



Great Totham Parish Magazine

sent to every home in Great Totham
September 2026

Pets' Service

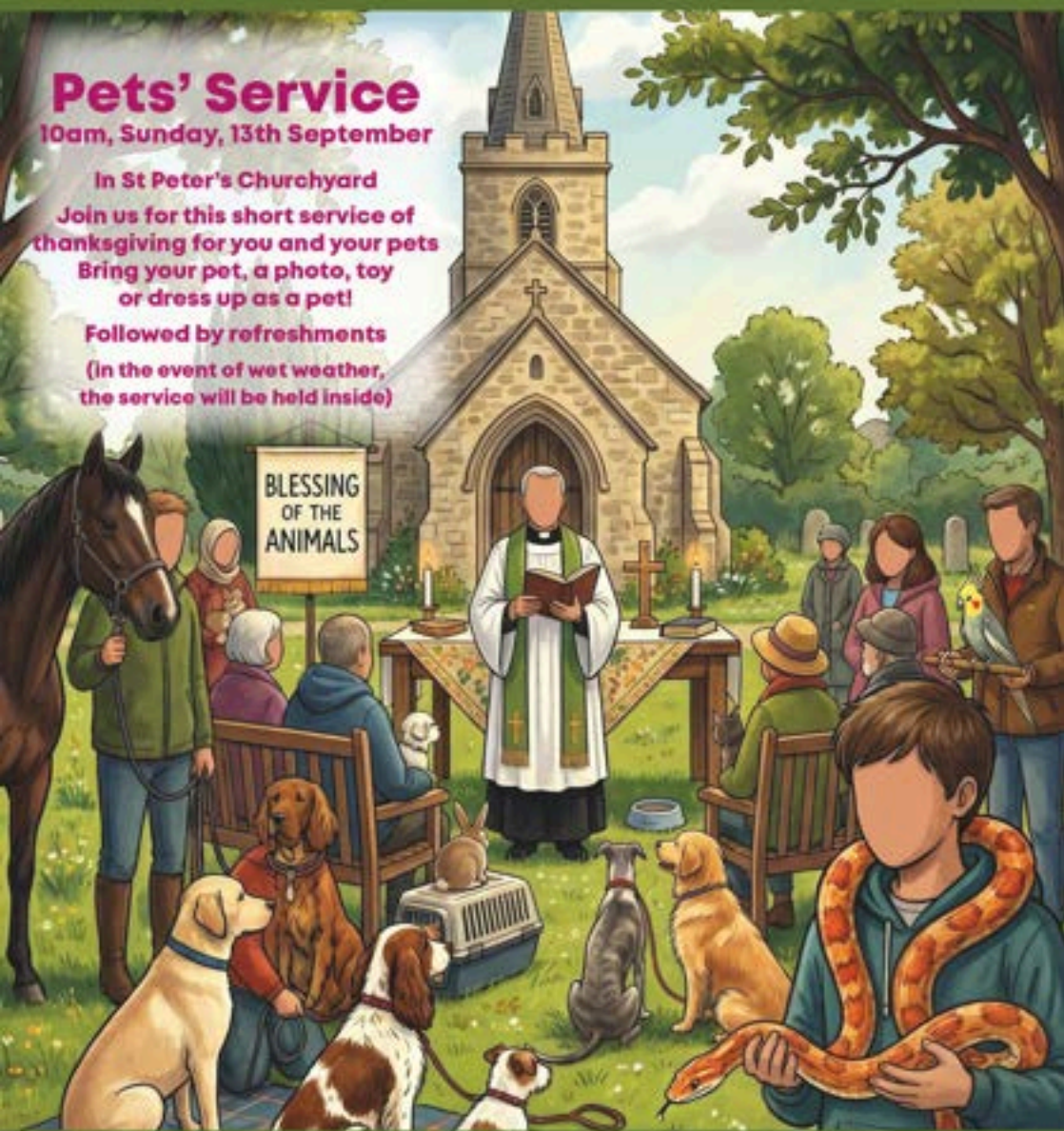
10am, Sunday, 13th September

In St Peter's Churchyard

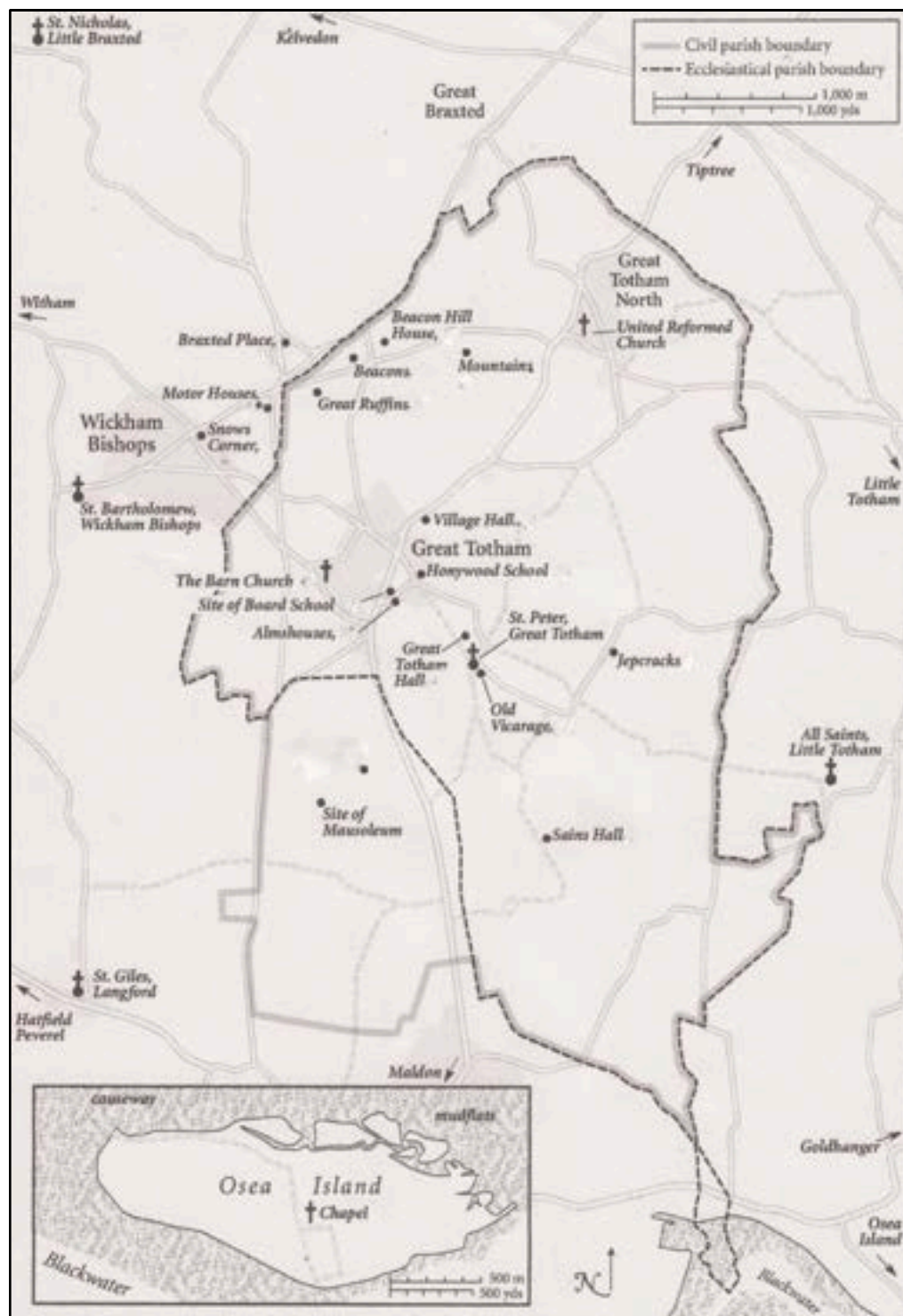
Join us for this short service of
thanksgiving for you and your pets
Bring your pet, a photo, toy
or dress up as a pet!

Followed by refreshments

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



Inside this Edition - Gardening Club Autumn Show 12th September
65th Wedding Anniversary Celebration



St Peter's Church Contact Details



Parish Contacts:

Priest in Charge (*Vacant*)

Associate Priest and Agricultural Chaplain

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
Adverts:	Sue Sharp	07548 826603
Deliveries:	Cheryl Knott	01621 890940
Email (for all enquiries):	parishmagazinetotham@yahoo.co.uk	



St Peter's Church Website:

www.achurchnearyou.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



It has been another challenging year for our Farmers; not only have they had to think about the implications of Inheritance Tax, Climate change, and rising prices for fuel and fertilisers, but also about many of the everyday tools they use, including forms like the SFI (Sustainable Farming Incentive).

This knock-on effect has had a real impact on Machinery suppliers, Animal feed suppliers, Seed and Chemical suppliers, Land agents, Agronomists, and the list goes on.

After a reasonably wet start to 2026, the ditches and reservoirs filled, then Spring came. For the second year, it was a very dry time, and spring drilling was underway, and everything looked good.

A farmer recently told me that we had 17 weeks without rain during the main growing season, which has seriously impacted this year's harvest.

This year's harvest was well underway in Essex on the 24th of June, when crops like winter barley and oilseed rape were being harvested in the scorching sunshine. I have been told that yields are down on last year, and these valuable crops are coming into the grain store very warm and need to be cooled.

This is done by blowing air through the crop; otherwise, it will not keep until it is purchased by a merchant for them to mill into bread, breakfast cereals, or animal feed. The oilseed rape is pressed, and it is used for cooking oil. At the end of the day, a buyer for these crops is not guaranteed.

On 23 June, several of us had the privilege once again of being a farmer steward at the Essex food and farming day at ARU Writtle. It is a day for junior schools to take part in what is known as from Field to Fork. This year, we had the great pleasure of welcoming about three thousand young people from seventy schools across Essex.

It is a day for our young people to see, touch and experience how some of their food is grown in Essex. Also taste some of the delights that are available for our young people to try. It is also about learning how our environment is changing and how our farmers are having to adapt to climate change.

In Matthew 13 Jesus tells a story about a farmer scattering seed. Some falls on the path. Some on rocky ground. Some among thorns. Some on good soil, where it grows and flourishes beyond expectation.

Notice how extravagantly the Sower scatters the seed. There is no careful measuring, no checking first whether the ground is in good order. The seed falls everywhere: on the receptive and the resistant, on the prepared and the unprepared.

/continued on next page

Church News

/continued from previous page

God's love is not rationed out to those who have earned it. The seeds of hope, compassion, truth, and transformation are scattered widely and generously. Again and again, God keeps sowing.

There are times when we become like the path: worn down by life, unable to receive anything new.

There are times when our enthusiasm springs up quickly but struggles to survive when life becomes difficult.

There are times when the worries of the world, the demands of work, fear about the future, or the pursuit of success choke out what matters most.

And there are times when we become good soil, not because we are perfect, but because we have made space for grace to take root.

The encouraging thing is that soil changes: a hard path can be softened, rocky ground can be cleared, thorns can be cut back.

This passage invites us to resist a culture obsessed with instant results. Seeds grow slowly. Justice unfolds gradually. Compassion deepens over time.

Faith is often less about dramatic moments and more about the daily work of tending our land, our gardens, and our lives.

Revd Andrew Vince
Associate Priest and Assistant Agricultural Chaplain in the Blackwater Benefice

Sea Sunday



The annual local Sea Sunday Service took place this year on 12th July at Goldhanger Sailing Club, led by Rev'd Michael Hatchett. This annual service focusses on those whose lives are connected with the sea.

After the service, we enjoyed refreshments and a chance to buy RNLI merchandise. Our thanks go to St Peter's Church, Goldhanger, for organising the service and to Goldhanger Sailing Club for hosting the event.

Helen Mutton

Church News

Services at St Peter's Church

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

Date	Time	Service	Readings
6 th September Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity	10am 6pm	Morning Service of the Word Evensong by Zoom	Ps. 119. 33-40 Rom. 13. 8-end Gospel: Matt. 18. 15-20
13 th September Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity	10am 6pm	Pets' Service Evensong by Zoom	Gen. 50. 15-21 Rom. 14. 1-12 Gospel: Matt. 18. 21-35
20 th September Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity	10am 6pm	Family Communion Evensong by Zoom	Jonah 3. 10 - 4. end Phil. 1. 21-end Gospel: Matt. 20. 1-16
27 th September Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity	10am 6pm	Family Communion Evensong by Zoom	Ps. 25. 1-8 Phil. 2. 1-13 Gospel: Matt. 21. 23-32

Church Registers

Baptism
28th June

Austin Daniel Blake Wylie of Great Totham

Wedding
11th July

Dean Raymond James Bacon and Leah Elizabeth Downes
both of Bragbury End, Stevenage

Rotas	Church Flowers	Church Cleaning
6 th September 13 th September 20 th September 27 th September	Mary Owers Karen Tarpey Chris Kemsley Daphne Taplin	- Isobel Doubleday - Matt Church

Church Extension and Kitchen Cleaning:
Honywood Hall Cleaning:

Matt Church
Jenny Barclay / Matt Church

Church News



Benefice Workshop

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



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

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



For details of Evensong by Zoom contact Rev'd Sue Godsmark (01621 891513)

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 for details of other Benefice events and activities.



Beacon Group of Churches Monthly Prayer Meeting



All welcome to the next meeting, which will last around half an hour, at: 9.30am, Saturday, 5th September, Honywood Hall, Great Totham

The Parish of St. Peter's Great Totham

Charity Number: XN 12862

100+ Club Draw Winners

June

1st Prize: June Eaton
2nd Prize: Nicholas Allen
3rd Prize: Vanessa Ellams

July

1st Prize: Heather Gulliver
2nd Prize: Murray Smithson
3rd Prize: Gill Butcher

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

Subscriptions (£12 per year) may be by standing order, online bank transfer (sort code 20-54-30, account number 20882739, reference "100+ Club") or by cheque/cash to: Roger Allen, "Kimlee", Burns Green, Great Totham, CM9 8UL

Coffee Morning at The Honywood

Our next Coffee Morning is on Saturday, 26th September. 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

Church News

News from the Belfry

We like to go on coach day trips and this summer we visited Southwold. Unfortunately, the weather was inclement. It was so windy that we could hardly stand up on the pier and, shortly afterwards, it began to rain heavily, which continued throughout our visit. It gave us the opportunity, however, to visit the parish church of St Edmund's King and Martyr. A smaller 13th century church on this site was destroyed by fire in 1430 and a new church was then built. In a previous article I wrote about the Wool Churches of East Anglia. St Edmunds is one of the finest examples of a wool church in Suffolk. Its construction was funded by the wealth of the local wool merchants. The church took about 60 years to complete. It is an excellent example of 15th century architecture, having being built in one go without later additions.

The church boasts many fine original architectural features, including an ornately carved rood screen and an elaborate font cover, but my attention was drawn to a rare carved wooden figure mounted high up on the back wall of the church behind the font.

It is popularly known as Southwold Jack or Jack the Smiter. The figure stands at just under four and a half feet tall and is dressed like an armoured soldier from the Wars of the Roses, clutching a sword in his left hand and a battle axe in his right. It was originally a 15th century clock jack repurposed to ring a bell. His original purpose was to strike the hours, but it is now rung at the start of each church service and to announce the arrival of a bride at her wedding by swinging his axe and striking a small bell. I was actually invited to ring the bell although the sound it made was rather disappointing. Another clock jack can be found at Holy Trinity Church at Blythburgh, Suffolk.



In the early 20th century, the local Adnams brewery decided to adopt Southwold Jack as the trademark for its craft beer. The company installed replicas of the wooden man on the front of its brewery building, and most Adnams pubs have some form of the logo displayed on their walls. The brewery also displayed his image on many of their vehicles. Up until 2006, pictures of the Southwold Jack logo could be seen on the horse-drawn drays that passed through town en route to the pubs. Sadly the horses and dray carts have been replaced by motorised vehicles, but can still be seen on special occasions. Souvenir items featuring Southwold Jack are popular with tourists.

/continued on next page

Church News

/continued from previous page

St Edmund's has a ring of eight bells hung for change ringing. The tower originally had five bells in 1553. Over the years these bells have been recast and others added to create the current eight. The current fourth and fifth are probable recasts of the originals, having been cast in 1668 by John Darbie of Ipswich. The third dates from 1820 cast by William Dobson of Downham Market. In 1828 one bell was recast and a further two added. The bell that was recast is the present tenor, also cast by William Dobson. The sixth and seventh bells were added and are likely to originate from All Saints, South Elham. The sixth was cast circa 1538 by William Barker and the seventh by Brasyers of Norwich circa 1513. The two trebles date from 1881 cast by Moore, Holmes & Mackenzie of Redenhall, Norfolk.

Finally, congratulations to Jo Batley, pictured, one of our Great Totham ringers, who has been awarded her Level Two Learning the Ropes Certificate. We always welcome newcomers who wish to learn to ring our bells.

For further information please contact Janice, our Tower Captain, on 07790 354338 or visit <https://greattothambellringers.co.uk>

Catherine Hood



65th Wedding Anniversary Congratulations

On Wednesday, 3rd June, Rebekah and Roger Clark celebrated their 65th Wedding Anniversary. They were married at St Peter's, Great Totham, all those years ago and still live in the village.

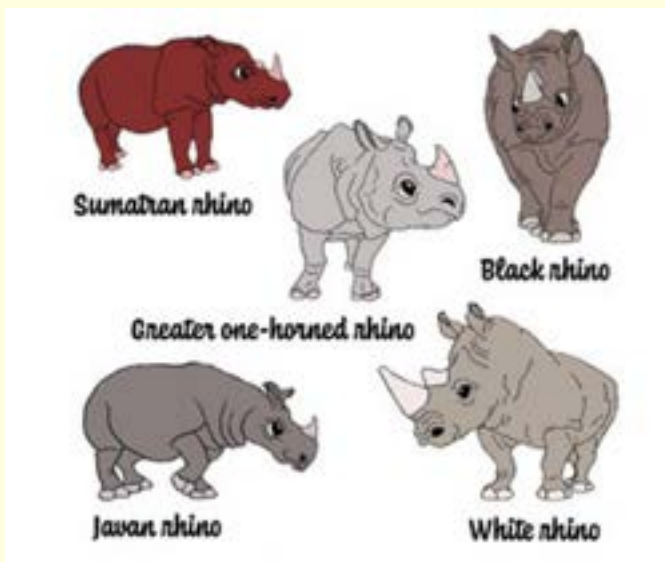
Roger is a retired Great Totham bell ringer. So, to mark the occasion, a successful quarter peal was rung on Sunday, 7th June, at St Peter's, in the presence of Roger and Rebekah. 1260 changes of Plain Bob doubles in 43 minutes: 1 Vanessa Ellams; 2 Emily Ashton; 3 David Hengeli; 4 John Keeble; 5 Janice Spalding; 6 Dean Hallam. Congratulations from all the Great Totham Ringers.

Janice Spalding



Children's Page

22nd September World Rhino Day



World Rhino Day is celebrated on 22nd September every year! This special day provides the opportunity for cause-related organisations, NGOs, zoos, and members of the public to celebrate rhinos in their own unique ways.

World Rhino Day celebrates all five species of rhino: black, white, greater one-horned, Sumatran and Javan rhinos. It also aims to highlight efforts to debunk the myths about rhino horn and diminish the demand for the horns.

It all started with an email: In mid-2011, Lisa Jane Campbell of Chishakwe Ranch in Zimbabwe was already planning for World Rhino Day. She searched online for ideas and potential collaborators and found Rhishja's blog.

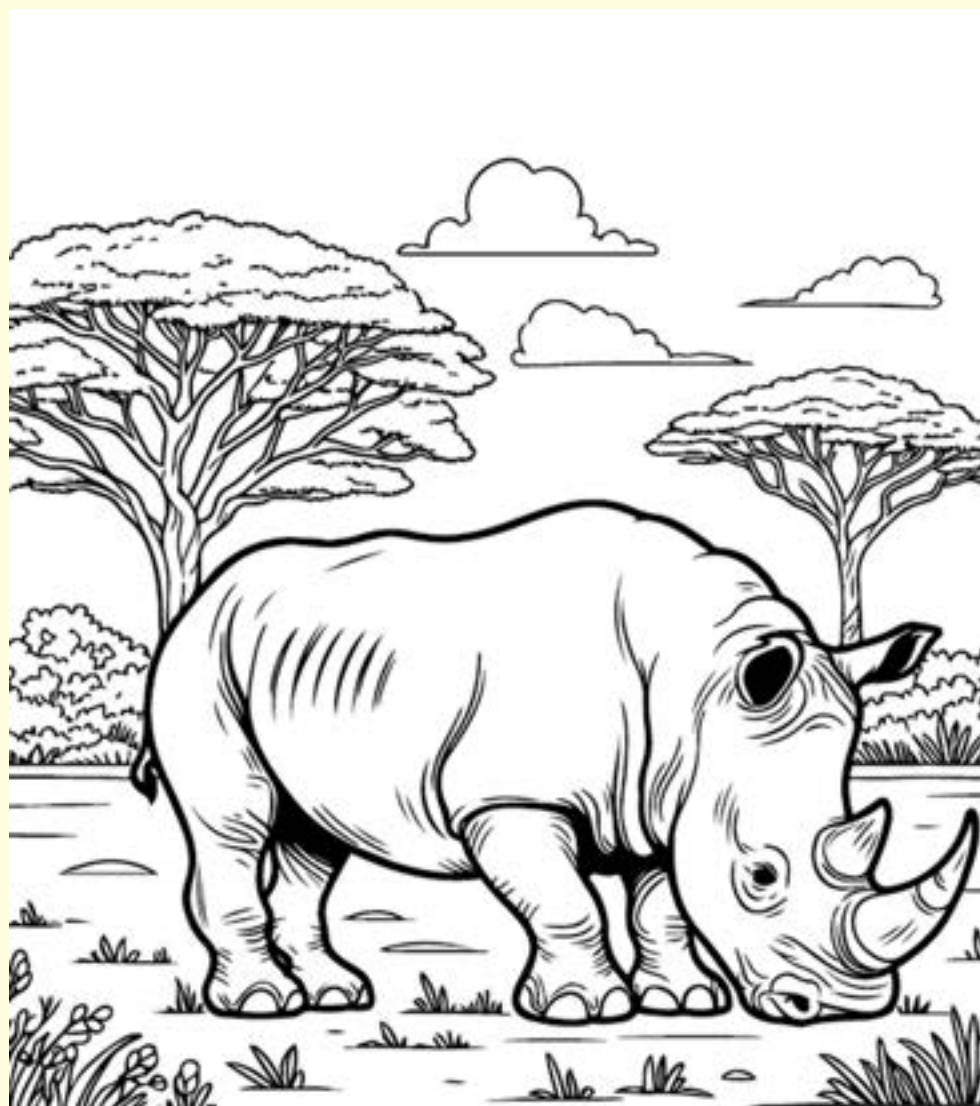
Lisa Jane sent Rhishja an email, and the two found they shared a common goal of making World Rhino Day a day of celebration for all five species of rhino. In the months that followed, they worked together to make World Rhino Day 2011 an international success, both online and offline.

World Rhino Day has since grown to become a global phenomenon, uniting organisations and concerned individuals from nearly every corner of the world!

FIVE RHINO SPECIES FOREVER!

Sourced by June Eaton

Children's Colouring Page



Sourced by June Eaton

WICKHAM FLOORING OF MALDON

Our showroom is located just a two minute walk from Tesco, Maldon, with free parking also available directly outside the shop. We also offer FREE measuring & estimating service, with no obligation.

iSENSE
SINCE 2001

WETEX
WIDE PLANK FLOORING

Ambico

ASSOCIATED
WEAVERS

FREE
Estimating
Service



NEW
Ambico One
Showroom
Now Open



Family run business
for over 50 years!

Monday 9am—5pm
to Friday

Saturday 10am—4pm

Sunday Closed

Wickham Flooring Ltd
1 The Old Iron Works
The Causeway
Maldon
Essex CM9 4LE

www.wickham-flooring.co.uk
Email: sales@wickham-flooring.co.uk

Tel: 01621 841300



Royal Mastics

Providing sealant for
Kitchens•Bathrooms•Floors•Windows•Doors & more

07762163851



G&C Painting
Building Maintenance

Interior & Exterior
work carried out
Free Estimates
Fully Insured

07596 766362
07941 513834

gandcpainting01@gmail.com
Follow us on Facebook






SM TREE & LANDSCAPING SERVICES



ALL ASPECTS OF TREE, GARDEN & LANDSCAPING WORK UNDERTAKEN



TREES REDUCED, PRUNED & REMOVED - GARDEN CLEARANCE & TIDYUPS
HEDGES & SHRUBS TRIMMED - GRAVEL AREAS - TURFING - FENCING
PATIOS - NATURAL SANDSTONE - BLOCK PAVING - DRIVEWAYS & PATHS
POWER JET WASHING - DRIVEWAYS, PATIOS & PATHS CLEANED

ALL AREAS COVERED - FREE ESTIMATES & ADVICE



☎ 01621 730376 ☎ 07922 690972

✉ : smtreeandlandscaping@yahoo.com

www.smtreeandlandscaping.co.uk



ABB HOME
IMPROVEMENTS

CARPENTRY & JOINERY

- ✓ Kitchen Installations
- ✓ House Restorations
- ✓ Bathrooms
- ✓ Bedrooms
- ✓ Hand made cabinets
- ✓ All aspects of carpentry & Home Improvements

30 years
experience

For a free Quote call Andy on:
07780594283
andybutter56@aol.com

Established 1964

mantsbrite

systems

Specialists in TV, Audio Visual & CCTV

TV & SATELLITE

- Aerial & Satellite Installations
- Cinema & Surround Sound
- Multi Room HD Visual & Audio
- Wall Mounted TV Installations
- Free Quotations

CCTV SYSTEMS

- High Definition CCTV Systems
- Remote Viewing to Your Smart Phone
- View Live or Recorded Images
- A Great Visual Burglar Deterrent
- Free Site Survey & Quotation

☎ 01621 853003 ✉ sales@mantsbrite.com

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

01621 892789/
07762 078338

BASED IN GREAT TOTHAM

ACCOUNTANT & TAX CONSULTANT

ALL TAXATION WORK
UNDERTAKEN

Exceptional Service

Pleased to Visit You

Call:
JONATHAN R CLARK, FCCA

ACCA

**CHARTERED CERTIFIED
ACCOUNTANT**

Based in Great Totham

Tel: 01621 856461

Mobile: 07763 141246

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

A family run business for over 50
years, providing all aspects of
vehicle repair and maintenance.

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



SERVISING



MOT



DIAGNOSTICS

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

MOT TESTS
TELEPHONE: 01621 891264



Gas, Oil and LPG Services

Heating

Boiler breakdowns/services/
installations/system updates and
maintenance/

landlord safety certificates

Plumbing services

Emergencies/general plumbing and
bathroom installations

Gas safe /OFTEC/LPG registered

Telephone Danny Kennedy on:
07879 643583 or 07786 954656



Instagram:
@bpakennedy



BAKERS JOINERY

EST. 1878

Traditional Joinery and Carpentry

Timber Windows and Doors

Hand Built Cabinetry

Staircases

Timber Restoration

Village Signs

Bespoke Joinery Projects

Tel: 01245 976974

info@bakersjoinery.co.uk

www.bakersjoinery.co.uk

Beautiful joinery from our local Danbury based workshop

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

MR & MRS GARDENER

We do all your gardening jobs that you can't or don't want to do!

Complete garden care including:

- Grass and hedge cutting
- Borders pruned and weeded
- Planting
- Shed/fence repair and painting
- Full garden clearance



We are based in Wickham Bishops

Please call 07780 675227

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, CIBS Registered.



R.A. LEE

Builders and Contractors Ltd.

...Built on Quality.

Tel/Fax: 01621 892503

Mobile: 07974 256348

Email: russ@ralee.co.uk



BRAINTREE MOTOR COMPANY

EST 1996



Trust our skilled mechanics for quality repairs and maintenance. Local free pick up and return from Great Totham - contact David Knott to arrange this service

OUR SERVICES

- Routine Vehicle Servicing and Repairs
- MOT Tests
- Engine Diagnostics
- Air Conditioning Servicing
- All Makes and Models including Classics



CONTACT



01376 553530



www.braintreemotorcompany.com



enquiries@braintreemotorcompany.com



Job by day, doing the books by night?

We can do **more** for you, giving you more time for the things you love.
Book your free initial consultation:

Call 01621 855822



TaxAssist
Accountants

www.taxassist.co.uk/maldon

1 Ware View Terrace, Spital Rd, Maldon, CM9 6GD



Keeping the county warm



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

Fuel Services

T 01245 425251 www.bfsfuelservices.uk

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

Church News



On Sunday, 9th August, Mothers' Union in Great Totham celebrated the 150th Anniversary of the movement which was started by Mary Sumner. We took over the 10am service at St. Peter's Church.



All our members were able to attend and many of the church regulars joined us in a service which included us enrolling a new member for 2026 and the other six members reaffirming their commitment to our many causes around the world and the local community. The Mothers' Union has stood beside women and families facing poverty, violence and injustice, in Britain and Ireland as well as around the world. We do this by fundraising through our branches. One of our main fundraising events is our Hot Cross Bun morning held just before Easter each year; look out for the date in this magazine next year.

Our next meeting is at the Honywood Hall at 1.45pm on Friday, 11th September.

On Saturday, 14th 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



Church News

**FANCY JOINING ME
FOR COFFEE
MORNING?**



**You are invited to come and join us for yummy
tea/coffee and cake at our**

Knit & Natter Coffee Morning

At the Honywood Hall, Hall Road, Great Totham

Friday, 25th September 10:30am – 12:30pm

Contact: Sandra on 893153

In aid of Macmillan Cancer Support

**Let's do whatever it takes to
support people living with cancer**

In your prayers at home this month, please include:

Our 'Friendship Church' - Bragernes Kirke, Drammen, Norway
John, Andrew and Nina



Donations

To donate to St Peter's Church or the Parish Magazine:

- 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: 25 Eaton Way, CM9 8EE

Church News

Edward Bear

On Thursday 16th July we had a party for the end of the summer term and also said goodbye to a little lady who is starting school in September. Florence has been coming to Edward Bear since she was a babe in arms and now she is all grown up, ready for an exciting new chapter! We will miss her cheeky and bubbly personality and it has been a joy to see her grow in confidence over the years!

We'd like to wish all the children in the local area who have come to Edward Bear, however briefly, lots of luck as they begin their journey at primary school!

Edward Bear is a term-time group for pre-school children. Whether you have a newborn or an energetic toddler, everyone's welcome! We have a relaxed play session while the grown ups can enjoy a cuppa and chat with other parents/grandparents/carers. We then play hide and seek in the church with Edward Bear and finish off in a circle singing songs. It's a great way to get to know other families in the village, to be part of a community and the church family too.

We have toys ready and the kettle on from 10.30am – 12 noon every Thursday during term-time.

See you there!

Love from Rosie, Chris and Edward Bear x





2026

PILGRIM PLACES, Holy Lives

A Gospel Journey with
the Early English Saints

Are you curious about exploring Pilgrimage?
We are hosting a five week reflective journey on
Life as God's Pilgrim People on Tuesday evenings
7.30 - 9pm, from 15 September to 20 October.

For more information email Fleur:
kandchurches@gmail.com
07803 366268



The first gathering will be held in Copford Church on 15th September from 7.30 p.m.
where the theme will be the 'Pilgrimage of the Soul (St Bertha)'.

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:

heidibshere@gmail.com

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

**SMALL WARM HALL TO HIRE
IN GREAT TOTHAM NORTH**
Suitable for meetings and small
children's parties.
For further details phone 893285

Honywood Hall

Hall Road, Great Totham

To hire, contact

Karin Mann on 01621 929866

To advertise your business here

Contact Sue Sharp

07548 826603

parishmagazinetotham@yahoo.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.



**maldon
ART TRAIL
26**

at

**Lofts
Farm**
CM9 8NZ

Gr. TOTHAM

I am pleased to invite you to a very special event at Lofts Farm when there will be an exhibition of artists work as part of the Maldon Art Trail from Friday September 11th until Saturday September 19th. Venue 39. *Emma Hughes*

Come with a packed lunch and enjoy the special atmosphere of this historic farm, refreshments and picnic area available.

To receive the final list of Taster events which can be prebooked
EMAIL edwinaann1517@gmail.com or take poduck that there is a space on the day.
Taster fees from £5 per person.






Community News



Brownies

1st Wickham Bishops

Wickham Bishops Brownies are looking for volunteer unit helpers to help plan and run Tuesday meetings with a view to becoming a leader.

No experience necessary as full training and support will be given.
Recruitment checks will be required.

We help all girls know they can do anything

Volunteer with Girlguiding

Find out more scan the QR code




or ring

**01376
570464**



PLEASE JOIN US

Explore villages and parish churches by bike or on foot.
Enjoy exercise, meet new people and raise much needed funds for your church

On the second Saturday in September each year, 80 routes across the UK 'Ride & Stride' to raise money to help preserve and improve our historic church buildings.



SATURDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 2026

For further information scan the QR code or visit www.friendsforourchurches.org.uk/ride-stride





EXPERIENCED CHIROPRACTIC EXPERTS

Based in Great Totham, with over 25 years of experience, we provide personalised chiropractic care for all the family.

Care designed to help you achieve lasting relief, improve your health, and live an active lifestyle without relying on medication or surgery.

Disc Injuries

Back Stiffness

Neck Pain

Arm or Leg pain

Headaches

Low Back Pain

Sciatica

Shoulder Pain



**NEW PATIENT CONSULTATION OFFER: ONLY £50
WHEN USE CODE: 'PARISH' AT TIME OF BOOKING**

hello@elarischiropractic.co.uk

 01621 731671

Community News

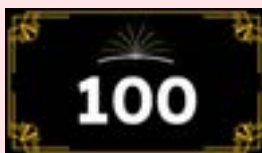


Get Back to School Ready with Essex Libraries

As families prepare for the new school year, Essex Libraries is here to help children build confidence, develop their reading skills, and settle into learning routines. From free Rhymetime and Storytime sessions for younger children to a wide range of books, eBooks, eAudiobooks and online learning resources, there's something for every age group.

Families can also make use of quiet study spaces, homework support, book groups and creative writing clubs. Whether your child is starting school for the first time or moving into a new year group, Essex Libraries offers a range of resources and activities to support their learning journey.

Visit: libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/getting-ready-for-back-to-school



2026 year marks a very special milestone as Essex Library Service celebrates its centenary!

For 100 years, libraries across Essex have supported communities with access to books, learning, information, and opportunities to connect. Throughout the coming months, we'll be marking the occasion with a programme of special events, activities, and opportunities for residents to celebrate the role libraries have played in their lives.

Whether you're a lifelong library user or discovering your local library for the first time, we invite you to join us in celebrating a century of stories, learning, and community.

Keep an eye on Essex Libraries channels for event announcements and updates.

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.

The support of our advertisers means that we are able to deliver the magazine free to every home in Great Totham. Please consider using their services and mention the magazine when contacting them.



**Croissant
Saturday!**



Buttery Plain
Croissant

Plain with
Chocolate

Almond
Croissant

Available This Saturday!

Soon to be opening 7
days a week

Totham Stores
Under new ownership !

Proudly stocking local
produce

Lazy Cow Coffee

Community Cafe opening
later this year

Dry Cleaning agent

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

Tel: 01621 868355
Mob: 07734 869966

paulclarydecorator@gmail.com

A.G. Smith

Independent Funeral Directors

Serving our local Maldon community since 1912

Religious and Non-Religious Funerals
Direct Cremation & Personalised Ceremonies
Private and Tranquil Chapel of Rest
Elegant Fleet of Luxury Funeral Cars

Funeral plans for future peace of mind
Golden Charter Funeral Plan Introducer

*Caring, supportive and professional and here
to support you in your time of need*



Maldon: 01621 854 293

7 Spital Road, Maldon, CM9 6DY

Southminster: 01621 774 557

44 Station Road, Southminster, CM0 7EW

www.ag-smithfunerals.co.uk | enq@ag-smithfunerals.co.uk



CHELMSFORD
PLUMBING & HEATING

01245 478588

A trustworthy family run business specialising in Gas,
Oil, LPG, Electrical & Plumbing services

Boiler Installs, Servicing & Repairs

New Heating Systems

Plumbing Repairs

Electrical Services



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



**Treat your feet
to some TLC
in the comfort
of your own home**

Treatments include;

Corn & callus reduction and removal

**Nail cutting, reduction of thickened nails
& ingrown toenail treatment**

Cracked heel treatment

**Diabetic Checks
(including circulation & neuropathy checks)**

**Massage of lower limbs & feet
(boosting circulation & relaxing you)**

Also available for local care homes

Call Amanda for an appointment on

07912 851515

Caring for feet since 2002

Happy Feet, Happy Soul

Community News



MALDON
DISTRICT COUNCIL



Your District Councillors

Gold standard award was given to the council for the data quality and data management specifically. It is in recognition of our exceptional local land charges data management. We are now ranked 20th out of the 160 Local Authorities which have migrated to the HMLR Register.

What do you think the future of adult social care should look like? The Big Conversation on Care is now open, giving everyone across Maldon District a chance to shape the future of adult social care. You can take part at: www.caseycommission.co.uk/bigconversation/

The Community Safety Team, recently joined Les Davis, Tri-Service Rural Community Officer, to help raise awareness of home fire safety. Together, the team knocked on 1,200 doors, leaving information for residents who were out and having friendly chats with the 484 people who were at home.

During the day, Les carried out 38 home Fire Safety Checks and booked 37 more. A Home Fire Safety Check is a free visit where the Fire Service help identify fire risks in your home, offer safety advice and, where needed, fit smoke alarms. If you or a family member would like a free Home Fire Safety Check, contact Essex County Fire and Rescue Service.

This work is just one example of what our Community Safety Team get involved in through the Safer Maldon Partnership, which brings together local organisations, emergency services and partners, to help make our district a safer place for everyone.

I have been reappointed for another year to be the independent representative on Local Government East (LGE) management committee and will continue to be the Health and Wellbeing Policy Lead. The LGE shapes responses to Government policy on health and other local government legislation and policy, ensuring a regional perspective. The reappointment ensures that there is a Maldon voice at a regional level.

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

cllr.richard.siddall@maldon.gov.uk

cllr.jade.hughes@maldon.gov.uk

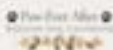
*Best wishes,
Richard*



DOG CHAPERONE FOR WEDDINGS & FUNERALS

If your best man, ring bearer, or guest is a
dog, let us look after your best friend for you.

My name is Marie Atkinson, I have 12 Years Dog Handling Experience, Member
of NARPS, Fully Insured, Dog First Aider.



PAWS EVER - AFTER

TEL: 07905963360

Call us or message us today 🐾

Looking to
move home?



Contact us for your free
Market Appraisal...

01621 333 765

www.baker-estates.co.uk

B•E **BAKER ESTATES**
ESSEX
PROPERTY ADVISORS AND ESTATE AGENTS



Paperwork weighing you down and no idea where to start?
Give me a call

Hewer Bookkeeping offers a wide range of bookkeeping and
admin support tailored to your needs

Whether its temporary or long term support we can help you!

lauren@hewerbooks.co.uk

www.hewerbooks.co.uk

07530 126709

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





SH
SIMON HOULDING
EST. 1997

CURTAINS & UPHOLSTERY

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

01621 859 484
07990 972 676

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

☆euronics Foulkes Electrical

YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT ELECTRICAL SHOP

104 High Street, Maldon, Essex, CM9 5ET

01621 853148

www.foulkeselectrical.co.uk



Flexible FREE Fast Local Delivery

Scan Here



**BOSCH NEFF SIEMENS SAMSUNG AEG BLOMBERG HAIER MIELE VAX
SONY RANGEMASTER PURE HOTPOINT HOOVER SMEG SHARK NINJA
BEKO ROBERTS RADIO LIEBHERR PANASONIC SONOS SHARP DYSON**

Call now:

01621 891 974

A care home that *feels* like home

Little Oaks provides a small, welcoming and homely environment where our residents are at the heart of everything we do.

About Us

The fact that we are a smaller care home allows us to create a family atmosphere. We work hard to build relationships, trust and familiarity, allowing us to really understand the needs and preferences of everyone who is in our care.

Our care staff are always compassionate, dedicated and cheerful - willing to go the extra mile to ensure the highest quality care.

We put wellbeing, comfort and happiness at the centre of our approach, ensuring that residents receive care we are proud of.

info@littleoakscare.co.uk

01621 891 974

www.littleoakscare.co.uk
Little Oaks, Little Brasted, Witham
Essex, CM8 3FY



Little Oaks Residential Care Home

*Friendly, fun & comfortable care
in the heart of Essex.*

Wickham
Bishops
Drama Club

WANT TO TRY SOMETHING NEW?

☆ Be part of a fun community! ☆



WWW.WBDC.ORG.UK

WE'RE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW PEOPLE TO
JOIN US **ON** AND **OFF** THE STAGE!

Get involved in:

- 🎭 ACTING
- 🔧 BUILDING & PAINTING SETS
- 📢 BACKSTAGE & TECHNICAL
- 🗨️ FRONT-OF-HOUSE
- ★ AND MUCH MORE!

WE MEET:



MONDAY & THURSDAY
8-10PM



WICKHAM BISHOPS
VILLAGE HALL

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY
JUST ENTHUSIASM!

Community News

Great Totham Gardening Club Autumn Show Saturday, 12th September Great Totham Village Hall

Open to everyone, particularly people new to friendly competition
Because of the extreme weather this year, we are expecting fewer fruit and vegetable entries, so if you have some to show, give it a go!

Classes for vegetables, fruit, flowers, floral art, cookery, arts and crafts, photography and children's exhibits

Remember to enter the Spud Bucket Challenge, Harvest Basket class and, for children up to 16 years of age, the Tumbling Tomato competition

Cost: 20 per entry

Entry forms must be submitted by 7pm on Thursday, 10th September.
Bring your entries to the Village Hall between 8am and 11am on Saturday.

Show opens at 2.30pm

Refreshments available all afternoon.

Presentation of awards at 4.15pm

To obtain a schedule of classes and entry form, phone 01621 01621 892855 or email norman.escala1@btinternet.com

Great Totham Art Show

10am to 4pm

Saturday 24th October

12 noon to 4pm

Sunday 25th October

United Reformed Church

Chapel Road, Great Totham, Maldon CM9 8DA

Free entry

Great Totham Art Circle's Annual Art Show with lots of paintings and cards for sale by local talented artists

A lovely friendly event with a tearoom for refreshments

Book sales and raffle

Community News

What's on in your Community

The Treehouse Club Pre-School

Monday to Friday, Village Hall

Rainbows

Monday, Church Extension

Carpet Bowls

7pm-9pm Tuesday, Village Hall

Baby Signage

9am Wednesday, Church Extension

Bible Study Group

10.30am Wednesday, Honywood Hall

Community Choir

7.30pm Wednesday, Church Extension

Edward Bear Club

10.30am Thursday, Church Extension

Great Totham WI

7.30pm 2nd Thursday, Village Hall

Wickham Bishops Gardening Club

7.30pm 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

7.45pm Friday, St Peter's Church

Mothers' Union

1.45pm 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:
parishmagazinetoatham@yahoo.co.uk*

Future Events

URC Art Show
24th/25th October

**To advertise your
business**

Contact Sue Sharp
07548 826603

parishmagazinetoatham@yahoo.co.uk



Covers created by
Purple Rabbit Designer



Community News



Great Totham WI



We had a most enjoyable visit to Braxted Bakery for a social get together in July where we took part in a quiz on tea, coffee and cake with various degrees of success. The cake section scored more points! We had a ride on the train and one of our members took the driving seat. Thanks to Sarah, Gary and their helpers for contributing to the success of the evening.



We entered a team for the inter WI quiz and some of our members enjoyed an afternoon at Maldon Croquet Club.

By the time this goes to press, Bryan Thurlow will have taken us 'Through the Green Baize Door' and in September, Tony White will be telling us about his time on the BBC Sewing Bee Programme.

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, visit our website www.greattothamwi.weebly.com or email greattothamwi@gmail.com.

Sue Pulford



Wickham Bishops WI



After the cancellation of our June meeting due to the extreme heat it was a delight to be back with friends again. We had an amazing talk from Steve Lester showing a completely different side to the Titanic story and it involved members taking part. We would recommend a visit. Our usual lunch outings will resume next month together with walking group and craft get togethers.

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

Please contact Margaret 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:

www.essex.police.uk or text 07624 80010

Maldon Police 0300 333 4444 or 101

Maldon District Council Offices, Princes Road, Maldon



Visit essex.police.uk/your-area for news and updates on:

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



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

For local crime reports, visit <https://www.chelmsfordneighbourhoodwatch.org.uk/>



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		www.girlguiding.org.uk
Rainbows at St Peter's Church	Rosie Pollock	893168
Scouts, Cubs, Beavers at Prances	Brenda Heal	bjheal@btinternet.com
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	Norman 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 7-9pm	Village Hall	Jean Cloughton 892286
Tollesbury Table Tennis Club	Paul Freeman	freemans21@hotmail.com 862510 / 07855 204505
Maldon Croquet Club		maldoncroquetclub@gmail.com
Wickham Bishops Drama Club		www.wickhambishopsdrama.co.uk
Knit and Natter (Honywood Hall)	Sandra Smith	893153
Wickham Bishops Gardening Club	Stewart / Wendy	HortiClub@outlook.com 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	07811 400803
District Councillors	Jade Hughes	cllr.jade.hughes@maldon.gov.uk
	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: manager@maldoncitizensadvice.org.uk	875774
Police Community Support Officer		101
Water		01245 491234
Electricity		0845 6014516
Frank (Drugs Helpline) (free)		0300 1236600
Childline Helpline for Children (free)		0800 1111 (free)
Maldon District Health / Wellbeing Advice	emily.fallon@maldon.gov.uk	
NSPCC 24 hour 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	Contact Rosie Pollock	07908 776750
Totham Barn Free Evangelical Church	Contact Danbury Mission:	01245 227428
United Reformed Church		01376 500958
Wickham Bishops 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



Book Sale

**Saturday 19th September
10am-2pm**

**@ The Honeywood,
Hall Road, Great Totham
CM9 8NN**

- Fiction
- Non-Fiction
- Childrens
- Classics
- Biographys

Refreshments



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: 10th September.

Email: parishmagazinetotham@yahoo.co.uk

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

Printed by Sudbury Print Group Ltd

To read the magazine online, visit www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6657