phillibrown
07843816483

richard@villagesweeps.co.uk

www.villagesweeps.co.uk

Facebook: @villagesweeps

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.



Maypole
— HEALTH —
TAILOR-MADE THERAPIES

STOCKISTS OF

LAMBERTS®
THE PROFESSIONAL RANGE

THERAPIES COVERED INCLUDE:

Osteopathy 🌀 Cranial Osteopathy 🌀 Reflexology 🌀 Chiropody
Sports and Remedial Massage 🌀 Acupuncture and Chinese Herbs
Exercise Rehabilitation and Personal Training 🌀 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 

Church News

News from the Belfry

A sunny, if somewhat cool, Easter Sunday heralded the commencement of congregational worship at St Peter's Church. The bells were rung for the first time since Sunday, 10th October 2020. Janice, Bernard and Vanessa rang three bells for 15 minutes, which included ringing the bells up and down.

An update from The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers on 10th December enabled towers in Tiers 1, 2 and 3 to ring six bells at Christmas providing the ropes were at least one metre apart. The ropes were checked at St Peter's and it was a close call, with ropes 3 to 4 and 5 to 6 measuring the minimum distance. Unfortunately Essex then moved into Tier 4 on 17th December, coinciding with the announcement of the band to ring on Christmas Day morning. A further update on 21st December told us all to stay at home and, on the same day, the clergy decided that the Christmas Morning service would be online.

Ringling World Bellboard provides an online platform to record significant ringing events. Historically this has been to record Peals, Quarter Peals and other ringing. The platform provides information on the tower, ringing association, what was rung and for how long. It also records the names of the ringers, the number bell they rang, and for what occasion the ringing was for.

I was curious about what the Essex Association had been ringing from the beginning of 2021 until the end of March this year. All Saints Church, Writtle posted that they had not rung the bells at all on New Years Day. The dedication reads that this was the first time in living memory that the bells had not rung out the old year half muffled and rung in the New Year with open bells. On Saturday, 27th February, 14 towers tolled their bells 100 times to mark the funeral of Captain Sir Tom. On Tuesday, 23rd March, The National Day of Reflection, the bells were tolled at 13 towers. In addition, there were 13 recorded performances on online Ringing Room.

Congratulations to John Keeble, one of our ringers. He completed a 47 mile walk from the Rosie Hospital at Addenbrookes to his home in Great Totham on 3rd April. The walk was in aid of the hospital where John and Kelly's daughter Olivia was cared for after being born 14 weeks prematurely, weighing just 1lb 14 oz. The walk took him just 16 hours and 5 minutes and has raised in excess of £3,500. If you would like to make a donation to this worthy cause then please visit www.justgiving.com/fundraising/olivia-keeble

Finally, at 10am on Saturday, 10th April, the tenor bell at St. Peter's Church was rung up and half muffled in preparation for the bell to be rung at noon. At noon, Janice, our Tower Captain, rang the tenor 99 times to mark the death of His Royal Highness The Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh. During the following eight day period of mourning, all bells throughout the country were rung half muffled.

Andrew and Catherine Hood



Yoga Classes

The next 5-week course will commence 6 April 2021, with classes being held on Zoom

**Tuesdays 6pm - 7pm, and Fridays
10am - 11am**

Rest, restore and reset

Practice will be gentle, self-caring, with a focus on mindful movement

**Join me and other like-minded people
in creating a positive change from
within**

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

Heidi's Here

**Providing personal care,
practical support and
companionship.**

A personalised service tailored
to individual requirements.

**Telephone: Heidi Barclay
07854 156745
for more information**

Fully insured, DBS checked &
references available

Email: heidi.stubbings@sky.com

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

Children's Colouring Page



Sourced by June Eaton

Church News

St Peter's Churchyard and Memorials Update



Four years ago, a major survey of grave headstones and tombs was carried out by members of the P.C.C. The intention was to update the Graveyard Plan and also identify and rectify those that needed attention. This work is now complete.

Special emphasis was given to potentially dangerous graves, as well as to ones for which a legacy for maintenance existed.

The first simple step was to identify headstones that were tipping over and likely to fall. These were carefully laid down.

Where graves that needed repair did not have any legacies attached, alternative funding was sought from general church funds where justified. For example, the Clarke / Argent ones by the archway on the path to the South Porch entrance (pictured above, further photographs can be found on Facebook). Other significant graves that belong to those with a strong association with the church, eg Brice, Cottee, Eyre, Speed, have also received special attention.

Where headstones had sunk, together with bed kerbs, it was felt that to restore these would be expensive and they would probably move again,

/continued on next page

Church News

/continued from previous page

so may be considered part of the charm of an ancient graveyard.

In conjunction with this, a certain amount of levelling of grave beds was undertaken to aid grass cutting. A little known fact is that the beds of graves are church property. Also grave ornaments, which are not allowed under Diocese Of Chelmsford regulations, were removed after a long advertised notification period.

While a certain amount of work in the churchyard is carried out by volunteers, contracted paid work is also required together with the hire of green waste receptacles.

Seasonal fresh flowers on the graves add to the beautiful trees, plants and shrubs in our lovely churchyard, we are only sorry that our resident rabbits see them as food!

*Paul Smith
for Parochial Church Council*

The Parish of St. Peter's Great Totham

Charity Number: XN 12862

200+ Club Draw Winners March

1st Prize: Vanessa Ellams
2nd Prize: James Allen
3rd Prize: Stephen Rotheram

A new 200+ Club year commences on 1st May, a time when the annual subscription of £12 per entry is due to be paid. This can be done either by an established bank standing order, or paid by cheque made out to:

St. Peter's Church Donations a/c.

Cheques should be posted to:

Karen Tarpey, 5 Millways, Great Totham, CM9 8NR.

If you would like to join the scheme, whose proceeds benefit the church, or renew your membership for the year 2021/2022, please contact Roger Allen, 200+ Club Administrator, on 892334.

Village News

So Long and Thanks for All the Fish!

Many people know about Star Wars Day on 4th May (May the 4th (force) be with you), but do you know about Towel Day on 25th May?

This is a day celebrated every year as a tribute to the author, Douglas Adams. In order to celebrate the day, fans need only do one thing and that is to carry a towel with them all day! The derivation of this comes from the book 'The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy'. Actually, that is not quite true, as the book was written as a follow-up to the original radio series broadcast in 1978. The importance of towels is mentioned in the series, and this is then explained in Chapter 3 of the book.

The section in Chapter 3 explains why the towel is "the most massively useful thing an interstellar hitchhiker can have". To paraphrase the book, it goes on to explain how you can wrap a towel around you as you bound across the cold moons of Jaglan Beta, or you can lie on it on the brilliant marble-sanded beaches of Santraginus V, inhaling the heady sea vapours.

There are many other uses described, including using it to avoid the gaze of the Ravenous Bugblatter Beast of Traal, or even use it in emergencies as a distress signal. Of course, you can still use it merely to dry yourself if it still seems to be clean.

Perhaps one of the most important aspects is that a towel has immense psychological value. This is because when a strag (ie, non-hitchhiker) discovers that a hitchhiker has his towel with him, he will automatically assume that he has a myriad of other items, such as a toothbrush, soap, a face flannel, tin of biscuits, a compass, etc etc. The strag will also happily lend the hitchhiker many other things that he thinks the hitchhiker may have "lost". The reason for this is that the strag believes that any person that can hitchhike the length and breadth of the galaxy and still know where his towel is, is clearly a man to be reckoned with.



Douglas Noel Adams was born on March 11th 1952 in Cambridge and wrote the Hitchhikers radio series in 1978. He wrote many other books and broadcasts, including follow-ups to the original Hitchhikers book (The Restaurant at the End of the World; Life, the Universe and Everything So Long and Thanks for All the Fish: Mostly Harmless: and ...And Another Thing).

/continued on next page

Village News

/continued from previous page

He also wrote the Dirk Gently series and several episodes for Dr Who.

His most notable work, though, remains the Hitchhikers series, which is centred on Arthur Dent, who becomes the last surviving man from Earth after a Vogon construction fleet demolishes the planet to make way for a hyperspace bypass! He is rescued by an alien in human form called Ford Prefect who writes the Hitchhiker's Guide. Arthur Dent then has many adventures across the universe, encountering such characters as Zaphod Beeblebrox, Marvin the paranoid android, Slartibartfast and the Babel Fish (a small, yellow fish which, when inserted in the ear translates from one spoken language to another).

Sadly, Douglas Adams died on 11th May 2001 of a heart attack due to undiagnosed coronary artery disease and, in his memory, Towel Day was started 2001, just two weeks after his death.

Chris Bingham

Our Story



Just after Easter 2020 (during the height of the Covid-19 restrictions), my wife Kelly suffered a placental abruption during her 25th week of pregnancy. She lost 3.5 litres of blood and nearly didn't make it herself. Our baby girl, Olivia, was born 14+ weeks early, requiring 16 minutes of resuscitation and weighing just 850g (1lb 14oz).

Requiring ventilation for two weeks, Olivia suffered a significant bleed in the brain (IVH) and hydrocephalus. The full effect of this with regard to her development is yet unknown, but there were many other complications of being born so early, including two ducts in her heart not closing properly and requiring oxygen support, blood vessels in her eyes not developing correctly (retinopathy of prematurity—ROP) and damage to her lung tissue from requiring breathing support for many weeks.

/continued on next page

Village News

/continued from previous page

However, after 16 weeks in hospital (seven at Addenbrookes and nine at Broomfield), Olivia, our little fighter, was finally able to come home and met her older sister, Amelia, for the first time. We know that we have been incredibly fortunate as Olivia appears to be gradually progressing in the right direction; she is unlikely to require more intervention for the hydrocephalus, her ROP condition has stabilised and her heart ducts



have almost closed up. We owe a huge debt to the Rosie Hospital, the NHS and all the amazing staff who cared for Olivia, they are quite simply Super Heroes!!

I decided quite early on that I would do something to acknowledge the amazing work of the Rosie, whatever the outcome (positive or negative) for Olivia. I quickly came up with the idea of a walking challenge and it seemed fitting to walk from the Rosie where Olivia was born to our home in Great Totham, a distance of approximately 47 miles that I would attempt to do within 24 hours.



Having spent several evenings planning a route, calculating timings and allocating check points for my support team, I realised that a 4am start was required! Thankfully, my brother-in-law, Will, is currently living with us, so he was able to drive me to the start at the Rosie. After a quick photo, it was time to head off! Fortunately, being so early, there were no cars to worry about on the first 3km of road before I headed onto an old Roman road (part of a European long distance route) which was easy to navigate in the dark albeit a little unsettling on my own, which helped me push on! After 12 km, 4km of road walking led me to the village of Bartlow on the Essex border where I met my support team at checkpoint 1.

/continued on next page

Village News

/continued from previous page

From here, 9km of tracks and footpaths brought me to the outskirts of Hempstead and checkpoint 2. After a quick 10 minute refuel and rest, I was off for a 4.5km walk across fields skirting past Great Sampford and 5.5km of road walking towards Great Bardfield. Here, at checkpoint 3 I had a well earned breather to rest my poor feet before passing through Great Bardfield and crossing fields to Shalford Green. After a further 3.7 km of road walking, I reached checkpoint 4 for a cup of coffee and 10 minute break.



I was now beginning to struggle, my legs were stiffening, my feet were pounding and my energy dropping. The next 8.7km were a real struggle, although crossing a bridge over the A120 was a small psychological boost and I ambled my way to the edge of Chelmsford City Race Course and checkpoint 5. After some minor medical treatment to relieve my tender feet, coffee and something warm to eat, I headed to Terling and crossed fields towards Witham and checkpoint 6. An escort from my boss and his wife on the country roads on the outskirts of Witham proved a welcome distraction. On the Witham riverside walk, I met a family out for a stroll who spotted my t-shirt and asked if I was doing some sort of fundraising. They seemed quite shocked to hear how far I had walked and kindly donated on my JustGiving page, with a lovely message commending my efforts.

Exiting Witham, I reached checkpoint 7, the last, at Blue Mills bridge before heading up the hill across Benton Hall golf course and on to Wickham Bishops church where I was greeted by friends. My support team walked the last 1km with me and, as I turned the corner into our little cul-de-sac, I was greeted by our neighbours who cheered me home, 16 hours and 5 minutes after I'd left the Rosie, exhausted, emotional and sore!

At the time of writing, I have raised over £3,500, just a little under £75 per mile. A BIG thank you to everyone who donated, it is very much appreciated. A massive thank you to Will and my good friend, Jon, for being my support team. I suffered one uncomfortable day, my wife several more, but our little girl had to fight for weeks, and it is her strength that kept me going for 47 miles!

The amazing work that the staff did, and continue to do at the Rosie is invaluable, saving many babies' lives, supporting parents through very challenging circumstances and many more services. We consider ourselves incredibly fortunate to have had such a positive outcome and hope that, by raising money for the Rosie, other parents will be able to enjoy similar positive outcomes too. PLEASE, if you can, donate to this amazing organisation, THANK YOU!

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/olivia-keeble

John Keeble

TONY POULTER BUILDING SERVICES



- ◆ **Kitchens**
- ◆ **Bathrooms**
- ◆ **Plumbing**
- ◆ **Wall Tiling**
- ◆ **Plastering**
- ◆ **General Building**
- ◆ **Project Management**

Over 40 years of experience
Friendly and reliable service

Telephone: 07835 653199

Email: tonypoulter@outlook.com

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



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.

Village News

Great Totham Parish Council

The letter below was sent by the Parish Council to Her Majesty the Queen following the recent death of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

GREAT TOTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

C R Potter, Clerk to the Council
19 Mill Road, Great Totham, Maldon, Essex, CM9 8DH

Telephone: Maldon (01621) 891474 e-mail: greattothamparishcouncil@btinternet.com
Website www.greattothamparishcouncil.com

Her Majesty the Queen
Buckingham Palace
Westminster
London, SW1A 1AA

11 April 2021

Your Majesty.

The Parish Council and People of Great Totham send their sincere condolences to your Majesty and the Royal Family at the loss of the Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh.

He was a truly splendid force for good across our Nation, the Commonwealth, and beyond.

Our thoughts are with you and the Royal Family at this time.

I remain your Majesty's most humble and obedient servant.



Clive Potter
Clerk to the Council

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

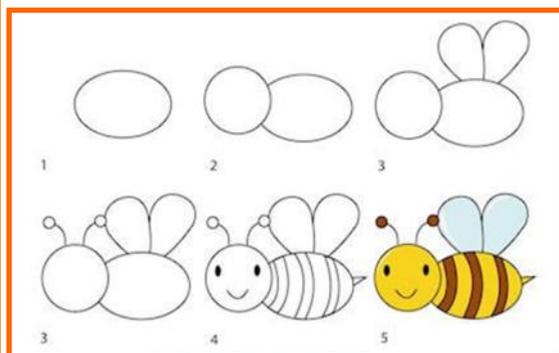
Children's Page

Save the Bees

Every individual can contribute to the preservation of bees and other pollinators:

1. **Plant nectar-bearing flowers** for decorative purposes on balconies, terraces, and gardens.
2. **Buy honey and other hive products** from your nearest local beekeeper.
3. **Raise awareness** on the importance of bees and express your support for beekeepers.
4. **Cut grass on meadows only after the nectar-bearing plants have finished blooming.**
5. **Make a home for bees** in your garden.

How to draw a bee in five stages



Why World Bee Day?

Bees and other pollinators are endangered and need to be protected because of:

- Diseases
- Lack of food due to intensive farming
- Use of pesticides
- Urbanisation making less agricultural spaces
- Climate change.

This year's World Bee Day is 20th May 2021.

Jumbled Plants

Here is a muddled list of plants which you could put in your garden to help the bees.

- | | | |
|----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. Bellbule | 2. Couscr | 3. Fotnorgmeet, |
| 4. Proserim | 5. Rsemaroy | 6. Diniumelph |
| 7. Floveoxg | 8. Hockholly | 9. Tmehy |
| 10. Cowerflorn | 11. Herthea | 12. Lendaver |

(answers on page 33)



Sourced by June Eaton



Wickham Bishops Woodlands

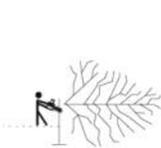


"passionate about trees"



Your Local Tree & Hedge Specialist

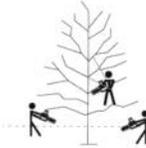
All Types of Tree & Hedge Work
Fully Qualified & Insured



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!

Village News

Great Totham in April



Sourced by Vicky Heaviside

Village News



Great Totham Parish Council Report



It would seem appropriate to begin the April Report with news of recent activity at The Pit. This is partly because considerable interest in the topic has been expressed around the village, both in person and online, and partly because the rest of the news is more positive and, thus, extremely welcome after what has been for many a difficult year.

Some weeks ago members of the Parish Council were notified of an incident at the Jubilee Recreation Ground, in which a dog jumped up at a baby in a pram. The child was unharmed but a notice was posted reminding residents of the rules concerning dog walking. This was not, as some suggested, a change of policy. Local by-laws state that dogs should be 'under control/restraint' and more recent rules set by Maldon District Council under the Dog Control Order effectively ban dogs from recreation grounds with play areas over the whole of the Maldon District. Traditionally in Great Totham, the amenity has been available to all but this can only continue if users respect this as a privilege and act responsibly.

To make the play area more secure, two Parish Councillors refurbished the surrounding fence, only to have it reported a short time later that it had been deliberately vandalised. Quite apart from the fact that those who pay Council Tax will be expected to fund yet more repairs, it is difficult to comprehend why anyone would consider such behaviour acceptable. It is not what is sometimes euphemistically referred to as 'high spirits'. It is criminal damage and should, if witnessed, be immediately reported to Essex Police.

You may recall I mentioned Essex and Suffolk Water had undertaken to replace a dangerous stop-cock cover in Chapel Road. Following blue identification marks being sprayed, there was an anxious moment when a lump of tar appeared but, fortunately, it was just an interim measure and a complete replacement was effected by two very conscientious and pleasant workmen. A casual enquiry about a patch of pavement that wouldn't dry out, resulted in further visits to repair a leak along Chapel Road -still ongoing - and one at Totham Hill Green that I am 'reliably' informed by a resident has been running since 1951!

/continued on next page

Village News

/continued from previous page

The latest 'Thank You' to those who serve the village, has taken the form of 'yarn bombing' Both village post boxes are currently adorned with 'Random acts of crochet kindness'. The one at Totham North, features a hive with bees and flowers in honour of our posties, the one at Totham South flowers, rabbits and a rainbow to acknowledge the work of the NHS. From murals and banners to treasure hunts, socially distanced street parties and chats as we take our daily walks, we are fortunate that we have had much to make us smile.

Step 3 of the Government's Covid Recovery Roadmap allows Councils to hold organised indoor meetings, with suitable precautions in place, from 17th May and it has therefore been decided that Great Totham Parish Council's first meeting since the start of the pandemic will be held on that date at 8.00pm in the Village Hall. In view of the progress made through the vaccination programme, members of the public will be admitted, subject to Covid secure guidelines and capacity, and may, as has been normal practice, ask questions at the beginning of the meeting. Those wishing to attend should email the Clerk, in good time, at greattothamparishcouncil@btinternet.com requesting a place and providing their name, address and contact details for Covid tracing purposes.

The decision to resume public meetings is based on the Roadmap at 11th April and subject to alteration should there be a change to Government plans. It is hoped however that, with the correct procedures in place, we will all be able to enjoy a greater range of social activities.

Vicky Heaviside

Jumbled Plant Answers

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1. Bluebell | 2. Crocus |
| 3. Forget-me-not | 4. Primrose |
| 5. Rosemary | 6. Delphinium |
| 7. Foxglove | 8. Hollyhock |
| 9. Thyme | 10. Cornflower |
| 11. Heather | 12. Lavender |



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 weddings and family gatherings 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

CLICK & - COLLECT -

BUY NOW

PAY

2021

www.D9CARS.co.uk



**Buy your next
car in complete
confidence**

CLICK & DELIVER SERVICE ALSO AVAILABLE*

UNDENIABLE QUALITY

2 YEARS FREE AA

WARRANTY

CAR SOURCING

FINANCE & PART EXCHANGE

01621 737 150

BEACON HILL GARAGE MAYPOLE RD,
WICKHAM BISHOPS CM8 3NW



SPECIALIST CARS
Undeniable Quality


SIMON HOLDING
 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.simonholding.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



TaxAssist Accountants
The Accountancy and Tax Service for Small Business

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

Essex Elements



Face to Face and online
counselling based in Tollesbury

Integrative Counselling
Integrative CBT
Clinical Supervision
Counselling and Mentoring

Contact: Caroline (MBACP)
Telephone: 07719 157027

or

Email: essexelements@hotmail.com



BA (Hons) Education: ECS Dip. Integrative Counselling and CBT
Dip. Coaching and Mentoring Cert. Clinical Supervision

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.

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

104 High Street, Maldon



tel: 01621 853148

DYSON SAMSUNG SMEG NEFF HOOVER LG
SONY BEKO BOSCH HOTPOINT PANASONIC

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)

Get To Know The Vicar!

I am still very keen to arrange walks with anyone who is interested. I have had quite a few parishioners take up this offer, have had some lovely walks around the Benefice and am happy to carry on, especially now the weather is improving. Please contact me if you would like to go on a walk.

If you aren't able to walk very far/at all and would prefer me to give you a call, then please do ask. We can arrange a time and day that suits us both to have a chat and don't worry about the cost because I can phone you. I look forward to hearing from you.

Rev'd Tracey

Rotas	Church Flowers	Church Cleaning
2nd May	Sally Buckley	Mrs Potter and Mrs Thake
9th May	Sue Morgan	-
16th May	Pat Eaton	Mr and Mrs Hardy-King
23 May	Sally Thake	-
30 May	Tracey Squire	Jenny Walling

Church Kitchen Cleaning May: Karin Mann

Village News



MALDON DISTRICT COUNCIL



Message from the District Councillor

I am now halfway through my term as your District Councillor and I would like to say how rewarding it has been to be the councillor for the Great Totham ward. Being able to provide answers, solutions, advice and support to many of the residents that have contacted me. Dealing with your issues and to either provide solutions directly, or help residents go to the relevant person or body.

The last two years have, at times, been personally challenging, however, I think the ultimate outcomes for myself have been of benefit. I have also worked hard to deal with some of the long-term issues faced by both the Totham ward and the Maldon district. I hope that over the next two years, they will come to fruition.

It has been very good to meet so many residents and I hope that as we come out of lockdown, there will be more opportunities to do so again. I hope that I will be able to reinstate surgeries in the very near future, where you can come and meet with me.

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

Stay safe and well.

Richard

**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**

Village News



Great Totham Evening WI



'The 1960's was a decade of rapid change and if you blinked you would have missed it.'

So began our talk by Eve Regelous at our May meeting, held on Zoom, entitled 'I blame it on the Beatles!'

In her excellent Powerpoint presentation, we were reminded of phrases used by our parents, often with an emphasis on manners! We were taken back to the comics of the day, and childhood diseases to which we succumbed before vaccinations were common. On to black and white televisions, record players and juke boxes in coffee bars, the famous footballers of the time when we won the World Cup and the fashion photographers and models such as Twiggy, who wore the miniskirts and hot pants of that iconic era.

Pop groups of the time all had a slightly different image. The Beatles, beginning as clean cut, suited young men, morphed into their more hippy image at the time of peace and love.

We were reminded of the cars, the adverts and the criminals, as well as the scandals and political events that dominated the decade, including the assassination of President Kennedy.

All these, and many more, struck a chord with many of us who had lived through that time. The saying goes that 'if you remember the 1960s you weren't really there,' but that was certainly not the case for our members!

A thoroughly enjoyable evening!

On 13th May at 8pm, we shall be Zooming again to listen to Ed Fairey talk about the National Gardens Scheme.

If you would like any more information about the group, you can find us on our website www.greattothamwi.weebly.com or, alternatively, email greattothamwi@gmail.com.

Sue Pulford

**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.

Blue Badge

If you are disabled or have a health condition that affects your mobility, you can apply for a Blue Badge.

If you have a Blue Badge you can park in places other drivers cannot. The Blue Badge is linked to you rather than a vehicle, so you can use it with any car. This includes taxis and hire cars that you are driving or travelling in as a passenger.

Your Blue Badge usually lets you park for free:

- on streets with parking meters or pay-and-display machines for as long as you need to
- in disabled parking bays on streets for as long as you need to, unless a sign says there is a time limit
- on single or double yellow lines for up to 3 hours unless there is a 'no loading' sign

Having a Blue Badge does not let you park anywhere - you must still follow the usual parking regulations. For example, you can still get a fine if you park somewhere that endangers people, like outside a school or near a junction.

You can also apply for a badge if you care for a child with a health condition that affects their mobility.

Councils can charge for a blue badge although the most you can be charged is £10.

It could take a long time for your application to be processed. You should contact your council if you have not heard back within six-eight weeks.

You might be asked to do a mobility assessment. A health professional will look at your ability to carry out a range of mobility activities. They will tell your council whether they think your health condition or disability limits your ability to move around enough for you to need a badge.

/continued on next page

Village News

/continued from previous page

If you are refused a Blue Badge, you can ask your council to reconsider their decision. The decision letter from the council will tell you how to ask for a review and what the time limit is.

Case Study

My mum has a non-visible disability, which causes her walking difficulties. I heard something on the news about how she may now be eligible for a blue badge. How can I find out about this and help her apply?

In August 2019, the Blue Badge scheme was extended to people who live in England and have non-visible disabilities or conditions which affect their ability to walk. As a result, your mother may now qualify for a badge.

Your mother will be automatically eligible if she gets certain types of benefits. These include some categories of Personal Independence Payment and the higher rate mobility component of Disability Living Allowance.

If she is not automatically eligible, she can still apply for a badge. Her local authority will use evidence from doctors and other healthcare professionals to determine whether she qualifies or not.

Your mother can check her eligibility and apply for a local authority-issued Blue Badge at www.gov.uk/apply-blue-badge. If she is unable to do this herself, you can apply on her behalf.

You will need a recent digital passport-style photo, proof of her identity, address, details of any benefits she receives, her National Insurance number, and evidence of how her non-visible disability or condition affects her mobility.

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

Village News

News from Great Totham Primary School

www.greattotham.essex.sch.uk



School News

What an exciting end to the spring term it has been, we are so pleased to have our children back in school.

In March, we included some examples of the work produced by our eldest pupils in Year 6 as part of their home learning during lockdown. This month we'd like to share some of the work completed by our youngest pupils in Reception. They worked so hard and their teachers were incredibly proud of them all.

Paddington Bear

The children used their artistic skills to create these wonderful Paddington Bears.



Ice Ornaments

Thankfully, the weather is being a lot kinder to us now, but the snow in March inspired the Reception classes to create their own beautiful ice ornaments.



Jo Mazzarella



Village News

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Wickham Bishops WI



It seems the world is slowly getting back to a "new normal" and hopefully, so is Wickham Bishops WI!



The committee organised delivery of Easter gifts to all members of a chocolate egg and spring flower bowls, which were well received.

Some committee members met in a garden to discuss the future events and general club related issues. It was lovely to be able to see each other - at an acceptable social distance of course!

Here's hoping there's more to report next time

When things are back to normal, our craft group (Patcher) meets every Friday, 2- 4pm, at St Bartholomew's Church Hall. Learn something new, bring along your unfinished project and join us for a friendly afternoon chat and cup of tea.

Alternatively, join our village walking group at 9.30am on Monday mornings opposite the Village Hall in Church Road.

For more information about WB WI, call our secretary, Sharon, on 01621 891631.

Best wishes and keep safe everyone.

Jayne Kneale

Many Thanks

Let us come together round the village today.

It's all about some thank yous,

That's what I'd like to say.

I'm naming our regular posties, Joe, Maxine, Graham, Sue

For all the good work they do.

All through this pandemic

Delivering letters and parcels to you, you and you.

So join me if you will and say cheers!

Good on ya!!!

We thank you all very much.

By Lyndsey Phillips

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

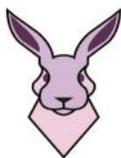
Monday—Thursday: 9am—5pm Friday: 8.30am—4.30pm

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

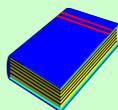
For local crime reports, visit <https://www.police.uk/essex/28/crime/>



Covers created by
Purple Rabbit Designer



Wickham Bishops Library



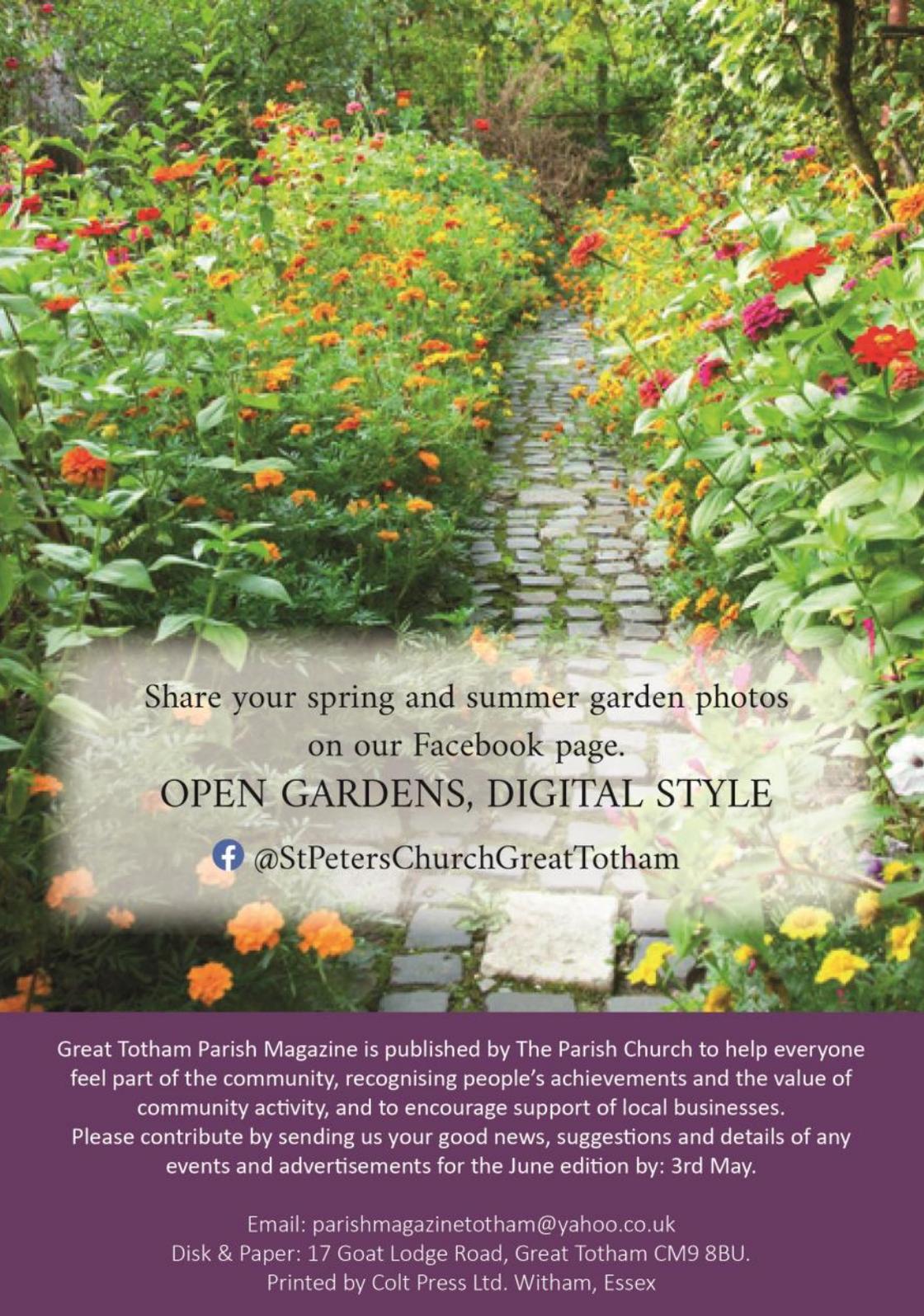
Monday	2pm-5.30pm
Wednesday	2pm-5.30pm
Saturday	9am-5pm

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



Share your spring and summer garden photos
on our Facebook page.

OPEN GARDENS, DIGITAL STYLE

 @StPetersChurchGreatTotham

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 June edition by: 3rd May.

Email: parishmagazinetotham@yahoo.co.uk

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

Printed by Colt Press Ltd. Witham, Essex