

Broomfield **TIMES**

Issue 65 | Summer 2021

News & events from your Parish Council

BROOMFIELD FUN DAY GIRLS 5ASIDE AT BROOMFIELD FC

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Under review as lockdown has been extended

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Broomfield TIMES

Welcome to the Summer edition of Broomfield Times.

Hopefully by the time this edition will have landed on your doormat we will know if we are finally released from lockdown restrictions and can resume normality into our lives again.

On behalf of the Parish Council and I am sure all parishioners a BIG thanks go to our dedicated staff and volunteers who have been working hard throughout lockdown in Broomfield Hospital, both our schools, nursery schools, care homes and of course all the key workers!

Hopefully we can celebrate as a Village at the Broomfield Fun Day which is planned to be held on SUNDAY 11th JULY – a joint venture between the Parish Council and Broomfield Football Club – a day not to be missed! Enjoy the Summer – Enjoy meeting with family and friends – Enjoy the outdoors!

Editor Karen Hurrell

Contact: editor@broomfieldessex.co.uk
Telephone (01245) 441660

Next copy date: Thursday 9th September 2021

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From the Chairman

**Hello residents,
I am very proud to have been voted in as the
new Chairman of Broomfield Parish Council.**

What I know so far is that we have a great team of people working together to improve our lives and our village.

The staff have kept services going throughout the pandemic and we are very grateful to them. As Parish Councillors we come in all shapes and sizes, so to speak, but together with the staff we are building a strong team. We are currently working on how we can make Broomfield an even better places to live (in the short, medium and long term) and there will be a consultation on priorities before long. One recent example of how we're trying to improve things is the new play area on Angel Meadow. It seems to be really well used by our local children and families – we hope you agree.

We want everyone to be clear about what we already do and what we are able to do in the future. To achieve this, we are looking again at our communication with you all. We are renewing our Facebook page and will use Instagram in future to celebrate the best of our village.

We have a good idea about what is important to you, from the consultation on the neighbourhood plan and other recent expressions of views. One thing is crystal clear, that you mostly want to keep the greenness of our surroundings, including around the village hall.

There are around 5,000 of us so there will always be a spread of opinion but 100% of responses to the Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire said that they liked/liked a lot that Broomfield is 'close to open countryside'.

The Village Hall is getting back to normal with the two staff working extremely hard to have the hall open as much as possible within COVID regulations for space and cleaning. We appreciate their hard work very much.

The next time you hear from us will be about our ideas for making Broomfield even better. You can be sure that keeping Broomfield green will be right up there at the top of the list.

Cllr Margaret Bleet Chairman



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PRESENTS..

Chelmsford's Award winning Amateur Theatre company, **CAODS**, are thrilled to bring this classic musical to Chelmsford in September!

'Sweet Charity' tells the story of Charity Hope Valentine, a down on her luck dance hall hostess at the Fandango Ballroom, longing to find Mr. Right. Could he be the international movie star, Vittorio, or the claustrophobic accountant, Oscar? We follow her misadventures to find out!

A spectacular treat for Fosse and Musical Theatre fans everywhere; featuring some of the most iconic showstoppers ('Big Spender', 'If My Friends Could See Me Now', 'Rich Man's Frug', 'Rhythm of Life') in Broadway history!

Chelmsford Civic Theatre

Tuesday 21st – Saturday 25th September 2021
Evening performances 7.30pm Saturday Matinee 3.00pm

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www.chelmsford.gov.uk/theatres/whats-on/musicals/sweet-charity/



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Essex, CM6 3PL

Broomfield CONTACTS

Broomfield Parish Council Office: (inside Broomfield Village Hall)	Clerk – Mark Hembury	clerk@broomfieldessex.co.uk Telephone (01245) 441660 158 Main Road Broomfield Chelmsford CM1 7AH
	Assistant Clerk: Wendy Martin (Village Amenities/Allotments)	deputyclerk@broomfieldessex.co.uk
	Assistant Clerk: Karen Hurrell (Planning/Neighbourhood Plan Editor Broomfield Times)	planning@broomfieldessex.co.uk editor@broomfieldessex.co.uk
	Village Attendant: Stuart Jones	Broomfield-attendant@outlook.com
Broomfield Village Hall	Bookings Clerk: Steff Smith Caretaker: Fitzroy Grant	bookings@broomfieldessex.co.uk 01245 443902 07919 0402862
Broomfield Parish Councillors (contacted via the Clerk)	Chair Cllr Margaret Bleet Vice Chair Cllr Ros Mercer Planning Cllr John Blake Village Amenities Cllr Hubble Village Hall Cllr Faulds Councillors: Wendy Daden; Angela Faulds; Donna Hance; David Howell; Sue Hubble; Jason Need; Gloria Scott; Angela Thomson	
Chelmsford City Councillors	Cllr Barry Knight Cllr Wendy Daden Cllr Mike Steel	Gbr.knight@chelmsford.gov.uk 01245 420045 Wendy.daden@chelmsford.gov.uk Mike.steel@chelmsford.gov.uk
Essex County Councillors	Cllr Mike Steel	cllr.mike.steel@essex.gov.uk
MP	Kemi Badenoch	Kemi.badenoch@mp@parliament.uk 020 7219 1943
Chelmsford City Council	Customer Service Centre	01245 606606
Essex County Council	Customer Service Centre	0345 743 0430
Essex Police	Emergency Non-emergency Report a crime on line Chelmsford Crime Prevention Team	999 101 or 01245 491 491 www.essex.police.uk/do-it-online/report-a-crime chelmsfordcpt@essex.pnn.uk

Useful Contacts

UK Government:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus-extremely-vulnerable>

Essex County Council:

www.essex.gov.uk/topic/coronavirus

Chelmsford City Council:

01245 606606

www.chelmsford.gov.uk/coronavirus/

Essex Police:

www.essex.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/c19/coronavirus-covid-19/

Broomfield Hospital:

www.meht.nhs.uk/promotion/coronavirus-covid-19-health-advice/

Farleigh Hospice:

www.farleighhospice.org/about-us/news/coronavirus-update

Citizens Advice:

www.citizensadvice.org.uk/health/coronavirus-what-it-means-for-you/

Essex Dementia Care:

1245 363789

www.essexdementiacare.org.uk/

Alzheimer's Society: Helpline:

0333 150 3456

www.alzheimers.org.uk/get-support/coronavirus-covid-19

Chelmsford Centre for supporting Voluntary Action:

<https://chelmsfordcvcs.org.uk/>

Broomfield Primary School:

www.broomfield.essex.sch.uk/coronavirus/

Chelmer Valley High School:

www.chelmervalleyhighschool.co.uk/



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Broomfield Litter Pick

Taking place from the Village Hall
Saturday 11th September – 10.30 am

Home-made cake, tea and coffee at 12 noon
All equipment provided.

Children very welcome.

Look out for banner on Angel Green!



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Introducing new Parish Councillor Gloria Scott

I have lived in Broomfield for over twenty years - I am a parent of two grown up children and a grandparent.

I am a former nurse. I have also worked in Local Government Social Care Services for over 27 years as Practitioner and Manager until I retired in 2012.

Since my retirement I have had an active role in the community through various voluntary roles which includes being a School Governor.

I enjoy spending time with my grandchildren but also feel I have the energy and time to give something back to my local community.





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Play in the Park with us this Summer!

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Each two hour long session is packed full of sports, games, arts and crafts. Selected sessions will also feature special 'Extras' such as; bouncy castles, face painting and a petting zoo!

@ playinthepark@chelmsford.gov.uk

☎ 01245 606569

f www.facebook.com/playchelmsford

www.chelmsford.gov.uk/play

BROOMFIELD DATES:

WEDNESDAYS 4TH, 11TH & 25TH AUGUST 2021
10.30 am – 12.30 pm
&
1.30 pm – 3.30 pm

General activities of sports, games and crafts



Broomfield Hospital Garden of Remembrance for staff who have died of Covid-19

Broomfield Parish Council has donated a bench which has been placed in a new garden created near Broomfield Court within the Hospital's grounds. Councillor Margaret Bleet was privileged to be invited to attend the opening ceremony.

The ceremony included a tribute to all staff but particularly the Hotel Services staff which includes cleaners and catering staff who have been affected badly by COVID-19.

The grounds and gardens team identified a suitable area that linked to the sunken garden project and the health and well-being area. The funding for this project was approved by the MSE Charity Trustees utilising monies donated from Captain Sir Tom Moore's fundraising efforts, and the 30th April 2021 is the anniversary of Sir Tom's birthday - a tree has been planted today in his honour, adjacent to the garden. The tree will grow to 18 metres which is a wonderful symbol.

The garden is open to all members of the public as are the 22 hectares of grounds. Here are some pictures taken.

Councillor Margaret Bleet



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Broomfield Garden Celebration

The Village Amenities Committee would like to see your Gardens in Bloom, we are looking for 3 gardens in Broomfield to be crowned winners and there are prizes to be won.

We are asking you to take up to 3 photos, these can be of individual blooms or your whole garden and submit these into the Committee for judging, with the photos you will need to tell us what gardening means to you.

If you are unable to take photos but would still like to enter, please contact Councillor Hance on **07729 239613** and we will organize someone to take photos for you.

Winners will be selected by the Committee and will be shared on our social media platforms for all to enjoy.

Please submit your entries to: Cllr Donna Hance via the Parish Office:
deputyclerk@broomfieldessex.co.uk

Closing date: 31st August 2021



From the County Council

**Mike Steel - New
County Councillor
for Broomfield and
Writtle division**

After 16 years of being the County Councillor for Broomfield and Writtle, John Aldridge has retired. I would like to thank John for his dedicated service over that time. I was fortunate to be elected in his place on the 6th May 2021. I have a history of addressing Essex County Council issues and now I can deal with them from the inside as a County Councillor.

My background includes being a Parish Councillor for the last 20 years and I am also a City Councillor for Broomfield and the Walthams. The Broomfield and Writtle County Council division is physically large and covers a number of rural parish areas, namely Writtle, Broomfield, Great Waltham, Little Waltham,

Great and Little Leighs, Chignal, Good Easter, Highwood, Pleshey, Roxwell, Mashbury and the new developments in Broomfield, Little Waltham and Chignal. I intend to join the many Parish Council meetings when I can, and have already started. I am a great believer in Parish Councils and their knowledge of the local issues. Like John, I will continue to send information on ECC initiatives and issues to future editions of your parish magazine.

If you have problems about County Council issues, such as highways, flooding, overgrown verges, public rights of way, fly tipping etc, I would encourage you to report them, in the first instance, on the ECC website, **www.essexhighways.org/tell-us**.

If you need to contact me, email me on **cllr.mike.steel@essex.gov.uk**

From the City Council

As life returns to normal CCC has opened all leisure centres, including the ice rink. Although, direct debits were frozen during Covid however, 3,000 memberships joined in April.

City life magazine has gone on line; I would be interested to know if you have access to this or if you will miss it? The new online version is giving free advertising to local sport and activity clubs; what would give you confidence to re- join an activity again?

A new Skate Park on Broomfield's border, Channel Drive has been delivered and the Pegasus crossing (to include your horse!) is progressing nicely across the A130 to connect central Broomfield to the New Channels Development and the park.

New Pegasus crossing over Essex Regiment Way:

I take no pleasure in announcing this Summer you will see parking charges brought to Hylands Park, £3 per day per car for

Chelmsford residents, the Council is seeking to introduce annual discounted passes.

Some of you will notice the application for the new spine road through Bloor Homes development; along with the housing number for this allocated site has crept to 571; Officers are not satisfied that Bloor Homes planning application aligns with the Local Plan policies. Talks are ongoing, the application can be viewed on line.

New Roads application for double yellow lines (just on the corner), met with no objection and should be implemented this August.

Essex County Council (ECC) working in partnership with Chelmsford City Council (CCC) have secured £218M of Housing Infrastructure Funding (HIF) to construct the Chelmsford North East Bypass (CNEB) and a new rail station to the north east of Chelmsford. Beaulieu Station expected completion date is December 2025. If you have concerns about any issue please contact me, **wendy.daden@chelmsford.gov.uk**
City Councillor Wendy Daden

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Mobile Customer Service

Due to the Covid pandemic and ongoing plans from the Council to have a more digital approach with customers, it is with much sadness that I write to inform you that the Mobile Customer Information Service will no longer be in operation.

I have developed some good working relationships and made friends over the last 11 years that I have known some of you and I am sorry that I will no longer be able to deliver the service in your community. The feedback from customers was always positive and appreciative and so I feel confident that I was successful in providing valuable help and guidance to those that needed it.

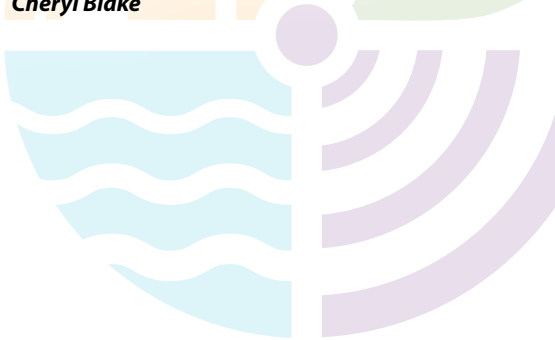
In the meantime, the Council are actively investigating alternative mediums in reaching customers other than online, so that they can engage more broadly.



Thank you for allowing me to work from your venue at the monthly Coffee Mornings in Broomfield Village Hall over the years.

I do hope that you can all continue with your meetings and activities soon and I wish you well for the future and your groups.

Cheryl Blake



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Chelmsford City Council Movement Around The City

E-scooters. This year saw the launch of 265 SPIN E-scooters in the Chelmsford area; offering NHS free use has seen 216 trips by our heroes; 1796 passes have been sold and almost 31,000 total rides since the launch.

You must be over 18 with a provisional or full driving license to hire, and sober! The uniqueness is, outside the city centre, the scooters can be left (responsibly) at a destination convenient for you and the scooters will be recharged or removed by Spin.

The scheme is still in trial phase, which is currently seeking your views to understand

how you are using them, with a function to report under age riders and misuse via the app.

Cycling and Walking

Chelmsford is changing to prioritise cycling and walking over vehicles.

The objective is to reduce cars entering the city centre, to encourage this to happen changes to roads and traffic flow are being proposed; visit:

www.essexhighways.org/active-travel-fund for more information and register your view now.



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Essex Dementia Care has over fifteen years of experience helping people with dementia continue to live active and fulfilling lives. Our **one-to-one** services are tailored to the individual's personality and needs, enabling them to maintain a sense of well-being and independence for as long as possible. We also run a number of **group activities** that are designed to support different stages of the dementia journey within a social setting.

Our services have proven invaluable for providing caregivers with much-needed respite too:

“

Essex Dementia Care services have been an absolute godsend! I can't remember how I coped before!

Margaret (wife of client)

EDC activity days take place in Broomfield, Sandon and Bradwell Village Halls.

To try a **free** taster session or for more information on any of our services, please contact us on **01245 363789** or visit www.essexdementiacare.org.uk



One2one Services

This service offers a care package tailored to the individual. Our practitioners become an extension of your family, developing a personalised support plan that is built around the individual's personality and needs. By working on a one-to-one basis, we seek to encourage the return of lost skills and to offer opportunity for discovering new skills.

Oasis Activity Groups

Oasis groups have a less hectic schedule and are suited to those whose dementia has progressed further. Members enjoy a choice of activities including drama, music, arts and crafts, reminiscence and games, together with a homecooked lunch.

Groups take place as follows:

Bradwell, Braintree:

11am-3:30pm on Mondays

Sandon, Chelmsford:

11am-3:30pm on Tuesdays

Every Day Counts Groups

Our Every Day Counts groups support people in the earlier stages of dementia, helping them to retain existing skills and to stay active in the community. Group members might cook their own lunch or spend time out and about exploring places of interest. The main thing is they will be having fun!

Groups take place as follows:

Bradwell, Braintree:

11am-4pm on Wednesdays
and Thursdays

Broomfield, Chelmsford:

11am-4pm on Fridays

Sandon, Chelmsford:

11am-4pm on Wednesdays



Support 4 Sight A Light in the Dark

We support people with any kind of visual impairment

We can help you to find new ways of doing things to remain independent. We offer practical and emotional support, we can demonstrate technology and equipment for daily living use at our Chelmsford Resource Centre or we can visit you at home to show different types of equipment & lighting.

We are open Mon – Wed, 10am – 2pm, at Chelmsford Resource Centre, 17 Cottage Place, CM1 1NL but please note that while the Chelmsford Resource Centre is having renovations we are temporarily based at Broomfield Village Hall every Wednesday, 10am -2pm.

Telephone: **01245 933572** or **07949676126** for further details



Support 4 Sight

We also hold a monthly coffee morning in Broomfield Village Hall on the last Wednesday of the month between 1.30 – 3pm (check for date of re-starting)

Patron:

Lady Braybrooke & Kemi Badenoch

Charity number: 1169324

17 Cottage Place

Chelmsford

Essex

CM1 1NL

T **01245 933 572**

E: info@support4sight.org.uk

www.support4sight.org.uk

Broomfield & District U3A – ways forward

Broomfield & District u3a – new members welcome!

The first week of June was National u3a Awareness Week. Although various restrictions prevented us from planning a big ‘splash’ event, we are hoping to hold an in-person social meeting in September – the start of our membership year. At that meeting, current and potential new members can get together for a chat, talk to leaders of special interest groups, and get a feel for the benefits of joining us – and join right then and there if they wish, for a yearly subscription cost of only £13.

A number of our special interest groups have continued to meet virtually throughout the pandemic, and as lock-down restrictions have eased, more groups have been able to get together in person. Between now and the end of this year (apart from August) we are also holding monthly speaker meetings via Zoom, on the second Wednesday of the month.



u3a

learn,
laugh,
live

Across the UK, u3a members are learning, staying active and having fun in later life. There are over 1000 branches with over 450,000 members – making it one of the largest volunteer-led organisations in the country. For readers of this magazine, the Broomfield & District u3a is most likely your nearest branch, so if you are not already a member and would like to join, we would be delighted to welcome you.

We’ve asked all our members to tell their friends and acquaintances about the u3a, but if in the meantime you’d like to find out more, and to make contact with us via our website, please visit:

<https://u3asites.org.uk/broomfield/welcome>

Broomfield Cottage Gardeners' Society

LATEST NEWS FROM THE SOCIETY

As we go to press it appears that the lockdown measures and the vaccine are driving cases of coronavirus down. We are now more hopeful that we can stage some events this year and are making preliminary arrangements for the autumn show to be held on the 26th September as well as exploring the options for some open gardens. The summer show will not go ahead though as there is some uncertainty whether social distancing measures will still be in place at that time.

PLANT SALE

We held a very successful plant sale at the allotment site on the 16th May, raising £285 for our chosen charity. We sited it on the car park this year to give us all a bit more space. It was very well attended and it was lovely to see some of our regular supporters as well as some new ones! Many thanks to all of you who donated or purchased plants – we hope you enjoyed the event as well and managed to catch up with people you may not have seen for some time.

AGM

We held our AGM on 19th May via Zoom this year. You can find a copy of the minutes on our website www.broomfieldcottagegardenerssociety.co.uk and a copy of the accounts for 2019/20 are now at the Barn. The Committee is broadly unchanged but sadly Malcolm Deacon has decided it is time for him to stand down as Barn Manager. We are all really sorry to see him go. He has done a brilliant job of running the barn and is also a great source of knowledge for any gardening questions. He will continue to be part of the rota for running the Barn though, so you can continue to call in and pick his brains! Chris Whitby has volunteered to take over managing the Barn which is great news. We were also pleased to welcome Donna Hance to the Committee who will potentially take on the role of Social Media Manager. It was also agreed at the AGM that

our chosen charity for 2020/21 will continue to be Dementia Adventure as we were only able to raise limited funds during 2019/20.



BARN UPDATE

The Barn has now re-opened on Sundays only for the time being from 10-12.00. At the moment customers are being served from the door and we have also purchased a card reader so that people don't need to pay with cash. We have also expanded our rota of volunteers to spread the load.

COMMITTEE VACANCIES

Unfortunately, we are still carrying a number of vacancies on the Committee including the Secretary and an Evening Talks Manager. We will not be running a programme of evening talks this coming winter if we cannot find someone to manage them. If you are interested or know of anyone who might be interested in these roles, please do not hesitate to contact any member of the Committee. None of the vacancies involve a huge amount of work and we would be happy to give more details about what is involved to anyone who is thinking about stepping forward.

WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK

We have an internet site here www.broomfieldcottagegardenerssociety.co.uk plus a Facebook page where regular updates are posted. Please search in Facebook under "**Broomfield Cottage Gardeners Society**" or use or type the following link into your browser: www.facebook.com/groups/355859514864259/

MEMBERSHIP

If you would like to join the Society, please contact Selina Matthews (Membership Secretary) on **01245 443108** or email BCGSshowsecretary@gmail.com.

Please also look at our website: www.broomfieldcottagegardenerssociety.co.uk for more information about the society and how to join.



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Annual Report from the Chairman Councillor John Barnes April 2021

2020/21 has been a year like no other which has presented

the Council with many unique challenges. I will start by recognising and thanking our staff team who have worked throughout the year from home and on site to keep our facilities safe, clean and up to standard. As best as possible we have kept our support services going and have used the time that the Village Hall has been closed to improve and maintain our properties and facilities.

The last full meeting that we held in the Hall was in February 2020 from then on, we were in Lockdown or, under special legislation, holding meetings using Zoom. We co-opted Sue Hubble to the Council and agreed to meet monthly instead of bi-monthly. We have also welcomed Councillors Donna Hance, Jason Need, Margaret Bleet and Gloria Scott to the Council. We had a number of resignations during the year and we would like to thank all Councillors who have served the Village, as volunteers, for their very valuable input.

Broomfield Youth Club

We were approached by a group who wanted to set up a Youth Club for the young people of the Village – initial discussions identified they required an independent property that the young people could call their own. Much discussion took place on suitable locations and in February we held a Special Meeting to discuss the project with the proposed contractors. A large number of members of the public attended which generated a great number of ideas and opinions so was very valuable. Those thoughts and ideas continue to be built into the planning. The majority of the Council remain behind the project and we are now looking at a more expensive option of extending the Village Hall - it can still be independent with its own entrance and facilities but will take longer to bring to fruition. However, we have a determined group of Councillors working very hard to support the idea and I sincerely hope that we can bring it off.

Broomfield Place

Essex County Council own a parcel of land south of Broomfield Place which they wish to develop - initially with a plan to seek residential planning permission for the land which they knew we would oppose. However, following public consultation, we put a proposal to EEC that part of the site be developed with community based assets and a proportion left as public open space. We remained sympathetic to a limited amount of residential development preferably affordable housing. Following meetings with ECC we are delighted to be able to report that they have agreed to withdraw their plans to seek residential planning and have put forward a much more modest plan for an adult training centre and a large amount of public open space – however, there can be no guarantees that this will happen but we must remain confident.

Neighbourhood Plan

Work on the Neighbourhood Plan has continued throughout the year and we do have to thank Cllr John Blake and his team for their diligent work. In December John started a process of presenting draft sections of the plan which will continue through to the Summer 2021 when Council will be able to approve the full document so that we can start the consultation process.

Grants made

We have made a number of grants to Community Groups during the year:

- £750 to Essex Dementia Care Trust towards running their events in Broomfield.
- £250 to The Friends of Broomfield Hospital for a bench in a staff garden.
- £2,000 towards replacement windows at the Copland Trust Alms House in School Lane.
- £1,750 to St Mary with St Leonard's Church to provide a water catchment system for the churchyard.
- £2,000 to Chelmer Valley High School PTA towards the development of an all-weather sports facility.
- £2,000 towards replacement doors at the Copland Trust Alms House in School Lane.
- £1,000 to 3B's Broomfield Bereavement Group to further develop their garden

Staffing

Our Clerk Mike Letch decided to resign in November after serving us very diligently through the pandemic. I would like to record here a very great thanks to Mike and wish him the best of luck for the future. I am delighted to be able to report that we were able to secure the services of Mark Hembury who joined on 1st April and I am sure he will prove a very able successor to Mike and we all look forward to working with him going forward. As the year came to an end, Cllr John Aldridge, our representative at Essex County Council, advised us that he was not standing for re-election to Essex in May. John has represented Broomfield for 16 years and has been a very important supporter and wise counsel during that time. We expect that whoever is elected in his place will serve us equally well but he or she will have big boots to fill. Thank you, John, most sincerely.

Work of the Village Amenities Committee: Angel Meadow Play Area:

The play area required extensive renovation (see Village Amenities committee report) and we were very proud to re-open the play area on Good Friday. The park is now fully operational and proving hugely popular. Thanks to Cllr Sue Hubble for leading the project on behalf of the Council and our member of staff, Stuart Jones, for project managing the work.

Allotment Site

We are very proud of our allotment site. The tenants work really hard on their own plots and the site is looking fantastic. This year we have started to build interest an Allotment Association to give the Tenants a greater input into the site management. Much work has been carried out by the Committee to improve the site.

Broomfield in Bloom

We would like to install planted displays around the village, what we call Broomfield in Bloom. Lockdown has delayed this project but this year we will working hard on it.

Work of the Broomfield Village Hall Charity Committee:

The Village Hall was redeveloped a few years ago support by a Public Works Board loan and now this has been fully repaid it was agreed

to instruct an architect to come up with ideas for what we could do to improve and extend the hall. We have resurfaced the Village Hall carpark this year and tackled problems with the Adventure Cycle Way – further details in the Village Hall Report.

Tree for Life Scheme

This has been well supported and 20 babies have had trees planted in the new orchard on David Smith Field and also in their own gardens. We are extending this to 2021 so please let the Parish Council know if you would like to join the Scheme.

Can I thank all of my colleagues for commitment to the Village, they give their time voluntarily without any compensation.

Finally, I need to report that at the Annual Meeting in May I stood down as Chair handing over the leadership of the Council to Margaret Bleet who brings huge experience and wisdom to the role. I know that all Councillors are looking forward to working with Margaret.

Councillor John Barnes



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Annual Report from the Planning Committee

April 2021

It's hard to remember 'normal' Committee life before lockdown. We used to sit round a table in a small office, unmasked, leaning over application plans or huddled round a laptop! Although the Committee hasn't been to meet in person during the last 13 months, its work has continued nonetheless. Councillors have been studying the plans and other documents online and then discussing them by e-mail. The conclusions are then formally presented to the planning authority by our Clerk. So, the local community has not lost its voice on planning issues, despite Covid.

Lockdown hasn't led to any noticeable drop off in planning applications! During lockdown in 2020, we were sent 90 applications to comment on and in the first two months of this year, there have been another 20.

The 'North of Broomfield' Planning Application

We also held a Zoom meeting to confirm our full response to the biggest application received since May 2019. This application was from Bloor Homes, for the large development site 'North of Broomfield'. It is due to be built between Blasford Hill and Broomfield Hospital, within the red line marked on this Google Earth map.



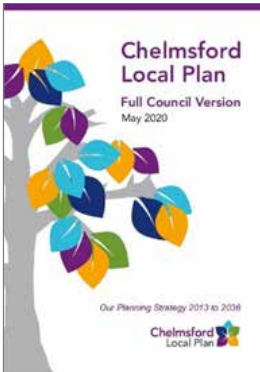
This development site is included in the new Chelmsford Local Plan. City councillors voted to approve this last May, so the principle of the development cannot now be challenged.

We have however objected to the scale of the development. The Local Plan allows for a development of around 450 dwellings, but the developers have applied for permission to build 550! We believe this is quite inappropriate for a development on the edge of the village, abutting open countryside. The Local Plan is clear that it should be 'landscape led', not 'housing led'.

You can read our full response by going onto the homepage at www.broomfieldessex.co.uk. It's now several items down the page, under the heading 'Council objects to 550 home estate North of Broomfield'. In brief, the main points of our objection were:

1. 550 dwellings is far too many for the site, which is only meant to have around 450.
2. The additional traffic will add to the existing severe traffic problems on Main Road
3. The development is supposed to include provision of a new access into Broomfield Hospital. This must be included in the application and the Council would like it to be multi-use, not restricted to staff, deliveries etc.
4. The development should include a substantial tree belt to screen it from the higher land to the west and to act as a wildlife corridor.

We await the City Council's decision on this application. It is likely to be a long haul. Even before the application came in, there had been a lengthy consultation process about the Masterplan for this site. We put in a lot of comments at that stage, working together our neighbours at Little Waltham Parish Council, with whom we share many concerns. So it feels like this proposal has been with us for a long time. It will continue to be so!



Chelmsford Local Plan

As indicated above, the 'North of Broomfield' allocation forms part of the new Chelmsford Local Plan.

In May 2020, this new Local Plan was finally adopted by Chelmsford

City Council. The Plan controls where new development – houses, roads, shops and other facilities – will go between now and 2036. It's taken 6 years to get there!

For most of that time, the threat of mass development has been hanging over Broomfield. At times, it looked like our village would be completely swallowed up into 'Greater Chelmsford'. Fortunately, that hasn't happened. You can read all about the long, hard-fought struggle to save our village – see the article in the Summer 2020 Issue 62 of the Broomfield Times. If you no longer have your copy, you can read back issues on our website.

Yet more Changes to the Planning System!

Last August, the Government proposed another fundamental change to the Planning System in England. The new Government White Paper proposed doing away with separate planning permission in 'Growth areas', meaning that local communities would only get a say on new development while a Local Plan is being drawn up. Where land is earmarked for 'Growth' in a Local Plan, a developer wouldn't need to apply for outline planning consent.

The Government's aim is to 'modernise', simplify and speed up the planning process so that new developments can be built quicker. The scope of local plans and neighbourhood plans would be reduced, in order to speed up the delivery of development.

Alongside these proposed changes, the Government promoted a new, more 'objective' algorithm to calculate how many new houses need to be built in each area. This idea was clearly thought up before the problems with last year's A-level exams showed that algorithms aren't always the ideal solution for everything - they can have unintended consequences!

The new algorithm suggested that lots more houses would need to be built in the South-East, thereby burying aspects of the 'Northern Powerhouse' in concrete and suggesting that Chelmsford would have to find land for almost twice the number of houses currently planned. Fortunately, following a lot of pressure from its own MPs and supporters, the Government has now stepped back and is developing a different approach to calculating housing need.

The Planning Committee put in a very full and robust response to the White Paper by the deadline at the end of last October.

Finally, we were very pleased to welcome Jason Need on to the Committee earlier this year. Jason has lived in Broomfield for many years and brings with him the experience of being a Borough Councillor and cabinet member in an earlier life. So we are sure he will be a great asset to the Committee and to Broomfield.

Councillor John Blake

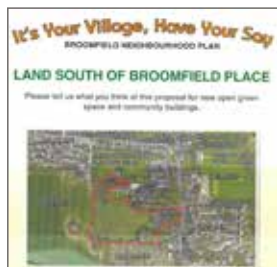
Chair of Planning Committee

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Annual Report from the Broomfield Neighbourhood Steering Group

Please see the last edition for the latest report on the Neighbourhood Plan

Consultation on Land South of Broomfield Place: Interim Results



You can still see the consultation leaflet, which explains all the background, on our website. Either click the link in the post on our homepage: www.broomfieldessex.co.uk

(it's now a couple pf posts down the homepage) or type this into your browser: www.broomfieldessex.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/site-allocation-consultation-leaflet.pdf

We're still processing the additional comments – as these are open-ended free text, they take a long time to classify. However, we want to share with you the results so far. We received 423 responses in total, on paper or by e-mail or online. These reflect the views of 806 people, as many people filled out the form jointly as a couple, family etc. We're very grateful to every resident who responded, giving us a good response rate for this type of survey.

The main question was:

Do you support the ECC Proposal for New Open Green Space and Community Buildings on their land south of Broomfield Place?

Strongly Support	48%
Support	40%
Oppose	4%
Strongly Oppose	5%
No Opinion	3%
TOTAL	100%

These percentages are based on the number of responses received, but they are almost the same if you base it on the total number of people responding.

What people like and dislike about the County Council's Proposal

So far, the main things that people seem to like are:

- The large amount of green open space, with unspoilt natural environment
- The access for the local community and the overall community focus
- The provision for vulnerable people and people with disabilities and their carers.

So far, there are few dislikes in comparison.

Where expressed, the main concern is about traffic and access. We asked if people had views about the use of the semi-wild woodland area behind Broomfield Place house and garden. So far, the main preference is for it to be left wild or semi-wild.

As we finish going through all the general comments, further views may well emerge. As soon as we complete the work, we will put a full report on this website. Once again, thanks to everyone who took part in this consultation.



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Annual Report from the Village Amenities Committee

April 2021 Playground

Of course, our biggest achievement to date is the refurbishment of the playground. A large pirate ship was reincarnated as "Jolly Rainbow". This was as an accolade to NHS for all the marvellous work they have done on behalf of us all during the pandemic and the ship has now been adorned with a rainbow flag. The whole of the playground surface was replaced and play items were either replaced or refurbished. This was achieved by using CLM money. A seesaw destined for landfill was donated to Little Waltham PC.



On Good Friday, as winners of choosing the ship's name, Thomas and Lucy declared the playground "Open".

What else have we done?

We have replaced two damaged Silver Birch trees on David Smith Field with two Hornbeams as the trees were close to picnic benches and some people suffer with allergies to Silver Birch. Our village attendant installed a Notice Board in the bus shelter on Brassie Wood and we arranged several litter picks, collecting over 50 sacks of rubbish from our streets.



Allotment Site

- Installed two waist-high raised beds for plot holders with mobility problems.
- Installed two large water harvesting tanks on the side of the barn.
- Improved car parking facilities.
- Arranged for regular allotment plot inspections.
- Installed hand sanitiser at entrance of site.
- Installed height restriction barriers to deter large vehicles entering the site.
- Cut back over-hanging trees.
- Provided skips to help plot holders remove hard to dispose of materials.
- Installed two new water taps.
- Structures in different areas of the site to be erected where water butts could be placed to save water.

Centenary Wood

Regular visits are made to ensure Woods are safe for children to play and litter free.

What is in the pipeline?

Broomfield in Bloom

Residents of Broomfield were asked if they live close to an area where a planter could be installed would they be willing to maintain one? Both CVHS and Essex Youth Build were asked if they would like to join us in our project and build planters for Broomfield.

They both agreed. Unfortunately, Covid-19 lockdowns put the project "on hold"! CVHS are now unable to help us until at least September 2021 and Essex Youth Build are just ready to commence work again. A meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday 26 April to give details of what we want.

Five residents came forward offering to maintain planters and measurements were taken. Essex Highways have now granted permission for the five planters to go ahead to be made and licences are in the process of being drawn up with their Legal Department. Three other areas which do not require permission from Essex Highways will also have planters made; to date eight planters are in the pipeline and a few more requests have now come forward.

Felsted Field Bus Shelter

Within the Neighbourhood Plan, Plans have been drawn up which include a bus shelter and the area in front of the hedge may be re-planted with wildflowers etc. Hopefully, funds will be available to get the work off the ground within the next couple of years.

Chair Councillor Sue Hubble

Annual Report from the Village Hall Committee:

We have a new feature on David Smith field this winter- our little orchard planted with trees for babies born to Broomfield families in 2020. We invited all parents of such babies to apply, and they could have their tree at home or planted in the field. This scheme will be continued this year.



The hall was redecorated at Easter 2020. The MUGA lights have been replaced with LED lights and the faulty car park lights have been replaced as well.



During the Summer of 2020 the car park surface was re-laid- with the existing foundations not proving strong this turned into a bigger job than anticipated.

The contractor was also asked to resurface the cycleway with a tar and chip finish. This job was left with a far too deep layer of loose

chippings on top and the contractor was asked to rectify this. This took a long time and was eventually done by councillors and volunteers sweeping of the excess. During this time the public were understandably annoyed and we are very sorry this happened. It was decided to carry out a Spring review of the cycleway and ask two experts from the City Council to advise. This was arranged for the 20th April.



We have shared the results with one of our interested cycle track mums who was unable to attend, and they can be seen in full on the Parish Council website in a fuller version of this report. They consider the surface was in good condition and no work was required at present.

The MUGA (multi use games area) is now open for public use – we request that the public leave 30 minutes before a booking.

Steff, Fitz and Stuart are to be congratulated on their great efforts to maintain our Hall and keep it open whenever possible during the pandemic.

We continue to look ahead to improve our provision including investigating the possibility of a multi-use extension being built on the southern end.

As we had an incursion on the field last year soon height restriction barriers will be added.

We are looking to some new measures to respond to the Climate Emergency- a new bank of cycle racks; continuing our investigation into adding renewable energy for the hall; and switching to a sustainable and carbon neutral electricity supplier when the contract comes up for renewal.

Councillor Angie Faulds

Broomfield Football Club, Community Committee & Broomfield Village Hall Committee

“Working together for The Community”!

With a year like no other seen in our lifetimes, in just a few weeks since Government easing

of restrictions, Broomfield Parish Councillors and Broomfield FC committee managed to work out how they could give the community a day to remember for all the right reasons!

BFC were keen to get tournaments going, especially the girls section at BFC.

They will be kicking off at 9 am and tournaments will last through to 5 pm. No need to rush off for lunch because from their new Club House, they will be serving hot and cold snacks and the bar will

be open from 12 noon until 11pm serving drinks. There will also be a big screen showing the Euro Cup Final from 8pm. Plenty of parking is available at Broomfield Football Club via Mill Lane.

Broomfield Parish Councillors wanted to see Groups back showing off displays in the events ring and were lucky to get the lovely line dancers back, Shimmy n Groove and

new to the Fun Day this year we are proud to announce that we have “Dance 21”!

Back by popular demand Dazza, agreed to DJ and MC for us.

Myra will be serving tea, coffee, and cakes from the Cheerful Chai. Stalls and craft tables will be open from 11.30 on Angel Meadow where Eastern Options will be served. There will also be a BBQ selling delicious burgers and

hotdogs, stalls and of course Pimms No 1! You can have fun smashing crockery, winning a coconut and knocking down cans at Tin Can Alley, guess the weight of the cake and the name of the Teddy. There will also be bouncy castles, fairground rides, tombola and raffles and you will be able to take a ride on a donkey.

At 12:00 noon until 2:00 pm. There will be an exotic animal zoo on the David Smith field behind the

Village Hall. You will be able to pet animals and may be even hold a snake!

Councillor Sue Hubble



**Under review as lockdown has
been extended**

News from Broomfield Library

We were very pleased to be able to welcome back customers to the library on 12 April.

Although we had been open since 8 March, this was only for customers collecting reserved books. But since the 12 April, customers have once more been able to browse our shelves too and borrow books as usual.

If you haven't visited us since we re-opened, then you will notice some changes. Not the least of which is our new self-service machine that has the advantage of accepting payment by credit or debit card, both chip-and-PIN, and contactless.

Some things though, sadly, must remain in place for now: the mandatory wearing of a face covering in the library, the one-way system, the absence of chairs. But rest assured that the staff has your safety in mind; we regularly clean all touch-screens and computers; returned books are quarantined; and we have our Test and Trace system in place.



And on the subject of Covid, don't forget that Broomfield Library is one of several libraries from which you may obtain NHS Lateral Flow Tests for free. Why not pick some up on your next visit?

Opening hours:

Monday 2pm to 5:30pm – Wednesday 9am to 1pm – Saturday 9am to 5pm

1st Broomfield Scout Group

Headquarters: School Lane Broomfield CM1 7DR

Beaver Colony (1)

Wednesday evenings 5:00 – 6.15 pm

Beaver Colony (2)

Thursday evenings 5:30 – 6.45 pm

Cub Pack

Wednesday 6.45pm – 8.15pm

Scout Troop

Monday 6.30pm – 8.30pm

SCOUT WASTE PAPER COLLECTION – SKIP FIRE

In the Spring edition of Broomfield Times, I wrote about the waste-paper/cardboard collection undertaken by Broomfield Scouts. I indicated the additional funds that were generated from this source and how they had enabled the Scout Group, over the years, to provide additional equipment and subsidise activities for the members of the Group.

Alas, I spoke too soon as on Sunday 10th May in an act of mindless vandalism a group of youths set light to the paper skip. Not only was this mindless it was highly dangerous endangering nearby properties and their residents in a thoughtless act of vandalism.

Luckily the fire was spotted by a passer-by, the emergency services contacted and the fire put out. In addition to the damage caused, not only was a source of valuable income from the skip contents lost, costs were also incurred, by the Scout Group, in the removal of the skip from the site and the disposal of it's contaminated contents. Income that would have been used to benefit many young people of the Village had been lost by the actions of a minority.

If you saw anything on the day, or know who the vandals were, please contact Essex Police on '101' and quoting reference DP-19354-21-4242-00.

Malcolm Taylor, Group Chairman

Friends at Broomfield Hospital – In times gone by...

The Friends at Broomfield Hospital were originally known as the League of Friends, the charity started life during the time when the hospital in Broomfield was a sanatorium for the treatment of tuberculosis patients.

Patients at the hospital could stay for anything up to four years and by the end of the second world war about 50% of patients were ex-servicemen from all parts of the country. In 1949, a year after the National Health Service was born, a group of philanthropic local people decided to provide small homely comforts such as soap, shampoo or other small gifts to these patients who were often a very long way from home and family.

The group expanded and in 1957 were first registered as the League of Friends charity whose only aim was to support Broomfield Hospital and membership grew as more people volunteered to help.

As the charity grew, a shop which opened operating from a small shed selling sweets, drinks and the like to the visitors, patients and staff. The shop was manned entirely by volunteers with all profits continuing to purchase small comforts for the patients. Over the years as profits increased, items such as bedside tables and curtains were purchased by the Friends.

A trolley service was set up to visit patients, then later a library service. Eventually a larger permanent shop opened on the ward block, with a second one opening in the hospital atrium many years later. Larger and larger pieces of equipment were purchased as profits grew from these busy shops.

If you would like to know more, you can simply visit us at **fabh.org** or telephone us on: **01245 443285**.





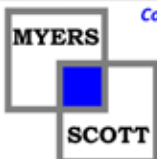
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News from Broomfield Parish Church

Finally, the Parish Church, along with most other places is beginning to return to a more normal pattern of activity.

Our worship was the first priority and since Mothering Sunday we have opened our doors for worship, although, if you wish to attend you do need to book in advance. During March and April we were quite severely restricted numbers wise, but now as we move into this third stage of the Government's roadmap out of lockdown, we have been able to open more seats, clear the church hall and begin to open up more fully.

In June we have reintroduced a Mid-Week service for those who find it difficult to get to church on a Sunday. We are also planning to hold our Songs of Praise, as we do every Summer, but this year it will take place in the Churchyard, rather than on the green. We are also opening up our Toddler Group, Little Lambs, from the 10th of June, as a support group for parents or carers of pre-school children. Again booking will be required for this as there is a limit on numbers. I am also discussing when the choir and bell ringers will be able to begin rehearsing again - if you are interested in joining either the choir or the band of bell ringers, we are always very happy to encourage people to get involved.

During lockdown we have progressed the pre-requisite administration for the work which needs to be undertaken to repoint the round tower of the church, re-shingle the spire, restore the wind-vane to its rightful place and put in place an Arts project to show off the 'hidden gem' that is the Fresco, painted by Rosemary Rutherford inside the Round Tower.

You may have seen that we are launching an SOS ~ Save Our Spire campaign and I hope that people throughout the village will support this enthusiastically, as this historic Church is so much more than a place for the faithful worshipping community. It is a place where there is much hidden art work and



where history collides with today's world. It is also an attractive centre-piece for the village and a recognised landmark. If you have any ideas for fundraising (except getting the vicar to abseil down the tower - that one has already been mooted by the PCC!) then do let me know.

We continue to pray daily for the people of Broomfield. As we gradually ease out of lockdown we will be making decisions about how much worship provision to keep online and how to keep our buildings accessible, yet Covid safe. If you have any ideas or thoughts do please be in touch. We are also available to offer pastoral support, chat, cup of coffee or a prayer... do not hesitate to call either Rev'd. Diana or I if you fancy meeting up. You can contact us anytime at stmarybroomfield@gmail.com or find out more about our work and worship at www.stmarybroomfield.org.

With every blessing
Rev'd. Carolyn, Vicar of Broomfield

SAVE OUR SPIRE

**DO YOU LOVE TO HEAR THE BELLS RING?
DO YOU LOVE THE HERITAGE OF OUR
VILLAGE CHURCH?
DO YOU LOVE THAT THIS IS ONE OF 'FEW'
CHURCHES 'LEFT' WITH A ROUND TOWER?
DO YOU LOVE THE SCENIC VIEWS OF OUR
CHURCH IN ALL SEASONS?
DO YOU LOVE HAVING A RARE 'CHURCH
BUILDING' IN OUR VILLAGE?**

WHY YOU ASK?

Because this will be 'NO MORE' if the Spire is not repaired URGENTLY!

All of the above will just be 'HISTORY' if we FAIL to repair the SPIRE ROOF! I know you hear many times that churches need funds for roof repairs but this REALLY is the case!

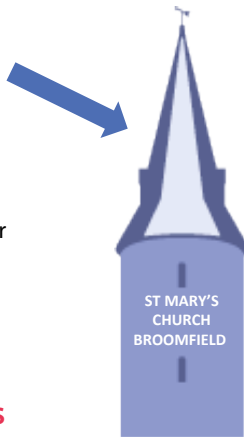
The Spire roof is so BADLY damaged from water ingress that the timbers underneath the 'wood tiled shingles' are rotting and very soon, 'sadly', they will be unable to hold the heavy church bells. The shingle tiles are badly damaged by the birds (mainly woodpeckers) and the holes 'now' present are large enough for squirrels to enter and make a home for themselves; the rain is just flooding through!

The repair needed will cost £150,000 – we have raised £70,000 so far over the last 5 years!

But time **IS** RUNNING OUT and we **NEED YOUR HELP!** Its been a tough year for everyone, the Church has suffered too as donations have been very 'light' as we have only been able to offer 'online services' for most of this last year.

IF YOU CAN HELP AND WOULD LIKE TO DONATE, OUR 'JUST GIVING' LINK IS BELOW. THANK YOU

<https://justgiving.com/stmarysbroomfield>



This photo was taken, standing directly underneath the Spire Roof, where the bells are also held for ringing. You can see the light coming in from the damaged holes in the roof.



Did you know there is a 'Fresco' painting in the tower? The 'only' modern/20th century Fresco painting in England? This was painted by the famous artist Rosemary Rutherford in 1942. The painting is of 'Christ stilling the storm'. It was painted on wet plaster during a break from the war.



The wood shingle roof tiles are now badly damaged with serious major holes, where rain water is then damaging the timbers beneath. This Spire roof also 'houses' the church bells.

He's at it again!

Our wonderful ancient church, St. Mary's, tower with its wooden shingled spire needs repair.



In 2019 I walked through the rainswept Galician countryside on the Camino de Santiago to raise funds for the tower. At that time over £3,000 was generously donated. Over half the target of the cost of repair/restoration to the tower, spire and the Rutherford fresco has been raised but the balance of £80,000 is urgently needed.

So I am once again on the move. This time nearer to home. I shall be walking 140 kms through Suffolk and Norfolk, initially following a Neolithic trackway across Suffolk – Peddars Way – and then heading down the coast along the North Norfolk Coast Path.

The origins of the name 'Peddars Way' are lost in the mists of time. Some suggest it is a corruption of the Latin "to walk" whilst others suggest it was a term commonly used in the 16th century for a track but the route, albeit a Roman road (built by the indigenous Icenii under Roman supervision in AD6), existed well before the Roman occupation of these islands. It was most likely a trading route leading to and from the coast.

Its importance in the Middle Ages lay in linking the Priors of Thetford and Castle Acre with the chapel named in honour of St. Edmund, England's first patron saint and King of the East Saxons, martyred by the Vikings in 855. The chapel marks the supposed spot where Edmund landed when he first arrived in England.

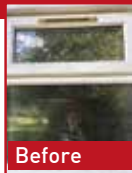
However, at the beginning of the coast path we come to the site of the wooden "henges" at Home-next-to-Sea (discovered in 1998) said to date to 2050BC – the central stone at Stonehenge is said to date to 2500 BC.

The walk will take me through much of East Anglia's ancient history. Will YOU help me save Broomfield's ancient history and save the tower of one of Essex' wonderful round tower churches?

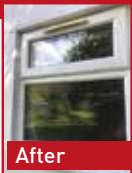
You can help me save Broomfield's wonderful St. Mary's Church Tower by contributing at www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/justgivingsaveourspire

Thank you
Malcolm Taylor

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Chelmsford Community Transport

Chelmsford Community Transport have been providing affordable door to door, travel for older and disabled residents of Broomfield for over 20 years.



As well as private transport for any reason, perhaps adult day centres, social clubs, medical appointments or shopping; they are making plans to bring back their excursion club – going to places like garden centres, pub lunches and museums etc. with an aim to overcome isolation offering a lifeline to many who struggle to access public transport. There is an annual registration fee of £18 for individuals and £24 for couples and concessions. To register call **01245 477750** or visit **www.chelmsfordct.org**

CCT has been under great demand due to the pandemic

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED

contact: **info@chelmsfordct.org**

To drive either the mini bus or your own vehicle, could you help someone like Broomfield's Gwen?

"When my late husband was alive, he used a wheelchair and he would never have been able to get out without the help of the bus and drivers. The service was a life saver and made such a huge difference to us. The drivers are all so kind and helpful but have a great sense of humour, I look forward to having a laugh with them. The ladies in the office are very friendly and always try to help even when the buses are full. During lockdown they were a Godsend as I would have been totally isolated without them and they used to check up on me and see if I was OK. I really enjoy the weekend trips out and can't wait for them to start up again – it is the highlight of my week to spend a few sociable hours with like-minded people. They do a brilliant job."

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Impamark gets nifty with its fifty for Farleigh Hospice

A personalised promotional merchandise supplier is helping two charities while doing its bit to tackle climate change with a creative approach to the Farleigh Hospice £50 challenge.

Impamark is participating in this year's £50 challenge for the first time and will be helping Farleigh Hospice, the National Trust and the planet with its novel fundraising idea.

The company, based in Burnham-on-Crouch, is using the £50 start-up capital, provided by sponsor Birkett Long, to buy 10 trees from the National Trust and will be raffling them off to raise money in aid of Farleigh Hospice. The trees will be planted by the trust as part of its pledge to plant 20 million trees by 2030.

The trees will be planted nationwide and winners will be able to dedicate their tree in memory of a loved one. The purchase of these trees supports the trust with its pledge to tackle climate change through the planting of new woodlands.

All proceeds of the raffle will go directly to Farleigh Hospice. Tickets cost £5.00 each, three for £10 or eight for £20.00. Tickets will go on sale on 4 May and will be available to purchase throughout May and June. The closing date is 30 June and the raffle will be drawn by an online generator on the 9 July at 12pm.



To make your donation and purchase a raffle ticket visit: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/impamark-farleigh

About the £50 Challenge:

- Sponsored by Birkett Long LLP, the challenge is simple - participants will be given £50 and six months to raise as much money as possible in aid of Farleigh Hospice.
- The challenge runs from the 1st April to the 30th September annually and is open to businesses, groups or organisations of any size.
- Registration is now open and participants can sign up at any point over the next six months, as long as it's before the closing date of the 30th September.



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Essex nurses talk about their careers as part of International Nurses' Day

International Nurses' Day takes place every year on May 12, marking the birth date of Florence Nightingale, and is a celebration of all things nursing.

Nursing staff working through the pandemic have shattered the stereotypes of nursing and the world has seen first-hand the fundamental role nursing plays in patient safety.



Mid and South Essex Foundation Trust nurses have spoken about what they love about their profession, and how it has changed since the time of Florence Nightingale.

Chloe Herbert, Broomfield Hospital

"Of course it was all very different in Florence's day. Today, we all have voices and more platforms for discussion regarding changes and how we care for patients. There are a lot of male nurses and a lot of women are managers.

I'm the first person to become a nurse in my family, and I love it."

Chloe Herbert first joined Broomfield Hospital as a bank healthcare assistant in 2009 and is now an acting ward manager on a surgical ward.

It's a role that Chloe, from Writtle, loves. She said: "For me, it is the best of both worlds as you have both a clinical and an admin role. It's great to still have that essential patient contact and I have loved leading a team. You are really supported here to help you progress in your role and I'm incredibly proud that this is my local hospital.

"COVID has been a real baptism of fire, but I am so proud of the team I lead and I certainly wouldn't be the manager that I am without them. We've really pulled together, even when we were redeployed to help on COVID wards. We all kept in contact and helped one another."

Chloe went onto explain why she chose her area of nursing. "I've always enjoyed the surgical side of things as I'm fascinated by the modern technology. And I just love wounds! Nursing is a great job providing you have the compassion; it's a real vocation."



Triple tree planting at local hospitals in honour of Captain Sir Tom

A cherry tree has been planted at the three main hospital sites of Mid and South Essex NHS Foundation Trust to remember Captain Sir Tom Moore, on what would have been his 101st birthday (Friday 30 April).

It's something being repeated at hospitals up and down the country, thanking Captain Sir Tom for the incredible £38.9 million he raised for the NHS COVID-19 Appeal.

Local hospitals have already seen what a difference some of that money has made.

Funds received by Mid and South Essex Hospitals Charity have meant it has been able to buy patient communication devices to support those who were in hospital and unable to see loved ones. Staff wellbeing has been supported through wellbeing hubs and the continuation of long term initiatives such as counselling services and mental health first aid training.

Captain Sir Tom Moore's money has also supported 40 wards and departments across the Trust, providing items from staff room furniture to Makaton training, a language programme that allows communication through signs, with speech and symbols.

Clare Panniker, the Trust's chief executive, who was on tree planting duties at Broomfield Hospital, said: "The planting of these trees at our main Broomfield, Southend and Basildon hospital sites is a lasting legacy to an incredible man. His amazing fundraising has shown us that one person can make a real difference, just as our staff working together have all made a huge difference throughout the pandemic."

The tree at Broomfield was planted in the newly-opened garden of remembrance, which was also funded by monies from the Captain Sir Tom Moore fund, and provides a dedicated quiet space for staff to visit and remember colleagues.



Broomfield Cricket Club

Village cricket is back!

Albeit in a slightly different way with, for now, players coming in their kit ready to play and bringing their own tea! Nonetheless, it is a welcome return to competitive action for our two Saturday senior teams whose league was cancelled last year. This year sees the 1st XI, captained by Rob Lynn, competing in the T Rippon Mid Essex League Division 2 and our 2nd XI, led by Robin Baker, playing in Division 7. Both teams will be hoping to progress from their 2019 season achievements by gaining promotion. Back to back promotions in the case of the 2nd XI.

Junior cricket has also returned for Under 9 through to Under 15 age groups. Our coaching evenings are now split between Wednesday and Friday evenings, lessening numbers each evening to comply with social distancing. In addition, both the Under 13 and Under 15 groups have a number of league and friendly fixtures.



The good news is that spectators are now allowed! Feel free to join us at the ground in Mill Lane where you will find COVID measures in place and which follow Government and ECB guidelines and protocols.

Take a look at our website:

www.broomfieldcc.hitsports.com
for details of senior and junior fixtures.

As always, new senior and junior members are welcome. Contact me on:

tony.cowell1@btinternet.com for details.
Tony Cowell, Chairman



Football resumed at Broomfield FC following lockdown in March once the club had the green light from the government and the FA.

The clubhouse was able to open a few weeks later with outside table service for food and drinks. Things got back to some semblance of normality from 22nd May when service was able to resume inside the clubhouse in accordance with government guidelines.

Most leagues elected to finish the football season by extending through 30th June although some leagues decided to void previous matches in favour of splitting divisions and playing a mini league format until the end of the season. Unfortunately, almost all cup competitions were cancelled as there was simply not enough time left to fit in all remaining games by 30th June.

However, all the players were glad to be back training and playing football once again after the long lay-off. The Club continues to look for players, both boys and girls, at various age groups (Under 7 to Under 17 for next season) and we also have some manager/coach vacancies. Next season we hope to run an Over 35 veterans team alongside our Over 45 Super Vets and existing senior mens and ladies teams.

We are also continuing to run our Saturday Morning Soccer School for reception and year 1 children. Please see the advert at **www.broomfieldfc.com**. If anyone would like to get involved with the club as a player, coach or volunteer, please contact me at: **stuardpaterson@gmail.com**.

Stuart Paterson, Secretary



Broomfield Football Club now have a community committee operating from the facilities, please come down and meet the team. The club is available for private hire, it's open at weekends for hot snacks, teas and coffees, cold drinks, beers, wines and spirits.

We will be showing all of the Euro games over the weekend

Look out for the advertisements on social media and around the club on the notice boards, and in the village, for upcoming fundraising events, supporting charities throughout the community.

For further information please visit www.broomfieldfc.com.



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A colorful advertisement for 'Balloons & Party @ Broomfield'. The background is yellow and orange with many colorful balloons. The text 'BALLOONS & PARTY @ Broomfield' is written in large, bubbly, yellow and red letters. Below this, it says 'Balloons & Party stock thousands of lines across our departments. A wider range of party ware including banners, decorations, tableware, invitations, table centrepieces, badges, and much more.' There is a red circular badge that says '10% OFF WHEN YOU MENTION THIS ADVERT (valid until the end of July)'. Below that, it lists 'Balloon Deliveries', 'Weddings', 'Corporate', 'Handmade Cakes', 'Cards', and 'Gifts'. At the bottom, it gives the phone number '01245 350600' and the website 'Balloons & Party at Broomfield' with a Facebook logo.

News from Broomfield Cricket & Football Club

The Broomfield sporting community was very sad to hear of the sad passing of Gary Stubbings in April this year.

Gary died at the age of 63 after bravely battling illness for a few years. Gary lived in Broomfield all his life, having attended Broomfield Primary School and residing in Church Ave and New Rd.

Local sport was a huge part of Gary's life - he was a member of Broomfield Football Club in the 70's and 80's. Initially he helped the late President Ray Barford with training the junior team and later in the mid-eighties he managed a Saturday senior team. Gary also was often seen running the line and he also qualified as a referee.

Gary was perhaps better known locally at Broomfield Cricket Club where he was the match reporter and scorer for over 20 years.

His match reports at the Cricket Club attracted the attention of the Essex Chronicle and from 1988 Gary became Sports Editor at the newspaper, a post he held for 21 years and one that earned him his enduring nickname of "Scoop". During this time, he was always supportive in continuing to cover the exploits of the local teams.

It helped that Gary was also a keen Chelmsford City and West Ham Utd fan and often attended home games at New Writtle St as a fan and as a reporter. Not content with sport, music was Gary's other passion and for a number of years he was the resident DJ at the Kings Arms pub.

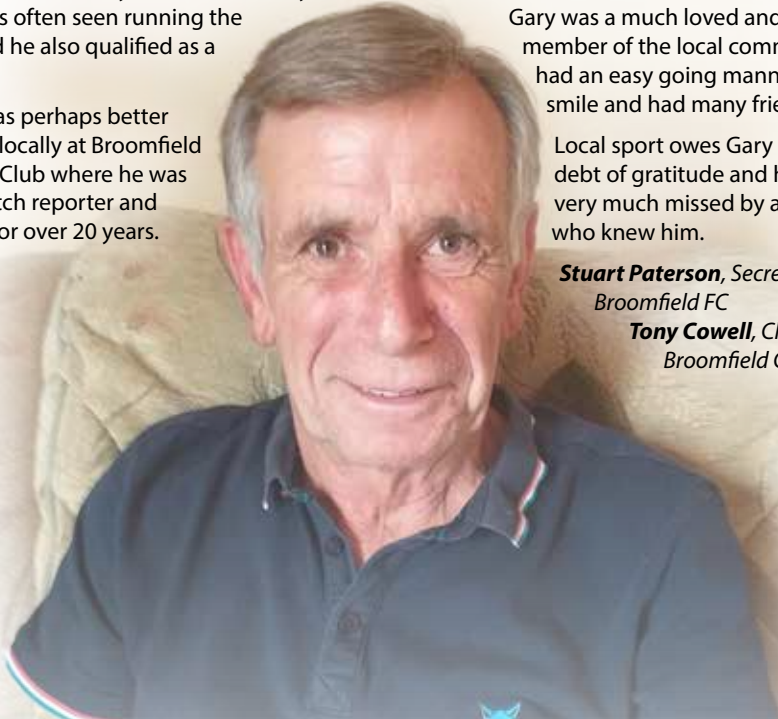
Gary also ran a number of discos at the Cricket Club and other local venues over the years.

Gary was a much loved and popular member of the local community. He had an easy going manner, a ready smile and had many friends.

Local sport owes Gary a huge debt of gratitude and he will be very much missed by all those who knew him.

*Stuart Paterson, Secretary,
Broomfield FC*

*Tony Cowell, Chairman,
Broomfield CC*



Gary Stubbings

RIP

Essex Chronicle Sports Editor

August 1988 - April 2009



Pay a visit to Newland Grove Nature Reserve

Thank you to Ron Barry for taking this beautiful shot of the bluebells in Newland Grove:

On the lush banks of the River Chelmer you'll find this beautiful mosaic of habitats filled with fantastic plants and animals .

Location – a lovely walk from Little Waltham along the River Chelmer.

Parking information

Park at Little Waltham Meadows and walk down the green lane, along the footpath down the river (1300m - slightly less than a mile) Or walk from Broomfield.

Walking Trails

Circular path around the reserve.

Access

Un-surfaced paths can be muddy in places.

Dogs

Dogs permitted - Under effective control.

When to visit

Accessible at all times

About the reserve

Although small in size, this diverse nature reserve boasts over 230 species of plants among the rough grassland, thorn thicket and woodland habitats.

Yellow Cowslips and Hairy Violets bloom in the spring while by midsummer, the path to the river is awash with colour, from purple Knapweed to yellow Common St John's Wort. Flitting among the wildflowers are many Butterfly species, while along the river Kingfisher feed.

Walk through the woodland, passing Pale Wood Violets, Twayblade Orchids and Wood Spurge and listen to the woodland birds singing amongst the trees.

Essex Wildlife Trust

Contact number: **01621 862960**

Contact email: **admin@essexwt.org.uk**



Views from western Broomfield

Thank you to Robin Marchal for sharing such beautiful photographs.





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