# Broomfield TIMES

Issue 58 | Summer 2019

News & events from your Parish Council





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## Broomfield **TIMES**

Welcome to this Summer edition of the Broomfield Times. The Parish Council annual reports can be found on pages 14-18. Unfortunately the financial report has been delayed so it will be published in the Autumn issue.

Congratulations to Malcolm Taylor who completed his 120km walk to Santiago de Compostela. You can read more about his experience on page 40. Elsewhere we have regular reports and news from many of the groups who are active in our community.

#### Selina Matthews

Cover photo taken by Steve Barrett





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Many problems can be dealt with over the phone or by email. Due to the size of the constituency, the next surgery appointment may not be at a convenient location. If you have an urgent issue, or do not need a face-to-face appointment please contact my office immediately so we can start working on your case as soon as possible. To book a private surgery appointment, please ring my office on **020 7219 1943** or visit my website where you can request one electronically.

#### Police

Contact for PCSOs: Non-emergency number 101 Or via website www.essex.police.uk

#### **Editorial Committee**

Editor. Selina Matthews Cllr. John Barnes Cllr. Daden Cllr. Mercer

Whilst Broomfield Times is supported by the Broomfield Parish Council, the views expressed within it are not necessarily those of the council. Please note that the Parish Council do not recommend or vet advertisers.

#### Contributions

Contributions to future editions are welcome, please email: selina.matthews@tiscali.co.uk or send a hard copy to:

The Editor c/o The Parish Office 158 Main Road Broomfield, CM1 7AH D 01245 441660

Articles accompanied by photographs are particularly welcome. Please send either professional prints or email full-size JPG files.

#### **Copy Dates**

• Copy for the Autumn issue to be sent by 19th July.

#### **General Notes**

- Free dog waste bags, graffiti removal kits plus further supplies of plastic bottle bags and cardboard and paper sacks are available from the Parish Office.
- Please refer any play area problems or incidents to the Parish Office.

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Royal Horticultural Society Member

#### Broomfield's Senior Lunch Wednesday 20th February 2019

#### Almost 100 parishioners attended the Senior Lunch this year which was hosted by the Parish Council.

They were welcomed with a glass of sherry followed by a full Christmas lunch of turkey and all the trimmings. Delicious Christmas Puddings were again generously donated by local company Lillypuds (*https://www. lillypuds.co.uk/*) and everything was cooked to perfection by Chicks Catering. Fantastic entertainment was provided free of charge by Fleeting Shadows – many parishioners feeling the need to dance off their dinner!

#### Thank you very much to:

Broomfield Parish Council Woollards Trust (donation) Parish Councillors & Staff (raffle prizes) Chicks Catering Lillypuds Fleeting Shadows **Provisional date for next year's event:** Weds 20th February 2020





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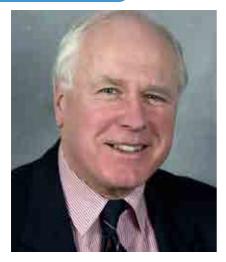
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## Future of library services in Essex

Now that the "Future Library Services Strategy Consultation" has concluded you may wish to know where things go from here in respect of the Tier 4 Libraries located in Broomfield and Writtle.

The County Council has invited parish councils and other organisations and groups, who are considering establishing a community managed library or alternative library provision in Tier 4 areas, to submit to the Council an "expression of interest". This offer remains open whilst the responses to the Consultation are evaluated.

Further information on the strategy and other key associated issues are available at the **Libraries Consultation homepage** This site will be updated as new information becomes available. To learn more about Community Library Services (CLS) including the tiers and proposals, please visit our dedicated web page at *libraries.essex.gov.uk/librariesconsultation/community-library-services* 

The draft final strategy is expected to be presented to the Council's Cabinet in the summer of this year when it will assess all the consultation information and the proposed final strategy before making a decision on whether to approve this approach. Once a final strategy has been approved the plan is to work with interested parties in developing CLS in Tier 4 locations. Proposals for Tier 4 CLS do not have a specified window for development, but it is intended to work with community groups to ensure a smooth transition wherever possible. However, any Tier 4 library service closure approved as part of a final agreed strategy will start from the Autumn 2019.

#### Help our area on "Green Claims"

Claims that the Chelmsford County Council make against a third party who has damaged Council equipment or assets are called 'Green Claims'. Every year Essex Highways writes off more than £500,000 because of damage caused by vehicle drivers to things like bollards, streetlights and guardrails. You can help to claim back the cost of repairs, by reporting details of collisions or other damage you may witness to the Green Claims Team at green. claims@essex.gov.uk. Should you be able to help, it is important to include key data such as:- Location (as precise as possible) • Description of item(s) damaged • Date and time of incident • Registration plate of vehicle and/or the description of vehicle • Photos of incident if possible. With this information the Team can claim from the driver's insurance company. All reports will be treated confidentially.

## Essex Children's Social Care rated "Outstanding"

Following a period of assessment in November 2018 Ofsted inspectors judged the County Council to be "outstanding" in its services to children, with consistently high standards applied across the County. This is a testament to the dedication and commitment of all those who work for Children's Services in Essex.

If you have any problems about County Council matters please let me know on Tel. No. **01245 421524** Mobile **07827 976997** or email *cllr.john.aldridge@essex.gov.uk.* 

John Aldridge



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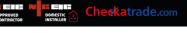




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#### **Parish Council**

#### **Spring Litter Pick**

**Broomfield** joined forces with over 500,000 Litter Pick Heroes all around the country for the Great British Spring Clean. In Broomfield at least 17 sacks of litter were collected, together with the obligatory hub cap, wine bottles and tyre! Twenty-one people and a dog turned up including five children; Peter, Poppy, Fabian, Mathilde, Fabian and Albie who received Certificates for their great effort. Back at the village hall for refreshments of homemade cake and beverages, there was a great community spirit where compliments received from the public were shared.

It is a sad fact that just 24 hours after the litter pick, evidence of cigarette packs,



cigarette butts and fast food wrappers once gain adorned our streets. Unfortunately, the "couldn't give a damn" attitude of the minority spoils our village for the majority! Don't be a Tosser!

Make a note in your diary that our next litter pick will take place on Saturday 14th September at 10.30 am. Look out for the banners on Angel and Church Greens. If you can help, even for just one hour, it would be greatly appreciated.

Sue Hubble



Village Amenities Committee would like to thank Goodgym for their hard work preparing an Allotment Site for a new allotment holder and for providing this article.

Thirteen of us met at Mildmay Gym and set off for our task at Broomfield allotment site. It seemed like it might rain, however, we were grateful that there was only a small shower. The first set, led by Joel got away from the rest of us quite a few times on the way, but we all made it there in the end.

We met **Sue Hubble** at the allotment site; she provided us with some tools and showed us



to the plot we were to work on. Our task this evening was to turn the plots, preparing them for the new spring and summer season. The highlights were: **Catherine** found a cuddly bunny, **Rachel** found a huge worm, and we spotted a fox at the other end of the allotments! Everyone worked very hard, and we managed to turn each of the marked-out rectangles ready for planting. Gerry and Andy continued to work, however the rest of us had finished, and we were so cold that we knew it was time to go.

We headed to our old favourites, the Avenues, and completed some ups and downs at our own paces. We met at the bottom of Second Avenue and jogged back to Anglia Ruskin University. Amazingly, it was still light by this point. That means we're now in the season where all our Goodgym tasks will be in the light for quite a few months.

Next week, we are being filmed by Active Essex to promote all the good we do! Laurie Glendinning

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## **ANNUAL REPORT** From Broomfield Parish Council 2019

#### Chairman's Annual Report 2019

**Councillor John Barnes** 

#### The term as Councillors has now come to an end and in theory we should have had elections for a new Council on 2 May. However insufficient numbers of candidates put their names forward so no election was necessary.

It is a sad reflection of society as a whole that people seem very quick to criticise or offer opinions but are not prepared to give up their time to attend meetings and see how decisions are made or put their names forward to take part. We have numerous examples where villagers have complained or criticised decisions but when invited to come and talk about why those decisions have been made have not taken up the invitation. We have been criticised about communicating badly but I would say that communication is a two way process.

Being a Parish Councillor is an unpaid voluntary role. Although we do have one or two Councillors who represent political parties the Council is run on a strictly non-political basis, our full focus being on what is the best for the village. We need more people to take part in running Broomfield. We have a very able team of staff who manage the day to day operation so there would be no need to get involved at that level. What Councillors are needed for is to oversee operations and make the longer term strategic decisions about how we spend your money and what priority the various services in the village should have.

You would need to attend most of our regular meetings and also join one of the subcommittees: Village Amenities, which oversees everything external, The Village Hall, Planning and Finance - the last three I hope are self-explanatory. Why not come into the office and meet either me or the Clerk, Mike Letch, and we can explain what is involved. There is absolutely no obligation, you might be pleasantly surprised about the level of commitment needed and the influence you could have. Becoming a full Councillor is not essential - you can just join a subcommittee to gain some insight and knowledge about what we do.

Now, as we come to end of our term as Councillors, I would like to thank all of my colleagues for the work they have put into managing the activities of the village. I think they should all be very proud of what we have achieved. In particular I would like to thank the Committee chairs - Sue Hubble who has recently taken over Village Amenities and is doing sterling work keeping our many projects on track. John Blake who chairs Planning and Trevor Jones who leads on Finance and the Village Hall.

There are many things we could highlight but a couple of smaller things are the acquisition of the telephone box opposite The Angel which is now a useful communication tool. We have also decided to install a defibrillator at the Village Hall which I am sure will save a life in due course.

We are keen to make as much use of the field behind the Village Hall as possible. Last year we identified that the location of the kickwall made it almost unusable for young people. It took time to organise but we agreed with the Football Club to move their pitch slightly. We were then able to move the kickwall and expand its facilities to a new position where it did not interfere with cars and is accessible any time. At the same time, we installed an outdoor table tennis table which is regularly used. Over time we hope to install more leisure facilities. We have also not shirked from making difficult decisions. Putting a gate on the Village Hall carpark brought some criticism but it was essential to keep the parking spaces clear for people who had booked and paid to use the hall and quite reasonably expected to be able to park as they had been promised.

On a larger scale we continued to run a fabulously successful Village Hall which is in use virtually full time and is the envy of many parishes.

Planning is of huge importance to the village. Although we cannot make decisions we do have a voice with the City Council and the Planning Committee do review and comment on every planning application made in Broomfield. They do a great deal of work and we should all be very grateful to the Chair, John Blake and his team. In addition we are working on the development of a Neighbourhood Plan which will help influence planning decisions and increase our income from developments that are passed and built out. Again, John Blake, Sue Hubble and various others are working very hard to produce a well-researched, thorough and professional document that the City and County planners will respect.

In terms of long term legacy, we have the Adventure Cycleway which is advancing well. When finished I am sure it is going to become a focal point for young people, not only from Broomfield but the whole of Chelmsford and from much further afield. This project came about from various open days and surveys held around the Village. We owe a huge debt to Councillor Trevor Jones who has steered us through negotiations with Chelmsford City Council, the planners, contractors and various bodies who have made grants to help make this project possible. Without Trevor's dedication I doubt we would be where we are now.

It might not be the Oscars but our work has been recognised. The Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC) awarded us their Innovative Work Award, and we were awarded Highly Commended in the Essex Village of the Year competition. I would also like to record my thanks to Karen Hurrell and Kathryn Cameron who both served us well as Clerk and Village Hall Manager during this last term of office. Kath moved on to a new role in Maldon and Karen stepped aside to become assistant Clerk. Mike Letch then joined us as Clerk and has made a tremendous impression. We owe thanks to all of our staff who work so hard to keep our services running so smoothly.

Finally, I would like to recognise those people who are no longer on the Council. Tim Tranquada who did a huge amount of work as Chair of Village Amenities who resigned last year. Karen Charlton and Selina Matthews have not stood for re-election but we need to thank them both for everything they have done during their terms as Councillors, particularly Selina who has, and continues to do a great deal of work editing the Broomfield Times - a publication we are all very proud of.

Then we have Trevor Jones and Geof Garwood who both stand down after many years of tremendous work. The things they have achieved and contributions that they have made are far too numerous to mention but they both leave an unforgettable legacy and will be very greatly missed.

So we move into a new term of office with a smaller, but dedicated team of unpaid volunteers doing their very best to continue to improve Broomfield as a place to live and play.

#### NOTICE

#### **FINANCE REPORT**

Unfortunately the financial report for 2018/19 was not finalised at the time of going to print and will therefore be published in the next edition of Broomfield Times

#### Planning and Property Committee Annual Report 2019 Councillor John Blake

It's been a busy year, but it started with a welcome victory. Twelve months ago, we'd just learned that Essex County Council (ECC) was planning to sell the reserved primary school site to a private developer. Along with many residents, we were outraged that ECC might make a large profit out of the failure to build the promised new primary school. We unanimously decided to fight this, and with the sterling support of our County Councillor John Aldridge, we persuaded ECC to back down and withdraw their plan.

Much of the year has been dominated by the final stage of the Chelmsford Local Plan – the 'Examination in Public'. I reported on this in detail in the last edition of Broomfield Times, so what follows is just a brief summary. The 'Examination in Public' means that an independent planning inspector (appointed by the Government) 'examines' or considers the Local Development Plan that Chelmsford City Council has drafted. Any organisation or individual who is unhappy with the draft Local Plan can submit documents to the Inspector and, if she invites them, can also attend the public hearings to explain their objections. Big developers are usually represented, sometimes by a team of experts led by a barrister or a QC. The Committee decided that we also needed to be represented by a professional planning consultant and traffic expert, as we still have major concerns about the proposed development 'north of Broomfield' and its effect on traffic levels through the village. Of course, we have nothing like the budget of developers, so we got together with our neighbouring parish councils (Chignal, Little Waltham and Writtle) who have similar concerns, so that we could share costs and get the biggest bang for our very limited bucks.

Nonetheless, we had to do a massive amount of preparatory work to make sure our consultants were properly briefed. I also attended all the sessions that had a bearing on Broomfield – four days in all – in case they needed to check

any facts at the last minute. However, I was very glad that they were doing the talking. It's a professional judgement whether to raise a point or not. If it's already been raised by someone else, there's probably no need to raise it again and it may only annoy the Inspector. At time of writing, we're still awaiting the Inspector's final decision on whether the proposed Local Plan is 'sound' or not. If not, she'll say if it can be made 'sound' with some changes. Or she can throw the Plan out altogether, in which case Chelmsford City Council would have to start the process all over again. There will definitely be some changes as she has already rejected the City's attempt to introduce 'green corridors' to the south-east of Chelmsford. These would have resulted in even more development pressure on remaining green areas like Broomfield in the future, so we're relieved about this.

The Committee has also considered the speed of traffic in School Lane; the new cycleway and how to limit its impact on the landscape; the use of land at Brooklands; and improving road safety in the northern part of the village (to mention just a few items). These are mostly ongoing. We greatly appreciate the time that residents have spent coming to our meetings to explain their concerns, so that we can make the most informed recommendations possible. Finally, as it's the end of councillors' four-year term, I'd like to thank the current Committee members Angela Thomson, Ros Mercer and Wendy Daden for their time and hard work. And especially Geof Garwood, who retired during the year after a long commitment to standing up for our village on the planning and development front.



Land south of Broomfield Place (reserved site for new primary school) – saved from commercial housing development.

#### Broomfield Village Hall Report 2019 Councillor Trevor Jones

It has been a year of much change at the Village Hall. Our Secretary for the last eight years, Kathryn Cameron, left for a new post. She has now been succeeded by Steff Smith who many of you know already from the Scouts and from the Village Hall.

Our "Adventure Cycleway" is now nearing completion, this facility will add another new dimension to all that has been achieved over the last twelve years. In addition to the obvious use for children to learn and hone their skills with bikes and scooters, it will also provide access in all weathers for those with limited abilities to enjoy Centenary Wood.

The new car park will enable us to re-

position our existing car park and re-surface and mark it out. The plans will provide a greater level of security. We also intend to upgrade lighting with new security lights and start the process of switching to LED. Inside the hall, following the laying of new flooring in the foyer, we will



look to re-decorate and provide more storage. Much has been achieved over the last twelve years. The complete rebuild of the Village Hall providing a hub for 50 or so interest activities every week as well as being a much used

children's party venue and our Stayand-Play every Monday. Outside we have our multi-use 3G area, gym equipment, the children's play park and re-located kickwall area.

Over £600,000 of new investment – the money coming as a result of much hard work and from many different fundgiving grant bodies. The staff of the Parish Council have been invaluable during this period but the work of volunteers has been a very significant factor in

its success, without them none of what is there would have happened; we need more help so if you have time to spare come and join us and lend a hand for your village.



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#### Neighbourhood Plan Annual Report 2019 Councillor John Blake

Some Broomfieldians with more exciting social lives than ours may wonder what on earth a neighbourhood plan is! So, we always like to start off with a quick recap.

A neighbourhood plan is a way for a village or community to plan its future development over the next 20 years. It's mainly about planning – for instance, where new houses, shops or offices should be built, of what type, what they should look like and what infrastructure should be provided. A neighbourhood plan can't stop development, but it gives local people more say about what happens.

Drawing up a plan involves a huge amount of consultations and research, as it's a legal document and must meet the same sort of standards as any formal planning document. But to be positive, it's our community's chance to have a say in how our village develops, rather than leaving it entirely to developers and the planners. And we think that's quite exciting, even if it's not good for the old social life!

A year ago, we had a major exhibition to show the results of the Residents' Questionnaire. If you missed it, don't worry – there was a detailed report on the exhibition in the Autumn 2018 edition of Broomfield Times (available on the website). And there are summaries of the Questionnaire results at www.broomfieldessex.co.uk/np

Since then, we've been working on the evidence base that every neighbourhood plan is required to build, to ensure that it is based on robust evidence. The first of these is our professional Landscape Character Appraisal, carried out for us by Alison Farmer Associates. It provides a lot more objective detail to add to the opinions that local residents gave us in the Questionnaire. It also contains useful guidance about how the quality of our countryside can be maintained and even improved. You can read it on our website.

The second is a Housing Needs Assessment, produced by a company called AECOM. It looks at a range of evidence to assess what type of new housing is needed. Again, it tends to match the views residents have told us, but it adds hard data, so can be used as the basis for policies to encourage new housing to respond to local need, not just to the commercial interests of developers. Reassuringly, the draft we have seen suggests the amount of new housing needed in Broomfield is well within the amount that Chelmsford has already allocated for the Broomfield area in the draft Local Plan.

AECOM will carry out some further work for us over the summer, all paid for by the government. Once that is complete, we can start to draft the policies that will actually make up the Plan.

Alongside the policy work, we have developed proposals for a safe cycle path network, because 'doing something about traffic' is such a big issue for our village. We have persuaded the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation (Essex County Council) to authorise an initial feasibility study on our proposals.

In the Winter, there will be more consultations with local residents. Then, after any necessary changes have been made, the plan will be handed over to Chelmsford City Council.

They carry out even more consultation, arrange for an independent examination to take place and then organise the local referendum when every voter in Broomfield gets a final say.

#### Village Amenities Committee Councillor Sue Hubble

**Centenary Woods:** 

A small working party met at Centenary Woods in April to give it the first tidy-up of the year. It was pleasing to see that the newly planted

apple tree was thriving with plenty of blossom. Cowslips and wildflowers were in full bloom and the bluebells looked as though they were about to burst open. A large amount of watercress was taking over part of the spring and it was decided to give it a "thin out" on our next visit.

It was sad to see so much litter; especially as our litter pick group cleared it two weeks previously. Broken beer bottle glass took a long time to clear up as slithers of it were nestling in the bark around the bench. Well

done and many thanks to those who helped!

#### **Allotments:**

There are still a couple of half-plots available, one of which Good-Gym kindly worked on. Thirteen members jogged up to the site, worked hard digging plots over for a full 30 minutes and then jogged off again! (see page 12). Whilst writing this in April, I have no idea how many allotment plot holders are going to enter the Open Day scarecrow competition in May; hopefully we will have lots of scarecrow pictures in the autumn edition!

#### Parish Pathway Partnerships (P3):

Unfortunately, we were unable to find a leader for P3 and it was agreed to pass this back to Essex County Council to maintain. If you notice a public footpath that requires attention, you can report it direct to Essex County Council Highways on their website.

#### Village of the Year:

Broomfield have passed the first round and have now entered the final round! This means



judges will be visiting the village to judge Broomfield for themselves and to find out what great things go on!

Vehicle for Village Attendant:

After months of deliberation, it was agreed that a used petrol van will be purchased for our village attendant. Our attendant has used his

> own vehicle in the past and more recently a van has been hired.

> Replacement of Basketball Backboard and Hoop:

> Yet again the basketball hoop has been vandalised. To replace and upgrade with a much stronger backboard and hoop will cost hundreds of pounds. It was therefore agreed that the Deputy Clerk will contact a blacksmith to enquire about welding a hoop on to the kick wall.



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# Has Your Double Glazing Steamed Up?

Established for over a decade Cloudy2Clear windows have become a leading company for glass replacement. Issues with double glazing can often be gradual and may only be noticed during a clear sunny day or during the winter. A failed glass unit may no longer provide you with the protection you need or be energy efficient. Why not spend a few minutes checking your home to see if you have any failed double glazing? If you act now you can avoid these problems.

Now, you may think you need to replace the whole window including the frames and all the hardware, however Cloudy2Clear have come up with a simple and cost saving solution... Just replace the glass!!

If you see condensation in your windows just visit our website or give us a call on **0800 61 21 118**. We will send out our highly experienced engineers for a free no obligation quote. A Cloudy2Clear quote takes on average no longer than 20 minutes. Once the quote is completed, we will sit down with you and explain the problem and tell you how we can fix it. With years of experience Cloudy2Clear have a wealth of knowledge and are recognised as a Which Trusted Trader, **plus our work is backed by an industry leading 25 year guarantee**. Cloudy2Clear also replace faulty locks handles and hinges on all windows and doors.

Your friendly local Cloudy2Clear specialist is Chris Miller and he services the Broomfield & Chelmsford areas.

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Chris a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118**. Cloudy2Clear GUARANTEE All Customers That An Average Quote Will Take No Longer Than 20 MINS!!!



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## Broomfield Cottage Gardeners' Society www.broomfieldcottagegardenerssociety.co.uk

**BRIEF REPORT OF AGM** 27th FEBRUARY 2019 The AGM had a good turnout of 45

members on the night. After an introduction by the Chairman, the previous year's minutes were agreed, then the Chairman and several Committee Members presented their reports.

The Chairman paid tribute to the retiring members of the committee, Ron Marlow and Maureen Etridge, who have both served the Society for many years. Their contribution to the Society will be missed, but hopefully the new committee members will be able to fill their shoes and will soon get to learn their new roles.

#### The below committee members were elected for 2019:

#### Chairman

**Roy Hooper** Secretary/Membership Secretary Angela Wild Treasurer Nick Welch Shows Secretaries Selina Matthews Christine Welch **Open Gardens Manager Dick Chapman** Social Media/Evening Talks Manager Annette Swift **Trading Centre Manager** Malcolm Deacon

#### Non-Committee positions:

**Newsletter/Website Editor Philip Richards** 

Our chosen Charity for the year ahead is St. Mary's Church Spire appeal. One of our Vice Presidents, Malcolm Taylor, is walking the Pilgrims Way in Spain, to raise funds for the Church Spire renovation (see report page XX), so it was lovely that so many members supported this nomination. The Chairman reported that the Society had raised £753 for last year's Charity, Grapevine Essex, for people

with learning difficulties, and a presentation was made to its Chairman, and one of our Vice Presidents, Peter Turrall. The Chairman thanked all members of the Society who had contributed towards this very worthwhile cause.



#### Roy Hooper presenting a cheque to Peter Turral for funds raised by the Society in 2018

We then had an evening talk by Peter Turrall on his experiences while working for Marconi. Peter stepped in at short notice after the expected speaker could not attend, so thank you Peter for rescuing the night.

#### SUMMER FLOWER & PRODUCE SHOW

Our Summer Flower & Produce Show is on Sunday 14th July from 2pm to 4pm at the Broomfield Village Hall. Everyone is welcome. Free entry for members, non-members just £2 per adult (children free). There are lots of different classes for flowers, fruit and vegetables, cookery, preserves, crafts, photography and children's classes. Apart from the exhibits there will be a plant stall, refreshments, and a raffle so what not drop in, enjoy a cup of tea/coffee and a piece of cake and see what we do - better still why not enter something. There is no charge for members to enter a class and it's just 50p per class for non-members (all children's entries are free). Exhibits are staged between 8.30am and 10.30am on the day. It's good to have some

new competition – you may even win a prize. For further information or a Schedule please contact Christine on 01245 355505 or Selina 01245 443108 or email bcgsshowsecretary@ gmail.com. We look forward to receiving your entry forms by Wednesday 10th July.

#### **SHOW CHALLENGES**

Every year we have a number of show challenges for our members to show what they can achieve starting from the same point. This year for the Summer Show we have the Fuchsia Challenge (Class 143), Homemade Loaf Challenge (Class 410). For the Autumn Show we have the Dahlia Challenge (Class 101), the Chrysanthemum Challenge (Class 116), the Chilli Challenge (Class 221) and finally we will again be running 'grow the tallest Sunflower'.

#### **OPEN GARDENS**

For all of our members the Evening Garden Visits start on 23rd May with a visit to Nick Smiths Nursery in Roxwell. Visits to members' gardens commence on 6th June on the first and third Thursday of the month, 7pm until 9pm, finishing on the 1st August.

#### **BARN NEWS**

We have a wide range of general gardening products on sale including a large array of seeds at 25% discount. Opening times are 2pm-3pm on Fridays and 10amnoon on Sundays. In order to benefit from the Barn, you will need to join the Society. Membership is £4.00 p/a,£3.00 p/a for Senior Citizens & £2.00 p/a for Young Gardeners (up to and including 18 years of age). Membership can be obtained at The Barn at the Broomfield Allotments site or calling our Membership Secretary, Angela Wild on 01245 441412.

#### ASSITANCE FOR THE COMMITTEE

The Committee is small in number and we are looking for any assistance that any of our members can provide. If you can free up a couple of hours to help us with the upcoming Summer Show, that would be really appreciated. If you are interested please contact our Membership Secretary, Angela Wild on 01245 441412.

#### **FACEBOOK SITE**

We now have a facebook page where regular updates are issued. Please search in Facebook under "Broomfield Cottage Gardeners Society" or use type the following link into your browser: https://www.facebook.com/ groups/355859514864259/

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

If you would like to join the Society, please contact Angela Wild (Membership Secretary) on *01245 441412* or look at our website: www. broomfieldcottagegardenerssociety.co.uk for more information.



Broomfield Cottage Gardeners' Society



# FLOWER AND PRODUCE

#### Sunday 14th July 2019 Broomfield Village Hall

rear of The Angel, Main Road, Broomfield, CM1 7AH



#### 2.00pm to 4.00pm



Plant Stall Refreshments Raffle Cookery, Preserves, Craft, Photography and Children's Classes

For Schedule & Entry Form please phone Show Secretary on 01245 355505 or 01245 443108 or email bcgsshowsecretary@gmail.com Admission £2 Members FREE

www.broomfieldcottagegardeners society.co.uk

#### Chelmsford & District Fuchsia Society Annual Display Weekend

For an event to last 34 years it must be pretty special, the fact that it is run by volunteers to raise money for local schools makes it amazing. The annual Chelmsford & District Fuchsia Society Display has raised an incredible £95,000 over the years and the group are working hard to add to that figure this year. However visitor numbers has been dropping over the past few years and the Display Committee are keen to encourage visitors back to this stunning event. The colourful fuchsia display takes place at St John Payne School and the Society raise funds for the local Columbus School, previously know as the Woodland School. When the event started it was for the Woodlands School respite holidays held at St John Payne School. For one week during the summer holiday, the classrooms were turned into dormitories and the 6th formers became a Buddy for the children of Woodlands. The money we raised was spent on taking the children out on coaches for the day. Since the holiday scheme stopped the money has been activities from adventure playgrounds to music lessons.



CHELMSFORD & DISTRICT FUCHSIA SOCIETY

#### ANNUAL FUCHSIA DISPLAY CRAFT & GIFT SHOW

SATURDAY & SUNDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> & 4<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2019 <sup>10AM – 5PM SATURDAY</sup> <sup>10AM – 4PM SUNDAY</sup>

ST JOHN PAYNE SCHOOL PATCHING HALL LANE CHELMSFORD CM1 4BS

> Entry fee: £1.50 for adults free for under 16

- ♦ All day refreshments
- ♦ Plant auction 3pm on Sunday
- Plant sales and growing advice
- ♦ Book stall
- ♦ Tombola and raffle
- ♦ Ample free car parking

Proceeds to Columbus School & College for special needs students

The Fuchsia display is made up from hundreds of plants grown by the members, who have years of experience. There are so many varieties on display, it is a wonderful sight. There are fuchsia plants for sale as well as local Craft Stands, tombola, raffle and second-hand books. Food and Drinks are served all day. There's plenty of free parking as well!

Press Officer Janet Wall said, 'I have been involved with our Fuchsia Society for a long time and our members work so hard to make this Display look amazing. Our sole drive is to raise as much money as possible for the Columbus School children and we need the support of everyone to do this. If you love your garden, you'll love our Display!

Come and see this wonderful sight and help us raise money for this fantastic cause. The event takes place on Sat 3 & Sun 4 August at St John Payne School, Chelmsford CM1 4BX. 10.00am – 5.00pm Sat and 10.00am – 4.00pm Sun. If you'd like to find out more please call

#### Janet Wall on 01245 281962

#### **BROOMFIELD FOOTPATH SOCIETY**

The 2019 programme of walks is now well underway with regular fortnightly walks on a Sunday afternoon switching to evening walks in May. We've had a regular attendance of around 15 walkers enjoying the spring sunshine. Why not come and join us.

No walks are longer than 3–4 miles and we are a very friendly bunch!

All Walkers to meet at Church Green, Broomfield. Lifts available for those without cars.

#### Wednesday evenings meet at 7:15pm.

- June 5 Compasses, Littley Green
- June 12 Writtle Admirals Park
- June 19 Rodney Inn, Little Baddow
- June 26 Spotted Dog, Bishops Green (Nr Dunmow)
- July 3 Square and Compass, Fuller Street
- July 10 The Hare, Roxwell NEW
- July 17 Rose and Crown, Great Waltham
- July 24 The Walnut Tree, Broads Green.
- July 31 The Three Elms circular

#### Sunday afternoons meet at 2:15pm. Aug 11 Ingatestone

Aug 25 Stacey's - Beaumont Otes – Bushy Wood

Cars to Littley Green Cars to Writtle, (Duck Pond) Cars to Rodney Inn Cars to Bishops Green Cars to Fuller Street Cars to The Hare Cars to Great Waltham Cars to The Walnut Tree Cars to The Three Elms

> Cars to Ingatestone Hall Cars to Broomfield

#### ALL ARE WELCOME

Contact - Stuart & Christine 01245 261102 or Pam & Gerry 01245 441021 Follow us at www.facebook.com/broomfieldfootpathsociety or www.broomfieldessex.org



find us on Facebook



## BABIES LOVE IT at Sing and Sign

Sing and Sign had a fabulous Spring term at Broomfield Village Hall and we look forward to welcoming yet more babies and toddlers to our classes.

It is so lovely to be an established group in the Broomfield community and can't thank you enough for your support and enthusiasm. We have bid a fond farewell to some of our older Sing and Signers and wish them well on their continued journey of communication and language development. Many of our little ones are graduating to the next level and have lots of new songs and signs ahead of them; their amazing signing adventure has only just begun.

Sing and Sign is the original baby signing programme still going strong in its 21st year. It is simple in its approach, drawing on the value of music to establish the building blocks of speech and language development, whilst nurturing a quite incredible connection between parent and baby. With tunes and words that are easy to learn, you will soon be singing our songs in your sleep! What's more, you will be having so much fun with your little one, building on those natural gestures that they already have, to teach them a language that you can both understand.

We have three different level of classes running for Babes (0-6mths), Stage 1 (6-18mths) and Stage 2 (15mths+) and it is never too late to start enjoying communication with your little one.

Summer Term bookings are very much open and booking fast. Remember that space is limited so we operate a first come, first served policy. If you have any questions please do get in touch and you can find us on Facebook too for all updates and offers.

We always welcome you to attend a class for FREE if space allows so that you can appreciate what everyone is talking about!

martinebrockman@singandsign.co.uk www.facebook.com/singsignessex www.sasessex.co.uk www.bookmyclass.co.uk/singandsign/?FID=76



41 Peggotty Close, Chelmsford, CM1 4XU

#### **Orchard Springs WI**

Orchard Springs WI, along with a number of other local WIs, made this Suffragette Flag adding their individual logo as the flag moved around the county to celebrate the 100 year anniversary of the Suffragette Movement.



The craft group's fine embroidered work was then displayed at the Federation of Essex Women's Institutes Annual Meeting in March. Sadly we were let down by our speaker for the March meeting of Orchard Springs WI and at the last minute we were rewarded by a grand entrance from "Henry V111" who regaled us with the inside stories on his six wives. He had the audience in fits of laughter and certainly saved the day. Sheena Ager



Informal meeting to discuss future of Broomfield library, 11am on Saturday 1st June at the Angel, Broomfield with Angela Thomson & Sue Hubble

Daytime and evening art courses and Art & Sip sessions available

ART CLASSES

Six Week Daytime Art Course Tuesdays: 12pm - 2pm, Broomfield Village Hall

Evening Art Club/Art Course Thursdays: 7.30pm - 9pm, Little Waltham

Art & Sip Sessions Last Thursday of every month: 7.30pm – 9.30pm, Little Waltham

Private Art & Sip Parties Saturdays: Spm – 7pm, your event location/Little Waltham venue

James Mackenzie has a Fine Art Degree and a Postgraduate Cettificate in Education (PCCE). He is an experienced qualified art teacher and a professional artist

> www.artandsip.co.uk 07796673783 mackenzieartandsip#gmail.com

#### **U3A Broomfield**

#### Spring has arrived bringing renewal of all things natural, including the U3A management committee!

Last year, when it came to the time for nominations to replace the outgoing committee members, we were very short of volunteers, and consequently the committee

was somewhat on the small side. With several members planning to step down for 2019/20 we really needed to have a big increase in numbers prepared to volunteer their time to ioin and share the various

oversight and management tasks. Fortunately, enough members stepped up to fill the breach and Broomfield U3A will be able to continue to develop and flourish in the coming year! Until you actually retire, it can be easy to assume that once you have ceased work and/ or caring for growing children you have plenty of time on your hands, but the reality for many of us who are 60+ is that 'spare' time is rapidly filled with other activities and commitments.

So finding time for additional voluntary tasks such as leading/tutoring groups and involvement in committees is not always that easy!

So thanks are due to all those hardy and committed

folks who help keep Broomfield U3A 'buzzing'!

#### **Glynn Wadeson**

3

#### **Susan Keeble Art Class**

The Art Class continues to be popular among residents of Broomfield and further afield. It runs on Thursday afternoons, during term time, from 1.30pm to 3.30pm.

Over the years we have practiced a wide variety of techniques and lots of different mediums. We have looked at the work of some of our favourite artists, and learnt how they painted. Each term the students decide on four projects to explore.



In the Summer term they will first be working in Line and Wash, then painting Flowers, possibly in the style of a famous artist. Next they will have some 'back to basics' drawing lessons, then lastly, looking at how to incorporate figures into their

landscape paintings.

Each lesson is approached in a fun way, with slide shows, demonstrations and plenty of examples and guidance. The classes are designed to be suitable for all levels of ability, so while some students have been coming for years, others are just starting out.

If you are interested in joining the class, or would like to find out more, please contact me,

Susan, on 01277 353973, or have a look at my website: www.susankeeble-artist.com, where you will be able to contact me by email.



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#### Shimmy'n'groove

#### We are now in your community 5 days a week offering a variety of community fitness sessions.

Please see the timetable below forfuther details.

We are thrilled to be working alongside Essex County Council to promote simple, effective workouts for everyone. As a community fitness provider, it's an honour to be involved and able to invite you all to the launch of 3030essex at county hall at midday on Monday 3rd June.

There's a website where you sign up to register and then await your instructions. Each day through June there'll be an easy to follow activity. Get involved? Make it a family affair? Get colleagues involved as a

team challenge?

#### www.3030essex.com

"Bring your sense of fun!" Lindsey Abbott Shimmy'n'Groove fitness ltd Tel: 07886 721411

#### **Broomfield Birds**

#### Ladies of Chelmsford, are you looking for an exciting and fun way to meet new friends and try new things?

If so then Broomfield Birds is for you!

We are a group of women who meet once a month at Broomfield Village community centre. The events we have already hosted are numerous and varied from singing to flower arranging, Bollywood dancing to star gazing and wine tasting to bingo. We have even held a race night!

So if this sounds like something you'd enjoy drop us a line at *broomfieldbirds@yahoo.co.uk* or visit our Facebook page. **Looking forward to hearing from you!** 



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#### **Village Diary**

Various activities including Karate, Bingo, Bridge Club, Aerobics, Women's Institute, Carpet Bowls, slimming clubs and children's activities take place in the Broomfield Village Hall on a weekly basis - please telephone the Village Hall 01245 443902, email hall@broomfieldessex.co.uk or have a look on the website http://www.broomfieldessex.co.uk where the village diary is also published, for more information.

JUN			3	Orchard Springs W.I.	7.30p.m.	
1	<b>Library action group</b> The Angel, Main Road	11.00 a.m.		Broomfield Village Hall Food and Drink from Around the with Philippa Croft		
3	<b>Stay N Play</b> Broomfield Village Hall	09.15-11.15		Property and Planning Committee Broomfield Parish Office	7.30 p.m.	
5	<b>Coffee Morning</b> Broomfield Village Hall	10.00 – 12.00	8	<b>Stay N Play</b> Broomfield Village Hall	09.15-11.15	
	Orchard Springs W.I.	7.30p.m.	Baby and toddler group for unde		er 5's, parents & carers	
	Broomfield Village Hall Bishops and Brothels with Gary Egerton			<b>U3A</b> Broomfield Village Hall	1.30 p.m.	
	Property and Planning Committee 7.30 p.m. Broomfield Parish Office			Boudicca and the Gold & S Village Amenities		
10	Stay N Play	09.15-11.15	14	Committee meeting Broomfield Parish Office Broomfield Cottage	7.30 p.m.	
12	Broomfield Village Hall	1 20 m m		Gardeners Society Broomfield Village Hall	2.00 – 4.00 p.m.	
12	U3A 1.30 p.m. Broomfield Village Hall			Summer Flower & Produce	Show	
	Essex Scrubbers – Christine Beedle Village Amenities Committee			<b>Stay N Play</b> Broomfield Village Hall	09.15-11.15	
	<b>meeting</b> Broomfield Parish Office	7.30 p.m.		Baby and toddler group for und		
17	<b>Stay N Play</b> Broomfield Village Hall	09.15-11.15	17	Broomfield Parish Council Broomfield Village Hall	7.30 – 9.30	
	Baby and toddler group for under 5's, parents & carers			Play in the Park	10 – 12 noon	
29 -	Broomfield Football Club,		AUGUST			
30	Club Fun Weekend Mill Lane	9.30 onwards	3-4	<b>Chelmsford &amp; District</b> St John Payne School,	10.00 a.m.	
JULY	,			Fuchsia Society Patching Hall Lane Annual Fuchsia Display	5.00 p.m.	
1 3	Stay N Play	09.15-11.15	5	Play in the Park	10 – 12 noon	
	Broomfield Village Hall Baby and toddler group for under 5's, parents & carers		7	<b>Coffee Morning</b> Broomfield Village Hall	10.00 – 12.00	
	Coffee morning with Mobile Customer			Property and Planning Committee Broomfield Parish Office	7.30 p.m.	
	Information Service Broomfield Village Hall	10.00 - 12.00	12	Play in the Park	10 – 12 noon	

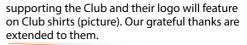
#### **Broomfield Cricket Club**

**It's a big year for cricket** with the Cricket World Cup being played in England and Wales this summer. Hopefully it will be a big year for us too with the Saturday Adult 1st XI chasing that elusive promotion from Division 3 of the T Rippon Mid Essex Cricket League and the 2nd XI looking to secure back to back promotions from Division 8.

Members have been hard at work and already the ground looks a picture. A significant amount of time and money has been invested in the relaying of the playing pitches so everything is set ready to go for the season.

Junior cricket for 9 to 15 year olds will, once more, be very much at the forefront of what we do. Training sessions will be as usual on Friday evenings from 26th April together with matches arranged throughout the summer. Why not give it a try? Please contact me for more detail.

Excel Redstone, IT specialists, will once more be





Interested in playing or just enjoy watching? You're more than welcome. Let's hope it is a big year for England and Broomfield!

Tony Cowell Chairman tony.cowell1@btinternet.com



10:00am – 12:30pm Tours: approximately 45 minutes

Come and explore the grounds and gardens of Broomfield Hospital Guided tours by the hospitals sustainability and grounds team From dementia gardens to woodlands and ponds, you will be surprised to see what we have to offer. Refreshments available

Book on to let us know you are coming: broomfieldhospitalopengardens.eventbrite.co.uk



#### **Broomfield Football & Social Club**

With the football season not too badly impacted by weather so far this year, March & April have been busy and exciting months at Broomfield FC. Starting with the Girls Section, they reached some important milestones, first of which was the two year anniversary since inception by our Football Development Officer, Lee Sterland with vital support from our friends at Essex FA. At the beginning of April we also received confirmation that we were awarded official FA status of an SSE Wildcats Centre for Girls Football (see advert), which means that any girls looking to participate in football locally will be directed via the Wildcats website to contact Broomfield FC along with other local Wildcats Centres. As well as a rapidly growing girls section with players aged from U7s to U12, BFC have also commenced a ladies training session on Saturday mornings with a view to forming a team.

The club also hosted a Girls Easter Football Camp run by Professional Player Amber Stobbs' coaching company, Equal Focus Football which was well attended by over 40 girls (see picture).

#### **Girl's Easter Football Camp**

The other notable success was the Girls Section also receiving its own standalone FA Charter Standard accreditation (as well as maintaining the existing accreditation for Boys/Men's Football), recognising the investment made in Coach Education, First Aid and Safeguarding of young players.

To celebrate such a successful season, the Girl's Section Head Coach, Paul Goss took 60+ players, parents and Supporters to the SSE FA Cup Final at Wembley between West Ham United and Manchester City on 4th May 2019. There have also been many other successes outside of the Girl's Section, including the following:

- The U18 Lions reaching the B&D League Division 1 Cup Final at Witham FC, sadly they were beaten on penalties by Hatfield Peverel.
- The Sunday first team reached the Pope & Smith League Cup Final held at Heybridge Swifts FC, unfortunately losing 2-0 to South Woodham Ferrers.
- The Over 45 "Super Vets" WON their League

Cup Final against Ford Basildon at Aveley FC in March, which saw the match go to extra time. Two of our "Super Vets" team have been selected to represent England Super Vets at a match in the USA during April – we are very proud of both Paul Spencer and Ian Bishop for this huge achievement.

- The U16 Fire team have reached not one but two Cup Finals for their League, the first one is the CYFL Southend & Chelmsford Premier Cup against Hutton FC on Tuesday 30th April AND a League Cup Final against Harold Wood Cougars at Aveley FC in May.
- U16 Flame Black are also through to a Cup Semi Final and also stand a good chance of winning the league and reaching a Cup Final in CYFL Division 1.

We are always looking for new volunteers to become football coaches for both new and established teams (Girls and Boys), so if this is something that interests you and would like to find out more please contact Andy Sears on 07468 493690.

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to another massive anniversary for the Club in May as it is the 40th German Exchange, when young Broomfield FC players, parents and supporters will visit SV Sparta Werlte in Northern Germany during Whitsun Week. The exchange programme is part of Broomfield Football Club's DNA and a highlight every year for all associated with the Club and our German Friends.

The 29th & 30th June is Broomfield FC's annual Fun Weekend where we welcome well over 100 teams from across Essex at all age groups to play 5 a side football along with lots of traditional fun for all the family. We welcome all local residents to come and be part of the Fun Weekend.

We continue to hold a Monthly Prize Lottery which is drawn on the last Sunday of each month. Tickets are £5.00 and payable via a Standing Order or alternatively if you don't want to make an ongoing commitment tickets can be purchased from our bar on the weekend leading up to draw. Two thirds of the lottery revenue is prize money, leading to a cash first prize of between £320 and £500 and a smaller Runners Up Cash Prize. If you'd like to be part of this Prize Draw (open to everyone) please contract Carolyn Stone on **07940 910141** 

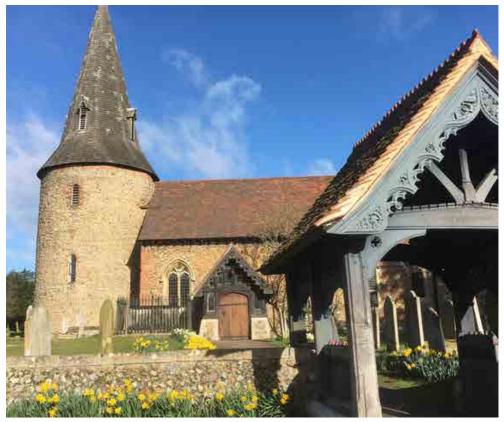
The Club also now operates a "Boot Store" which is based on the resale of outgrown good condition donated boots, providing an affordable solution to families with guick growing feet, at only £8.00 a pair. The Boot Store also sells donated Shin Pads, and also more recently Football Kits including Premier League teams, La Liga /Champions League team kits which have been outgrown (see enclosed adverts). We would welcome all donations of good condition (and clean) boots and used Football Kit to our Boot Store Coordinator, Lesley Temple. All donations can be left at the bar in our clubhouse any weekend. The Store is open for business most Saturday mornings but if you have a particular size you are looking for please give Lesley a call on 07794 541821. We also have a Club Shop that stocks a range of BFC Supporters Beanie Hats, Scarves, Thermo Mugs and Bags.



Our Clubroom Facilities are available for Mid-Week Day Hires from 9 am Monday to Friday, and we offer competitive rates to local community groups looking for a venue to provide classes. We already host "Team Up Dog Training" who provide Puppy, Intermediate and Advanced Classes between 18:30 and 20:45 on Tuesday evenings. Private Hire details can be found at *www.broomfieldfc.com*.

**Stuart Paterson** 

#### St Mary's with St Leonard's Church



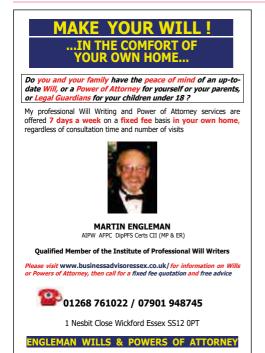
Rev'd Carolyn Tibbott will be taking extended study leave from the beginning of May until the end of August. During that time the Church Wardens and the clergy team, Rev'd Julie Hardy, Rev'd Anne Harvey and Rev'd Diana Garfield will continue to ensure that St Mary with St Leonard's Church continues to run smoothly.

If you have taken a walk up the churchyard recently you will have seen that the East side of the new extension has been cleared, and planted with grass seed. We had to do more work, more quickly, than we had first intended due to the pressure on burial space in the present grave yard and the cost of the works which would have been much more had we undertaken the work in stages. However, the PCC are pleased with the work and we had positive comments from our neighbours who used to use that land as extensions to their gardens. The area is now safe and secured, we have now applied for a faculty to move the remaining fencing and to have the land consecrated for burials, providing a final resting place for those who live in Broomfield.

No two days are the same at the Church. We have a variety of clubs going on during the daytime and during the evening - Film and Lunch Club, Little Lambs, Lunch & Laughter, a Beetle Drive, a Men's group and a Ladies group, as well as, concerts, talks and special events at the weekend. Sunday Worship takes place at 8am, 10.30am and 5.30pm, as well as a weekly service at 9.30am on Thursday (term time only) and monthly on the 2nd Wednesday in the month. There is something for everyone! Over the coming summer months we will be holding some events outside, weather permitting, and will move them indoors if the weather is inclement.

Dates for	your diary :		
2 June	Family Service	10.30am	Suitable for all ages
9 June	Sunday Special	3-4pm	Craft, story, film clip/puppets, and food – fun for all the family held in the hall
12 June	Midweek Eucharist	10am	
	Coffee morning in the hall	10.30am	money raised at this is donated to Little Havens Hospice
16 June	Concert	3pm	Tickets cost £5 available on the door
23 June	Songs of Praise on the Green at 5.30pm followed by Strawberry Tea – Do you have a favourite hymn or Bible verse? If so, email revjuliehardy@btinternet.com and she will try to include it within the service.		
	revjuliehardy@btinternet.con	and she will try	to include it within the service.
2 July 10 July		and she will try	
	revjuliehardy@btinternet.con Family Service	and she will try 10.30am - suit	to include it within the service.
	revjuliehardy@btinternet.com Family Service Midweek Eucharist	and she will try 10.30am - suit 10am	to include it within the service. table for all ages money raised at this is donated to Little Havens Hospice bring your pets (great and small) along,
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10 Júly 14 July	revjuliehardy@btinternet.com Family Service Midweek Eucharist Coffee morning in the hall Pet Service on the Green Family Service	and she will try 10.30am - suit 10am 10.30am 3pm 10.30am	to include it within the service. table for all ages money raised at this is donated to Little Havens Hospice bring your pets (great and small) along, or bring a photo of your pet

Please look at our website **www.stmarybroomfield.org** for more information and our Facebook page St. Mary Broomfield or contact Rev'd Julie Hardy on **01245 443565** for more information. **Rev'd Julie Hardy** 





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#### **Broomfield in Anglo Saxon Times**

#### The past, whether we realise it or not, is all around us in many forms - old buildings, ancient hedgerows and trees, even the route of our busy Main Road.

On a daily basis we probably all refer to the distant past through the use of place-names without a second thought. Broomfield was first recorded as Brumfelda in the Domesday Book (1086) and I expect this name goes back a century or two before that. Our county name is probably even older. The venerable Bede referred to it in around the vear 730AD as Orientalium Saxonum. It becomes more recognisable to us today from around 900AD when it was mentioned in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle as Fast Seaxe. Of course we now know it as Essex as our part of the country once formed a section of the kinadom of the Fast Saxons.

Possibly the most famous Anglo Saxon burial was that found at Sutton Hoo in Suffolk but Broomfield is also special for the study of our Anglo Saxon past. During the late 1880s, while gravel was being dug near to Clobb's Row, an early seventh century princely Saxon burial was uncovered. From it many artefacts were uncovered among which were two blue glass beakers, a gold & gilt silver buckle-tongue with garnets and a gold sword-harness pyramid with garnets and gold foil. This latter object might be familiar as it has been adopted as a symbol by our Parish Council (see accompanying image). The finds were deposited at the British Museum where some are important enough to be on display.

The problem with the burial being discovered towards the end of Queen Victoria's reign was that archaeological techniques were not as advanced as they have become today. However, we are fortunate that in 2003 at Prittlewell, Southend, an undisturbed Anglo Saxon princely burial was found during road widening. Archaeologists excavated it carefully over a period of 10 days and more than 100 objects were recovered. The post-excavation conservation, evaluation and interpretation of any archaeological finds take many years, more so with such an important site, and it is only recently that much has been published on the burial.

> Join us on Saturday 28 September at 2pm at the church of Broomfield St Mary for the fourth in a series of talks exploring our past when Ken Crowe. former Curator of Human History at Southend Museum and on duty when the Prittlewell Prince was discovered. will be discussing the magnificent finds from Prittlewell. Ken will be putting them into context with the finds from Broomfield and talking about Saxon Essex.

Tickets cost £5 and must be reserved in advance from trudy\_stevens@outlook.com, or 01245 359079. Refreshments will be served for a donation and a raffle will be held. All funds collected will go to the re-shingling of the spire. This is bound to be an interesting and popular talk so be sure to book your ticket as soon as possible!

**Neil Wiffen** 

# A brief architectural history of Broomfield Church

The parish church is usually the most significant building in our village, often with origins stretching back to the Normans or even the Saxons. Over the centuries those charged with their care have had to struggle to keep the wind, rain and frost from destroying their fabric, and this upkeep continues through to our own day. The long history of St Mary with St Leonard, Broomfield, is no exception and currently it needs to have its spire re-shingled at a cost of around £100,000. To help raise funds for this latest round of repairs a series of talks, with associated publications, has been started. The first, by local historian Neil Wiffen, charts the interesting architectural history of the church from shortly after the battle of Hastings to the reign of Oueen Victoria. Many of the past incumbents and parishioners are mentioned in this fascinating story. Available in person for only £7.50 from the church, all proceeds will go towards the spire fund. For postal orders,

### Library

The Easter holidays saw children from the area come and do a Bear Hunt through Broomfield Library.



a cheque for £10 (which includes p&p) made payable to 'St Mary's Broomfield PCC' should be sent to Dr.T. Stevens, 248, Broomfield Rd., Chelmsford, CM1 4DY. We look forward to your support.

The children were given a map to follow and went through the different obstacles from the book 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. Successful hunters were rewarded with a certificate and a prize, and were also able to make their own binoculars and bears to take home.

We also held a garden-themed event for May half term, which involved sticky fun with bugs and seeds.

As the warmer weather approaches, we start to turn our thoughts and plans to the Summer Reading Challenge here at the library. This year will be 'Space Chase', and more details about the characters will be shared with the children during their Summer terms at school.

Our Book Bingo for all ages is going strong. We have seen some lines completed already, but new cards and details are available from the library.

**Michelle Davis** 

#### St.Mary's Church Spire – Fundraiser The Way of Saint James – Part Three

**Finished in style, as I and others entered the Plaza do Obradoiro by the Cathedral** in Santiago de Compostela a Galician Piper struck up - not quite "Scotland the Brave" but it would do at the end of our walk across northern Spain.

I and many others had walked the final 120 kilometres of the Way of St.James/Camino de Santiago. Indeed many had walked the entire length of the Camino, 778.5 kilometres; I met a Californian who had walked for 32 days and whose wife told him to burn his clothes, have a bath and buy some new clothes before he came home (hopefully not in that order). I joined the other Pilgrims in the square, sitting down, lying down, even jumping up and down; all pleased to have completed the journey. As I may have mentioned before Galicia is green, on account of it's rainfall, and it had rained. In the past a Pilgrim's uniform was a trusty staff and cloak. In the 21st century a Pilgrim's choice is a strong poncho - it covers you, your pack and almost keeps trouser bottoms dry....

We had walked along country lanes past stone-built houses, farms and churches. Along heavily wooded (and muddy) tracks, over fast flowing streams occasionally with bridges or stepping stones. Past ancient Celtic settlements and Roman encampments. Uphill and down dale and I mean UP! Alongside major roads, across an unfinished motorway, past TV studios and an international airport.

Our journey was not entirely damp, in fact whilst it rained most days only one day was wall-to-wall torrential rain and one was wallto-wall sunshine (the last!). Whatever our reasons for undertaking the Pilgrimage I know we had all gained something be it a spiritual uplift, an inner peace, a time for reflection or just time out from the daily travail. As suspected I was never alone the nearer I was to Santiago the more crowded the Way became. There were groups of school children, families and even a large Spanish coach party who walked a few miles had a coffee and then jumped into their red coaches and drove on a little further!

The last steep climb was to the top of Monte del Gozo, the Mount of Joy, from here we Pilgrims gained our first sight of the four towers of Santiago's cathedral in the distance - journeys end. Originally a substantial peak it had been levelled out to form a site for the Mass celebrated by Pope John Paul upon his visit to Santiago in 1989. The hill is surmounted by two bronze pilgrims expressing their joy at nearing the end of their journey. Just below the summit is a pilgrim hostel built by the Poles on that occasion; it can accommodate 1,500 and looks like a cross between a barracks and a holiday camp. If you arrive late in the day you can stay here for free, upon production of your Credencial - exactly

as happened centuries ago upon production of your letter of authority/credential. From here, following the directions of the 'bronze pilgrims' our path is now downward towards the outskirts of Santiago itself. So far we have been following concrete plinths with vellow arrows or scallop shells on a blue ground pointing our way westward. As we reach Santiago the signage changes to bronze scallops let into the pavement and yellow arrows on the street furniture. After walking through the countryside it seems strange to be walking through a city. Suddenly we reach, what had been the original city wall & gates, the Porta do Camino and onward to the Praza da Inmaculada - where the original pilgrims washed in the fountain (now in the Cathedral Museum) before entering the Cathedral. Then through the archway, down the steps past the Piper and into Praza do Obradoiro.

As we have walked we have been required to get our "pilgrim passport" (the Credencial issued by the Cathedral authorities) stamped at least twice a day as we complete the final 100 Kms. This is our proof that we have walked all the way. These stamps are acquired at churches, pilgrim hostels, bars and a variety of other establishments along the way (including the odd charlatan who will demand "una donativo" i.e. charge for the privilege). Upon arrival this Credencial is presented to the Cathedral's Pilgrim Office who, once they have verified the full complement of correct stamps, will provide the final stamp and issue a Compestela to the Pilgrim undertaking the journey for a spiritual or religious purpose. Originally the 12th century pilgrim, having completed a journey with greater dangers than those I faced, upon receipt of the Compestela knew that if he survived the journey home he was promised a reduction of his time in Purgatory upon death. If he died enroute he was guaranteed to bypass Purgatory altogether.

Not all those who undertake the Walk apply for a Compostela so it is difficult to assess how many arrive per day. All I can say for sure is that on the day of my arrival in the city 926 Pilgrims applied for a Compostela.

The other symbol of completion of the

#### Community

journey is the acquisition of a scallop shell to prove he had reached the end of his journey, the beaches are covered in them. Today, however, many pilgrims carry their scallop shell with them.

The Pilgrim's final act is to attend the noon Pilgrim's Mass. This typically takes place in the Cathedral, where the massive Botafumeiro censor is swung to purify the air (originally pilgrims stayed in the Cathedral overnight, so there was a real purpose to cleanse the air from the stench of thousands of unwashed pilgrims). However, as the Cathedral is currently being renovated/refurbished for the next Holy Year in 2021 (when St.James Day - 21st July - falls on a Sunday) the service was held in the nearby Church of St. Francis, which apparently is larger than the Cathedral. On the day I attended Pilgrims were welcomed from UK, Germany, Australia, Spain, USA, France and Italy.

I have completed my journey but the journey to raise sufficient funds repair the fabric of the Tower & Spire of our village church of St. Mary's is not over. There are several ways that you can contribute to assist in this project. My website at *Justgiving.com/macscamino* will remain open until the end of May. You can contact me at walkingmac49@gmail.com or you can send a cheque, made out to St.Marys PCC c/o Rev. Carolyn Tibbott at The Vicarage, 10 Butlers Close, Broomfield. My thanks to all those who have already contributed and enabled me to raise £1,500 towards the Tower Fund. Malcolm Taylor





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**The Bat Walk Dates** 12<sup>th</sup> July, starts 8:45pm 26<sup>th</sup> July, starts 8:25pm 16<sup>th</sup> August, starts 7:45pm

6<sup>th</sup> September, starts 7:00pm



Noctule – ©R E Stebbings

### Meeting point: Broomfield Court

(Map available on booking)



Pipistrelle – ©Hugh Clark

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