



Great Totham Parish Magazine

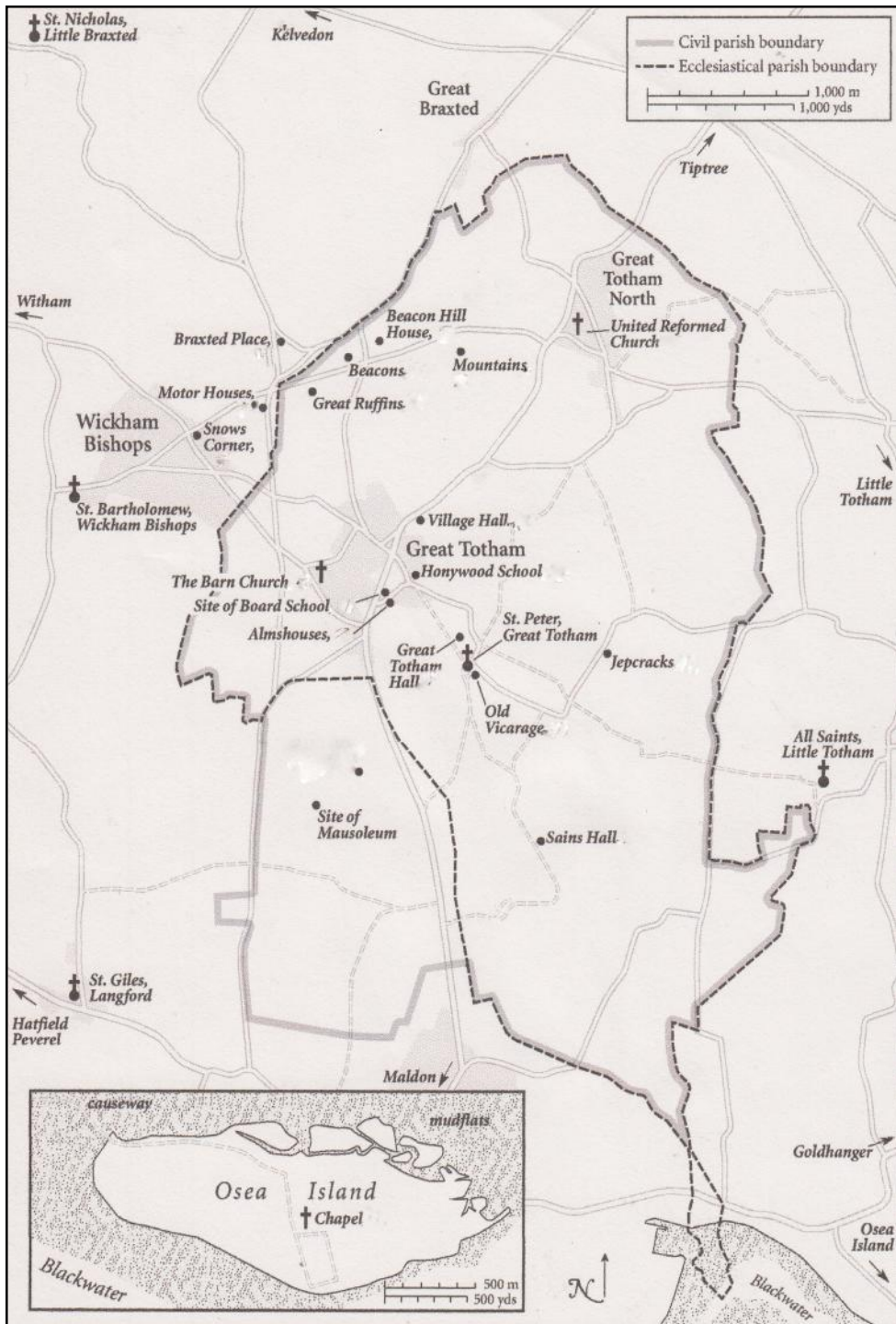
sent to every home in Great Totham
July/August 2026

Join churches within the Blackwater Benefice for the Annual Sea Sunday Service
Focusing on those whose lives are connected with the sea
10am, Sunday 12th July | Goldhanger Sailing Club
Followed by refreshments
All welcome



Inside this Edition - News from the Belfry

Reports from Great Totham and Wickham Bishops WI groups



St Peter's Church Contact Details



Blackwater
Benefice



Blackwater
Benefice

Parish Contacts:

Priest in Charge (*Vacant*)

Associate Priest

Andy Vince 01621 868415 / 07952 144613

Email: andrew.vince15@gmail.com

Churchwarden

 (*Vacant*)

Please contact Rosie Pollock 07908 776750 with any enquiries.

Services

See pages 6 and 7 for details of services and online worship

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals

If you are considering baptism for yourself or your children, weddings, funeral arrangements, Holy Communion at home, or you would just like a visit, please contact Rosie Pollock, Benefice Administrator, 07908 776750, email office.blackwaterbenefice@gmail.com

Rosie is generally available on Tuesday and Friday mornings. Messages left at other times during the week will be responded to at regular intervals.

Magazine:

Enquiries:	Helen Mutton:	01621 891067
	Jackie Masterson	07951 537206
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Email (for all enquiries):	parishmagazinetotham@yahoo.co.uk	

St Peter's Church Website:

www.achurchnearlyou.com/church/6657



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



Blackwater Benefice Ministry Team Message



What Do You Say?

One of the first things our parents teach us is to say “thank you”. What do you say, nodding, “thank you”.

It was an early lesson that we should express gratitude. Of course, what our parents were trying to instil in us was not so much to **say** “thank you” but to **be** thankful. Saying thank you was merely an expression to show our thankfulness for a present, some sweets, food, drink, a gift that was given to us. It is said that today people seem to have a sense of entitlement, such that being thankful or grateful is rather old fashioned. Knowing one’s “rights”, knowing what we are entitled to is considered vitally important. Stand up for your rights.

~~~~~

Progressing from “what do you say” to “what do you think” is a sign that we are growing up.

We are asked our opinion. I would say that most people like to be asked their opinion. Most people have an opinion. Some people ask your opinion so that they can give their own back.

Market researchers may even pay to hear your opinion. On the other hand, we have to guard against being considered opinionated, meaning always thinking our opinion is the “right one” or “the only one”. Louis B. Mayer, late of MGM Pictures, once said “when I want your opinion I’ll give it to you”!

Our Lord Jesus once posed a question truly seeking the opinion of His disciples. A question that all of us have to answer, and sometimes we need to answer over and again, and we can’t avoid giving our answer because Jesus rather insists upon it.

The context: Jesus had just performed the miracle of the loaves and fishes, and afterwards asks the disciples a simple question: “Who do people say I am?”  
*Matthew 16*

That’s an easy one. His disciples answer, “Some say you are John The Baptist, some say Elijah, and still others, Jeremiah or another of the Prophets”.

“You don’t say” (paraphrasing Jesus). “But what about you. Who do **you** say I am?”

Peter, bless his cotton fisherman’s socks, gets it in one. “**You are the Christ, the Son of the living God**”.

*Paul Smith,  
St Peters Church, Great Totham*

# Church News

## Church Registers

### Funerals

1st June                      Rosemarie Gaunt of Tiptree  
 5th June                      Ian White of Great Totham

## Coffee Morning at The Honywood



Our next Coffee Mornings are on Saturday, 25th July and Saturday, 22nd August. We look forward to seeing you then for bacon butties, tea, coffee, cake and chat, 10am to 12 noon, in The Honywood, Hall Road.

*Sheila Allen*

| Rotas                                                                                                                    | Church Flowers                                                                                                                                            | Church Cleaning                                                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5th July<br>12th July<br>19th July<br>26th July<br>2nd August<br>9th August<br>16th August<br>23rd August<br>30th August | Jenny Barclay<br>Wedding<br>Karin Mann<br>Sally Thake<br>Sally Buckley<br>Pat Eaton<br>Sue Morgan<br>Sue Keyes<br>Benefice Service at<br>Tolleshunt Major | Isobel Doubleday<br>-<br>Mr and Mrs Campbell<br>-<br>Mr and Mrs Kemsley<br>-<br>Heather Gulliver/Isobel Doubleday<br>-<br>Sue Morgan and Sharon Hawkins |

**Church Extension and Kitchen Cleaning: July:** Sandra Smith  
**August:** Karin Mann

## Donations



### To donate to St Peter's Church:

- scan the QR code;
- make a BACS payment to St Peter's Church (sort code 20-54-30, account number 20882739);
- send a cheque (payable to 'St Peter's Church, Great Totham') to:  
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# Church News

## Services at St Peter's Church

St Peter's Church is open for private prayer  
10am-3pm Monday to Saturday  
11am-3pm on Sundays

| Date                                                                                                         | Time | Service                                                 | Readings                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5th July<br>Fifth Sunday<br>after Trinity                                                                    | 10am | Morning Service of<br>the Word                          | Ps. 145. 8-15<br>Rom. 7. 15-25                             |
|                                                                                                              | 6pm  | Evensong by Zoom                                        | <i>Gospel:</i><br>Matt. 11. 16-19, 25-end                  |
| 12th July<br>Sixth Sunday<br>after Trinity<br><i>(no 10am service at St<br/>Peter's Great Totham)</i>        | 10am | Sea Sunday Service<br>at Goldhanger<br>Sailing Club     | Isa. 55. 10-13<br>Rom. 8. 1-11                             |
|                                                                                                              | 6pm  | Evensong by Zoom                                        | <i>Gospel:</i><br>Matt. 13. 1-9, 18-23                     |
| 19th July<br>Seventh Sunday<br>after Trinity                                                                 | 10am | Family Communion                                        | Ps. 86. 11-end                                             |
|                                                                                                              | 6pm  | Evensong by Zoom                                        | Rom. 8. 12-25<br><i>Gospel:</i><br>Matt. 13. 24-30, 36-43  |
| 26th July<br>Eighth Sunday<br>after Trinity                                                                  | 10am | Family Communion                                        | 1 Kings 3. 5-12                                            |
|                                                                                                              | 6pm  | Evensong by Zoom                                        | Rom. 8. 26-end<br><i>Gospel:</i><br>Matt. 13. 31-33, 44-52 |
| 2nd August<br>Ninth Sunday<br>after Trinity                                                                  | 10am | Morning Service of<br>the Word                          | Ps. 145. 8-9, 15-end                                       |
|                                                                                                              | 6pm  | Evensong by Zoom                                        | Rom. 9. 1-5<br><i>Gospel:</i> Matt. 14. 13-21              |
| 9th August<br>Tenth Sunday<br>after Trinity                                                                  | 10am | Morning Service of<br>the Word                          | 1 Kings 19. 9-18                                           |
|                                                                                                              | 6pm  | Evensong by Zoom                                        | Rom. 10. 5-15<br><i>Gospel:</i> Matt. 14. 22-33            |
| 16th August<br>Eleventh Sunday<br>after Trinity                                                              | 10am | Family Communion                                        | Isa. 56. 1, 6-8                                            |
|                                                                                                              | 6pm  | Evensong by Zoom                                        | Rom. 11. 1-2, 29-32<br><i>Gospel:</i> Matt. 15. 21-28      |
| 23rd August<br>Twelfth Sunday<br>after Trinity                                                               | 10am | Family Communion                                        | Ps. 138                                                    |
|                                                                                                              | 6pm  | Evensong by Zoom                                        | Rom. 12. 1-8<br><i>Gospel:</i> Matt. 16. 13-20             |
| 30th August<br>Thirteenth Sunday<br>after Trinity<br><i>(no 10am service at St<br/>Peter's Great Totham)</i> | 10am | Benefice Service at<br>St Nicholas,<br>Tolleshunt Major | Jer. 15. 15-21<br>Rom. 12. 9-end                           |
|                                                                                                              | 6pm  | Evensong by Zoom                                        | <i>Gospel:</i> Matt. 16. 21-end                            |

# Church News



## Benefice Worship



Visit the website or Facebook page for up to date information on services, or contact Karin Mann (01621 891215) or Karen Tarpey (01621 892122).

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

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



For details of Evensong by Zoom contact Rev'd Sue Godsmark

### Book of Common Prayer Communion Services:

10am            Wednesdays            at St. Nicholas, Tolleshunt D'Arcy  
5.30pm        Saturdays                    at All Saints Little Totham

Visit the website or email [blackwaterbenefice@gmail.com](mailto:blackwaterbenefice@gmail.com) for details of other Benefice events and activities.



## Beacon Group of Churches Monthly Prayer Meeting



All welcome to the next meetings, which last around half an hour, at:

9.30am, Saturday, 4th July at St Nicholas' Church, Little Braxted

9.30am, Saturday, 1st August at All Saints' Church, Little Totham

## The Parish of St. Peter's Great Totham

Charity Number: XN 12862

### 100+ Club Draw Winners May

**1st Prize: James Bettley**

**2nd Prize: Sonya Hornett**

**3rd Prize: Lucy Bettley**

Over the course of a year, 50% of subscriptions is returned in prizes. For every 100 members, the prize value will be £50 per month: 1st prize £25, 2nd prize £15 and 3rd prize £10. More members means bigger prizes.

Membership runs from 1st May to 30th April the following year, although you may join at any time. If you would like to join the scheme, whose proceeds benefit the church, please contact Roger Allen, 100+ Club Administrator, on 01621 892334, email: [rw\\_allen@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rw_allen@yahoo.co.uk)

Subscriptions (£12 per year) may be by standing order, online bank transfer (sort code 20-54-30, account number 30603562, reference your surname), by cheque payable to 'St Peter's Great Totham Donations A/C' or lastly by cash to Roger Allen.

# *Church News*

## **News from the Belfry**

The summer months are here and there is nothing more enjoyable than reading a book in the garden. I am an avid reader and like to read in bed. Sometimes crime thrillers are so scary that it is difficult to go to sleep. This may be just one of the reasons that the genre of books dubbed “Cosy Crime” have become popular in recent years. The author, Robert Thorogood, has become a well known exponent of this genre. He created the murder mystery series “Death In Paradise”, as well as co-writing the spin-off series “Beyond Paradise” and “Return to Paradise”. A series of murder mystery novels entitled “The Marlow Murder Club” was published in 2021. All these books have been adapted for our screens. Robert was born in Colchester, but now lives in Marlow with his family.

“The Marlow Murder Club” comprises Judith Potts, Suzie Harris and Rebecca (Becks) Starling. Their prowess in solving crime makes them invaluable to the local police force and they are drafted in as civilian advisors. The book features locations in and around Marlow. Becks Starling is portrayed as the wife of the vicar of the local church. All Saints, Marlow, is used as the location for filming, but the reader is left to assume that All Saints is his parish church.

Sometimes it is difficult to separate fact from fiction, but this caught my attention whilst reading the “The Marlow Murder Club”. Let’s set the scene. It is a dark and stormy night and Judith is being held at gunpoint in her riverside mansion. The only access to her house is blocked by a fallen tree. It is choir practice at the church and, to the astonishment of her husband and the choir, Becks rushes in, and with a walking stick, smashes a display cabinet in the church and grabs a sword. She then runs up the stairs of the bell tower and rings the largest bell to alert the people of Marlow to danger. She then grabs the longest bell rope which reaches down to the ground floor and saws off a length with the sword and dashes out of the church with her husband and members of the choir in hot pursuit. You may ask what she intends to use the bell rope for and was her plan successful? Sorry, but you will have to read the book! I should mention at this point that sawing off a bell rope is never a good idea, as it costs in excess of £200 to replace and would also incur the wrath of the Tower Captain.

All Saints’ Church occupies a prominent position in Marlow and is popularly known as the church on the bridge. It was built in 1832 to replace an earlier church on the site. It has a ring of eight bells hung for change ringing. Three bells were cast in 1719 by Richard Phelps. A further three bells were cast between the years 1827 and 1834 by Thomas Mears. Another bell was cast in 1934 by Mears and Stainbank, whilst the final bell was cast in 1978 by The Whitechapel Bell Foundry.

Would you like to learn to ring our bells? For further information please contact Janice, our Tower Captain, on 07790 354338 or visit our website

<https://greattothambellringers.co.uk>

## Church News

### Bellringers' Competition Success



On Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> May, three of our ringers (including one of our newest recruits), formed a joint band with Terling, and entered a team into the EACR's South East District's striking competition. This was held at All Saints' Church, Purleigh. This is a six bell tower, not the easiest to ring due to long ropes and odd-struck bells.

At 2.30pm, the order of the competing teams was decided, with our team being drawn last. After a nervous wait it was our turn, and all went quite smoothly. Whilst the judges were consolidating their conclusions, a short district meeting was held, at the end of which the results were announced, along with some observational comments. These were quite positive on the whole, and we were thrilled when we were awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> place!! Well done team!

*John Keeble*



As we are celebrating our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, we will be taking over the 10am service at St Peter's on Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> August, with the help of Tim Whitfield. So come along and find out more about us and join in our celebrations. Great Totham Mothers' Union was formed in 1910!

An anniversary service was held at St. Paul's Cathedral on 10<sup>th</sup> June. On 22<sup>nd</sup> July, seven members of Great Totham Mothers' Union will be attending an Afternoon Tea at the chapter house in Chelmsford for a fun celebration.

Our September meeting will be on 11<sup>th</sup> at the Honywood Hall starting at 1.45pm.

On Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> November, we will be attending an all-day service at Chelmsford Cathedral.

For more information on the Mothers' Union meetings please contact me on 01621 891315.

*June Eaton*

***In your prayers at home this month, please include:***

Our 'Friendship Church' - Bragernes Kirke, Drammen, Norway

John, Andrew and Nina

# *Children's Colouring Page*



*Sourced by June Eaton*

# Children's Page



## National Lollipop Day 20th July



National Lollipop Day arrives every 20th July, inviting everyone to unwrap a classic stick-bound treat. This day is a delightful excuse to indulge your sweet tooth. Grab a lollipop, share one with a friend, and let the simple joy of this treat brighten your day.

### History of National Lollipop Day

Lollipops have been around in some form since forever. In prehistoric times, cavemen would collect honey from beehives using a stick. The sweet nectar was licked off the stick. Ancient Chinese, Egyptians, and Arabs also 'candied' fruit and nuts by glazing them with honey and inserting sticks into the confection.

With the surplus of sugar in the 17th century, the English started the trend of preparing boiled sugar candy, and they too inserted sticks into the treats. In Northern England, the word for 'tongue' is 'lolly' and pop means 'slap', so 'lolly pop' means 'tongue slap.' The term probably got popularised by street vendors in London.

In 1905, the McAviney Candy Company was producing boiled candies, the mixture of which was stirred using a stick. The owner would take home sticks covered with hardened candy for his children. In 1908, he marketed these 'candy sticks.' But it is George Smith, owner of the confectionery company Bradley Smith Company, who is credited for creating the modern lollipop. He started making them in 1908 and trademarked the word 'lollipop' in 1931. Lollipops were also referred to as 'dum dum suckers'.

The first automated production of lollipops also started in 1908 in Wisconsin, USA. The Racine Confectioners Machinery Company built a machine that attached candy to sticks at 2,400 sticks per hour. Russian immigrant Samuel Born also invented a machine that did the same thing in 1916. His machine was so well-received that San Francisco awarded Born the 'Key to the City' that year. There are over 100 varieties of lollipops available today in all shapes and sizes.

### Ideas for making the day special

1. Buy one or two lollipops for yourself today. You'll feel like a little kid with a sucker in your mouth, and the sweet taste will make you smile.
2. Share lollipops with friends! Buy a bag of lollipops to share with friends, and if you're feeling especially generous, share them with strangers, too!

*Sourced by June Eaton*

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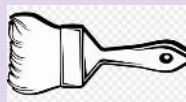
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# Community News



## Great Totham Parish Council Report for June



We were pleased to welcome the newly elected member of Essex County Council, Stuart Clarke, to the June meeting. Although it is early days, it was reassuring to hear that one of the most frequently occurring concerns of residents, namely, the state of our roads and, specifically, potholes, was already being addressed. Traditionally, rural roads have had a different structure to their urban counterparts, presumably because they carried less traffic but, with the advent of hundreds of new homes and bigger vehicles, they have suffered badly and, it must be said, our frequent reports to Highways drawing attention to the dangerous state of our roads have not always been acted upon. For most of his working life, my husband was a highway engineer responsible for his own 'patch' and woe betide him if his boss became aware of a problem before it had at least been identified or, better still, its refurbishment already begun! Now, we are told, there will once again be designated overseers for each area and potholes will not merely be patched but integrated into a properly reinstated section of road. Residents are still invited to report any Highways issues, and they will be directed to the appropriate department.

The Year End Accounts for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 were received, as were the Internal Audit Report and the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, all of which are publicly available. Appreciation for the Clerk's assistance during the audit was recorded, as was the quality of documentation.

Members of the Amenities Team have been busy this month, particularly regarding the recreation areas. To maintain them as safe places for our children to play, it was resolved to carry out monthly in-house inspections to augment the annual inspection by Maldon District Council. Contractors have now been appointed to remove equipment from the Jubilee Recreation Ground and quotations sought for repairs to apparatus on the Braxted Lane site where some items, for example, a 'baby swing', will need to be replaced. Members agreed that setting up a Reserve Fund for Playground Equipment Repairs would ensure that necessary work could be speedily completed.

While on the topic of the play areas there was recently quite a flurry of comments regarding a dog running free in the Jubilee Recreation Ground. With apologies to the caring and law-abiding dog owners who keep their pets under control, it seems it needs to be repeated that not only is this antisocial and dangerous but also illegal. It really should not require the proposed installation of a CCTV camera to ensure the area is used correctly.

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# Community News

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Members also approved the 'Hire of Open Spaces Policy' whereby open spaces managed by Great Totham Parish Council could be used by local groups. Applications would be considered on a case-by-case basis and, of course, the Council would reserve the right to refuse an application should the proposed use of the area be deemed inappropriate. Additional information on terms and conditions may be obtained from the Clerk.

Thus far, this report seems to be rather heavily fixated on 'Potholes and Playgrounds' as, indeed, is this final item! Following the success of the family sports and games event, held recently in the village, more sessions are proposed for the summer, and it was decided that Maldon District Council be approached to register our interest and investigate available dates.

The next Council meeting will take place at 7.30pm on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> July in the Village Hall.

*Vicky Heaviside*

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## Great Totham Gardening Club

Our next event will be the Spud Bucket Challenge at 4.30pm on Friday, 11th September, followed by the **2026 Autumn Show** on Saturday, 12th September, both at the Village Hall.

We look forward to seeing you there!

For more information, email [hpmutton@gmail.com](mailto:hpmutton@gmail.com) or [norman.escala1@btinternet.com](mailto:norman.escala1@btinternet.com)

*Norman Wright*

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

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# Community News

## **Eulogy Terry Jenkins 11th May 1946—11th May 2026**

Terence William Jenkins, known to all as Terry, was the eldest son of Bill and Kath Jenkins. He was joined two years later by his younger sister, Sue. The family lived at 147 St. Andrew's Avenue in Elm Park, just outside Romford. Terry's love of driving started early with his three-wheeled trike. One summer, while honing his driving skills round the garden, he knocked off the single apple that was the growing on his dad's prize apple tree. Young Terry then tied the apple back on so he didn't get in trouble; until his Dad wondered why the apple didn't continue to grow. Terry attended Duningfords Primary School and met two of his best friends, Barry and Geoff there. The family later moved round the corner to Ennerdale Avenue; Geoff lived across the road, while Barry was also close. Terry went to Sutton Secondary School and enjoyed technical drawing and was good in practical subjects.

When Terry was about 15, the Jenkins family bought a caravan at the Happy Days Caravan Park in Heybridge. The owners, Dot and Reg Norburn, had three children, Pat, Pete and the youngest, Jackie. Jackie and Sue became friends first. Jackie and Terry started courting in 1965, when Jackie was 17 and Terry was 19. Terry wowed her with his light blue Mark 1 Consul convertible, completed by a grey stripe, wheel-spinners and leaky roof!

Even as a teenager, Jackie was a determined person who knew her own mind. After they had been dating for two years, Jackie arrived at Terry's house in Elm Park (with Pat in tow) and told Terry that they were getting married. A bungalow had become available and she wanted to move in. Although the 21 year old Terry hadn't given it much thought, he knew he had better do as he was told and said yes! On 18th November 1967, they married at All Saints Church in Maldon.

Jackie and Terry initially lived in their bungalow at Wharf Road, buying their first house after 18 months in Grosvenor Close, Tiptree, for £3,750. Terry was working as a mechanic at A1 Bodies in Mundon, while Jackie was a book-keeper at Richardson and Preece in Heybridge. In May 1970, their eldest son Allen arrived, and while he was little, Jackie started working as a part-time book-keeper at the garage in Great Totham, at that time both a workshop and petrol station. A year later, the owner of the garage decided to retire, and Jackie saw an opportunity. With help from Jackie's dad, Terry, and the heavily pregnant Jackie, bought Great Totham Garage in the autumn of 1972 and baby Stuart was born a couple of months later in November.

The family worked hard in their new business. Terry was the mechanic, and Jackie did the books. They also served petrol, at four shillings and sixpence a gallon, even on Christmas Day. The business was a success, and Allen followed his dad as a mechanic, while the teenage Stuart preferred the golf course. In 1998 they expanded their business empire and bought the shop next door.

*/continued on next page*

## Community News

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While Allen took over managing the garage, Terry ran the shop, joined after a few years by Stuart, and Jackie became the postmistress. The overriding memory people have shared with us is how helpful Terry was to his customers. If something wasn't stocked in the shop, he would drive to Cash and Carry to buy it. He would also offer to deliver shopping and papers, often giving people lifts around the countryside if they needed it. He was never to be found in the afternoon though, as he was usually on the sofa having a sneaky nap! Christmas was an event in the shop and usually saw Terry dressed up as Father Christmas wandering the streets of Great Totham wishing everyone a Merry Christmas.

Terry loved everything to do with cars and driving. He passed his PSV licence and drove for Stan's Coaches. He used to do the school run, collecting children from Totham North to take them to the primary school in Totham South, and then taking teenagers from Great Totham to Plume Secondary School in Maldon. He would also do coach runs around the country. He loved a road trip and would think nothing of driving daughter-in-law Louise to Leeds for the day for a meeting, or his sister Sue to Wales to visit her grandchildren.

Terry and Jackie didn't just work though. While at the garage, they met Ivor James, and Terry and Ivor decided to work together to build a racing car. They weren't very successful, and it kept breaking down. While they attempted to race round Jenkins Farm they watched mini-cross racing and then bought their own mini to race. Jackie could see that the mini-crossers lacked 'leadership skills' and became the Entry Secretary. Terry joined her and acted as a Course Marshall, and later Clerk of the Course when not racing. They met many of their closest lifelong friends through mini-cross, rally-cross and truck racing.

Although childhood holidays were at Walton-on-the-Naze, or the Camp, as their children grew up, Terry and Jackie developed a love of travel. They holidayed around the world in far-flung places, including Australia, New Zealand, Thailand, Jamaica, Canada, on safari in Africa, even St Petersburg in Russia, and, of course, America. Their favourite cruise was to Alaska to see the glaciers. They would frequently hop across the Atlantic to surprise family members in Canada and America at various weddings, with Terry occasionally dressed as a chimney sweep. Terry loved photography and took photos of their travels.

Jackie and Terry were famous for their parties and dinner parties and were always keen on a theme. To celebrate Terry's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday, they had a camping weekend at Picketts Lock and since life begins at 40, Terry arrived for breakfast in a nappy. We have happy memories of New Year murder mystery evenings, the legendary Great Totham Olympics, show nights, race nights, casino and cocktail nights, St Trinian's theme, 1950s night, and dressing up as cowboys and Indians. Jackie always organised everything to within an inch of its life, and

*/continued on page 22*

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## *Community News*

*/continued from page 21*

Terry would spend weeks beforehand transforming the house. He added saloon shutters to the family room and build an outdoor ranch style food station, complete with wagon wheels. He also built a roulette table as part of a games night that raised money to send his sister-in-law, Pat to Russia to undertake missionary work! Their hospitality was fantastic, and many needy souls have stayed in Terry and Jackie's spare room over the years. Some stayed for a night or two, and some for longer if they needed it.

Jackie died after a short illness in March 2019, and Terry missed her terribly. He would often sit in his chair and look at photos of her and wrote her some truly beautiful poems and letters that expressed this, even when he wouldn't say the words out loud. He was a lovely man, with the biggest fingers anyone had ever seen. He always had a chunk out of his bald head where he had hit it on a car engine in the garage, or a kitchen cupboard. He was kind and generous with his time, and he will be greatly missed by his sons, daughters-in-law, grandchildren, sister, friends, and all who knew him. We know he is at peace now and reunited with his beloved Jackie.

*The Jenkins Family*



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## *Church News*

### **Reverend Andrew Vince**



*L-R:  
Revd Andy with  
Revd Janet Nicholls,  
The Rt Revd Roger  
Morris, Revd Jo Wood  
and The Venerable Ruth  
Patten.*

On Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> June, in St Mary's Church, Tollesbury, Reverend Andrew Vince was licensed as an Associate Priest to the Blackwater Benefice by the Bishop of Colchester, The Rt. Revd Roger Morris and the Archdeacon of Colchester, The Venerable Ruth Patten. The Church was filled with family, friends, and colleagues from across the Benefice and the Diocese of Chelmsford.

*Revd Jo Wood  
Team Vicar Designate,  
The Waterside Parishes*

*Revd Andy writes:*

I would like to thank everyone for the lovely messages that I have received for all your support and prayers before the service and during this truly wonderful time of celebration, and for my ongoing Ministry. A very special thank you to all who did so much of the work preparing for the service, sending out the invitations and arranging everything, and for making the service so memorable.

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# Community News



MALDON DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Your District Councillors



For the past three years the Maldon District Independent Group has led a minority administration at Maldon District Council. We have achieved that by working together with other political groups to ensure that we deliver for the district. This has created stability for the Council, and, in the past three years, there has been more investment in the district's assets than in the previous 14 years.

Unfortunately, this stability and working together was not enough for the other three political groups and at the 2026 Statutory Annual Meeting, the Conservative, District Support Group and Reform voted for a change, and the Conservative party is now in administration. This decision excluded the Liberal Democrats, the Maldon District Independent Group, and the non-aligned Councillors. Although this is disappointing to Jade and I, we will continue to work hard for the Great Totham ward and the wider district.

I am pleased that our Resident Survey backs up the changes in how they feel about the Council, with, overall, 90% of answers to questions either in line or with satisfaction growth, an increase from 2024. Residents' overall perception of the Council services remained positive, with the majority of questions seeing an increase in positive responses. Resident satisfaction with "good quality events" saw the biggest growth (+12%), followed by the Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support Service (+11%).

One of the best initiatives we have implemented over the past 18 months is the Community Grant Scheme and the Thriving Places grants. These grants have made a huge difference across the district and have directly funded three projects in Great Totham; have a look at the video [www.youtube.com/watch?v=JG4ID5-pdKg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JG4ID5-pdKg) to show the difference it has made.

UFest returns on Friday, 14th August; a free, fun community festival in Maldon's Promenade Park that celebrates life, health, and wellbeing, bringing people together for a day of activities, entertainment, and chances to learn something new. The event is open to everyone of all ages in the district and beyond.

We have now completed the dredging of the Hythe Quay, after 16 years of lack of investment. This will improve navigation and access to the quay. The works involved the careful removal of built-up silt and debris, restoring safe and efficient access for both commercial and leisure vessels alongside the quay. In addition, the project saw the temporary removal of the visitor pontoon for maintenance, and this is now back in place.

If you have any need for support, please contact either Jade or myself:

[cllr.richard.siddall@maldon.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.richard.siddall@maldon.gov.uk)

[cllr.jade.hughes@maldon.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.jade.hughes@maldon.gov.uk)

Best wishes,  
Richard



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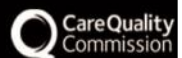
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# Community News

## News from Great Totham Primary School

[www.greattotham.essex.sch.uk](http://www.greattotham.essex.sch.uk)



### Year 2 Football Festival

On Wednesday 6th May, we took a team of 10 children to a Fun Football Festival at Shrub End Sports Ground in Colchester. The event was organised by the Colchester and Blackwater School Sport Partnership, with eight schools attending throughout the day.



The first half of the morning involved a variety of fun fitness activities and football skills sessions, followed by a series of seven-minute mini matches. Each school team was split into two groups, creating an exciting five-a-side festival atmosphere. After a couple of games, we soon got the hang of things! One particularly memorable moment came when we had to defend a penalty; Nico made a brilliant save with his shin! The children's excitement and enjoyment were clear to see, with warm ups including cartwheels and plenty of smiles. A huge thank you to the parents and grandparents who transported the children and stayed to support them throughout the event.

### Sponsored Walk



Our annual PTFA Sponsored Walk was a great success, a big thank you to the PTFA for organising the event once again and to Mario and Luigi for leading the way! Well done to all those children who took part! We are grateful to the many parents and staff who helped with registration and marshalling.

### Sports Day

Before half term, we were delighted to host our 2026 Sports Day for both KS1 and KS2 and thankfully, the weather was on our side!

KS1 kicked off the morning with great enthusiasm, taking part in a range of exciting events including sack races, bean bag throwing and hurdling. The children showed fantastic determination and teamwork as they earned points for their house teams, all while enjoying every moment of the competition. After the team



events, the morning concluded with a series of closely contested sprint finals that had everyone cheering from the side-lines. Finally, it was time to reveal the overall team winners: Birch!

In the afternoon, KS2 took to the field and continued the day's brilliant atmosphere. Pupils competed in a variety of events such as netball shooting, hockey dribbling and rebounder catching,

*/continued on next page*

# Community News

*/continued from previous page*

once again giving their all to collect points for their teams. The sprint finals rounded off the afternoon in style, showcasing some excellent athletic performances. After the medals had been awarded and the final scores calculated, we were excited to announce this year's overall winners: Maple!

A huge thank you to all the children, staff and supporters who helped make this year's Sports Day such a fantastic success.

*Written by: Mr Hunt*

## **Athletics Sports Day 2026**

On Wednesday, 20th May we hosted our sports day field events. Over previous weeks, children from KS2 had competed in trials for high jump or ball throw. The afternoon saw over 70 children taking part in the glorious sunshine with some excellent athletic skills on display, culminating in a thrilling high jump competition. Thank you to everyone who took part in this event and congratulations to the many bronze, silver and gold medallists.



## **Year 4 Outdoor Learning**



On Thursday 21st May, Year 4 had their World War II themed outdoor learning day. The children and adults had so much fun experiencing a range of activities all linked to the 1940s era; bunker building in the den, pick-up sticks, marbles and making WWII paper aeroplanes. The children also had a go at charcoal drawing, creating their own evacuee name tags and picking at random their evacuation destination. After the fun activities, the year group sang the National Anthem and

enjoyed a tasty cream tea in the sun to celebrate the end of the war. This was followed by some jive dancing on the field which the children had been learning as part of their dance sessions in PE. It was such a patriotic and fun-filled day!

## **Rounders Tournament 21st May**

Our students recently took part in a Rounders Tournament at Thurstable and represented the school with great enthusiasm, determination and sportsmanship throughout the event. The tournament provided an excellent opportunity for students to put their skills, learned during Mr Hunt's after school club, into practice against other schools, with a number of closely contested matches and some impressive performances in both batting and fielding. The children worked hard throughout the competition, supporting one another and demonstrating excellent teamwork.

*Compiled by Jo Mazzerella*

# Community News

## What's on in your Community

**The Treehouse Club Pre-School**  
Monday to Friday, Village Hall

**Rainbows**  
Monday, Church Extension

**Carpet Bowls**  
630pm-830pm Tuesday, Village Hall

**Baby Signage**  
9am Wednesday, Church Extension

**Bible Study Group**  
1030am Wednesday, Honywood Hall

**Community Choir**  
730pm Wednesday, Church Extension

**Edward Bear Club**  
1030am Thursday, Church Extension

**Great Totham WI**  
730pm 2nd Thursday, Village Hall

**Wickham Bishops Gardening Club**  
730pm third Thursday,  
St Bartholomew's Church Hall

**Wickham Bishops WI**  
2pm last Thursday,  
St Bartholomew's Church Hall

**Knit and Natter**  
10am Friday, Honywood Hall

**Bellringing Practice**  
745pm Friday, St Peter's Church

**Mothers' Union**  
145pm some Fridays, Honywood Hall  
Contact June Eaton 01621 891315 for dates

**St Peter's Church Coffee Morning**  
10am 4th Saturday, Honywood Hall

**URC, Great Totham North**

**Art Club**  
Monday, 2pm-4pm

**Upholstery Classes**  
Monday, 7.30pm-9.30pm  
Tuesday, 10am-12 noon;  
12.30pm-2.30pm

**Lunch Club**  
10.30am—2pm  
2nd and 4th Wednesday

**Craft and Chatter**  
1.30pm—3.30pm 2nd Thursday

**Piecemakers**  
**Patchwork and Needlework Group**  
1.30pm—3.30pm last Thursday

**Church Coffee Morning**  
10am—11.30am 2nd Saturday

*See page 39 for contact details  
To include your group here, email:  
parishmagazinetotham@yahoo.co.uk*

## Future Events

**Saturday, 12th September**  
Great Totham Gardening Club  
Autumn Show

**Saturday, 12th September**  
FoECT Sponsored Ride and  
Stride

**Sunday, 13th September**  
Pets' Service at St Peter's Church



Covers created by  
Purple Rabbit Designer



# Community News



## Great Totham WI



At our June meeting we welcomed Rosemary Parker, an holistic reflexologist, as our speaker. Reflexology is a type of massage that involves applying different amounts of pressure to the feet, hands, and ears. It is based on the theory that these are connected to certain organs and body systems. Rosemary demonstrated this and members were able to ask her how this treatment might help with their specific ailments. An engaging speaker who gave us plenty of tips on how to increase our wellbeing.

As a result of successfully obtaining a bursary from the WI, a number of our members are taking part in flower arranging classes under the expert tutelage of Margaret Frost. A great way to spend an afternoon. In July, we will be visiting Braxted Bakery for a social get together and in August, Bryan Thurlow will take us 'Through the Green Baize Door'.



We always like to see new members and welcome you as a guest at any of our meetings held on the second Thursday in the month at Great Totham Village Hall, commencing at 7.30 pm.

If you would like any more information about our group, you can find us on our website [www.greattothamwi.weebly.com](http://www.greattothamwi.weebly.com) or e mail [greattothamwi@gmail.com](mailto:greattothamwi@gmail.com)

*Sue Pulford*



## Wickham Bishops WI



Due to illness our expected speaker was unable to come, and a replacement had to be found at the last moment. Very kindly, Sarah Greene came to rescue us at the last moment.

Sarah gave a very interesting talk on her transition from a gruelling job for Virgin to training to become a Nutritionist. We came away with many views on what we eat and what supplements we take.

We received a report on the County Meeting from members who attended and were also reminded to vote for Resolutions for next year.

Plans are afoot for an outing for Crazy Golf followed by lunch. Watch out for the photos!

Our meetings are held in Wickham Bishops Village Hall on the last Thursday of the month, 2–4pm. We are always happy to welcome visitors and new members.

Please contact me on 01621 815161 for further information.

*Margaret Curtis*

# Community 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



**Your local  
update**

Visit [essex.police.uk/your-area](http://essex.police.uk/your-area) for news and updates on:

- The work of the Community and Local Policing Teams
- Crime trends
- Crime prevention



Essex Police – Colchester



Follow @CInspHuddleston or @EPColchester



<http://www.essex.police.uk>

## 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: [ianbarratt43@gmail.com](mailto:ianbarratt43@gmail.com)

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



## Wickham Bishops Library

**Monday: 2pm-5.30pm**  
**Saturday: 9am-5pm**

**Wednesday: 2pm-5.30pm**  
Telephone: 0345 6037628

**Baby and Toddler Rhymetime:** Mondays 2.15pm-2.45pm.  
Stories and rhymes for babies and young children.

**Saturday Story Time:** 10.30am-11am every third Saturday of the month.  
Free sessions aimed at children aged 5 and under, but everyone is welcome.

**Ancestry:** Wednesdays 3.30pm-4.30pm. Help to research your family history.

**Code Club:** Saturdays 9am-10am.  
Learn how to make cool games, animations and websites.

## Contacts for Community Activities (See page 3 for Church Activities)

|                                     |                   |                                                                                  |              |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Rangers |                   | <a href="http://www.girlguiding.org.uk">www.girlguiding.org.uk</a>               |              |
| Rainbows at St Peter's Church       | Rosie Pollock     |                                                                                  | 893168       |
| Scouts, Cubs, Beavers at Prances    | Brenda Heal       | <a href="mailto:bjheal@btinternet.com">bjheal@btinternet.com</a>                 |              |
| Great Totham Cricket Club Colts     | Paul Marks        |                                                                                  | 07709 793958 |
| The Treehouse Club Pre-School       | Village Hall      |                                                                                  | 01621 468020 |
| Edward Bear Club (Toddler Group)    | St Peter's Church | Rosie Pollock                                                                    | 893168       |
| Gardening Club                      | Village Hall      | Pauline Wright                                                                   | 892855       |
| WI: GT Evening 2nd Thurs. 7.30pm    | Village Hall      | Sue Pulford                                                                      | 892063       |
| GT & WB last Thurs. 2pm             | St.B Church Hall  | Di Mellor                                                                        | 892247       |
| Day Centre Wednesdays               | URC               | Jean Johnstone                                                                   | 892293       |
| Carpet Bowls Tues 6.30pm-8.30pm     | Village Hall      | Jean Cloughton                                                                   | 892286       |
| Tollesbury Table Tennis Club        | Paul Freeman      | <a href="mailto:freemans21@hotmail.com">freemans21@hotmail.com</a>               |              |
|                                     |                   | 862510 / 07855 204505                                                            |              |
| Maldon Croquet Club                 |                   | <a href="mailto:maldoncroquetclub@gmail.com">maldoncroquetclub@gmail.com</a>     |              |
| Wickham Bishops Drama Club          |                   | <a href="http://www.wickhambishopsdrama.co.uk">www.wickhambishopsdrama.co.uk</a> |              |
| Knit and Natter (Honywood Hall)     | Sandra Smith      |                                                                                  | 893153       |
| Wickham Bishops Gardening Club      | Stewart / Wendy   | <a href="mailto:HortiClub@outlook.com">HortiClub@outlook.com</a>                 | 893360       |

## Useful Telephone Numbers

|                                                  |                                  |                                                                                                     |                             |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Honywood Hall Hire                               |                                  | Karin Mann                                                                                          | 929866                      |
| St Peter's Church Extension Hire                 |                                  | Karin Mann                                                                                          | 929866                      |
| Village Hall hire                                |                                  | Sue Pulford                                                                                         | 892063                      |
| URC hall hire                                    |                                  | Sue Bowyer                                                                                          | 893285                      |
| Memorial Iron Crosses for the Interment of Ashes |                                  | Chris Munton                                                                                        | 891817                      |
| Great Totham Parish Council                      |                                  | Clerk: Nikki Smith                                                                                  | 07811400803                 |
| District Councillors                             | Jade Hughes                      | <a href="mailto:cllr.jade.hughes@maldon.gov.uk">cllr.jade.hughes@maldon.gov.uk</a>                  |                             |
|                                                  | Richard Siddall                  |                                                                                                     | 07979 853947 / 890809       |
| County Councillor                                | Mark Durham                      |                                                                                                     | 01245 227249 / 07850 967239 |
| Great Totham Primary School                      |                                  |                                                                                                     | 891091                      |
| Maldon District Council                          |                                  |                                                                                                     | 854477                      |
| Maldon Citizens Advice                           |                                  | email: <a href="mailto:manager@maldoncitizensadvice.org.uk">manager@maldoncitizensadvice.org.uk</a> | 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        |                                  | <a href="mailto:emily.fallon@maldon.gov.uk">emily.fallon@maldon.gov.uk</a>                          |                             |
| NSPCC 24 hour helpline for children              |                                  |                                                                                                     | 0800 800 500 (free)         |
| The Samaritans                                   |                                  |                                                                                                     | 116 123                     |
| DIAL UK (Disability Information & Advice Line)   |                                  | <a href="http://www.dialuk.info">www.dialuk.info</a>                                                |                             |
| Church of England, St. Peter's                   | Contact Rosie Pollock            |                                                                                                     | 07908 776750                |
| Totham Barn Free Evangelical Church              | Contact Danbury Mission:         |                                                                                                     | 01245 227428                |
| United Reformed Church                           |                                  |                                                                                                     | 01376 500958                |
| Wickham Bishops St Bartholomew's Church          |                                  |                                                                                                     | 07544 973705                |
| Maldon Methodist Church Office                   | Rev'd Clifford Newman            |                                                                                                     | 853423                      |
| Maldon Roman Catholic Church                     | Parish Priest - Fr. Jerold Savio |                                                                                                     | 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                      |

# Pets' Service

10am, Sunday, 13th September

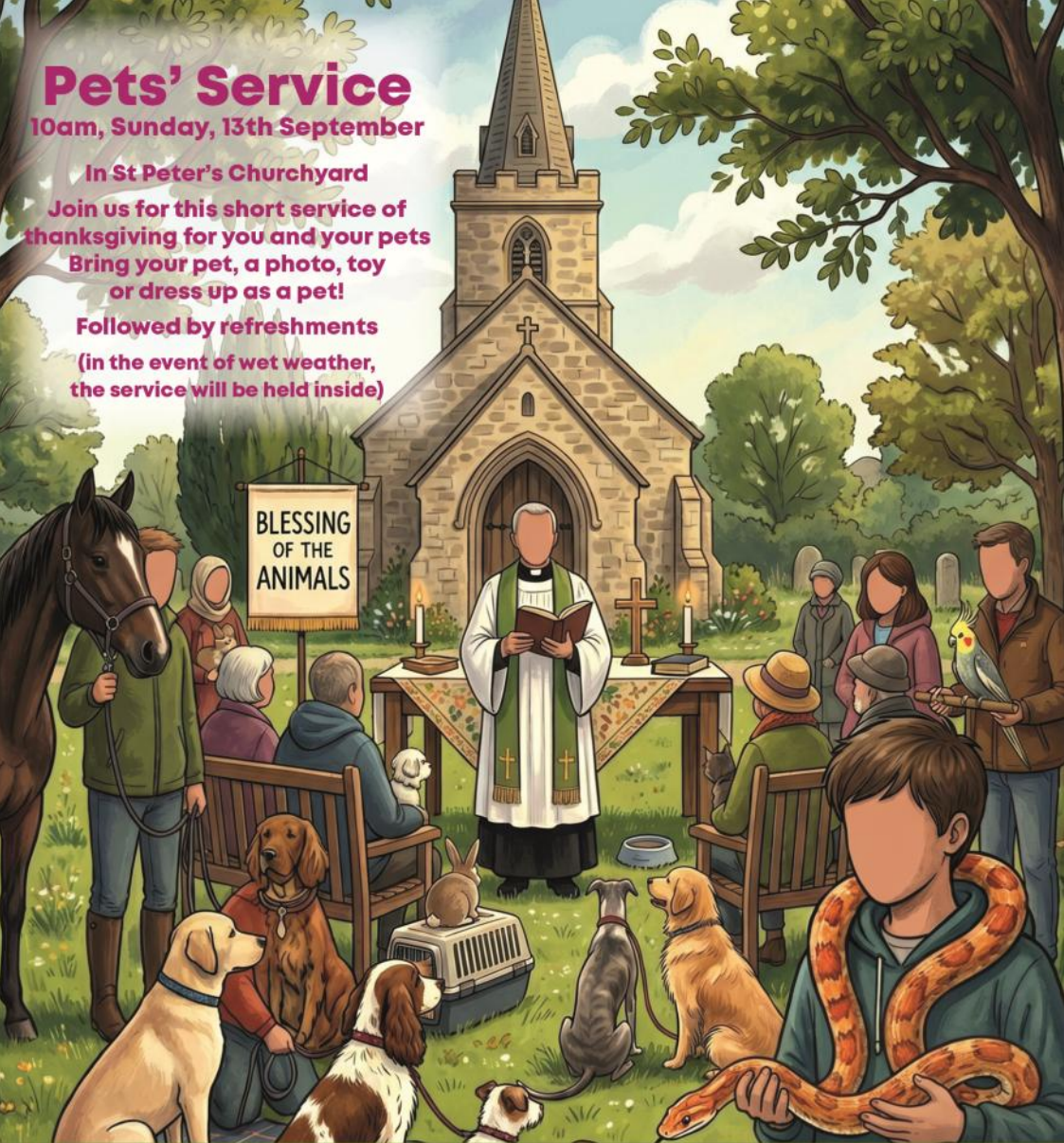
In St Peter's Churchyard

Join us for this short service of  
thanksgiving for you and your pets

Bring your pet, a photo, toy  
or dress up as a pet!

Followed by refreshments

(in the event of wet weather,  
the service will be held inside)



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 next edition by: 10<sup>th</sup> August.

Email: [parishmagazinetotham@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:parishmagazinetotham@yahoo.co.uk)

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