

**Parish
News**

Great and Little Maplestead Pebmarsh and Gestingthorpe



**Church and Community together
July and August**

Free

Village contacts and information

Reverend Beverley Vincent can be found on page 24 and the churchwardens on page 22.

Village Emergency Telephone Service and Neighbourhood Watch representatives see page 22

Magazine copy see page 24

Parish Clerks

Gt Maplestead	Ann Crisp	01787 460216	anncrisp@greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk
Lt Maplestead	Ann Harris	01787 462818	littlemaplesteadparishclerk@gmail.com
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The Maplesteads

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WEA	Jill Newton	01787 463893	gilliannnewton4@gmail.com
Autumn Show	Carol Brownlie	01787 461527	carolbrownlie@gmail.com

Gt Maplestead

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Mixed Ability Yoga	Victoria Ashworth	07751 911923	justinashworth@hotmail.co.uk
Pilates	Catherine Pawsey	07814 459683	catherinepawseypilates@gmail.com
Dance & Keep Fit	Judy Cowell	01376 561757	judy.cowell@btinternet.com
Carpet Bowls	Janice Chaplin	01787 469600	bobandjanicechaplin@btinternet.com
Youth Club	Myra Jeggo	01787 474285	m.jeggo@sky.com

Gestingthorpe

Village Hall	Steve Bagby	07840 367182	
Village amenities	Nick Duncan	01787 313558	
Tower bell ringing	Valerie Fullman	01787 462755	
Cricket Club	Nick Duncan	01787 313558	
Football Club			
History Society	Gill Webb	01787 581836	gillwebb880@gmail.com

Pebmarsh

Village Hall	Jonathan Nott	01787 269231	jonathannott44@hotmail.com
Dog Training	Halstead Dog Club	01787 473154	halsteaddogclub@hotmail.co.uk
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Ladies Club	Pauline Andow	01787 228790	
	Sandra Beaney	01787 222220	
Carpet bowls	Jim Crayston	01787 222241	jim@craystonfarms.co.uk
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Footpaths

Gt Maplestead	Steve Harris	01787 462818	steve198harris@gmail.com
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Gestingthorpe	L Crumpton-Taylor	01787 460277	lesliecrumpton-taylor@gmail.com
Pebmarsh	Michael Sharp	07725 909986	michael@broomhills-farm.co.uk

All villages

Book Club	Alison Cantor	01787 462537	acantor@linus.plus.com
Knitting group	Carol Brownlie	01787 461527	carolbrownlie@gmail.com
Handbell Ringing	Margaret Crudgington	01787 469049	
Solar Society	Miles Scrivens	01787 469766	lauri.scrivens@gmail.com
Benefice Choir	Gill Peskett	01787 462786	gillpeskett43@gmail.com
Scouts	Stuart Carter	01787 461149	
Guides	Kathy Hoy	01787 280200	
Molly's Wood	Jane Postma		https://www.mollyswood.org/contact

Letter from the editor



I should not have talked about the sun in my last letter, we now have had another week of rain. My rain gauge shows another couple of inches. but everything is looking very lush.

We are still in a sort of limbo, not quite back to no restrictions as we had expected, and not quite ready to fully socialise. Although I think that 'returning to normal' is a bit of a misnomer as I think that the last eighteen months have given us a lot to think about with regard as to how we live our lives in future.

It would also be helpful, when you see errors in the magazine, to let us know. We have had the Forager's Retreat in Pebmarsh shown as closed, when it has been open. Please help us to be accurate.

A repeat of the plea to you all, we are all volunteers and any feedback, articles or any offers of help would be gratefully received. If any one is interested in taking over the editorship to give me a break, I would be very grateful and Jan, who is the stalwart collector/organiser for Pebmarsh is also wanting someone to take over from her.

Also, please remember Braintree Food Bank, there are very many people who have been very badly affected by the lockdown.

With love to you all.

Contents

Page 2	Village contacts and information
Page 3	Letter from the Editor
Page 4	Letter from our Vicar and the Parish News website
Page 5	Bus service
Page 6	Pet Stories
Page 7	Local companies
Page 8	Gardening Corner
Page 9-10	Gestingthorpe
Page 11	Nature Notes
Page 12	The Reading Room
Page 16	Pebmarsh
Page 17	Little Maplestead
Page 18	A good recipe for this time of year
Page 19-23	Great Maplestead
Page 24	Hedingham Heritage Society
Page 25-26	Local information
Page 27	Foodbank
Page 28	Church services

Letter from the Reverend Beverley Vincent

July was supposed to be a month of perceived freedom from covid restrictions, whereas the reality is that we are still in the holding area, not quite able to accept the invitations and welcome that awaits us from the different areas of our lives.

This has caused me to reflect on the importance of responding when we receive an invitation. How easy it is to think we can't do something when invited because it's unfamiliar and we might feel out of place, the easy option is often to decline the invitation. When I suspected that God wanted me to serve as a priest in his Church I kept saying "surely he can't mean me", I felt that I couldn't possibly accept his invitation because I felt inadequate. But I learned that God is persistent and kept sending the invitation through different people and by different means until I accepted!

In John's Gospel we are told that Jesus' initial encounter with his first disciples began with Jesus asking them "what are you looking for" a simple question that we can ask ourselves today, he then invites them to "come and see". By accepting his invitation they discovered the truth of Jesus' identity, he was the Messiah. That realisation came through spending some time with him, getting to know him, and that changed the course of their lives forever.

My journey of faith started when a neighbour invited me to church 'come and see' she said and I did. I was greeted with a warm welcome and a loving acceptance. I am thankful that I accepted that invitation because, ultimately, it changed the course of my life. More than that, I found that God loved me despite my doubts, fears and wobbly times (and still does).

I am reassured that he walks before me in all of the unfamiliar places I've been to and am about to go. If church is an unfamiliar place to you remember you are invited to 'come and see' because by accepting this invitation you too can discover for yourself who Jesus is and what that means for your life. We are waiting to welcome you in to any of our parish churches, just 'come and see'.

Rev'd Beverley



Parish News Website

The Parish News website is a gateway to our four villages and their churches. The website address is:

www.knights-hospitallers.org.uk

Unlike a conventional bus, you need to first register as a customer and you need to book your seat on a journey at least two hours in advance of travel.

Flat fare £3 single, £5 return between any two stages. Concessionary bus passes are accepted after 0900 Monday to Friday and all day on Saturdays.

To get more information call Essex DaRT on 01621 874410 or email info@essexandsuffolkdart.co.uk.

The latest timetables for the DaRT service at www.essex.gov.uk/dart is incorrect.

SUDBURY - BULMER - GESTINGTHORPE - WICKHAM ST. PAUL - PEBMARSH - GREAT AND LITTLE MAPLESTEAD - HALSTEAD

F315							From 01/03/2018
Sudbury, Bus Station	09:00	11:00	13:00	15:30	17:30	19:15	
Ballingdon, Kings Head	09:03	11:03	13:03	15:33	17:33	09:18	Timings in BOLD are fixed timing points
Bulmer Tye, Park Lane	09:07	11:07	13:07	15:37	17:37	19:22	
Bulmer, Cross Roads	<i>09:11</i>	<i>11:11</i>	<i>13:11</i>	<i>15:41</i>	<i>17:41</i>	<i>19:26</i>	All timings in Italics need to be pre-booked
Gestingthorpe, Foundry Corner	<i>09:17</i>	<i>11:17</i>	<i>13:17</i>	<i>15:47</i>	<i>17:47</i>	<i>19:32</i>	
Wickham St Paul, The Victory	<i>09:23</i>	<i>11:23</i>	<i>13:23</i>	<i>15:53</i>	<i>17:53</i>	<i>19:38</i>	
Pebmarsh, Bus Shelter	<i>09:32</i>	<i>11:32</i>	<i>13:32</i>	<i>16:02</i>	<i>18:02</i>	<i>19:47</i>	Timings other than those in bold type will vary up to 10 minutes either side of stated time, dependent on the number of passengers booked on the service.
Pebmarsh, War Memorial	<i>09:33</i>	<i>11:33</i>	<i>13:33</i>	<i>16:03</i>	<i>18:03</i>	<i>19:48</i>	
Little Maplestead, Corner	<i>09:39</i>	<i>11:39</i>	<i>13:39</i>	<i>16:09</i>	<i>18:09</i>	<i>19:54</i>	
Great Maplestead, Church	<i>09:45</i>	<i>11:45</i>	<i>13:45</i>	<i>16:15</i>	<i>18:15</i>	<i>20:00</i>	
Little Maplestead, Pump	<i>09:51</i>	<i>11:51</i>	<i>13:51</i>	<i>16:21</i>	<i>18:21</i>	<i>20:06</i>	
Halstead, High Street	<i>09:56</i>	<i>11:56</i>	<i>13:56</i>	<i>16:26</i>	<i>18:26</i>	<i>20:11</i>	latest arrival time
Halstead, High Street	<i>09:37</i>	<i>11:37</i>	<i>13:37</i>	<i>16:07</i>	<i>18:07</i>	<i>19:43</i>	earliest arrival time

F315							From 01/03/2018
Halstead, High Street	07:30	10:00	12:00	14:00	16:30	18:30	
Little Maplestead, Pump	07:35	10:05	12:05	14:05	16:35	18:35	Timings in BOLD are fixed timing points
Great Maplestead, Church	<i>07:41</i>	<i>10:11</i>	<i>12:11</i>	<i>14:11</i>	<i>16:41</i>	<i>18:41</i>	All timings in Italics need to be pre-booked
Little Maplestead, Cock	<i>07:49</i>	<i>10:17</i>	<i>12:17</i>	<i>14:17</i>	<i>16:47</i>	<i>18:47</i>	
Pebmarsh, War Memorial	<i>07:54</i>	<i>10:23</i>	<i>12:23</i>	<i>14:23</i>	<i>16:53</i>	<i>18:53</i>	
Pebmarsh, Bus Shelter	<i>07:55</i>	<i>10:24</i>	<i>12:24</i>	<i>14:24</i>	<i>16:54</i>	<i>18:54</i>	
Wickham St Paul, The Victory	<i>08:04</i>	<i>10:33</i>	<i>12:33</i>	<i>14:33</i>	<i>17:03</i>	<i>19:03</i>	Timings other than those in bold type will vary up to 10 minutes either side of stated time, dependent on the number of passengers booked on the service.
Gestingthorpe, Foundry Corner	<i>08:10</i>	<i>10:39</i>	<i>12:39</i>	<i>14:39</i>	<i>17:09</i>	<i>19:09</i>	
Bulmer, Cross Roads	<i>08:15</i>	<i>10:45</i>	<i>12:45</i>	<i>14:45</i>	<i>17:15</i>	<i>19:15</i>	
Bulmer Tye, Park Lane	<i>08:19</i>	<i>10:49</i>	<i>12:49</i>	<i>14:49</i>	<i>17:19</i>	<i>19:19</i>	
Ballingdon, Kings Head	<i>08:23</i>	<i>10:53</i>	<i>12:53</i>	<i>14:53</i>	<i>17:23</i>	<i>19:23</i>	
Sudbury, Bus Station	<i>08:07</i>	<i>10:37</i>	<i>12:37</i>	<i>14:37</i>	<i>17:07</i>	<i>19:07</i>	earliest arrival time
Sudbury, Bus Station	<i>08:30</i>	<i>10:56</i>	<i>12:56</i>	<i>14:56</i>	<i>17:28</i>	<i>19:28</i>	latest arrival time



Hello, my name is Roger and I live in Lucking St. I'm a cross between a Jack Russell and a Schnauzer and I was the runt of Poppy's litter but that hasn't made a jot of difference to me – I have a larger-than-life personality (at least that's what I hear people say when they're talking about me!)

My mum thinks I'm very handsome, with my 'Hairy McDary' looks; I don't think I'm going to look quite as good after Tuesday – I'm being taken to have a haircut...

I spend a lot of my time sitting on the kitchen windowsill watching for birds in the garden, large and small, that I can chase. I like watching for walkers along the footpath too, especially if they have a dog in tow. Freddie, the feline next door, is also fair game. If only I could get near him – he's a very bright cat!

My obedience? Well that's questionable, apart from when I'm with Claire the dog trainer, who I love. Then I rarely put a paw wrong because, if I do, she gets very cross and I know I have to behave well; otherwise no treats...

When I'm out on walks I find it almost impossible not to chase rabbits, squirrels (who dash up trees, out of my reach) and deer – muntjac especially; that gets me into big trouble with my mum. A few days ago I ran into a particularly muddy and smelly ditch; my mum wasn't happy at all so she dropped me in the lake to swim to the edge and clean myself up. I hate going in the water, so that was a nasty shock!

I think I'm growing up a bit now though – I come to the whistle quite a lot more than I used to and, as I love to go on long walks, I think it's worth behaving then because I get treats as a reward every time I come back.

Local Companies supporting us

Courtyard Stores in Pebmarsh are open and offering a delivery and collection service. For information look at www.facebook.com/courtyardstores or ring 01787 389222. They can be found at The Courtyard, Pebmarsh CO9 2NU.

The Mobile Lunch Company is delivering freshly prepared meals. Visit www.facebook.com/mobilelunchcompany or phone 01787 476264

The Forager's Retreat is definitely open. They are open Thursday 10am - 6.30pm, Friday 10am - 9pm, Saturday 10am - 9pm and Sunday 10am - 4pm. See their website www.theforagersretreat.co.uk or ring 01787 389123 for the latest information.

For information on the **The Pheasant** in Gestingthorpe phone 01787 465010.

For information on the **The Kings Head** in Pebmarsh see www.facebook.com/kingsheadpebmarsh or phone 01787 267942.



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Gardening Corner

The warmer weather has certainly made the weeds grow; parsnip seed, for instance, can take weeks to germinate – annual weeds a matter of hours!

A pest to look out for at the moment is Lily Beetle [Lilloceris family]. This scarlet beetle can be found on many species of lily and they will happily chomp their way through the leaves and blooms. The best way to remove them is to put one hand under the leaf or stem and pick off the offending pest – if you don't have a hand under these offenders they will drop off the host plant and land on their back, presenting a dark underside which is almost impossible to see on the ground! If left alone your lilies will become infested with beetle's larva, which protects itself with its own poo – not good to remove!

In the vegetable garden keep a look out for blight, a fungal disease which attacks potatoes and tomatoes [the same family]. If you see brown patches on the leaves or stems of the plant, pick off the leaves or cut down the stems. With potatoes, spray with a blight control – with tomatoes, do not over water and keep the greenhouse well ventilated. Shading applied to the outside of a greenhouse will also keep the inside temperature down. Try and not grow potatoes and tomatoes next to each other outside.

For plant of the month, I have chosen Actinidia Kolomikata, a climber with a most unusual variegated leaf. It is grown for the foliage and looks stunning, with its white leaf showing a pink tip. Plant south facing and in full sun if possible. Prune in late winter. Some of this species have a fruit too.

If you don't have a large garden, vegetables can be grown in containers. I find runner beans, carrots, french beans and spring onions do well in a container large enough to sustain full root growth. Feeding is the key; I find tomato food is a more than adequate weekly feed.

Climbing plants will need a tie to keep growth neat and under control. I use good old fashioned green string, there is nothing worse than a climbing plant flopping on the ground or taking over a path or walk way.

If your cold frame, plastic roll up frame or greenhouse is empty, now is a good time to give it good clean before we start taking cuttings and filling up the space again.

Enjoy your garden

The Arborist.

Gestingthorpe

Support in Gestingthorpe

Please if you are self isolating, or scared, or lonely or need any help please contact Carrie on 07872 170277 or Helen on 07793 402297 if you live in the Church Street, Sudbury Road and Nether Hill area and Nic 07908445239, Penny 07840 367172 or Kate 07771 535523 for the Audley End, Moat Street and outlying areas. The village is there to help you.

Tuesday Book Club

Do you love reading? Do you love discussing books with like-minded people preferably with a glass of wine?

Our new book club will meet monthly in the Village Hall once COVID Restrictions are lifted.

If you are interested in coming along please contact Penny for details: pbagby1@gmail.com or 07840 367172

Gestingthorpe Cricket Club.

The cricket season has started. Nets practise is open to all new players on a Thursday evening. These are the July and August fixtures:

SUN 04	JULY	TOPPESFIELD	HOME	1.30pm
SUN 11	JULY	CHAPPEL & WAKES COLNE	AWAY	1.30pm
SUN 18	JULY	CASTLE HEDINGHAM	AWAY	2.00pm
SUN 25	JULY	HELIONS BUMPSTEAD	HOME	2.00pm
SUN 01	AUGUST	WEST BERGHOLT	HOME	1.30pm
SUN 08	AUGUST	TILLINGHAM	AWAY	1.30pm
SUN 15	AUGUST	WEST BERGHOLT	AWAY	1.30pm
SUN 22	AUGUST	CHAPPEL & WAKES COLNE	HOME	1.30pm
SUN 29	AUGUST	DEDHAM	HOME	1.30pm

Gestingthorpe Village Hall. Annual General Meeting 2021

POSTPONED

Sadly, the COVID-19 restrictions cannot be lifted on 21st June and the current restrictions are to continue for (at least?) another four weeks so therefore the AGM that had been scheduled for Thursday 1st July cannot go ahead. On the assumption that COVID-19 restrictions will allow for a public meeting indoors

More Gestingthorpe

More Gestingthorpe Village hall

The AGM will now be held on Thursday 2nd September at 7.30pm in Gestingthorpe village hall. The Committee need you to observe the COVID-19 rules applying on the day.

All villagers from the Parish of Gestingthorpe are invited to come along to the AGM and to hear what we have done since the AGM in the village hall in 2019 (a COVID-19 compliant AGM was held in 2020) and what we are planning to do in the future for your village hall.

Please come along to the AGM and have your say in the running of your village hall.

We also need you to cast your vote on who is to be on the Village Hall Committee for the following 12 months.

If you would like to stand for, or nominate someone, for a position on the Village Hall Committee please contact either Steph Prior on 01787 462351 or Chris Harman on 01787 462763. All those voted onto the committee are asked to attend the committee meeting that will follow immediately after the AGM. Colour



Gestingthorpe Village Family Picnic
— Saturday 24th July —

Please pencil the 24th of July 1pm onwards into your diaries, for a Village Picnic on Gestingthorpe Playing Field.

All households old and new are welcome to come and meet or reconnect with friends and neighbours. Bring a picnic blanket, your own food and drinks. Tea, coffee and limited soft drinks will be available.

We'd love to see as many of you as possible!

All social distancing and Covid restrictions in place at the time should be adhered to.

Nature Notes

The weather finally warmed up during the last week in May and immediately a greater array of butterflies was evident. Three firsts were recorded over two days; Large White, Red Admiral and Small Heath. The latter is tiny and occurs in numbers in grassy fields but only one was seen that day. Since then, Common Blues have appeared in numbers.

As summer approaches the excitement and urgency of spring subsides as adult birds become busier feeding young and first broods leave the nest, adding confusing calls and drab juvenile plumage to the sights and sounds. But there are still surprises to be had, and on 28th May there was a spotted flycatcher in Devil's Lane. These birds are drab, inconspicuous and with a song likened to a squeaky gate. They are, however, on the UK Red List of endangered species as their numbers have plummeted over the last 20 years and they are increasingly rare. They have been recorded on the patch eight times in the last four years with three May records, three in July and two in August. A bird seen carrying food in May 2019 was a good indication that they are breeding in our area, so despite being drab, inconspicuous and squeaky they are a much-valued component of our fauna.

As we hit a run of mid- to high-twenties temperatures the moth world has finally come to life. I have been running a light trap in the garden since March and numbers have been very low, but on 7th May it was like Bingo! Over 150 moths of 51 species kept me busy for much of the day. If you have an outside light, it is well worth checking before bedtime as there are at least 7 species of hawk-moth regularly visiting our gardens. Nothing compares to the elephant hawk-moth – it is large, bulky, brilliantly coloured in pink and brown, and very common.

Composting is a very satisfying activity and, apart from being commendable and eco-friendly, it provides a different habitat in the garden. Bins hold large numbers of woodlice, centipedes and worms and many small animals are drawn to wriggling under the covers in search of tasty morsels. Most surprisingly, I have found toads and, on several occasions, grass snakes when lifting the covers. The grass snake is harmless and easily identified by the yellow band around the "neck". There are shrews and wood mice in the garden as well and I am sure they also take advantage of the compost bins.

Patch Patroller

Advertisements

If any of our advertisers are interested, they can have a colour advert on either the front or the back of the back page. This will cost £35.00 per issue plus a generous donation to our churches. Have a look at February's to see the effect. If any one is interested contact Jenny the editor.!

THE READING ROOM

This month our three reading recommendations have been suggested by **Cyndie Young**, a new Little Maplestead resident who moved into the village on 24th March.

The theme of her selections is "**Challenge Your Perspective on an Issue**"

A Fine Balance by Rohinton Mistry

A wonderful book about street life in India; there is no beginning, no middle nor end. Forget peacocks, Raj and tea on the terrace, this is life in the gutter and it is utterly un-put-downable. Mistry's insight and observation of humanity is superb and heart breaking. The quality of Mistry's writing and his characterisation is a delight. Set in the 1970's the story line follows four very disparate people from very different castes and backgrounds through the State of Emergency and weaves them all together in a most elegant and often surprising way. This is also extremely good listened to as an audiobook.

American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins

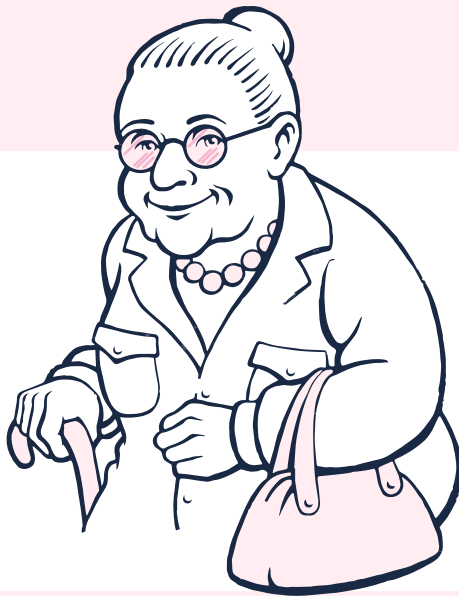
The story follows book store owner Lydia Quixano Perez and her eight year old son Luca from Acapulco as they flee after Lydia's husband is murdered by a cartel. Their only hope of escaping Mexico and being hunted down by the cartel is to try and (illegally) jump aboard the USA-bound train La Bestia. It's an eye-opener about the lives of ordinary people in Mexico and why they want to get to America. The book is filled with the stories of those they meet on the way. Is this book an authentic migrant experience? Probably not but it's enough to really get you thinking whilst giving you a great read.

The Heart's Invisible Furies by John Boyne

This is the story about Cyril Avery's life. It begins as WWII comes to a close when Cyril is born in Dublin to an unwed mother who had been publically driven out of her parish church and village by an enraged Roman Catholic priest. Adopted by Charles Avery, we follow Cyril's lifelong relationship with his friend Julian Woodbead as friendship turns into infatuation and from the narrow catholic views of Southern Ireland to the liberal-minded city of Amsterdam, on to New York before coming full circle back to Ireland. Through Cyril we can chart the changes that have taken place in Ireland and over the world in regard to civil and gay rights. This is character-led fiction at its finest where Boyne manages to balance moments of tragedy and anger with those of lightness and humour and above all love.

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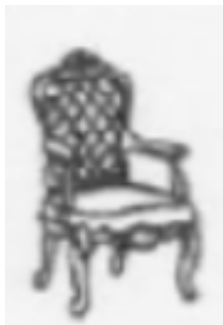
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Pebmarsh

Support in Pebmarsh

Pebmarsh Volunteers continue to be here for you during the pandemic. If you need anything, such as if you're isolating/quarantining and need help to collect prescriptions or with shopping, get in touch with Kate Carling (Phone: 267 924) and she will put you in touch with the village Volunteer for your area of the village.

Parish Magazine, Pebmarsh Village Rep

After almost 4 years in the role, I have decided that it is time for me to hand over as the village rep. Broadly the role consists of 3 parts:

Represent the village on the Steering Committee (generally 2 meetings pa)

Collating village information (10 months pa)

Sorting the magazines for the team of distributors.(10 times per annum)

If you are interested in taking on the role in full or sharing it with someone else then please give me a call - 269082.Jan Bond

Pebmarsh Parish Council Verge Cutting

Following the recent rain and surge in the growth of verges the parish council has liaised with Braintree District Council on how to tackle the safety element on the roads. The parish council has been informed that the natural growth is to promote nature in the area, however, this is not intended to be at the detriment to safety.

It would also help enormously if residents were able to trim back any of their own hedges or shrubs that are over hanging footpaths or roads. This would avoid highways getting involved with individuals.

If there is a specific area that is a blind bend or junction, where the length of the verge is causing a potential safety issue, please either inform pebmarshparishclerk@gmail.com and indicate the exact location using a map or detailed description; or alternatively please contact Braintree District Council directly on 01376 552525 or csc@braintree.gov.uk to highlight the hazard and request the verge is trimmed:

Pebmarsh Village Rounders Match 1st August 2-5 pm.

After more than a year when it hasn't been possible to hold any events it now seems like a great time to organise a village rounders match on the football field. Everyone is welcome whether you wish to play or just come along to watch & enjoy time with friends. No need to book in advance, turn up on the day, cost £5 per team. There will be a refreshment tent selling tea, coffee & cakes, proceeds in aid of Pebmarsh Church.

Any questions please call Sarah Burgess - 01787 269092

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01787 469600

Little Maplestead

We can collect drugs, search the internet if you do not have a computer, or just be a friendly voice on the other end of the phone. If you or others you know feel may need support please contact one of us.

Please contact Bill Piper on 01787473933, Jane Stone on 01787472525, Gemma Frost on 07826523187

Volunteers needed!

Are you willing to open the church one day a week? Our lovely church is open every day from around 9am to 5pm. It can be done earlier or later if that fits in with your routine. Often people do it on their way to work or an early dog walk. It is all very relaxed and there is no problem if you can't do your day or go on holiday, simply swap with another member of the team and do their duty when you can.

If you can help, we would be so grateful.

Please contact Jane Piper on 01787 473933 for more details.



Defibrillators in Little Maplestead.

As most people know, we have two defibrillators in the village, one outside Little India, and one in the centre of the village next to the notice board.

These were installed in August 2018, and to date have not been used in an emergency, which is a good thing!

We have ten people in the village who have received basic CPR training, as well as training in the use of the defibs, and these form part of the VETS system that we operate.

VETS is the Volunteer Emergency Telephone System. Basically if someone is suspected of having a heart attack, after dialing 999 for the ambulance the VETS number can be phoned, the number is 01787 852252. This will then ring the ten volunteers in the village simultaneously, the first person who is able to assist can then pick up the nearest defib and go to the patient to assist. The theory is that a village resident can get to the patient very quickly to offer CPR or use the defib prior to the emergency services arriving. In these circumstances, time is of the essence.

I feel that once the final Covid related restrictions are lifted we will organise a further training session, to which anyone in the village will be invited to attend. Details will be in the next edition of the Parish Magazine.

Remember in an emergency always call 999 first.

A good recipe for this time of year...

Here is a summer pudding recipe that might be appropriate for when there is a glut of soft fruits – but, if some of the glut ends up in the freezer, then it can become a taste of summer in the winter months...

Summer Fruit Brûlée

Serves 6

110g blackcurrants

560g soft fruits (including one or more of the following: raspberries, redcurrants, loganberries or blackberries)

110g caster sugar

225g whipping cream

225g plain yogurt

175g Demerara sugar

You need a round or oval shallow heatproof dish, approximately 23cm across x 5cm deep.

Pick over fruit and place in a large saucepan. Sprinkle the fruit with caster sugar, then place the pan over a medium heat for approximately 3-5 minutes only until the sugar melts and the juices begins to run. Tip the fruit into your serving dish and leave to get quite cold.

Whip the cream until thick, then fold it into the yoghurt. Spread this mixture all over the fruit, taking it right up to the edges of the dish to seal the fruit underneath. You can the cover with cling film and leave in the fridge.

About 2 hours before serving, remove cling film and spread the surface thickly with the Demerara sugar. Pre-heat the grill to its highest setting and, when you are sure it's really hot, flash the dish underneath until all the sugar is brown and bubbling.

Leave to cool, then pop it back in the fridge where the sugar will form a crunchy surface.

All that's then left to do is break out the Pimms N^o 1, sit back and enjoy!

Great Maplestead

Great Maplestead Volunteer Network

Just to let you know that the Great Maplestead Coronavirus Volunteer Support Network is still up and running.

If you would like any help please do not hesitate to contact me by phone on 01787 461002 or 07773 627897, or by e-mail at jacqui.mee62@gmail.com

The Maplesteads WI

The Maplesteads WI had their first 'in person' monthly meeting since our AGM in August 2020. Due to ongoing pandemic regulations we had our meeting outside in Diane Smith's garden. The committee organised 'bubbles' and orange juice to drink and everyone brought their own plate of food. It was a lovely evening with lots of chatting and laughter. Our meeting in July will be held in Christine Dunne's garden, when we will have an evening of garden games. At the August meeting we will be holding our AGM.



WI members enjoying each others company.

Due to lockdown restrictions being extended to July 19th we will not be able to have the Dedication of the Centenary Planter celebration at the village hall on July 1st, instead we will postpone it until our meeting on 2nd September. We will have a drink to celebrate the planter and then we will have an open meeting with a talk by Paula Short. A warm invitation is extended to anyone who would like to join us on that evening at 7.30pm.

The Maplesteads'
JUMBLE SALE
is back!
Great Maplestead Village Hall
Saturday 25th September at 3:00pm
Make a note of the date : Everybody welcome
More details in the September Magazine
All proceeds in aid of the Village Hall
<https://greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk/parish-information/events/>

More Great Maplestead

Graham Christopher Cuddeford : 3rd Feb 1939 – 5th May 2021

Graham was born in North London, and grew up in Banstead with his brother Robin. He began his schooling at a small local primary school called Greencurve, before heading to boarding school in Bath and then on to Manchester University to read Maths.

After graduating Graham worked for BP as an Operational Research Scientist at the refineries. He met a young pretty nurse, Jacqueline, who was training at Great Ormond Street. They fell in love and married when Jacqueline qualified as a nurse, at the tender ages of 22 and 23. Susannah arrived pretty quickly after they were married, then Carolyn 18 months later and Pen 3 years after that.

Graham and Jacqueline moved to Monks Ley in Great Maplestead in 1986 and established their little business rearing lambs, ducks, turkeys and an ever increasing number of dogs. Graham took early retirement from BP and then worked as a contractor.

Carolyn and Susannah both married and provided four grandchildren – Jacqueline and Graham were very proud of all of them. Susannah's girls loved to visit and see the animals and ride on granddad's tractor. Graham also enjoyed watching many sporting fixtures with Josh and Matt.

Jacqueline and Graham loved being in Great Maplestead. They hosted legendary cider parties for the village with their homemade cider.

Jacqueline became terminally ill and died in 2009; Graham never got over her death. He continued with their wish to develop Monks Ley into several properties and it certainly kept him busy for many years as, with his attention to detail and organisation, he was in his element.



Graham was a very talented artist and his paintings are exceptional. It was such a shame that after Jacqueline's death he never painted again.

Tragically Graham started to suffer from dementia but Carolyn and Susannah were determined to keep him at home, as this had been his wish. He had a fall at the beginning of May and succumbed to pneumonia soon after.

Graham you will be missed but we are happy you are now at peace and back with Jacqueline.

More Great Maplestead

The Maplesteads' Autumn Show.

Saturday 11th September – Great Maplestead Village Hall

All residents of Great and Little Maplestead should find a copy of the schedule for the forthcoming Autumn Show inside this month's Parish magazine.

We hope that you find something of interest for the young and the not so young and will start your preparations in good time in order to make this show even bigger and better than before.

Please read your schedule carefully and note that you can use either two 7" or 8" tins for the Chocolate Victoria Sponge Recipe.

After the show there will be prize giving and an auction of donated produce followed by a raffle.

There will also be refreshments.

There will be extra copies of the schedule in the porches of both Great and Little Maplestead churches.

If you require any further information please contact Carol Brownlie.

Tel: 01787 461 527 or e-mail carolbrownlie@gmail.com

Great Maplestead's

Playing Field Fun(d) Day!



Saturday 14th August 2.30–6.00pm

on the Village Playing Field

**Morris Dancing : Fun Dog Show : Tombola/Bottle Stall : Super-Soaker
Shooting Gallery : Coconut Shy : Human Fruit Machine : Boules : Silly Games
Jam Shed : Beer Tent : Ice Creams : Tea/Coffee & Cake Stall
& much, much more...**

(all subject to confirmation)

Free Entry – All proceeds in aid of the Playing Field Development Project

<https://greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk/parish-information/events/>

More Great Maplestead

Playing Field Project

Needs Your Support, Now!

The Parish Council is looking to raise £50,000 during 2021 to fund a major re-development of the Village Playing Field, its equipment and facilities.

Why are we doing this?

We want to broaden its appeal, encourage greater use by residents, their children, grandchildren and the school and ensure that this valuable asset can, safely and sustainably, meet the village's needs well into the future.

During lockdowns, many enjoyed using this amenity for fresh air, exercise and recreation. Residents also appreciated having such a safe and freely accessible outdoor space in the heart of the village for social events and gatherings. We want to sustainably improve this amenity for the benefit of all – so we are asking everyone for contributions to a concerted, community fundraising effort.

What are we planning to do?

1. Update and redesign the playground, including a complete renewal of most of the existing equipment (it's over 25 years old and increasingly expensive to maintain), providing a refreshed, modern play area offering long-term sustainability and low maintenance costs.
2. Plant a wildflower 'mindfulness garden', a place for quiet relaxation and socialising that, as well as mental health benefits, could be used for joint school and village environmental schemes.
3. Install new field drains to alleviate water-logging after heavy rainfall.
4. Install a Boules Court and two extra picnic benches to provide a new adult recreational and social facility – scheduled for later this year,

How much will this cost?

In total, around £55,000. We've already set the ball rolling, allocating £5,000 from an ECC Grant and some Council reserves to get the project started, so a further £50,000 is now urgently needed.

We are seeking finance through grant requests to local/national funding agencies but, to succeed, match-funding is usually required.

It is therefore vital we also secure financial backing from individuals, local businesses and parish institutions.

You can help by:

More Great Maplestead

More Playing Field Project

- - Supporting organised community events (e.g. Autumn Show; walks etc.)
- - Organising/attending social events (e.g. Quiz/Race/pub nights etc.)
- - Devising specific fund-raisers (e.g. tea/open garden parties; car washing etc.)
- - Setting up a crowd-funding initiative (e.g. Just-Giving etc.)
- - Providing local business/individual sponsorship/donations

We'd welcome all your fundraising suggestions – every penny counts!
A Playing Field Fun(d) Day is being held on Saturday 14th August, from 2.30- 6.00pm, as a family fun fundraiser to mark the official launch of this ambitious project (see separate announcement).

Meanwhile, please would you help us get the fundraising underway by donating (anonymously, if you'd prefer) now:

Cheques made out to 'Great Maplestead Parish Council' and sent to The Clerk, New House, St Giles' Close, Church St, Gt Maplestead, CO9 2RW or contact anncrisp@greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk for BACs payment details.

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Hedingham Heritage Society

We're back again – no we're not – at least for another month!

We write this knowing that further easing of Covid regulations is delayed into July. This will affect Hedingham Heritage Society's proposal to reopen in July and August with some indoor and outdoor events – we hope, though, that the planned events for August and September can happen and many of you may like to join us.

If we have to cancel or postpone any of these talks and walk, details will be posted on our website or check by phone – contact numbers are below.

Thursday 5 August 2021 – 'Tales from the Riverbank' – Liz Huxley, Naturalist and Wildlife photographer – a wonderfully illustrated talk about the wildlife on our local Essex and Suffolk rivers.

7.30 pm Castle Hedingham Memorial Hall

Sunday 15 August 2021 – the Hawkwood Walk – it is 700 years since Sir John Hawkwood was born in Sible Hedingham – 1320/21? This walk is to celebrate his birth and follows some of the route of the Hawkwood walk as marked on the Sible Hedingham Footpath map. There will be information during the walk about this mercenary leader or condottiere who was active in 14th century Italy and whose fresco can be found in the Duomo in Florence.

Meet 10.30am at Castle Hedingham Memorial Hall or arrange to join or leave us at any convenient point on the walk route – complete walk about 6 miles.

Thursday 2 September – Essex in the News – Pip Wright, author and local historian – with news from the county: 1720-1900

7.45pm Castle Hedingham Memorial Hall

All these events are free, with no need to join for our 2021/22 programme until September, so do bring along friends and family.

Covid safeguards, as required at the time – social distancing, face coverings etc. – will be in place.

Previous members have been e-mailed this information. Anybody else interested, please just come along to the indoor meetings or walk. Otherwise, just let us know your interest by contacting us at hedinghamheritage@gmail.com

Or contact:

Rob Worley – robertj.worley@btopenworld.com Tel 01787460664

Trudi Cullum – trudi@newriver.co.uk Tel 01787462889

Peter Bayes – peter_bys@yahoo.co.uk Tel 01787469953

www.hedinghamheritage.org

Local information

Solar Society will make every effort to restart their meetings when it is appropriate.

Programme to be announced.

In the meantime , take care everybody.

Further info from Miles Scrivens 01787-469766 or Wanda Sellar 01787 463449.

Local Women's Running Group: laurabloom@btinternet.com or on 07801 749802

Local Libraries: Halstead and Sible Hedingham Libraries, libraries.essex.gov.uk.

Four Parishes Book Group: Alison Cantor. 01787 462537 or acantor@linus.plus.com

Sudbury Area Cancer Support Group: Ruth Worsley on *ruth-SACSG@outlook.com*

The U3A Halstead: u3asites.org.uk/halstead/welcome

The U3A Sudbury: u3asites.org.uk/sudbury/home

U3A Braintree: u3asites.org.uk/braintree/events

Halstead & District Photographic Society: www.halsteadphoto.org.uk

Gestingthorpe History Society: www.gestingthorpehg.co.uk

Community Agents; Community-based support for an ageing population: www.communityagentsessex.org.uk.

The Empire Theatre Halstead: www.empire-theatre.co.uk

Halstead and District Local History Society: www.halsteadhistory.org.uk.

The Hedingham Singers: Bob Lilley on 07790 573435 or www.thehedinghamsingers.com/.

Sudbury Newstalk: www.sudburynewstalk.co.uk or 01787 468535.

Hedingham Medical Centre



The Castle Hedingham surgery is triaging all patients so please phone 01787 461465. Do not go to the surgery. The surgery is open from 11.00 - 13.00 and 14.00 - 18.00 Monday to Friday to collect pre-ordered prescriptions. Their website is www.hedmed.co.uk.

Local and National Authority Representatives

Essex County Council

Councillor Peter Schwier - cldr.pschwier@essex.gov.uk

Braintree District Council

Great and Little Maplestead

Councillor Peter Schwier - cldr.pschwier@braintree.gov.uk

Gestingthorpe

Councillor Wendy Scattergood - cldr.wscattergood@braintree.gov.uk

Pebmarsh

Councillor George Courtauld - cldr.gcourtauld@braintree.gov.uk

Councillor Gabrielle Spray - cldr.gspray@braintree.gov.uk

Westminster

James Cleverly MP - james.cleverly.mp@parliament.uk

Parish Council Websites

Gestingthorpe	www.gestingthorpepc.co.uk
Great Maplestead	www.greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk
Little Maplestead	www.littlemaplesteadpc.co.uk
Pebmarsh	www.parishcouncil.pebmarsh.com

Village Emergency Telephone Service (VETS)

VETS provide support when a defibrillator is required although the first action must be a 999 call. The telephone numbers of the village VETS are:

Little Maplestead 01787 852252

Gestingthorpe 01787 852850

Pebmarsh 01787 852300

Neighbourhood Watch representatives

Gestingthorpe	Helen Skerratt	01787 237297
Great Maplestead	Ian Johnson	01787 461109
Little Maplestead	Bill Piper	01787 473933

The Churchwardens serving our Benefice are

Great Maplestead	Gill Peskett	01787 462786	gillpeskett43@gmail.com
	Jill Newton	01787 463893	gilliannewton4@gmail.com
Little Maplestead	Jane Piper	01787 473933	jane-piper@hotmail.co.uk
	Karen Sunnucks	01787 472145	karen.sunnucks@btinternet.com
Gestingthorpe	Alice Nolda	01787 469688	-
	Peter Nice	01787 460126	peter.427nice@btinternet.com
Pebmarsh	Sarah Burgess	01787 269092	sarahburgess@btinternet.com



We urgently need UHT long life milk, fruit juice (1L variant please), dog food, (cans or pouches please), hair conditioner and size 5 baby nappies.

We currently have large stocks of baked beans, cereals, pasta, pasta sauce, biscuits, fish, soup, baby food and cereals, and we would ask if you could donate one of the items from the list below.

Tea (40 bags if possible)

Cereal bars

Pasta sauce

Tinned fruit

Tinned tomatoes

Tinned spaghetti

Tinned sponge puddings

Sugar 500gms

Coffee (small jars)

Instant mash

Breakfast cereal

Packet soupd (cuppa soups)

Tinned rice pudding

Rice

Warmed tinned meat

Jam

Larger packs of items don't fit in our parcels making it difficult for our clients to carry home, this is why we ask for small packets.

Save the date

Maplesteads Autumn Show 11 September 2021

Great Maplestead Jumble Sale 25 September 2021

The copy deadline for the July magazine is **Friday 20 August 2021**

We need to know who, what, where and when

Submit your copy early to guarantee inclusion. Email me or our village reps.

Copy

Editor	Jenny Bishop	01787 472159	pmeditor@icloud.com
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Gt Maplestead	Ann Harris	01787 462818	ann66harris@gmail.com
Little Maplestead	Beverley Bratley	01787 473281	beverley.bratley@gmail.com
Pebmarsh	Jan Bond	01787269082	janbond381@btinternet.com

July/August Church Services

4 July	9:30	Little Maplestead Holy Communion
	11:00	Great Maplestead Holy Communion
	9:30	Gestingthorpe Morning Prayer
11 July	9:30	Pebmarsh Holy Communion
	11:00	Gestingthorpe Holy Communion
	11:00	Great Maplestead Family Service
18 July	10:00	Benefice Service Pebmarsh
25 July	9:30	Great Maplestead Holy Communion
	9:30	Little Maplestead Morning Prayer
	11am	Pebmarsh Morning Worship
	4pm	Gestingthorpe Compline
1 August	9:30	Little Maplestead Holy Communion
	11:00	Great Maplestead Holy Communion
	9:30	Gestingthorpe Morning Prayer
8 August	9:30	Pebmarsh Holy Communion
	11:00	Gestingthorpe Holy Communion
	11:00	Great Maplestead Family Service
15 August	10am	Benefice service Little Maplestead
22 August	9:30	Great Maplestead Holy Communion
	11:00	Pebmarsh Morning Worship
	9:30	Little Maplestead Morning Prayer
	4pm	Gestingthorpe Compline
29 August	10.30am	Halstead Team Service, Gosfield and via Zoom

Our churches remain open for private prayer on set days, please contact your churchwarden for times of opening.

The Reverend Beverley Vincent

The Rectory, Church Street, Great Maplestead, CO9 2RG
Tel 01787 460273 or 07944 200132. Khvicar@gmail.com

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