

## Services for May 2019

	Gestingthorpe	Great Maplestead	Little Maplestead	Pebmarsh
Sunday 28 April	10am Special Service in Gestingthorpe to commemorate the Home Guard 3pm Bluebell Wood Service at Hill Farm, Gestingthorpe			
Sunday 5 May	9.30am Holy Communion	6.30pm Evening Prayer	11am Holy Communion	No Service
Sunday 12 May	4pm Compline	9:30am Holy Communion	No Service	11am Holy Communion
Sunday 19 May Pentecost	11am Morning Prayer	11am Holy Communion	9:30am Holy Communion	No Service
Sunday 26 May	8.15am Holy Communion	11am Family Service	10am Morning Prayer	9:30am Holy Communion
Sunday 2 June	9.30am Holy Communion	6.30pm Evening Prayer	Service of the Order of St John	No Service

### Dates for the Diary

8th May	Deanery Visitation
14th May	Team Away Day
14th May	Great Maplestead PCC
18th May	Little Maplestead Craft Fair
22nd May	Deanery Synod – Castle Hedingham
4th June	Team Council

### BLUEBELL SUNDAY

Wiggery Wood will be 'open' for local residents to visit and enjoy the Bluebells, (which may be slightly 'past their best', if the dry weather continues)--together with all the other woodland flora--on Bank Holiday Sunday, May 5th, from 11a.m to 7p.m.

All Welcome

To find the wood, drive to Hill Farm, Gestingthorpe, where there is ample parking, then follow the signs to the wood, which is about 400 yards away. Stout footwear is essential!

*N.B The wood will not be 'open' in the event of very strong winds*

**Parish  
News**

# **Great and Little Maplestead Pebmarsh and Gestingthorpe**

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**Church and Community together**  
**May 2019**

**Free**

## Village contacts and information

Neighbourhood watch representatives, see page 26,

Reverend Gay Ellis and the churchwardens see page 25.

Magazine copy and deliveries see page 27

### Parish Clerks

Gt Maplestead	Ann Crisp	01787 460216	anncrisp@greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk
Lt Maplestead	Ann Harris	01787 462818	littlemaplesteadparishclerk@gmail.com
Gestingthorpe	Frances Wells	01787 379606	gestingthorpepc@gmail.com
Pebmarsh	Philippa Potter	07790 598363	pebmarshpc@hotmail.com

### The Maplesteads

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

### Gt Maplestead

Task Force	Martin Elms	01787 461421	martinelms@greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk
Village Hall	Liz Newton	01787 461308	lizatlucking@hotmail.com
Playing Field	Joe Newton	01787 461308	lizatlucking@hotmail.com
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
Card making	Pauline Andow	01787 228790	
Ladies Club	Pauline Andow	01787 228790	
	Sandra Beaney	01787 222220	
Carpet bowls	Jim Crayston	01787 222241	jim@craystonfarms.co.uk
Youth club	Carol Parker	01787 269996	taximother@googlemail.com
	Susan Rawlinson	01255 815205	

### Footpaths

Gt Maplestead	Steve Harris	01787 462818	steve198harris@gmail.com
Lt Maplestead	Geraldine Holloway	01787 476530	geraldineholloway2017@gmail.com
Gestingthorpe	L Crumpton-Taylor	01787 460277	leslie@crumpton-taylor.entadsl.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	Wendy Jones	01787 469049	wendy.jones14@btopenworld.com
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		<a href="https://www.mollyswood.org/contact">https://www.mollyswood.org/contact</a>

## May dates for your diary

2 May	7pm	Maplesteads WI	Great Maplestead
5 May	11am	Bluebell Sunday Wiggery Wood	Gestingthorpe
13 May	2.30pm	Solar Society	Castle Hedingham
18 May	11am	Spring Craft and Plant Fair	Little Maplestead
1 June	10am	Plant Stall	Gestingthorpe
1 June	7.30pm	Summer Wine Tasting Evening	Great Maplestead

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The copy deadline for the June magazine is **Friday 17 May 2019**

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
Gestingthorpe	Andy Craig	01787 469687	andy@mdamarketing.com
Gt Maplestead	Ann Harris	01787 462818	ann66harris@gmail.com
Little Maplestead	Beverley Bratley	01787 473281	beverley.bratley@gmail.com
Pebmarsh	Jan Bond	01787269082	thebonds.copperfield@btinternet.com

## The Churchwardens serving our Benefice are

Great	Gill Peskett	01787 462786	<a href="mailto:gillpeskett43@gmail.com">gillpeskett43@gmail.com</a>
Maplestead	Jill Newton	01787 463893	<a href="mailto:gilliannewton4@gmail.com">gilliannewton4@gmail.com</a>
Little	Jane Piper	01787 473933	<a href="mailto:jane-piper@hotmail.co.uk">jane-piper@hotmail.co.uk</a>
Maplestead	Karen Sunnucks	01787 472145	<a href="mailto:karen.sunnucks@btinternet.com">karen.sunnucks@btinternet.com</a>
Gestingthorpe	Alice Nolda	01787 469688	-
	Peter Nice	01787 460126	<a href="mailto:peter.427nice@btinternet.com">peter.427nice@btinternet.com</a>
Pebmarsh	Belynda Fellows	01787 269986	<a href="mailto:belynda1@btinternet.com">belynda1@btinternet.com</a>

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### Would you like a lift to church?

If you would like to attend any of the church services in the Benefice but have no transport please feel free to approach one of the churchwardens who will be happy to arrange it for you. Service times are shown on the back cover and Churchwardens are shown above.

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#### Fancy a cup of coffee and a chat?

Come to the Tower Room in St Giles Church, Great Maplestead

Open every Wednesday Morning 10.30am to 12noon

No charge, this is a social get together, not a fund raiser. Everyone is welcome  
- for more details please ring

Dorothy on 01787 829963 or Gill on 01787 462786



### Registers

Funerals      Gestingthorpe      Thursday 4 April      Jean Fox Ward

### The Reverend Gay Ellis

The Rectory  
Church Street  
Great Maplestead  
CO9 2RG

Email      [gayellis@aol.com](mailto:gayellis@aol.com)  
Telephone 01787 460273  
Mobile 07749 838769

## Letter from the editor



May is about to arrive and haven't we had great weather.

Our lovely cover photo this month is from Joe Burlo. In colour as it is so cheerful, but please remember that we are usually black and white.

You may be aware that our Pebmarsh church is having difficulties. Perry Crimmins will have started walking the Camino Frances, 'Way of St James' walk to raise money for the church, For more information please look at page 14.

You will notice a new direction for the magazine, a wonderful article about helping out in the refugee camps in Greece. This reminds us that some European countries have had millions of refugees, whereas we have been relatively protected. If you are also interested in helping have a look at [www.hopeandaiddirect.org.uk](http://www.hopeandaiddirect.org.uk)

It is so good to hear that some of our people are going out to help. I hope this encourages others of you to write an article for us.

For those of you who went to Gestingthorpe's Tuesday Talk on photography last month, I am expecting an influx of amazing photographs for the cover (and from all of you who did not go!!!!).

Have a great May.

Jenny

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## Letter from the Rectory

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What does it mean to be a Christian in the year 2019? Can you spot them in a crowd? A few generations ago, the majority of people in this country would have said they were Christians, a lot still do, perhaps many more than people think. Sadly, nationally, over the years, the numbers in church on a Sunday have dwindled and now in each parish there are a few really hard working dedicated people. There are many more people in the parishes who do believe and who do support the churches but for one reason or another are unable to attend regular services.

We are grateful that in these four parishes we have a mixture of such people and in this magazine you will find an article by one of our churchwardens who is writing on behalf of the group who recently went on Pilgrimage to the Holy Land and that can be a life changing experience.

Another article this month (see below) is by one of our church members who has recently been working as a volunteer for Hope and Aid Direct, one of the charities in Greece who support refugees in the camps.

Also this month we have had a working party in Gt. Maplestead to tidy up the churchyard when 25 people got together and gave a Saturday morning working together to make the churchyard really welcoming to visitors.

In Pebmarsh we have a newly formed Friends of Pebmarsh church who are starting to really work with the church to help the church be there working for the community for years to come and they and the church council have a joint meeting with the community at 7.30pm on April 24th in Pebmarsh Village Hall and all residents in Pebmarsh are invited to come.

These are all just ordinary people but each one of them is in their own way working for the Christian cause. I wonder how many like them there are in this country? Well probably too many to count but each one is so important not only for the life of the church but as part of God's kingdom. Thank you and God bless.

Gay & Nick



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### **HOPE AND AID DIRECT Taking Hope and Aid not Sides**

As I sit here in my cosy cottage in Great Maplestead, I cannot help but remember my experiences in Greece just a couple of weeks ago. I flew into Lesbos and joined a group of people from the Charity Hope and Aid Direct who had driven across Europe from Essex in two 7.5 ton trucks and one 40 foot articulated lorry. They are all volunteers, giving up time and income to deliver aid to the immigrant camps on Lesbos and Chios islands as well as around Athens.

Continued on page 17

## Village Emergency Telephone Service (VETS)

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All our four villages now have defibrillators, and Little Maplestead, Gestingthorpe and Pebmarsh have a Village Emergency Telephone Service. The purpose of VETS is to 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**

### Hire of Great Maplestead, Pebmarsh and Gestingthorpe Village Halls

Each of our village halls is available for hire for all types of functions. Little Maplestead residents can hire Great Maplestead village hall at same rate as Great Maplestead residents. Please contact the relevant booking secretary

Great Maplestead	Liz Newton	01787 461308	
Pebmarsh	Christine Nott	01787 269231	
Gestingthorpe	Steve Bagby	07840 367182	or 01787 463592

### Neighbourhood Watch representatives

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

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### Ecclesiastical Insurance

Ecclesiastical Insurance will make a donation of £130 to our churches for every new home insurance policy taken out. To take advantage of this offer call 0800 783 0130 or visit [www.ecclesiastical.com/Trust130](http://www.ecclesiastical.com/Trust130).

### Anyone with shorthand experience?

Alan is eighty four and he would love to get his life story down on paper. Is there anyone out there who could help him? He would like to dictate it.

He is an Old Barnardo's Boy and very proud of it. If you can help please contact Jenny the editor.

### Information on Local Elections on the 2 May 2019

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Don't forget to go and vote at the local elections and more important take your ID with you. Information on the correct ID is on the Braintree District Council web site.



## Local and National Authority Representatives

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### Essex County Council

Councillor David Finch - [cllr.david.finch@essex.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.david.finch@essex.gov.uk)

### Braintree District Council

#### Great and Little Maplestead

Councillor John O'Reilly Cicconi - [cllr.jo'reilly-cicconi@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.jo'reilly-cicconi@braintree.gov.uk)

#### Gestingthorpe

Councillor Wendy Scattergood - [cllr.wscattergood@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.wscattergood@braintree.gov.uk)

#### Pebmarsh

Councillor Chris Siddall - [cllr.csiddall@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.csiddall@braintree.gov.uk)

Councillor Gabrielle Spray - [cllr.gspray@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.gspray@braintree.gov.uk)

### Westminster

James Cleverly MP - [james.cleverly.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:james.cleverly.mp@parliament.uk)

### European

John Flack MEP - [john.flack@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:john.flack@europarl.europa.eu)

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## Parish Council Websites

Gestingthorpe	<a href="https://www.essexinfo.net/gestingthorpe/">https://www.essexinfo.net/gestingthorpe/</a>
Great Maplestead	<a href="http://greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk">http://greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk</a>
Little Maplestead	<a href="http://littlemaplesteadpc.co.uk">http://littlemaplesteadpc.co.uk</a>
Pebmarsh	<a href="http://parishcouncil.pebmarsh.com">http://parishcouncil.pebmarsh.com</a>

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## Church website

[www.knights-hospitallers.org.uk](http://www.knights-hospitallers.org.uk)

This magazine is available electronically on all these web sites

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## Twitter

[@knightsparishes](https://twitter.com/knightsparishes)

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## Facebook

Knights Hospitallers Parishes  
Little Maplestead Church  
Gestingthorpe Church  
Pebmarsh Church

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## Father's Day 16 June

How much do you love your Dad? Why not tell him with a message in the magazine?

Important information for adults helping with this.....messages will be limited to no more than 50 words and must be received by 17 May. Mail the editor Jenny Bishop on [pmeditor@icloud.com](mailto:pmeditor@icloud.com) who reserves the right to limit the number of entries.

## Local Information

### The F315 Local Bus Service

All buses serve Halstead, Little Maplestead, Wickham St Paul, Gestingthorpe, Bulmer, Sudbury. For these villages the bus is hail and ride, except for the last journey each way, which has to be booked. The route can be extended to Great Maplestead and or Pebmarsh by booking.

Book giving two working hours' notice, on 01621 874411

The timetable gives earliest arrival times. Extensions to the route mean that later in the journey the bus may be several minutes later than the times shown. Adult Flat fare – single £2.50, return £4.

Download the timetable in colour from <http://www.essexinfo.net/gestingthorpe>

Beware of online bus apps. Most are based on ECC timetable. If you miss the note saying the bus might be 10 minutes earlier than shown, you could miss the bus.

#### F 315 Halstead - Sudbury flexible bus service Winter 2018/9 Earliest departure time

A call at Great Maplestead adds 6 or 7 minutes. A call at Pebmarsh adds about 12 minutes. Easy access.

Mondays to Saturdays							F315	
Halstead, High Street	07:30	10:00	12:00	14:00	16:30	18:30		
Little Maplestead, Pump	07:34	10:04	12:04	14:04	16:34	18:34	<b>Timings in BLUE are fixed timing points</b>	
Great Maplestead, School	07:38	10:08	12:08	14:08	16:38	18:38		+7 min
Little Maplestead, Cock Road	07:41	10:11	12:11	14:11	16:41	18:41	<b>All highlighted timings MUST be pre-booked</b> <b>01621 874411</b> <i>the earliest times dependent on the number of passengers booked onto the service</i>	
Pebmarsh, War Memorial	07:50	10:20	12:20	14:20	16:50	18:50		
Pebmarsh, Bus Shelter	07:51	10:21	12:21	14:21	16:51	18:51		+12 min
Wickham St Paul, The Victory	07:45	10:15	12:15	14:15	16:45	18:45		
Gestingthorpe, Foundry Corner	07:49	10:19	12:19	14:19	16:49	18:49		
Bulmer, Cross Roads	07:55	10:25	12:25	14:25	16:55	18:55		
Bulmer Tye, Park Lane	07:59	10:29	12:29	14:29	16:59	18:44		
Ballingdon, Strawberry Stores	08:03	10:33	12:33	14:33	17:03	18:48		
Sudbury, Bus Station	08:07	10:37	12:37	14:37	17:07	18:50	earliest arrival time	
Sudbury, Bus Station	08:26	10:56	12:56	14:56	17:26	19:07	latest arrival time	

#### SUDBURY - BULMER - GESTINGTHORPE - WICKHAM ST. PAUL'S - PEBMARSH - GREAT MAPLESTEAD - LITTLE MAPLESTEAD - HAL

Mondays to Saturdays							F315
Sudbury, Bus Station	09:00	11:00	13:00	15:30	17:30	19:15	
Ballingdon, opp Strawberry Stores	09:03	11:03	13:03	15:33	17:33	19:18	<b>Timings in BLUE are fixed timing points</b>
Bulmer Tye, Park Lane	09:07	11:07	13:07	15:37	17:37	19:22	
Bulmer, Cross Roads	09:11	11:11	13:11	15:41	17:41	19:26	<b>All highlighted timings MUST be pre-booked</b> <b>01621 874411</b> <i>the earliest times dependent on the number of passengers booked onto the service</i>
Gestingthorpe, Foundry Corner	09:17	11:17	13:17	15:47	17:47	19:32	
Wickham St Paul, The Victory	09:23	11:23	13:23	15:53	17:53	19:38	
Pebmarsh, Bus Shelter	09:30	11:30	13:30	16:00	18:00	19:45	
Pebmarsh, War Memorial	+12 min	09:31	11:31	13:31	16:01	18:01	19:46
Little Maplestead, Cock Road	09:25	11:25	13:25	15:55	17:55	19:27	
Great Maplestead, School	+7min	09:28	11:28	13:28	15:58	17:58	19:43
Little Maplestead, Pump	09:32	11:32	13:32	16:02	18:02	19:30	
Halstead, High Street	09:37	11:37	13:37	16:07	18:07	19:35	earliest arrival time
Halstead, High Street	09:56	11:56	13:56	16:26	18:26	19:52	latest arrival time

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## More Local Information

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### **Solar Society - Your local adult daytime learning group.**

Your local adult daytime learning group

On Monday 13th May we welcome back Janet Brewer who will be talking on 'Secrets of the Queens of Egypt'. Tombs, monuments and malicious gossip, and on Monday 3rd June Roger Johnson also returns to us to present a talk on the untimely death of Maria Marten. 'Murder at the Red Barn'.

Both meetings will be at The Memorial Hall, Church Lane, Castle Hedingham and start at 2.30pm, lasting about 90mins plus a short interval for free light refreshments.

Entrance: £4.00 No membership fee. All welcome.

We then close for two months, July and August, for holidays but will resume again on Monday 2nd September when Miles Scrivens will discuss 'Peterloo: How close did Britain come to revolution in the early nineteenth century?'

More details Miles Scrivens 01787 469766 or Wanda Sellar 01787 463459

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### **Repair Cafe Halstead**

Sadly Alison is now stopping the Repair Cafe as she now has to look after her elderly parents. If anyone is interested in taking over there are more details on [www.facebook.com/repaircafehalsteadessex/](http://www.facebook.com/repaircafehalsteadessex/)

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### **Local Libraries**

Halstead library is open 9-5pm Monday, 9-6pm Tuesday, closed Wednesday, 9-6pm Thursday and 9-5pm Friday and Saturday. Sible Hedingham Library is open 9-1pm Monday, 1-5pm Tuesday, closed Wednesday, 1-5pm Thursday, closed Friday and 9-1pm Saturday. Further information is available on <http://libraries.essex.gov.uk>.

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### **Four Parishes Book Group**

We meet monthly on Thursday evening at members' homes and have wine, tea or coffee.

Books are chosen by suggestion or recommendation from members. All books are borrowed from the library so there is no cost to members.

For more information, contact Alison Cantor on 01787 462537 or 07713509445 or by email at [acantor@linus.plus.com](mailto:acantor@linus.plus.com)

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### **Sudbury Area Cancer Support Group**

4th Thursday, 7-9pm, The Christopher Centre, 10 Gainsborough Street, Sudbury, CO10 2EU. 2nd Friday, Cafe Club, 12-2pm, The Loft, 3 Gaol Lane, Sudbury CO10 1JL.

For more information, contact Ruth Worsley on [ruth-SACSG@outlook.com](mailto:ruth-SACSG@outlook.com)



# COLNE VALLEY RAILWAY

## Special Events 2019

We have lots of characters visiting us this year including

Chase and Marshall from Paw Patrol 28<sup>th</sup> April

Peter Rabbit 2<sup>nd</sup> June

The Gruffalo 30<sup>th</sup> June

Peppa Pig 21<sup>st</sup> July

Wallace & Gromit 20<sup>th</sup> August

Transport Day 25<sup>th</sup> August

Paddington 8<sup>th</sup> September

Chase & Skye from Paw Patrol 27<sup>th</sup> October

Further information can be found at [www.colnevalleyrailway.co.uk](http://www.colnevalleyrailway.co.uk)

Or 01787 461174

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## Braintree Area Food Bank

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### Urgent Items

- Cold tinned meats
- Long life milk
- Tinned sponge pudding
- Tea (packs of 80)
- Jam
- Tinned tomatoes
- Cereal bars

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### Food that they are short of

- Coffee (small jars)
- Pasta sauce
- Chocolate bars (Kitkats or Penguins)
- Fruit juice (1litre)
- Tinned fruit
- Tinned tomatoes
- Tinned spaghetti
- Sugar
- Instant mash
- Breakfast cereal
- Packet soups, ie Cuppa soup
- Tinned rice pudding
- Rice
- Jam
- Warm tinned meats

They also need baby wipes, nappies (all sizes), antiperspirant/deodorant, shower gel, bags for life, pet food and toilet rolls.

Donations can be made via the libraries in Braintree, Witham, and Halstead and the Coop in Halstead.

On behalf of all our visitors we thank you for your generosity.

T: 01376330694

E: [info@braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk)

W: [www.braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food](http://www.braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food)

# Your Mobile phone - Cybercrime and SMISHING

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**Smishing** -- using smart phone texts to phish for victims' confidential information -- is soaring, and it's more dangerous than email phishing.

This type of phishing, better known as "smishing," has been around for years but because consumers have wised-up to email tricks and, in fact, are using email less and less for simple messages, scammers have switched their focus to SMS texts to target their victims.

The text usually contains a link that downloads malware, which steals as much data as it can find. And therein lies the threat:

Your smartphone knows a lot more about you than your PC, so an installed piece of malware might steal the phone numbers in your contact list and spread the virus in hopes to exponentially multiply. Even important bits of personal data, like banking credentials or your tracking location, can be at risk.

Scammers are also using texts to pose as tax authorities. The tactic creates a false sense of realism because many people don't realise that text messages can be a threat. They say that the user is due a tax refund or needs to provide more information," she explains. Basically, they try to get users' information, and that can be used for stealing their money.

## What to Do

The best thing you can do to avoid falling victim is to never click on a link inside a text message.

Certainly, you should never respond to a request for a password or other confidential information. Instead, visit the real website of the organisation that seems to be asking and check if it's a genuine request.

You should also use extreme caution even if the message asks you to send the word "Stop" unless you're 100% sure that it's genuine. Sending a "Stop" message may not land you in immediate trouble but it signals to a phishing scammer that there's a bite on the line.

In fact, for the same reason, you should never reply to text messages from someone you don't know.

Block the sender if you can. But otherwise, just delete the message, and don't share your cell phone number on social media.

In addition, it's wise to install an anti-malware app on your phone.

To learn more about smishing, and cybercrime prevention see [www.getsafeonline.org](http://www.getsafeonline.org).

For further advice or if you believe that you have been a victim of fraud or cybercrime contact Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 or [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk)





## Great Maplestead

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### **The Maplesteads WI Meeting April 2019**

President Carol Brownlie welcomed everyone, including visitors and our speaker Mr Jim Davis, to our meeting on Thursday April 4th 2019. Secretary Janice Chaplin read the minutes of the previous meeting which were signed as correct and birthday flowers were presented.

Carol then asked Jane Stone, Programme Co-ordinator to introduce our speaker, Mr Jim Davis, a local historian, with his talk on The History of the Maplesteads. Unfortunately Mr Davis thought he had spoken to us about the history of the Maplesteads before so changed his talk to the history of Halstead and its development from a small rural town to a considerable manufacturing town, due in large part to the famous Courtauld family. Who knew that at one time Halstead had 14 huge factory chimneys! Carol gave the vote of thanks. During refreshment time Mr Davis answered questions about the Maplesteads and put up some slides showing various landmarks in the area. Flower of the month was won by Connie Hume with a lovely cream frilled tulip.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 2nd May 2019, this will be our Annual Meeting, held in the school hall due to local elections being held in the village hall. For further information please telephone Carol Brownlie on 01787 461527.

Anne Fletcher

# **Summer Wine Tasting Evening**

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June : 7.30pm for 8.00pm**

**Great Maplestead Village Hall**

**Tickets: £12 per person**

**Tickets include all wines and nibbles**

**Tickets available from: Jacqui Mee 01787 461 002  
or Val Castro 01787 462 789**



## More Great Maplestead

### Cleaner Wanted

for Great Maplestead  
Village Hall



Monday mornings – 2 hours – £10/hour  
Starting 13<sup>th</sup> May

Please contact: Liz Newton 01787 461 308

### Churchyard Tidy-up



Denise took this photo of the group at the church on the 6 April when they tidied up the churchyard and the ashes plot. It all looks so much better. Great community spirit, work and cake and fellowship - the community of Great Maplestead at work together. Big thank you to them all.

*Gaynor Edwards*  
**CREATIVE GLASS**

**Stained Glass Making Day for Beginners**

Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup> in Great Maplestead Village Hall

£40 per person for the day – to include afternoon tea

Minimum 4/Maximum 6 places

**For more information or to make a booking:**

Telephone: 07904 365 447  
or e-mail: [gaynor1067@gmail.com](mailto:gaynor1067@gmail.com)

## HOPE AND AID DIRECT Continued I

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The camps are the holding points for people who have fled war in the hope of finding a peaceful life. They have come from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan and other places that we have learned to associate with barrel bombs and total destruction. They do not know if they will ever be allowed to leave the camp but they wait in patience every day.

The camps are guarded by the Greek army and access is strictly controlled. Conditions inside are basic at best. Families are allotted a space about the size of a four man tent. If they are lucky it is just for them, but often they have to share with other families. Predation against women is common although some men try to provide a security system.

I spent my time moving sorting, loading and unloading hundreds of banana boxes full of aid donated by kind people here. There were hundreds of boxes and I moved some of them so often that sometimes felt I knew each one personally. But the hard physical work was not what has stayed with me. What I remember are the charities and people who work there every day, every week, every month. Hope and Aid Direct support these amazing groups which ensures the aid taken actually gets to the migrants. We gave clothes to the people who, anytime day or night, give clothes, hot drinks and a welcome to the wet and shocked migrants as they scramble ashore from flimsy and overcrowded rubber boats. We delivered sacks of pasta and tins of beans and lentils to an amazing restaurant owner who feeds 1000 migrants each day. We took children's clothes to a centre set up by a refugee who has gained the right to stay in Greece. He rents a warehouse space and provides a place of safety for women and children. Here young volunteers are play leaders and the children have space to learn, develop and be part of a community. Mothers can talk and rest in the space where no man can enter. Security is provided by male residents of the camp, but they guard the perimeter, never entering.

We were able to visit a school based in a house in a quite isolated setting, where young adults can learn a European language. There is a waiting list to study there. Student walk for 30 minutes each way in any weather. If they cut a class, their place goes to the next on the list. They do not miss classes.

Another centre has grown out of a group of sheds, and now has a school called the Peace School (self built from anything available) a tailors shop, a library in an old caravan and a hairdressers. Here is a shop and canteen, all manned by people from the camp. They have a bank with their own currency which is all that can be used on site. Here young people can mix, play sports, be part of a team and develop a sense of self in a secure environment.

Continued on page 11 (apologies for out of order)



## More Gestingthorpe

### Gestingthorpe Village Hall

As you may know, the renovation and conversion of the toilets to include a disabled loo and a baby and toddler nappy and clothes changing table is complete.

Our next project is to have the old sash windows repaired. Unfortunately one was too far gone to repair so a local joiner has made a complete new window and frame to an identical design as the old one.



Please come along to an event in your village hall to see how we are looking after it for you.

Our village hall is available for you to use for parties, meetings, celebrations or just 'good fun get togethers'. The charges are very reasonable and displayed on the village hall notice board. If you want

to see inside the hall then please contact us so that we can show you around. Our AGM is on 20th June at 7-30pm. Please come along.

## **THE GESTUPFEST 2019 GREAT FAMILY DAY OUT FOR ALL**

Will be taking place on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>  
September from 2pm till 9pm.

**SAVE THE DATE IN YOUR CALENDAR**

### **Only FOUR months to go before this event!**

We have been very busy this month securing various stalls for the GestupFest. So far over 25 sellers are eager to attend who will be selling an exciting range of products. If anyone knows any sellers that would like a pitch at the event, please let us know, we have a few spaces left.

As mentioned in last months Parish News, we will be having a Tug-of-War, there will be two categories: Youngsters under 15 and Adults. Please let us know when you have your team members (six for each team) and the name of your team. We have several volunteers to help set up/clean up after the day there is always room for more.

**If anyone would like to help volunteer at this amazing event, please contact Helen Skerratt (number below). All offers of help will be gratefully appreciated. More information to follow next month.  
Contact details: Helen Skerratt 01787 237 297  
or Chris Harman 01787 462 763**

## Little Maplestead

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### **HELP needed for Spring Craft and Plant Fair Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May.- 11am -3pm**

We need some volunteers to help us put up a marquee on FRIDAY 17<sup>th</sup> May at 5pm. It should be less than an hour if we get lots of help so just turn up if you can. Many thanks

If anyone is able to make a cake for us or wishes to help on the tea stand we would be thrilled! Cakes can be delivered on the morning of the Fair straight to the church by 11am if possible. If you are able to help call Jane Stone on 01787 472525 or email [jcstone29@hotmail.com](mailto:jcstone29@hotmail.com) . Don't forget to come and support us and buy all the plants you need for the garden!

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### **All you bikers out there**

The church has been given a virtually new Gentleman's Encounter Apollo Mountain bike to sell for the church at the Craft Fair. It has a 19" wheel Shimano gears and a Compass suspension system. The bike will be on view at the Craft Fair.

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### **Taster Evening**

On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April a small group of people were treated to a demonstration and taster evening at Great Maplestead Village Hall by local chef Carl Shillingford. Carl specialises in wild food and forages for many of his ingredients. We were given lots of new things to try including wild garlic, nettles, ground ivy and many others. Carl demonstrated several excellent dishes which we all tasted, including making fresh pasta, cutting it by hand and serving it all within about ten minutes. Some of you may know Carl from his pop up restaurant at the Quay Theatre. Due to the success of that restaurant Carl is now opening a new restaurant in Pebmarsh with some very interesting new ideas. Watch out for the information about the opening hopefully sometime in May.

### **Local Women's Running Group**

We now have a small group of women who meet most Sunday mornings at 9am at the Little India Car park in Little Maplestead, to run between 4 and 5km. It's a manageable pace so do come along even if you haven't run in a while. Please contact [laurabloom@btinternet.com](mailto:laurabloom@btinternet.com) or call/text Laura on 0780 174 9802 if you would like to come along and give it a try or have any questions.

### **Parish Council News**

There has been no applicants to stand in the election coming up in May so the current Parish Councillors will continue to stand.

# Craft Fair and Plant Sale

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 11am - 3.00 pm

at the Round Church

Little Maplestead CO9 2SL

Masses of summer bedding,  
vegetable plants & herbs



- Bags and Scarves
- Vintage Clothes
- Local Pottery and Embroidered Art Work

- Metalwork & Woodcraft
- Jewellery
- Greeting Cards
- Local Honey & Jam



- Local Cider
- Craft Gin
- Raffle

*Refreshments available:  
Soup Lunches, Teas, and Cakes*

Card payments now accepted



## More Gestingthorpe

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### More Spring Craft Fair

Thanks must go to Steve, Claire, Steph and Elaine who manned refreshments throughout the day (and Roger for helping with preparing the hall).

Historically, funds raised from these events have helped us reach our target for upgrading our village hall toilets which have now been completed to everyone's enjoyment. The £345 that was raised this time will go towards repairing the sash windows - we look forward to seeing you all again at our Christmas Fair on the 1st December.

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### Tuesday Talk : 16 April

A group of residents and their friends gathered in Gestingthorpe village hall on Tuesday evening and were treated to an interesting talk on tips and techniques that would help turn snaps into photographs. Lisa's enthusiasm for her hobby of photography bubbled over and we were told of and shown how a few simple rules would help us to place subjects in the right aspect for us to achieve that photograph with the 'extra something'.

There was some reference to technical aspects of photography but the large majority of the talk was to show how a few simple rules and observations could improve every shot taken whether it be on your 'phone or a compact camera.

Lisa told us that when she travels on holiday she rarely takes photographs of the 'standard' buildings, views or vistas but looks for one that maybe no-one else has taken.

We were reminded that we don't need to wait until a holiday to try out some ideas. Indeed, one of our residents couldn't wait to show you all how the old school coat hooks that have been taken down, cleaned, painted and put back now look!

The questions from the floor covered a wide range and Lisa answered each one with her own thoughts and tips for us to try.



An enjoyable and informative evening that I am sure will be useful to us when we next take photographs. We just need to 'remember the few simple rules'.

## Gestingthorpe

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### **Gestingthorpe Village Hall. Annual General Meeting**

The AGM will be held on Thursday 20th June at 7.30pm in Gestingthorpe village hall. All villagers from the Parish of Gestingthorpe are invited to come along to the AGM and to hear what we have done in the last year and what we are planning to do in the future for your village hall. Please come along to have your say in the running of your village hall.

We also need you to cast your votes on the adoption of an updated Trust Deed and on who is to be on the Village Hall Committee for the next 12 months.

If you would like to stand for, or nominate someone, for the post of Chairman, Vice Chairman or Treasurer please contact either Myra Quick 01787 469246 or Chris Harman 01787 462763.



**PLANT  
STALL  
GESTINGTHORPE  
VILLAGE HALL  
SATURDAY  
1st JUNE  
10am - 12pm**  
raising funds for the  
Church & Village Hall

### **Gestingthorpe Spring Craft Fair**

On Saturday 13th April, 10 stall holders welcomed visitors to the Gestingthorpe Spring Craft Fair in the village hall. There was a good selection with painting, decoupage, writing, glass decorations, cards, pottery and needle felting as well as a great cake stall and book/dvd table.

The weather stayed fine for most of the day and we had a steady flow of visitors who made purchases or enjoyed the hospitality from the kitchen.

## More Little Maplestead

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### Parish Room Update

After no progress to report in the last few months, the Parochial Church Council are pleased to confirm Historic England have provided their support for the proposed parish room. In addition, letters of support from the Parish Council, Robin King the Archdeacon, Rev'd Gay Ellis our Vicar, the Friends of the Round Church and St John's who have an historical connection with the church, have been received.

The survey of the village is now completed and we are pleased to say there is overwhelming support for the proposal. In total 110 people expressed their support, which equates to 96% of those canvassed, or to put it another way, 54% of the residents who are eligible to vote are in support.

On the 9 April, a ground survey of the proposed location of the Parish Room was conducted using Ground Penetrating Radar. The survey identified the existing drain from the toilet and a small linear feature on the western boundary showing the characteristics of a thin pipe or cable. There was also an indication of potentially structured features on the southern edge of the survey plot. However, in the immediate area of the location of the parish room, the survey showed no ground disturbances.

The PCC are therefore very pleased to announce that they are now ready to make a formal planning application.

One of the aims of the project is to bring the community together and the PCC would like to thank everyone who has offered their help with securing funding, with its construction or who has put forward ideas for additional uses of the parish room. It's really encouraging that so many of you have been supportive of the proposal.

A further update will be provided in the next issue of the magazine.

### HOPE AND AID DIRECT Continued II

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I saw and learned so much but have one image I cannot shake off. There is a line of 500 women, all queuing for a serving of boiled macaroni, a raw egg, flatbread and an orange. This would be supper for their family in a 4 foot by 8 foot cardboard box. They were strong and patient. They kept their children clean and tidy. Their own clothes were second hand from someone in the UK, (including their underwear!), yet somehow, they still had self respect, A few years ago, they had a home and a kitchen, maybe like the one where I am typing this. War took it away from them, but they stand tall in the food queue. They amaze me! I will go back.

If you want to hear more, contact [jan@janhancock.co.uk](mailto:jan@janhancock.co.uk). If you want to help visit <https://www.hopeandaiddirect.org.uk>



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## **Pebmarsh**

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### **Parish Magazine deliveries**

Could you spare a short time each month to deliver the Parish magazine in Pebmarsh? If so we are looking for someone to deliver to 10 houses in Pearson Close. If you can help please call Jan on 269082.

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### **Ladies Club**

Ladies Club meets on the second Tuesday of the month from 1pm until 3pm. If you are interested call Pauline Andow on 01787 228790.

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### **Card Making Club**

Card Club meets on the last Tuesday of the month from 1pm, booking is essential with Pauline on 01787 228790. All tools and materials provided.

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### **Bowls Club**

The Bowls Club meets at the village hall on the first Wednesday of the month from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. For more details contact Jim Crayston 01787 222241

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### **Youth Club**

The Youth Club meets at the village hall on alternate Thursdays from 6.30pm to 8.30pm. For more details contact Carol Parker 01787 269996.

### **Open Farm Sunday 9th June**

Don't forget to hold this date in your diary. Open Farm Sunday is a National event aimed at fostering a greater understanding between town & country. This year Hunts Hall will be open for the event to raise money for Pebmarsh Parish Church. Bring the family, there will be lots to see – farm rides, farming equipment on display and a barbecue. The family will also be on hand to answer your farming questions.

Jim, Eileen & Stephen Crayston

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### **The King's Head Pebmarsh**

Don't forget the Pebmarsh Community Festival - 19-21 July, 2019

Anyone from the local community interested in running their own stall at the event (non food) should contact [pcpshareholder@gmail.com](mailto:pcpshareholder@gmail.com) Further updates to follow - save the date!

If you are looking for a lighter, informal lunchtime meal, the King's Head now offers, in addition to the delicious main menu, a wide selection of sandwiches all served with skinny fries or chunky chips and salad.

## More Pebmarsh

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### Art Classes in Pebmarsh

If you would like to join us for lessons in art please contact me by e-mail for more details - [valrobbartist@gmail.com](mailto:valrobbartist@gmail.com). From beginners to more advanced. Starting soon. Val Robertson.

#### **Pebmarsh Art Group Annual Exhibition**

Exhibition and sale of art works at  
Pebmarsh Village Hall

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June 1pm – 5pm

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June 11am – 5pm

Free entry

Refreshments available

#### **Pebmarsh Open Gardens**

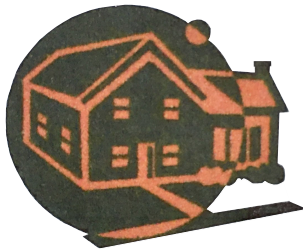
Sunday 9th June

Take a wander around a number  
of gardens in Pebmarsh that will  
be opening from 1pm – 5pm

Locations of the gardens  
participating will be available at  
the Village Hall on the day.

Entry £6

Proceeds to Essex Air Ambulance



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