

Great and Little Maplestead, Pebmarsh and Gestingthorpe



**Church and Community together
October 2023**

Free

Village contacts and information

Reverend Beverley Vincent and the churchwardens on page 40.

Village Emergency Telephone Service and Neighbourhood Watch representatives see page 39.

Magazine copy see page 8.

Parish Clerks

Gt Maplestead	Ann Crisp	01787 460216	anncrisp@greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk
Lt Maplestead	Paula Sillett	07975 571253	littlemaplesteadparishclerk@gmail.com
Gestingthorpe	Kevin B Money	07810 781509	gestingthorpepc@gmail.com
Pebmarsh	Shelley Boydell	07927 775989	pebmarshparishclerk@gmail.com

The Maplesteads

The Maple Leaves	Angela Davis	01787 236007	angeladavis99@outlook.com
WEA	Jill Newton	01787 463893	gilliannnewton4@gmail.com
Autumn Show	Carol Brownlie	01787 461527	carolbrownlie@gmail.com

Gt Maplestead

Task Force	Dave Pike	07885 788855	davepike@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
Dance & Keep Fit	Judy Cowell	01376 561757	judy.cowell@btinternet.com
Carpet Bowls	Janice Chaplin	01787 469600	bobandjanicechaplin@btinternet.com

Gestingthorpe

Village Hall	Steve Bagby	07840 367182	
Village amenities	Nick Duncan	01787 313558	
Tower bell ringing	Valerie Fullman	01787 462755	
Cricket Club	Chris Ponty	07494 883632	

Football Club

Fun Fit Fab	Nic Smith	07908 445239	nicsmithpe@gmail.com
History Society	Gill Webb	01787 581836	gillwebb880@gmail.com
Book Club	Penny Bagby	07840 367172	pbagby1@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
Baby Sensory Class	Helen Whiting	07703 790273	braintree@babysensory.co.uk

Footpaths

Gt Maplestead	Steve Harris	01787 462818	steveharris@greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk
Lt Maplestead	Geraldine Holloway	01787 476530	geraldineholloway2017@gmail.com
Gestingthorpe	Penny Bagby	07840 367172	pbagby1@gmail.com
Pebmarsh	Michael Sharp	07725 909986	michael@broomhills-farm.co.uk

All villages

Book Club	Alison Cantor	01787 462537	acantor56@outlook.com
Knitting group	Carol Brownlie	01787 461527	carolbrownlie@gmail.com
Handbell Ringing	Margaret Crudgington	01787 476259	
Benefice Choir	Gill Peskett	01787 462786	gillpeskett43@gmail.com
Scouts	Stuart Carter	01787 461149	
Guides	Kathy Hoy	01787 280200	
Molly's Wood			https://www.mollyswood.org/contact

Otter's Jotter!



Welcome to October! A huge thank you to all those who have been in touch in respect of advertising and ideas following our call for help last month. We would like to keep the ideas coming and if anyone would like to volunteer a few hours a week to make phone calls to those who advertise in other village mags - we would welcome you to our wonderfully friendly and enthusiastic team.

As always, big thanks to all our Village Reps - whether collating information to send, delivering to the homes, uploading onto websites or eagerly awaiting a meet up (which I have promised for ages!)

A quick reminder to have a flick back at last months details showing that the **F315 Bus Service is under threat of being withdrawn**. The consultation is open only until **5th October**, on the Essex County Council website, please make your views known. <https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/iptu/2023/>

There are lots of events coming up in each of the Parishes, from history talks and village walks; craft fairs to quiz nights and fundraisers too.

The Pet Service on the 15th October at Great Maplestead is in my diary, having 4 dogs, 2 cats and many fish in the pond, I will choose carefully as who who I bring along to represent our household of animals!

Enjoy your October, half term will no doubt mark the start of our fires and heating being put on! Last chance for the chimney to be swept!

I'm off to make that call! Have a good month and keep in touch!



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Letter from the Reverend Beverley Vincent

The passing of time is never more evident than in the changing of the seasons, autumn is looming and often signified by changing our clocks from British Summer Time back to Greenwich Mean Time. The transient pleasure of an extra hour in bed on a Saturday night is quickly replaced with the reality of nights drawing in.

When I was a child, I struggled to understand both how and why we changed the clocks twice a year. How could we alter time? Wasn't time – just time? How could we mess about with it, and decide that what one day was 8am was now 7am? Did it really matter that in the summer it could be light until nearly 10pm – wouldn't 9pm do?

The idea of time as something that could be manipulated and shifted baffled me. It wasn't until I was much older that I understood that the whole notion of measuring and naming 'time' was a human invention. Calendars (for reckoning intervals of time) and clocks (for measuring its passage) have a long history. The first calendars were lunar, and there's evidence of them as long as 6,000 years ago. The first clocks were a form of sundial, found in Egypt. Clearly humans have long felt the need to track the passage of time.

From a human perspective, time is linear and goes in one direction. But what is time like for God? Christians believe that God stands outside of time. There was never a time when God wasn't, and there will never be a time when God isn't. As creatures living in time and subject to it, this is incredibly difficult for us to get our heads around.

In the New Testament the apostle Peter puts it like this: *But do not ignore this one fact, dear friends, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day.* (2 Peter 3:8). From the perspective of God's realm of eternity, time looks very different.

As we follow Jesus we have the promise of eternity, the German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer as a prisoner of war wrote: *"What remains for us is only the very narrow path, sometimes barely discernible, of taking each day as if it were the last and yet living it faithfully and responsibly as if there were yet to be a great future."*

Let us then take each day as it comes, grateful for the promise it holds and look forward to the timeless future where the light of Christ shows us the way.

Reverend Beverley



Hedingham Medical Centre

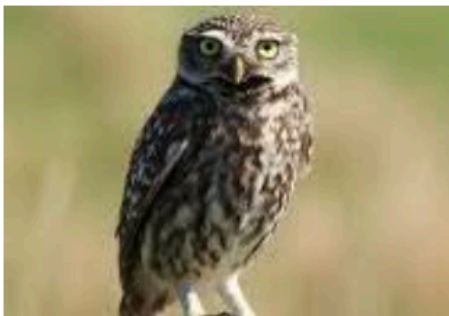
The Castle Hedingham surgery: 01787 461465. The surgery is open from 11.00 - 13.00 and 14.00 - 18.00 Monday to Friday to collect pre-ordered prescriptions. Their website is www.hedmed.co.uk.

Out-of-hours appointments will be available from 6.30pm to 8pm on weekdays, and from 9am to 5pm on Saturdays.

An out-of-hours appointment might not be at your regular GP surgery.



Hedingham Heritage Society



Thursday 5th October:

Owls and Birds of Prey

Stephany Callister-Jarrold from the Owls and Birds of Prey Rescue Centre, Gestingthorpe, will talk on her rescue work with owls and birds of prey.

7.30pm Castle Hedingham Memorial Hall

Thursday 2nd November:

Castle Hedingham and 'The Way of St James'

Local historian **Jan Cole** will talk about the significance of St James's Well Chapel and Hospital and medieval pilgrimage in East Anglia.

7.30pm Castle Hedingham Memorial Hall



Tickets are now available for our Christmas Social – Friday 15th December 7.30pm – our seasonal, festive meal with music from Kegs – £22.50 pp

**For all walks and talks: Members free, non-members £5
Everybody Welcome**

Contact information:

Rob Worley 01787 460 664; Trudi Cullum 01787 462 889;
Peter Bayes 01787 469 953

Website: www.hedinghamheritage.org.uk

E-Mail: hedinghamheritage@gmail.com

F315 Sudbury to Halstead / Halstead to Sudbury - Operated by Essex & Suffolk DaRT.

Flat Fare: £3 Single, £5 Return (between any two stops). Concessionary bus passes are accepted after 0900 Monday to Friday.

For more information 01621 874410 / 01621 874411

or info@essexandsuffolkdart.co.uk



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

F315 To book on this service call: 01621 8744111 From 01/12/2021

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
Bulmer Tye, Park Lane	09:07	11:07	13:07	15:37	17:37	19:22	fixed timing points
Bulmer, Cross Roads	09:10	11:10	13:10	15:40	17:40	19:25	All timings in Italics
Gestingthorpe, Foundry Corner	09:16	11:16	13:16	15:46	17:46	19:31	need to be pre-booked
Wickham St Paul, The Victory	09:21	11:21	13:21	15:51	17:51	19:36	
Pebmarsh, Bus Shelter	09:26	11:26	13:26	15:57	17:57	19:43	
Pebmarsh, War Memorial	09:27	11:27	13:27	15:58	17:58	19:44	
Little Maplestead, Corner	09:32	11:32	13:32	16:03	18:03	19:49	
Great Maplestead, Church	09:36	11:36	13:36	16:07	18:07	19:53	
Little Maplestead, Pump	09:40	11:40	13:40	16:11	18:11	19:57	
Halstead, High Street	09:44	11:44	13:44	16:14	18:15	20:01	arrival time

F315 To book on this service call: 01621 8744111 From 01/12/2021

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
Great Maplestead, Church	07:38	10:08	12:08	14:08	16:38	18:38	fixed timing points
Little Maplestead, Cock	07:42	10:12	12:12	14:12	16:42	18:40	All timings in Italics
Pebmarsh, War Memorial	07:47	10:15	12:15	14:15	16:45	18:42	need to be pre-booked
Pebmarsh, Bus Shelter	07:48	10:16	12:16	14:16	16:46	18:43	
Wickham St Paul, The Victory	07:54	10:21	12:21	14:21	17:01	18:45	
Gestingthorpe, Foundry Corner	08:02	10:27	12:27	14:27	17:07	18:48	
Bulmer, Cross Roads	08:08	10:33	12:33	14:33	17:13	19:03	
Bulmer Tye, Park Lane	08:10	10:35	12:35	14:35	17:15	19:09	
Ballingdon, Kings Head	08:16	10:41	12:41	14:41	17:21	19:11	
Sudbury, Bus Station	08:20	10:45	12:45	14:45	17:25	19:14	arrival time

The consultation on the fate of the F315 Bus Service ends on 5th October 2023, so it's only a few days away as you read this. Please go to the Essex County Council website, and make your views known. This is a lifeline service to so many in the Parishes.

<https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/iptu/2023/>

Nature Notes

Out walking in the Patch recently with a friend when he declared 'Cormorant'! I



looked up and just glimpsed the rapidly departing subject. At home, I saw that I had only once seen one of these large, fish-eating birds in the area in the last seven years, this on a farm pond in Great Maplestead in May 2020. They are common birds on the coast, and inland on large bodies of fresh water – one of the largest colonies of inland breeding birds in Britain is at Abberton reservoir.

They are a very successful species, found world-wide except for South America and most of North America, the exception there being the far Northeast of Canada. In China they are captured alive, their throats are gently restricted (I know, it seems cruel) and the birds released into the water with a string on the leg. After a successful dive the bird is retrieved, unharmed, the fish is stolen (some astonishingly large) and the process repeated. Human ingenuity – I suspect the cormorant gets a sardine or two for its trouble to keep it working!

Have you heard the tawny owls recently? They are calling incessantly; at night, early in the morning, and I have even heard one in the middle of the day. A very busy period in owl society.

The most exciting moth event of the year occurred on the evening of 6th/7th September when I found a large, completely unexpected, beautiful specimen of *Catocala fraxini*, otherwise known as the Blue Underwing. It is categorised as a recent colonist, immigrant, and former resident. In Essex, it was considered a rare vagrant until quite recently, but is now being seen a little more regularly.



It is a large moth with a wingspan approaching four inches, quite unremarkable with the wings folded but with a spectacular hindwing; black with a broad curved violet blue band and a white fringe. The name *Catocala* comes from the Greek meaning 'beautiful below', in reference to the hindwing; the *fraxini* part comes from the Latin name for ash trees, as it was thought the caterpillar fed on them. Actually, the caterpillar feeds on Aspen and other poplars, but the name can't be changed now. Just a small mistake by the great Systematist, Carl Linnaeus, the founder of the binomial system for naming all plants and animals back in the 1750's.

Do look this moth up on norfolkmoths.co.uk or ukmoths.org.uk, it's a cracker. The flight period is late August until early October, so they could be in your garden too.

Gardening Corner

The shorter days are with us and everything in the garden slows down ready for the colder months ahead. Now is the time for a tidy up; try and leave the odd corner for wildlife either for hibernation or, in the case of wild birds, for seed to provide them with a natural source of nutrition.

Compost in containers or in a heap can be turned top to bottom, ensuring the even break-down of matter ready for mulching next spring.

My plant of the month is the spray chrysanthemum. This perennial comes in a range of colours – from yellow to orange, red and pink – providing a palette of colour before the first frosts. To propagate them, lift each stool once flowering has finished, cut off the old stems and divide into two or three clumps. Replant, incorporating a little blood, fish and bone and next year's sprays will reward you.



Shrubs in pots, especially those that have been in their container for several years, need to be checked for drainage. If the drainage holes become blocked with excessive root growth pots can become waterlogged in the winter months.

Roses will begin to lose their leaves this month; clear as much of the detritus as you can and place it in the green bin. Black spot spores over-winter around each bush in any fallen leaf material, so doing this will help to keep it at bay.

In the vegetable garden courgettes, marrows and outdoor cucumbers can be cleared away; the leaves will start to show signs of mould, turning from green to grey as a result of colder temperatures and longer nights.

Think about where you're going to plant garlic next month [November]; the bulbs need a long growing season before harvesting around July.

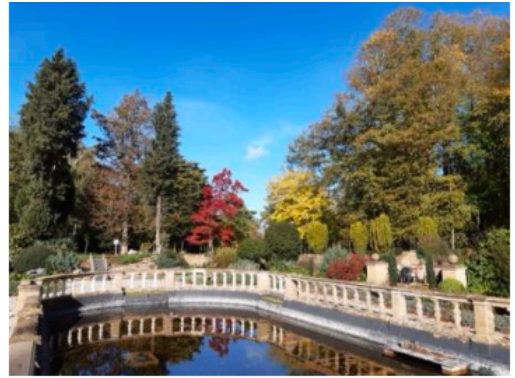
Lastly, prepared Hyacinths can be planted in pots and placed in a frost free shed or unheated room in the dark ready to bring out into a warm atmosphere, preferably on a window sill, at the beginning of December.

That's all for this month...

The Arborist.

From the Gardens of Easton Lodge

October is the last hurrah for visitors to the Gardens, as we close to visitors the end of the month. It is usually a lovely month, with autumnal warmth and lots of colourful squashes, weird shaped tromboncinos and pumpkins ripe for picking and selling and the dahlias and roses still looking lovely.



It is also the month when the Autumn Crocus/Winter daffodil pop up and of course the trees start to turn their autumn shades. For kids it is a time for gathering conkers and making dens in the wood.

Sunday 15 October is our final full Open Day and together with Wendy's Petcare Services we are planning a dog show to make it a special day out for all the family. There will be dog classes, for the cutest puppy, handsomest dog and prettiest bitch and we are encouraging owners to think about Halloween costume for their dogs too! Essex Police Dog handlers will be with us and Dr Alex to offer veterinary advice. There will be a number of pet food and other stalls, and as usual we will have plant, crafts and the Trust's produce stalls.

Open Thursdays continue to the end of October. They are a time for visitors to see the Trust's volunteers hard at work. We will be taking the last cuttings of the year – if those taken in August and September haven't thrived, which is always a possibility as our volunteers aren't around daily to tend them and the beds we use for cuttings in the walled kitchen garden can get very hot and dry. And we will be starting autumn planting – of bulbs and of shrubs and perennials being moved or newly established before the winter cold arrives.

For more information go to www.eastonlodge.co.uk/whats-on.

Jill Goldsmith

The Maplesteads

The Maplesteads Autumn Show

A very successful Autumn Show was held on 9th September in Great Maplestead Village Hall, which was ablaze with flowers; there was also plentiful fruit, vegetables, cakes and preserves.

The handicraft section was well supported, with some wonderful items on display. The men excelled with their Swiss rolls and the many of the children's efforts were amazing.

The judges were very impressed with the overall standard of the entries.

In the evening the bar did a roaring trade, serving beer and wine as well as hot sausage rolls, which proved very popular – even though it was one of the hottest evenings of the year! Fortunately, ice creams were also available to help people cool off!

Jill Newton and Gill Peskett presented the various trophies to the prize winners, who were:

Flower Cup – Denise O'Connell
Novice Cup – Paula Sillett
Vegetable Cup – Dorothy Weight
Flower Arrangers Cup – Philippa Mills
Domestic Cup – Liz Newton
Dolly Argent Craft Cup – Alison Davis
Maplestead Flower Show Trophy – Liz Newton
Men's Challenge Cup – Keith Sheffle
Young Growers Cup – Phoebe George-Jeggo
Children up to 8 years – Dorothy Self
Children over 8 years – Arabella Self
Photographic Trophy – Alex Taylor
Tallest Sunflower – Ann Harris and Lyn Haylock
People's Choice Favourite Bloom – Liz Newton

The committee would like to congratulate all the winners and thank both villages for their involvement and support.

We look forward to welcoming you all again next year!

The Autumn Show Committee

The Maple Leaves present...

*...an entertaining evening in Great Maplestead
Village Hall, with interesting tales of*

Local Heroes & Villains

Thursday 5th October

*Our Guest Speaker is well-respected author
and historian **Ashley Cooper**, who has fascinating stories
to tell about some legendary locals...*

Starts 7.30pm : Members* (free) & Guests (£3) welcome

**Membership is £20/year. To join contact Angela Davis : 01787 236 007 or come to an event*

Harvest VILLAGE WALK

Sunday 15th October



Meet at 11.00am in the Village Hall Car Park

Half-way refreshments provided

Finish at the Village Hall for drinks and nibbles

Adults: £2.50 each; Children under 15/dogs: free

**Proceeds to the Village Hall –
please pay before the start of the walk**

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

St. Giles Church
Great Maplestead
Pet Service



Sunday 15th October
at 3.00pm

Outside – weather permitting

If you are a cat or a dog, a bird or a fish

A human a rabbit or even a mouse

**You are all part of God's creation and He welcomes you
to his house.**

**If your pet is too shy, or you are worried about bringing
them to the service, bring a photograph instead.**



The Maple Leaves present...

...a gastronomic evening in Great Maplestead Village Hall, with a talk and presentation about

A Taste of History : 16thC Foods

Thursday 2nd November

Starts 7.00pm : This is a Members Only event

*Guest Speaker **Donna Hood** will be discussing, preparing and serving foods typical of the Tudor period*

If you're interested in joining The Maple Leaves contact Angela Davis (01787 236 007)

GREAT MAPLESTEAD



in the Village Hall

Saturday 11th November

Doors open 7.00pm - start 7.30pm

Entry £5 per person : Maximum 10 teams : 6 people/team

Please bring your own drinks, glasses and nibbles

**Book your team entries by 4th November
Phone Dorothy: 01787 461 643 or 07528 910 700**

All proceeds in aid of the Village Hall

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



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07804 474494 (Pebmarsh)

Little Maplestead

Craft Fair 16th September – The Round Church



We were blessed with wonderful sunny weather for our Annual Craft Fair. There was a variety of local craft stalls and our kind neighbours supplied an enormous selection of incredible homemade cakes.

Those who came said what a lovely event it was as they did some early shopping for Christmas and then basked in the sunshine with tea and cake. We raised just over £1,100 for our Church which is much appreciated. I must add that one of the stalls run by local author Julia Stone also raised £112 for the Foodbank which was amazing and an added bonus.

I would like to thank our team of hard-working volunteers for all they do to make this happen and thanks to those of you who turned up to support us. Nothing can happen without the support of the community, and we had a brilliant day.

Jane

The Retreat

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Jean Cooper

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07754 692 778

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Little Maplestead Church

presents

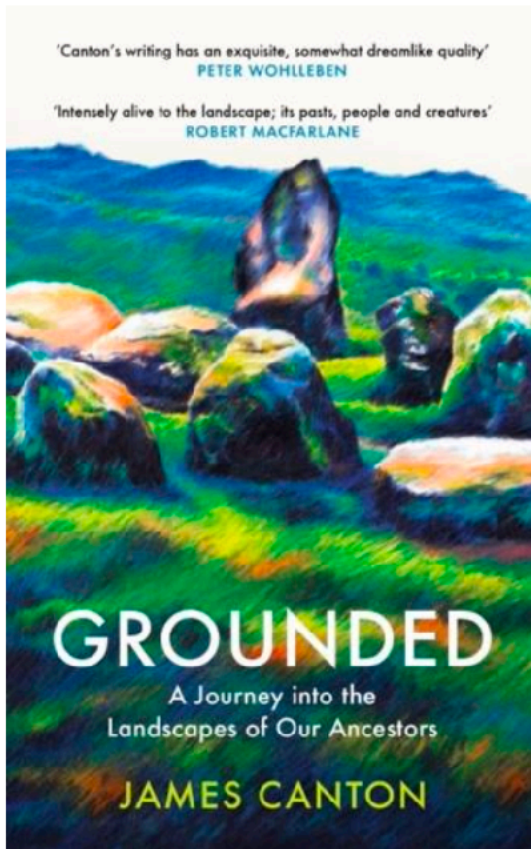
Grounded

*A Journey into the
Landscapes of Our
Ancestors*

An Illustrated Talk

By

Local author of
‘The Oak Papers’
James Canton



A personal journey through our ancient local landscapes –
including Little Maplestead, Great Maplestead and Alphamstone

Tuesday 17th October 2023 at 7pm

£5 entrance inc. free glass of wine

at

Little Maplestead Church

All proceeds go to the church fund

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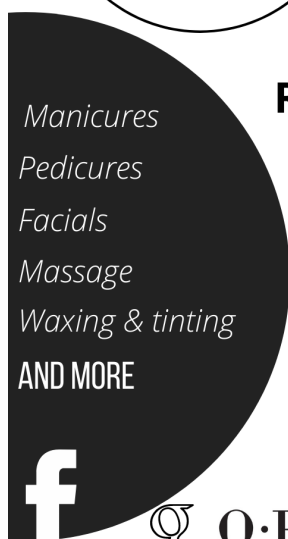
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The copy deadline for the November 2023 magazine is **Friday 20 October 2023**

We need to know who, what, where and when

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

Copy

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Little Maplestead	Jenny Bishop	07906 083999	pmeditor@icloud.com
Pebmarsh	Luke Brown	07919 375341	lhwbrown@hotmail.co.uk

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email: paul@paulbrazierkitchens.co.uk

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Thursday	8:00 - 17:30
Friday	8:00 - 17:30
Saturday	8:00 - 17:30
Sunday	Closed
Closed - Bank Holiday Mondays	



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The tour concludes in our magnificent 16th Century threshing barn where you will sample 3 of our award-winning wines and 1 of our gins (£20pp). All tours start at 2pm and are for approx. 1.5 hrs.



Sat 3rd June
Sun 11th June
Sat 1st July
Fri 14th July
Sun 13th Aug
Sun 3rd Sept
Sun 10th Sept



We also have **Jazz in the Vines** on Sunday 27th August from 4-7pm

Please visit www.tuffonhall.co.uk to book or to purchase from our online shop.

Tuffon Hall Vineyard, Graves Hall Rd, Sible Hedingham, CO9 3LL



Gestingthorpe Cricket Team are actively seeking players to help strengthen the team, whether new to the game or a seasoned player wishing to take up the sport once more.

All matches are friendly but competitive & no weekly commitment is expected.

Match fees are £5 per game, this includes a cricket tea.

There are social events throughout the season & a presentation night at the end of the year.

The Club Captain is Richard Scillitoe & he can be contacted on **07557 850215** or scillitoe@gmail.com

We look forward to hearing from you!



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We will charge a small fee for the use of the site that can be negotiated on request.

Please contact Jane Postma for further details on jane.postma@gmail.com.

www.mollyswood.org

Gestingthorpe

Gestingthorpe Educational Foundation

Do you live in the ancient parish of Gestingthorpe?

You could get a grant

Grants are awarded to support a broad range of educational activities such as coaching, school trips and uniform, tools, musical instruments, tuition, exam fees and sports lessons.

Find out how to apply from the Secretary, Jane Crumpton-Taylor, Pot Kilns, Pot Kiln Chase, Gestingthorpe, CO9 3BH, or jane@crumpton-taylor.com or 01787 460277 or 07491 690510

Your application must be received in writing (email is fine) by **Thursday 12th October 2023** and will be considered at the next Trustee meeting on Tuesday 17th October 2023

GESTINGTHORPE VILLAGE HALL

Saturday 14th October

10am - 3pm



AUTUMN CRAFT FAIR



Along with the Creative
Items, we have Tea, Coffee,
Sausage Sizzle &
Cake available!

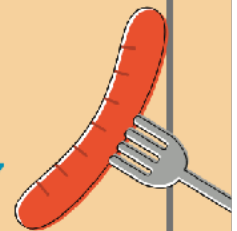


**GESTINGTHORPE
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**FOR ENQUIRIES
CONTACT:**

**Helen Skerratt
01787 237297**



GESTINGTHORPE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE



Christmas
FUN DAY &
Craft Fayre

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2023

10AM UNTIL 3PM - IN THE VILLAGE HALL

ENTERTAINMENT BY THE BELCHAMP SINGERS

£5 p/p entry *under 12's free (entry includes)*

1 SAUSAGE SIZZLE + A TEA OR COFFEE & CAKE OR MINCE PIE & MULLED WINE

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LUCKY DIP · MULLED WINE & MINCE PIES · TEAS, COFFEE & CAKES
CROCHET · CANDLES · WOODWORK · IRONWORK · POTTERY

Gestingthorpe Coffee Mornings



If you haven't yet been to a coffee morning; please come along. If you are in Gestingthorpe and you don't want to walk along the roads please give **Chris or Rose a call on 01787 462763** who would be happy to give you a lift to the village hall.

Funds raised at our coffee mornings (with the exception of 29th September) go towards the upkeep and running of our village hall.

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
Gestingthorpe

01787 852252
01787 852850

Pebmarsh

Pebmarsh Church Warden's Report

September was a very busy month for everyone, with many people taking their holidays after the hot weather and travel disruptions. The two weddings at Pebmarsh went well and both with sunny days, albeit a bit hot on the 8th September. It is a special privilege to welcome and help those who choose to use the church for family occasions.

With the build up to our concert currently underway I have had fun showing the children from Pebmarsh School around the church and introducing them to Sir William Fitzralph. The school emblem is an image of the brass from the church. They have learnt a lot about not only the brass and the knight but our building and how it is used. The older children asked many good questions including how long it took to build the tower. We were able to teach them about the construction and they helped to date it. The estimate was 12 years by looking for what are called the lifts. This is the sections of the flint work which could only be laid to a certain height each year, so it didn't collapse before the lime mortar cured. The younger children were fascinated by the bats that live in our church and the youngest class wanted to know when we fed Sir Fitzralph and were we going to dig him up.

They have produced an exhibition for our concert and hopefully it will still be in place for a few days for anyone who could not be with us on the day. My thanks go to Ashley Cooper for his talk and Choir for Hire and the people who helped make it a special afternoon. Thank you to everyone that has supported us with this event, it's been quite a lot of work and we can only run events like this if people attend.

CHARITY CHRISTMAS CARDS AVAILABLE 1st October onwards
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The Greeting inside says -
Best wishes for a wonderful Christmas and a peaceful New Year
Available in Pebmarsh from John Flack, Keepers Cottage, The Street 269182.

Pebmarsh Church Warden's Report (cont)

Our rounders match raised £80.00 for the church and my thanks goes to Laura McGlashan and Mark Harrington for organising it.

The Harvest service took place on the 17th September and the team of church flower arrangers produced some beautifully arrangements once again.

The schools Harvest service will take place on the 28th September at 9.30am

Dates for your diary

8th October at 9.30 am Holy Communion at Pebmarsh

22nd October at 11 am Morning Worship at Pebmarsh

Sarah Burgess, Church Warden.

Pebmarsh Youth Club

After a long summer holiday break, our youth club opened its doors again at the beginning of September. Over the next 3 months, we have plenty of exciting things planned and booked, including our annual outing to Braintree Click & Climb.

We would like to welcome Jos and Arline, our two new volunteers - both ladies have a wealth of experience and have already suggested great ideas to support our youngsters.

Sadly, we have had to say farewell to a couple of children which will be greatly missed; we wish them the best of luck for their next venture. Due to high demand and limited hall space, we do operate a waiting list, however, please feel free to pop along and speak to one of our leaders if you wanted your child to join.

Pebmarsh Youth club commences every other Thursday in the Village Hall, for children age 8-13 years, 6.30pm- 8.30pm.

Finally we would like to thank the organisers of the event "A bit of a Do", who have kindly donated £300 to our club and many thanks to Paula, who donated £320 from the music record sale of the late Susie Daws (Susie would be happy knowing, that she helped the children of Pebmarsh).

Carol & Mandy

HEIDI'S NATURE CORNER FROM OAK FARM, PEBMARSH

Hedgehogs are new to our garden, we'd never seen one in the 30+ years we've lived here but suddenly this summer we are having at least two different Hedgehogs visit every night getting in the garden through a hole they made under the fence. A trail cam is the perfect way to see what's happening in your garden overnight and I have lots of videos of the hedgehogs antics including sitting in their water dish to eat from their food dish.



If the dog is out late he often comes across them in the garden and one night I came out to see him tucking into the Hedgehog food beside a Hedgehog who was happily eating beside him. Luckily he's not overly interested in them, more the cat food (wet & dry) that I put out every night.



In the early hours one morning we heard something rattling the dog flap, we got up and opened the door only for one of the Hedgehogs to fall down the step into the kitchen. A quick search for gloves followed and we moved it back up the garden and off it trotted.

I'd highly recommend a trail cam if you're interested in seeing what comes in your garden, they don't have to be expensive and I know several people in the village use them in their gardens, you might be surprised by what you see.

Pebmarsh Village Hall - What's On?

Mondays	Dog Training Club	1715 – 2100	Wendy Beard 07305 195560
Tuesdays	Pilates & Yoga	0945 – 1030	Jade Gooding https:// pilatesandyogawithjade.com /
	Ladies Club	1300 – 1500	Every 2 nd Tuesday in the Hall Sandra Beaney
	Community Outreach Post Office	1400 – 1600	Every Tuesday in the Committee Room
NEW	Pizza on the Green	1700 – 2000	Every 3 rd Tuesday in the village hall car park
Wednesday	Adult Dance Exercise Class	1900 – 2000	Kim Richardson dance.kimrichardson@gmail.com
Thursday	"Move Me" Exercise Class	0915 – 1000	jennyjenkins247@gmail.com
	Art Group	1100 – 1600	Sue Burgess 07443 537569
	Youth Club	1830 – 2030	Every other week Carol Parker
Fridays	Life Drawing Art Club	1000 – 1200	Glynis Hughes
	Dog Training	1900 – 2130	Wendy Beard

For any further information on any of our club activities or to book the hall for an event / party please contact Kelly Thompson by emailing pebmarshvillagehall@gmail.com or calling 07919 897592

Neighbourhood Watch representatives

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

The Friends of Pebmarsh Church

Registered Charity # 1184947

2023 Raffle

“Help save our Church”

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9.15am - Thurs - Pebmarsh Village Hall

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or email MoveMe2music@gmail.com

or contact me via my Facebook page: MoveMe

Parish Council Websites

Gestingthorpe
Great Maplestead
Little Maplestead
Pebmarsh

www.gestingthorpepc.co.uk
www.greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk
www.littlemaplesteadpc.co.uk
www.parishcouncil.pebmarsh.com

Local & National Authority Representatives

Essex County Council

Councillor Peter Schwier - cllr.peter.schwier@essex.gov.uk

Braintree District Council www.braintree.gov.uk

Great and Little Maplestead

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

Gestingthorpe

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

Pebmarsh

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

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

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

The Reverend Beverley Vincent

The Rectory
Church Street
Great Maplestead
Halstead, CO9 2RG

khvicar@gmail.com

07944 200132
01787 460273

Church Services around our Parishes

1 st	9.30am	Holy Communion	Great Maplestead
	9.30am	Morning Prayer	Gestingthorpe
	12.00 md	Harvest Lunch	Little Maplestead
8 th	09.30am	Holy Communion	Pebmarsh
	11.00am	Holy Communion	Gestingthorpe
	10.30am	Café Church	Great Maplestead
15 th	10.00am	Benefice Holy Communion	Little Maplestead
	3.00pm	Pet Service	Great Maplestead
18 th	10.00am	BCP Holy Communion	Gestingthorpe
22 nd	9.30am	Holy Communion	Great Maplestead
	9.30am	Morning Prayer	Little Maplestead
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Pebmarsh
	4.00pm	Compline	Gestingthorpe
29 th	10.30am	Halstead Team Service	St. Catherine's, Gosfield

The Churchwardens serving our Benefice are

Great Maplestead Paula Sillett 07975 571253 sillett92@gmail.com
Denise O'Connell 07795 170048 niciedenise@gmail.com

Little Maplestead

Gestingthorpe Alice Nolda 01787 469688 -
Peter Nice 01787 460126 peter.427nice@btinternet.com

Pebmarsh Jim Crayston 07957 870340 jim@craystonfarms.co.uk
Sarah Burgess 01787 269092 sarahburgess@btinternet.com