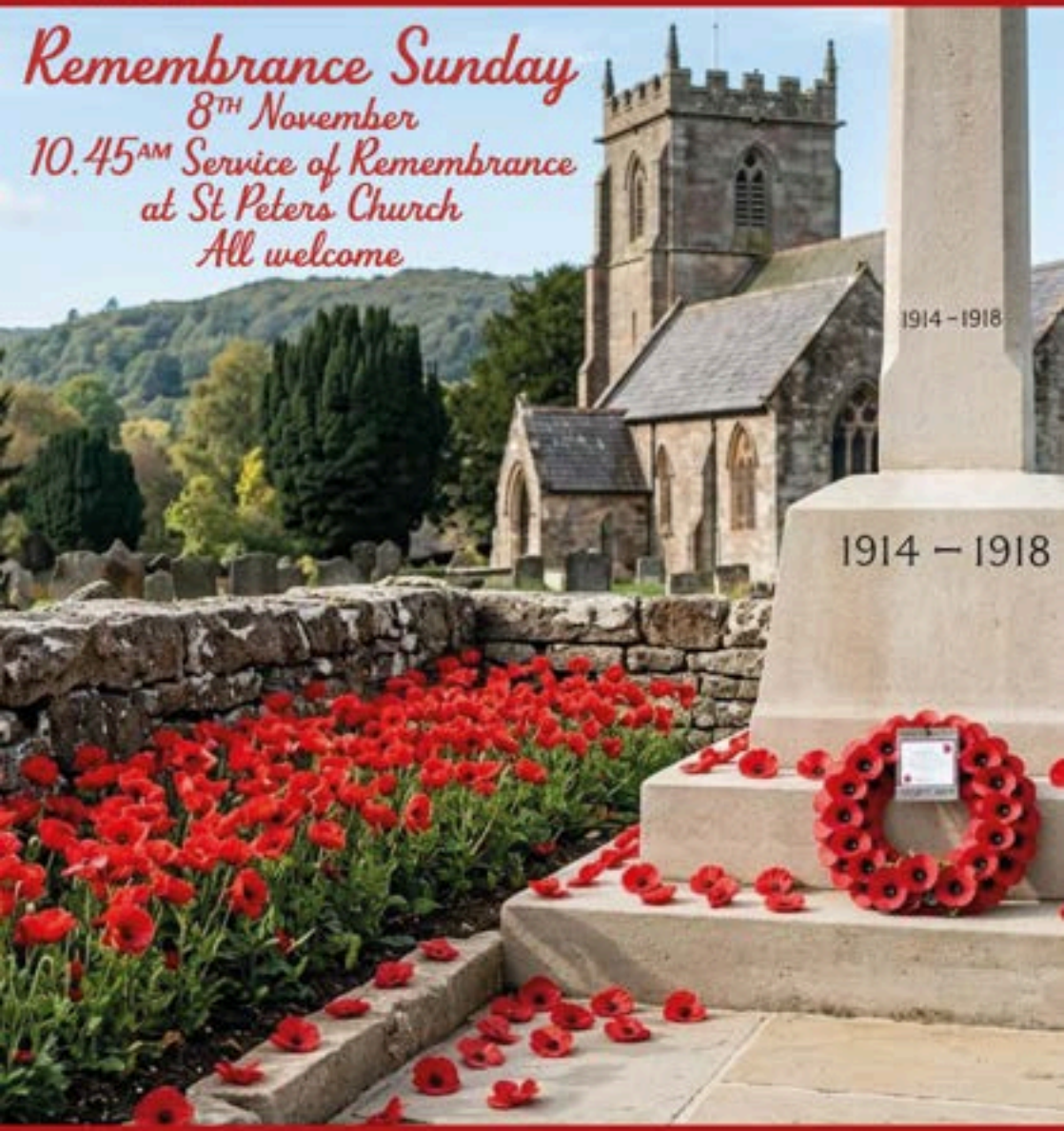
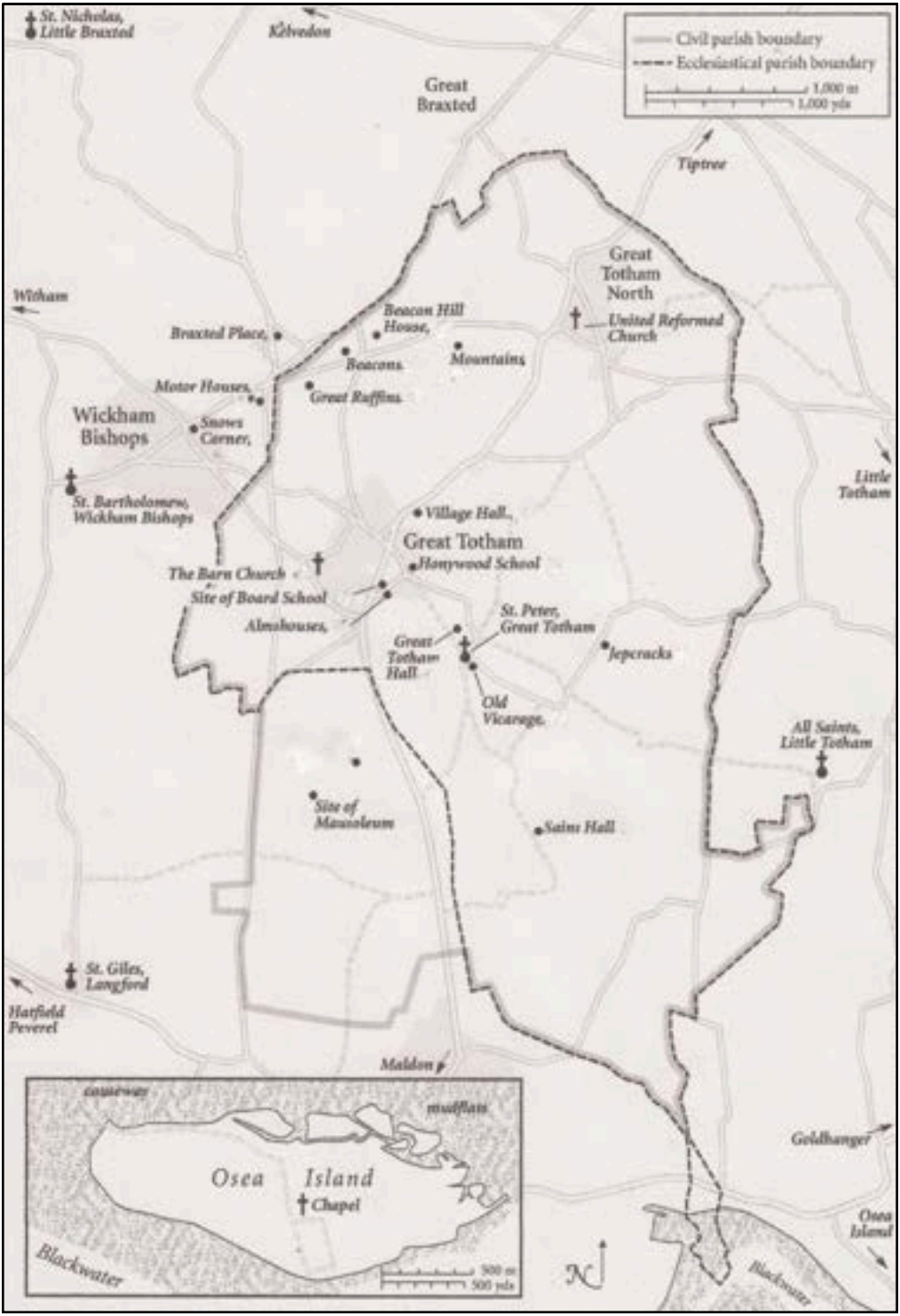
Great Totham Parish

# Magazine

sent to every home in Great Totham
November 2026




Inside this Edition - Children's Activities
WI Reports


St. Nicholas, Little Braxted
Kelvedon
Civil parish boundary
Ecclesiastical parish boundary
1,000 m
1,000 yds
Great Braxted
Tiptree
Great Totham North
United Reformed Church
Witham
Beacon Hill House
Braxted Place
Beacons
Mountains
Motor Houses
Great Ruffins
Wickham Bishops
Snows Corner
St. Bartholomew, Wickham Bishops
Little Totham
Village Hall
Great Totham
Honywood School
The Barn Church
Site of Board School
Almshouses
St. Peter, Great Totham
Great Totham Hall
Jepecracks
Old Vicarage
All Saints, Little Totham
Site of Mausoleum
Saint Hall
St. Giles, Langford
Hatfield Peverel
Maldon
causeway
mudflats
Osea Island
Chapel
Blackwater
500 m
500 yds
Goldhanger
Osea Island
Blackwater
N

# 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.

## Blackwater Benefice
### Ministry Team Message

With the warm and sunny weather lasting much longer than usual this year, we might still like to hope that the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness will last well into November.

Even if it does, no doubt it will do nothing to delay the ting-a-ling tills of Christmas shopping from being heard long before we even end our Church year and enter the season of Advent…Ugh!

Please try not to get stressed at this thought though.

Stress is one of the plagues of modern life, though actually when you think about it, stress has always been with us, from the time when early civilisations struggled to find sufficient food, through the centuries of serfdom, and on to the Hogarthian scenes of street life in Victorian England.

Today it remains with us in abundance. Just a glance at the news headlines is often sufficient to give me the collywobbles and the approach to the Christmas period is, for many, one of the worst times in the year.

Such thoughts ran through my head recently during the course of a Service I attended a small Methodist Church in an equally small village on the Norfolk-Suffolk border where I go frequently when I need a break. Church of England Services are not so readily found, and our Methodist colleagues are very welcoming.

The Preacher that day used as her theme thoughts on what you find when you walk through a Church door.

To do so, she said, means you are going to meet God. When we go into a Church He will always be there to greet us, and He will remain for the entirety of our visit, whether that is for a Church Service, for some kind of event or meeting, or just to have a few quiet moments of peace and reflection.

There is a verse which I'm sure you will know in John's Gospel chapter 14 which says: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

Despite all our daily toils and troubles, and especially the stresses of life which affect us all in one way or another, by going through a Church door we can always find that peace.

There is a hymn, seldom sung in my church I'm afraid, in which the words offer much solace at times of stress in our lives, of disturbance in our minds, of fears, worries or troubles of any kind.

/continued on next page

# Church News

/continued from previous page

Father I place into your hands
The things that trouble me.
Father I place into your hands
The person I would be.
For I know I always can trust you.

These words from the second verse provide ideal advice to lead us successfully along the trying and uncertain roads of modern life.

“For I know that I am one with you,” the hymn ends.

So often the words of hymns are an illuminating supplement to the Bible in reminding us that God’s love for us is permanent, all embracing, and is especially available when we need a prop in our lives.

Father I place into your hands
the way that I should go.

This thought reminds me so much of that wonderful verse from the 23rd Psalm: “Even though I walk through the darkest valley I will fear no evil, for you are with me, your rod and your staff, they comfort me.”

May we all find our own way to peace through God.

*Philip Smith*

| **Rotas** | **Church Flowers** | **Church Cleaning** |
|---|---|---|
| 1st November | Sally Buckley | - |
| 8th November (Remembrance Sunday) | Sally Thake | Mr and Mrs Kemsley |
| 15th November | Sally Thake | - |
| 22nd November | Pat Eaton | Matt Church |
| 29th November | No service at St Peter’s | - |

**Church Extension and Kitchen Cleaning:** Matt Church
**Honywood Hall Cleaning:** Sue Morgan and Sharon Hawkins

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

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

## Candle in Memory of a Loved One

We will be offering you the opportunity to sponsor a candle for the Christmas Midnight Mass service in memory of your loved ones again this year.
Names will be displayed on a board in St Peter’s Church during the service.



Minimum donation per name is £1. Look out for the application form in next month’s magazine.

# 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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1st November<br>Fourth Sunday before Advent | 10am | All Saints Day<br>Morning Service of the Word | Rev. 7. 9-end<br>1 John 3. 1-3<br>*Gospel:* Matt. 5. 1-12 |
| 8th November<br>Third Sunday before Advent | 10.45 am | Remembrance Sunday<br>Morning Service of the Word | Ps. 70<br>1 Thess. 4. 13-end<br>*Gospel:* Matt. 25. 1-13 |
| 15th November<br>Second Sunday before Advent | 10am | Family Communion | Zeph. 1. 7, 12-end<br>1 Thess. 5. 1-11<br>*Gospel:* Matt. 25. 14-30 |
| 22nd November<br>The Sunday Next before Advent | 10am | Morning Service of the Word | Ps. 95. 1-7<br>Eph. 1. 15-end<br>*Gospel:* Matt. 25. 31-end |
| 29th November<br>First Sunday in Advent | 10.30 am | Advent Sunday<br>Beacon Group Eucharist Service at St Bartholomew's Wickham Bishops | Ps. 80. 1-8, 18-20<br>1 Cor. 1. 3-9<br>*Gospel:* Mark 13. 24-end |

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

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## 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: 17 Goat Lodge Road, CM9 8BU

# Church News

## Blackwater Benefice Worship

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/

**Book of Common Prayer Communion Services:**

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

## Beacon Group of Churches

**Monthly Prayer Meeting**

All welcome to the next prayer meeting, which will last around half an hour, at 9.30am, St Bartholomew's, Wickham Bishops, on Saturday, 7th November.

**Eucharist Service**

All welcome to the Advent Sunday Group Eucharist Service, 10.30am at St Bartholomew's Wickham Bishops, followed by refreshments.

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

Charity Number: XN 12862

**100+ Club Draw Winners**
**September**

**1st Prize: James Doubleday**
**2nd Prize: June Eaton**
**3rd Prize: Samuel Doubleday**

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, 28th November. 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*

## News from the Belfry

Sometimes it is difficult to remember what we were doing on a particular day last week whilst other events are indelibly etched in our memory forever. We tend to remember significant dates in our lives marked by special family occasions or maybe we remember where we were when a particular historical event occurred. I can remember exactly where I was on 11th October 1982. I was sitting in the barber's shop with my six year old son whilst he had his hair cut. The barber had thoughtfully provided a television set and we all watched as The Mary Rose was raised from the waters of The Solent. The wreck was first located in 1971 and was raised in 1982, at considerable expense, by The Mary Rose Trust.

Construction of the ship commenced in Portsmouth on 29th January 1510 and she was then moved to London to be fitted out. One of the earliest examples of a purpose built carrack style warship, she was substantially rebuilt in 1536. She was heavily armed with cannon that could be fired broadside through recently invented opening and closing gun ports, and crewed by 200 sailors, 185 soldiers and 30 gunners. The Battle of the Solent between the English and the French took place on 19th July 1545. The English were becalmed in port and unable to manoeuvre. The French galleys advanced on the English fleet, but the wind picked up, enabling the English sailing ships to go on the offensive. Two of the largest ships, the Henry Grace à Dieu and the Mary Rose, spearheaded the attack on the French galleys. When The Mary Rose executed a turn, suddenly something went terribly wrong. She keeled over to one side, causing equipment and armament to shift. She quickly sank and, out of a crew of over 400 men, only 35 survived. The survivors were those who were positioned high in the rigging. Henry VIII was actually watching the battle unfold and one cannot imagine his feelings as he watched his beloved flagship sink to the bottom of The Solent. There could have been a number of reasons why she sank. She was heavily armed and perhaps this caused her instability. The gun port doors were found to be open and a sudden inrush of water could have caused her to list, or was she holed by a French ship?

Many artefacts were found in the wreckage and provide an insight into Tudor life. The finds include weapons, sailing equipment, naval supplies, and a wide array of objects used by the crew, such as carpenters' tools and medical instruments. There were even well preserved skeletal remains. These artefacts are now on display at The Mary Rose Museum at Plymouth Historic Dockyard, which also houses the wreck of the ship itself. The ship's bell was one of the last artefacts to be discovered under the starboard side of the ship. It was cast in bronze, copper, tin and lead. This bell is believed to have been cast in Flanders, and the Flemish inscription on the bell reads "IC BEN GHEGOTEN INT YAER MCCCCCX" which translates to "I was made in the year 1510". The bell was used to to signal the time, to mark the change of the watch, and as a warning, particularly to other ships in fog. The bell was also rung at each half hour of the day and night throughout a four hour watch, with an additional chime at each half hour until eight bells sounded. The time was accurately marked using sand timer glasses.

/*continued on next page*

# Church News

/continued from previous page



Our congratulations go to Vanessa Ellams, a Great Totham ringer, who has rung her first quarter peal of Plain Bob Doubles on an inside bell. This means she has completed her Learning the Ropes Level 4 Novice Change Ringer. Well done!

Do you fancy learning to ring the bells at St Peter's? It doesn't matter if you are a complete novice as full instruction will be given. For further information please contact Janice, our Tower Captain on 07790 354338 or alternatively visit our website https://greattothambellringers.co.uk

*Catherine Hood*

## At Last, Afternoon Tea!

Dear all

Thank you so much for the wonderful afternoon tea enjoyed on 6th October on the Sunborn yacht moored at the Excel centre. We raised a glass to friends at St Peter's Church. We had to bring home a 'doggy bag' as unable to eat it all!



So glad we waited to book our treat - the weather was wonderful and all the more tasty when the travel is totally free!!

Thanks again to all - a very thoughtful gift . Just to say that the Terrarium is thriving in our new home.

With love
Martyn and Philippa



## Wreath Making Workshop



**Under the guidance of**
**Jacqui of The Florist on the Green**

**3pm, Saturday, 14th November**
**Honywood Hall, Hall Road, Great Totham**

All materials provided unless you have anything you wish to bring
Please bring scissors and/or secateurs

**Raffle**
**Tea/coffee and cake included**

**Tickets £25 from Karen Tarpey 01621 892122**

# *Children's Page*



## World Nursery Rhyme Week

***Monday, 9th November to Friday, 13th November***



World Nursery Rhyme Week starts on the second Monday of November each year. It is a joyful and educational celebration of nursery rhymes that aims to promote early literacy skills and the importance of rhyming in children's development. This week-long event encourages parents, educators, and caregivers to engage with young children through the timeless tradition of nursery rhymes.

World Nursery Rhyme Week is an annual initiative that celebrates the role of nursery rhymes in early childhood education. It emphasizes the benefits of rhyming and singing in enhancing language skills, memory, and creativity in young children.

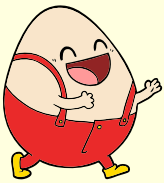
Here are some first lines of Nursery Rhymes. Can you fit in the missing words? *(Answers on page 25 )*



1. Ring- a ---- o' roses
2. Round and round the ------
3. Mary, Mary ----- contrary
4. Twinkle, twinkle, little ----
5. Little --- Muffet
6. Little Tommy ------
7. Hey ------ diddle
8. Humpty Dumpty --- on a wall

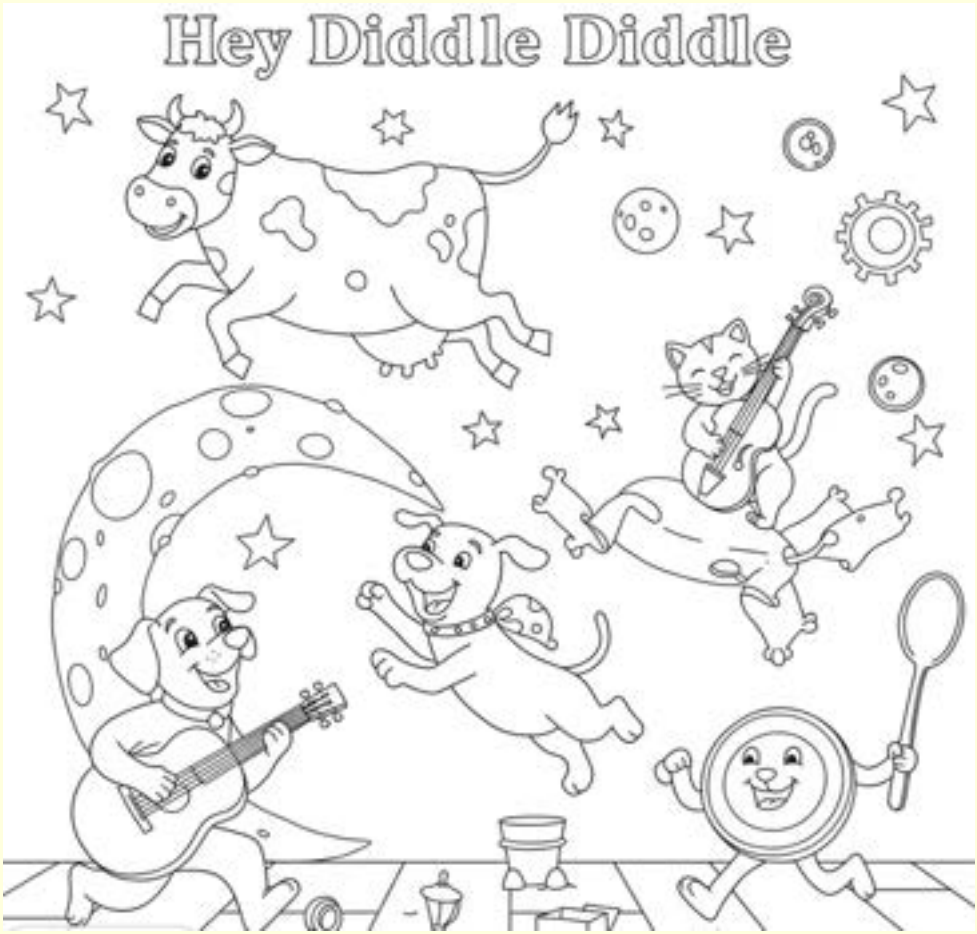
You could also:

- Sing some Nursery Rhymes:
  Sing classic nursery rhymes with children to help them develop language skills and rhythm.
- Encourage Rhyme Play:
  Promote imaginative play that incorporates nursery rhyme themes, characters, and settings.



*Sourced by June Eaton*

# *Children's Colouring Page*




*Sourced by June Eaton*

## Church Registers

**Baptism**

18th October
Matthew Barros Spalding of Chelmsford








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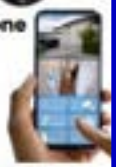
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# *Church News*



## St Peter's Church Christmas Fayre
## 'Rudolph's Red Nose'

## Saturday, 5th December in the Village Hall
## 11am – 3.00pm

**Offers of help or donations of cakes, mince pies, sausage rolls, raffle/tombola prizes and puzzles would be welcome**

**Or just come along and enjoy the day!**

**For more details email john_keeble@hotmail.com**

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

**Thank you for making our Knit & Natter Coffee Morning special, your generosity raised £920.40 to help support people living with cancer**

**A HUGE thanks to all who contributed to the morning with yummy cakes, beautiful crafts, litres of coffee and not forgetting all that washing up! Plus this magnificent sum.**

***Sandra Smith***

## The Leonids

This is not the name of an obscure psychedelic rock group but a spectacular meteor shower which occurs annually. Meteors basically emanate from the debris left behind by comets passing through the solar system and this trail follows the comet which orbits the sun. As the Earth also orbits the sun, it passes through this comet "tail" and the bits and pieces of rock and ice hit the atmosphere and burn up, resulting in fiery streaks in the sky.

The parent comet of the Leonids is called 55P/Tempel-Tuttle, which orbits the sun once every 33 years. The Tempel-Tuttle name is from Ernst Tempel who discovered the comet in 1665 and Horace Tuttle who independently rediscovered it in 1666. This comet is relatively small with its nucleus measuring 224 miles across.

The meteor shower is called the Leonid shower or the Leonids because its radiant or, from the point of view of an observer on Earth, the celestial point in the sky that the meteors appear to originate, is the constellation of Leo in this case.

This year the Leonids can be viewed between 6 – 30 November, with the peak activity occurring between 17 – 18 November. If conditions are ideal, you should be able to see around 10 to 15 meteors an hour. These will be bright and colourful due to their rapid speed. The speed of the Leonids is around 44 miles per second (70 kms) which is amongst the fastest meteors visible in space. As there will be a first-quarter moon in evidence during the shower, the fainter meteors may not be visible although this will mean that the brighter meteors should be easier to see. Obviously, light pollution may be a problem, and meteor watchers will have to stay up late as the best viewing time will be after midnight with the highest activity towards the pre-dawn. Happy watching!

*Chris Bingham*



MALDON
DISTRICT COUNCIL



## Your District Councillors

If you need to contact either Richard or Jade please email:

cllr.richard.siddall@maldon.gov.uk cllr.jade.hughes@maldon.gov.uk

## Harvest Festival at St Peter's Church



On Sunday, 11th October, we celebrated Harvest Festival in a family communion service led by Rev'd Michael Hatchett. The church was beautifully decorated and a bumper collection of donations for the Maldon Food Pantry were gratefully received.

The Sunday Club children made some wonderful bunting and we thanked God for our food and prayed for the farmers who produce it.

A delicious selection of food was enjoyed after the service.

Thanks to everyone for their contributions!

*Rosie Pollock*

*Photos courtesy of Rosie Pollock, Karen Tarpey and Daphne Taplin*

















# Church News

## Operation Christmas Child



A simple Christmas shoebox gift is a 'treasure chest' for a child who has never received such a gift before. It is a powerful symbol of hope that someone, somewhere, cared enough to pack a gift meant just for them. This year, will you join with us as we partner with local churches around the world who are reaching out to children in their communities through Operation Christmas Child? This year's Shoebox season is coming; Knit & Natter, St Peters Church and friends will join together again to take part.

If you would like to fill a shoebox but are unsure how to get started I can help:

- I have official leaflets, labels and lists of what to pack in your shoe box.
- Contact me, Sandra, on 01621 893153 or email: sandyannsmith48@gmail.com

Collection day and blessing the boxes is Sunday, 15th November, 10am at St Peter's Church, Great Totham.

*Sandra Smith*

150 YEARS OF Mothers' UNION Join us, Join in

We held our October meeting on Friday 16th and discussed our Tombola Stall for the church Christmas Fayre. We would ask members of the congregation to please donate items for our stall (anything from wine, children's games, toiletries, boxed chocolate, socks, gloves or unwanted gifts which someone may find a use for). Please give them to any member of the MU or church. Many thanks in advance.

Our November meeting will be at Chelmsford Cathedral to celebrate our 150 year anniversary on Saturday, 14th. Our December meeting is our Christmas celebration on 11th December at a member's home (thank you).

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

*June Eaton*

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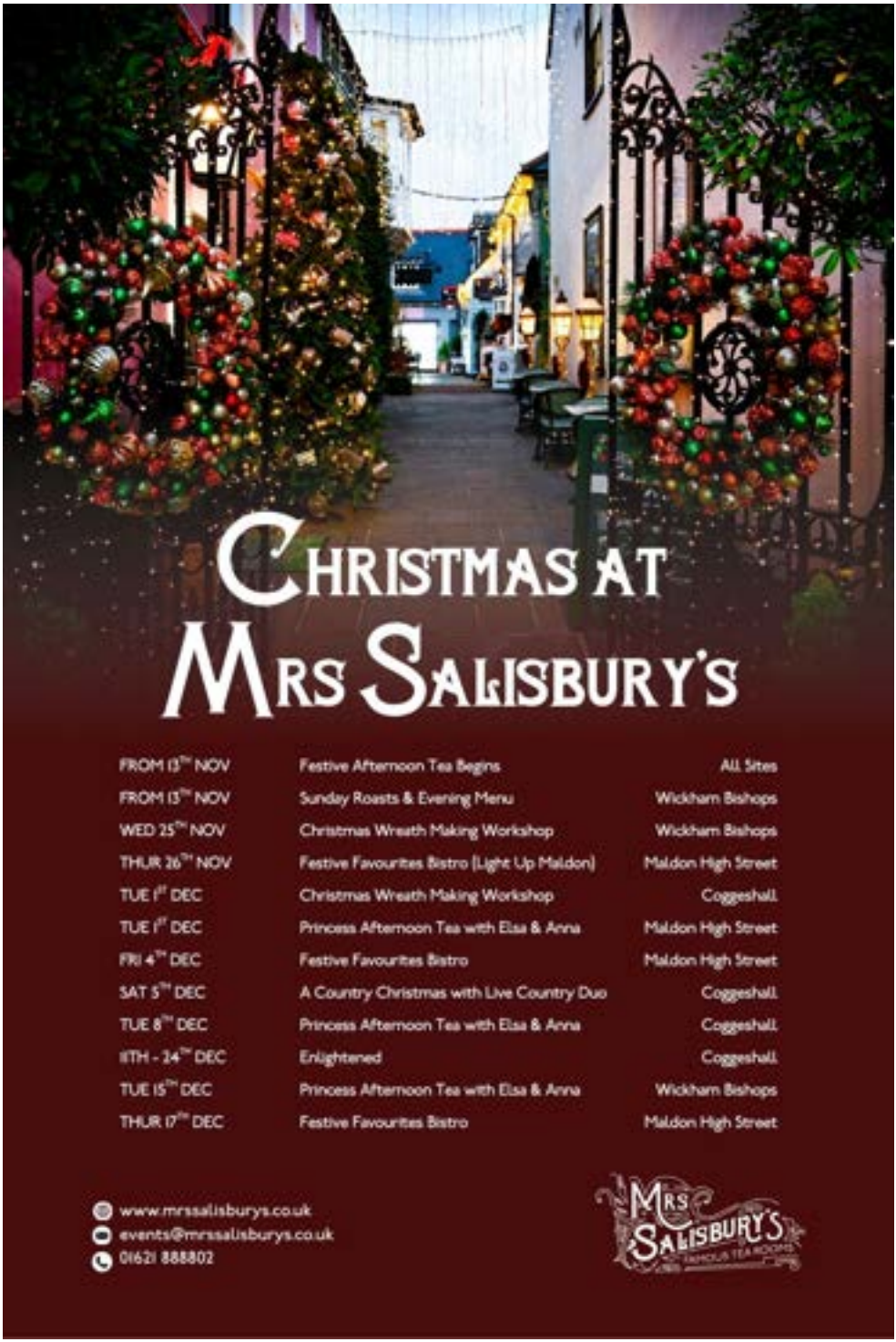
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FROM 13TH NOV Sunday Roasts & Evening Menu Wickham Bishops
WED 25TH NOV Christmas Wreath Making Workshop Wickham Bishops
THUR 26TH NOV Festive Favourites Bistro (Light Up Maldon) Maldon High Street
TUE 1ST DEC Christmas Wreath Making Workshop Coggeshall
TUE 1ST DEC Princess Afternoon Tea with Elsa & Anna Maldon High Street
FRI 4TH DEC Festive Favourites Bistro Maldon High Street
SAT 5TH DEC A Country Christmas with Live Country Duo Coggeshall
TUE 8TH DEC Princess Afternoon Tea with Elsa & Anna Coggeshall
11TH - 24TH DEC Enlightened Coggeshall
TUE 15TH DEC Princess Afternoon Tea with Elsa & Anna Wickham Bishops
THUR 17TH DEC Festive Favourites Bistro Maldon High Street
www.mrssalisburys.co.uk
events@mrssalisburys.co.uk
01621 888802
MRS SALISBURY'S

## News from Great Totham Primary School

**www.greattotham.essex.sch.uk**



### School Games Gold Award

We are delighted to share the fantastic news that our school has been awarded the School Games Gold Award again!

This is a wonderful achievement and recognises the enthusiasm, commitment and participation of our pupils in school sport and physical activity. We are incredibly proud of all the children who have represented our school and embraced opportunities to get active, through our school clubs, and develop their skills and work as part of a team.

A huge well done to our children, and thank you to our staff and families for their continued support in helping make sport such an important part of school life!

### Music Education Award

We are equally delighted to share that The Greater Essex Music Hub have celebrated the value Great Totham Primary places on music by presenting us with the Music Mark of Recognition for Dedication & Improvement.




Many of our KS2 children enjoy weekly tuition with Essex Music Services and it is wonderful to see the progress the children have made, as proudly showcased at the termly performances to parents.

Together with our iRock bands we have some talented and very enthusiastic musicians at GTPS!



### Year 5/6 Football Tournament

On Wednesday, 7th October, we took part in a Year 5/6 football tournament at Shrub End in Colchester. With 17 teams competing across two groups, we faced a number of local schools in the Colchester and Blackwater group.

/continued on next page

# Community News

/continued from previous page

We got off to a fantastic start, winning our first match 2–0 before following it up with an impressive 6–0 victory! Zac and Theo both scored hat-tricks, making it a memorable start to the tournament.

The team continued to show great determination throughout the day, bouncing back from defeats and a draw to finish strongly with two more wins.

Well done to the whole team for their fantastic effort, teamwork and resilience. Their hard work was rewarded with 3rd place in the group - a brilliant achievement!

*Compiled by Jo Mazzarella*

## Essex Library Service



As the days are getting shorter and we're getting ready for cosy season, there's no better time to curl up with a good book or two or three.

Discover the Rivers of London series by Ben Aaronovitch.

Blending crime, fantasy and humour, the series follows Police Constable Peter Grant, a young Met Police officer who discovers that magic is real as he investigates supernatural crimes across London.







**Say hello to our new mobile library bus!**

The Mobile Library is stocked with a wide range of books for all ages and interests, including fiction, non-fiction, large print, audiobooks and children's books, as well as puzzles.

Whether you're looking for your next great read or want to explore the additional library services available, there's something for everyone.

To find a stop near you, or to share the service with someone who may benefit from it, visit our website to view the latest routes and timetables.



*https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/*

**Answers to Children's Quiz on page 10:**

1. Ring; 2. Garden; 3. Quite; 4. Star; 5. Miss;
6. Tucker; 7. Diddle; 8. Sat.




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**For the full programme and to book your place:**
**Email: edwinaann1517@gmail.com with your name and contact number**



## Book Sale

On Saturday, 19th September, we held out first book sale at the Honywood Hall to raise money for St Peter's Church.

Over the last few years, I have been kindly donated a variety of books; these, combined with some more donations from a number of parishioners recently, made for quite an array of genres. From biographies to Victorian crime novels, non-fiction to children's books, even some books about chickens and some about railways.

There was tea and coffee on hand for those who wished to spent a few minutes discussing with others the gems they had found, or possibly a recommendation of a new author to try.

The overall feedback was very positive and we will be holding another one next year. So if you are thinking about having a clear out of some of your books, please bear us in mind.

Thank you to everyone who supported the sale. Due to the generous people who donated or bought (or both), we were able to raise a fantastic £137.20! Thank you!

*John Keeble*



## Magazine Deliverer

We're looking for a volunteer to deliver the magazine to five properties in Brick Spring Lane, 10 times a year. If you are able to help, please contact Cheryl on 890940, Helen on 891067 or email parishmagazinetotham@yahoo.co.uk



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## Great Totham Parish Council

In this day and age when people are all so busy (though I suspect my mother's life of dolly tubs, flat irons, black leading the range and few home deliveries was probably more time consuming!), it is perhaps human nature to merely accept all the things that go right and save our excess energy for when things go wrong. Unfortunately, this often results in our being less appreciative than we should of people who quietly, and often over a considerable period of time, contribute to the life of our community.

One such person is Helen Mutton who, for over 20 years, has edited the parish magazine. It is not, as is sometimes thought, solely a Church magazine but an 'enquire within upon everything' publication representing the whole Parish. The recommendation by Councillor Delderfield that Helen be appointed as a Yeoman of the Parish for her voluntary work was unanimously agreed by members and grateful thanks are offered to her and her excellent team for their continuing efforts.

Another group that has served the village well for many years is the Gardening Club. Formerly the Horticultural Society, although I was told when I first came to the village that it was 'neither haughty nor cultural'!, there was an anxious time when numbers dwindled but, as is often the case, an enthusiastic group came to the rescue and the Gardening Club is thriving once more. Members offered their congratulations to the Chairman, Norman Wright, and Committee on the success of the Autumn Show and commented on how pleasing it was to see the event so well supported by residents.

The Amenities Group continues to be very busy, overseeing and reporting back to Council even when not actually carrying out the work themselves! Contractors have already been active at the Braxted Lane Recreation Ground pruning trees and will shortly be working in the Jubilee Recreation Ground. Playground apparatus issues identified as medium or high risk during the annual playground inspections will be prioritised for remedial action. It was also agreed that a new notice board, similar to that opposite the shop in Totham South, will be purchased.

Ever conscious of the cost of living, members queried the July-September Grounds Maintenance payment due to Maldon District Council for grass cutting since, due to the exceedingly hot weather, it was unlikely there was any grass to cut! The Clerk was therefore authorised to pay just 50% of that requested.

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It was rather disappointing to see a rise in speeding offences as recorded by the Community Speed Enforcement Team, with those exceeding the speed limit up by 1% on the July figure and the highest speed 'captured' at 51mph. Enforcement actions also rose from 61 to 89. Nonetheless, we appreciate the work of all who help to make our village a safer place, especially our own Speed Watch Team who, as with the Magazine group and the Gardening Club, are all volunteers.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday, 19th October at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

*Vicky Heaviside*









# Community News

## What's on in your Community

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

**Rainbows**
Monday, Church Extension

**Carpet Bowls**
6.30pm-8.30pm 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:*
*parishmagazinetotham@yahoo.co.uk*

### Future Events

**St Peter's Church Christmas Fayre**
**Saturday, 5th December**

**To advertise your business**
**Contact Sue Sharp**
**07548 826603**
**parishmagazinetotham@yahoo.co.uk**


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# Community News

## Great Totham WI

At our October meeting we welcomed WI member Lindsey Barrell to deliver her highly entertaining follow up to 'Burlesque, Me and the WI', a talk we enjoyed a couple of years ago. This time she concentrated on members of her group who, like her, were navigating the tribulations of the menopause whilst being busy burlesque performers. Where does one stick the HRT patch when wearing a corset? Lindsey kept us in stitches as she showed us some of the adornments to the costumes used in their routines, combining it with numerous anecdotes of incidents when on stage. An uplifting evening!!

Next month we will be undertaking some Christmas crafts under the expert tutelage of Brenda and Margaret.

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

September saw a meeting that was full of light-heartedness. We were entertained by Rick Christian with his guitar. He is a singer/songwriter who encouraged us all to join in songs from the 1950s, '60s, '70s and '80s. It was surprising how many of the lyrics we remembered. He is to be recommended. We also discussed future speakers and outings for 2027. We concluded with our usual tea and home baked cakes.

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 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:
**www.essex.police.uk or text 07624 80010**

**Maldon Police 0300 333 4444 or 101**
Maldon District Council Offices, Princes Road, Maldon

ESSEX POLICE Your local update

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** **Wednesday: 2pm-5.30pm**
**Saturday: 9am-5pm** 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 6.30-8.30pm | 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 |

# RUDOLPH'S RED NOSE CHRISTMAS FAYRE

## SAT 5TH DECEMBER

## 11am - 3pm

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- Human Fruit Machine
- Meet Father Christmas
- Children's Activities
- Festive Drinks
- Refreshments
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FREE ENTRY

In Aid of St Peter's Church, Great Totham

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 November.

Email: parishmagazinetotham@yahoo.co.uk
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