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Issue 67 | Winter 2021

News & events from your Parish Council



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Broomfield TIMES

Welcome to the Winter edition of Broomfield Times

Lots of events are taking place in Broomfield with the Xmas Fair, Forest Fridays, Stay 'n' Play, regular coffee mornings, Senior Lunch (returning in 2022), many regular Clubs meeting – and these are just the events taking place in Broomfield Village Hall! There are plenty of other activities taking place in and outside around the Village – please read on for further information!

Please like our Facebook page Broomfield Parish Council for up-to-date information regarding events/information etc., and also visit our website www.broomfieldessex.co.uk for more in-depth information. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Editor Karen Hurrell

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

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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
Broomfield Village Hall	Village Hall Premises Manager: Stuart Jones	01245 443902
	Community Events and Grant Funding Officer Donna Hance	01245 443902
	Administration Officer: Steff Smith	bookings@broomfieldessex.co.uk 01245 443902
	Caretaker: Fitzroy Grant	07919 402862
Broomfield Parish Councillors (contacted via the Clerk)	Chair Cllr Margaret Bleet Vice Chair Cllr Ros Mercer Planning Cllr John Blake Village Amenities Cllr Sue Hubble Village Hall Cllr Angie Faulds Councillors: Wendy Daden; Angela Faulds; David Howell; Sue Hubble; Jason Need; Gloria Scott; Angela Thomson; Les Steed	
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
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Essex County Council	Customer Service Centre	0345 743 0430
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Useful Contacts

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Essex County Council:

www.essex.gov.uk/topic/coronavirus

Chelmsford City Council:

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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:

01245 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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Appointment of Village Attendant, Broomfield Parish Council

Broomfield Parish Council is seeking a Village Attendant for the parish.

This role involves a range of duties including maintenance of bus shelters, litter picking, playground inspection, routine maintenance tasks and ensuring the servicing and necessary repairs of equipment owned by the parish council.

The successful applicant will need to be able to demonstrate the following –

- A good range of general practical skills
- A full car licence
- The ability to demonstrate initiative and sound common sense
- A commitment to delivering the highest standard of service
- The ability to plan their work
- Integrity, good communication skills, enthusiasm and team working skills

The post is part-time and based in the Village

Hall (15 hrs per week). The salary is £24,080 on a pro-rata basis. The working hours are flexible but will need to meet the needs of the Parish Council on a day-to-day basis. Overtime will be paid where necessary. Any necessary training will be provided.

To apply for this role, send an overview of your experience and resume to Broomfield Parish Council Clerk, Mark Hembury, at the following email address clerk@broomfieldessex.co.uk. Particular attention should be paid to providing evidence of the skills and qualities above.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS:

Friday 7th January at 5pm.

Interviews will take place shortly thereafter.

Employment equality statement

Broomfield Parish Council is committed to providing equality of opportunity and will not unfairly discriminate against anyone on the basis of their sex, marital status, colour, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, religion, disability, sexual orientation or age.



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From the Chairman

You will have seen the Christmas lights on and around Angel Green - we are pleased to be working together with Madelayne Court and Broomfield Primary school to achieve this.

With the school's choir singing at the opening ceremony, we hope that this brings a little light into your life.

LOGO COMPETITION:

We worked together with Chelmer Valley High School to search for a logo for Broomfield Parish Council. 79 pupils sent us designs which were judged and we then held a very successful exhibition of the entries in the Village Hall and then parents and children came to see them.

Some entries will be sent forward for the final choice to be made by our Website Designer. We have been very impressed by the standard of the

entries and look forward to the final choice being made; we will share it with you as soon as possible.

The school will then display the entries and the winners will be announced at an assembly. Many thanks for the work put in to make the display happen to: Shane Smith, artist and judge; Joan Vine, artist and judge; Barry Renwick, artist and judge; Head of Art at Chelmer Valley High School Emma Nicolas; also to Stuart Jones, Karen Hurrell, Councillors Donna Hance, Sue Hubble, and Gloria Scott; Mrs Claire Goodchild, Headteacher, Chelmer Valley High School. It is brilliant for us to be working together on this.

Our Coffee Mornings have been very successful, with over 40 regularly in attendance. There will be a Christmas Coffee morning as well. It is a wonderful opportunity and pleasure for us to meet so many of you there. Stay n Play is also going well, as is the new Forest Stay n Play.



We are delighted that these community events have been so successful and are planning more. We are also working together with many of you on our various projects, the Neighbourhood Plan, the coffee mornings, the School Lane working group, and many others planned.

SCHOOL LANE WORKING GROUP:

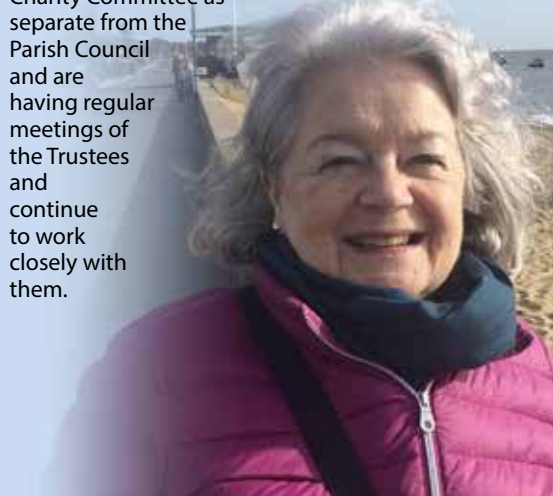
We established this Group which includes four residents of School Lane and we are currently drawing up a comprehensive plan for improving safety in School Lane and will keep you updated. We are working together with Essex County Council at many levels to try to achieve our aim. The Group have suggested a 'Twenty's Plenty Campaign' to stop drivers driving fast in School Lane.

Will you volunteer to have signs in your wheelie bin, in your garden, or in your car? If so email us on clerk@broomfieldessex.co.uk - subject: '20 Is Plenty'.

On the flooding issue, there have been improvements made by Essex County Council, Highways department, as they have constructed the cycle path. It would appear that we now need to work together with local landowners to ensure that all ditches are cleared regularly.

In other news, we have been busy working on our new website and look forward to sharing that with you soon. As soon as it is up and running, we will establish a monthly e-newsletter in order to communicate with you more often and establish regular surveys.

We have now established the Village Hall Charity Committee as separate from the Parish Council and are having regular meetings of the Trustees and continue to work closely with them.



We have settled on the Parish Council's Core Values and our vision is:

Broomfield Parish Community is at the heart of everything that we do

Core Values: The following core values set the foundation for Broomfield Parish Council, providing a clear direction for everything that happens within our day-to-day operations. Through applying these values into our decision making, we hope to achieve the aim of our vision statement.

Community: Recognising the community has a right to be included in decisions that affect them. Our work will be community focused; working collaboratively with councillors, staff, partners, and everyone in the community to understand and proactively respond to the changing needs of the people we serve.

Transparency and Trust: In line with legal requirements and our own Code of Practice on Communication and Transparency, we will seek to build a culture of trust and transparency – where views and ideas can be shared and where we listen as well as speak.

Integrity: We uphold the highest standards of integrity in all that we do.

Respectful: We will be respectful of each other, valuing the uniqueness and diversity of each individual and group within the community.

Collaborative: We work in collaboration and promote positive communication and creativity.

Following on from this we will be consulting with you, in 2022, on both the Neighbourhood Plan and our 10 Year Parish-Led Development Plan.

An Allotment Association has been formed by the plot holders, meaning that, although the Parish Council still owns the land, the allotment holders can make their own decisions at arm's length from us. This was the choice of the allotment holders, and we are pleased to support them.

So a busy few months for all of us as we aim to work towards being more open with you and working together more. Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Cllr Margaret Bleet, Chairman

Gary K. Steggall



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Broomfield Coffee Morning

Our Wednesday coffee mornings in Broomfield Village Hall are back and have been extremely well-attended each week.

It has been lovely to meet so many new people who live in the Village and beyond. This week we have had some new visitors from Madelayne Court, and it's been wonderful to welcome them over. We hope to see more residents and their families over the next few months, so if you are free on a Wednesday between 9.30 and 11.30, why not pop in for a cuppa and a slice of cake?

Clr Donna Hance



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Seniors Lunch

Wednesday 23rd February 2022, 12 noon for 12:30 Meal in the Broomfield Village Hall

All Broomfield residents over 65 are invited to join us for a two-course meal. Raffle, Quiz, and Live Band.

Tickets are £7.50 and can be purchased at the Village Hall. Coffee morning on Wednesday 26th January 9:30 - 11:30.



Stay and Play at Broomfield Village Hall

Mondays 9.15 – 11.15am. All welcome.

Since reopening in September, we have welcomed over 40 families to our sessions, we have purchased some new and exciting toys which the little ones love, and we are currently preparing for our Christmas Party.

If you are looking for something to do on a Monday morning, pop in and see us, 9.15-11.15 term time.



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Village Amenities Chairman's Report

Broomfield Allotment Association:

It is great to be able to report that the Association has now been formed via the National Allotment Society and all plot-holders are members on our Main Road, Broomfield site.

Our main goals are to raise funds for toilets, a tea hut, more water harvesting, improvements to the site, and day trips to gardening events. Grant funding is available to Allotment Associations, and we hope to be at the front of the queue when we submit our applications!

We welcome some new plot-holders, and there may still be one or two vacant plots. At our meeting on 25th November, it was agreed to make a half-plot available as a community garden to those in our society who may be struggling. What better way to put stresses behind you than to produce something spectacular; be it a carrot, a flower or anything you like. Volunteers are always available to help whenever needed.

If you would like to rent a plot, please contact the Secretary at broomfieldallotments@outlook.com.

Angel Meadow Play Area:

Since the playground was refurbished, the grassed area around the wetpour surface has taken a real beating! It is great to report, at last, arrangements have been made to replace the grass surface with recycled rubber mulch, and, weather permitting, work will start in February when the playground is normally at its quietest. Over the next five years, the committee hopes for more sensory play items to be installed in the playground, such as a xylophone or metallophone.

The basketball hoop has been replaced many times due to vandalism. As it is unfair to those who just want to play basketball to be denied the chance, it was agreed to replace the hoop once again. The hoop will be specially made by a blacksmith and will be strengthened.

The cost will be over £900 but hopefully will last for many years. The placing of the hoop will coincide with new CCTV cameras which are far more superior than the ones currently in place and their range will cover not only the village hall, but also the MUGA, playground area, basketball court, and car park.

Around the Village:

The Methodist Church are happy for a bin to be placed alongside the bench outside the church and Chelmsford City Council have agreed to empty it. Hopefully this will happen very shortly! A wheelie bin will also be placed outside the playground in the car park.

There will be more trees planted around the village, and Councillor Faulds is also liaising with new parents who reside in Broomfield to ascertain if they would like to participate in our "Tree for Life" project.

100 Tête-à-Tête daffodils will be planted by the time this magazine reaches you, and more wildflowers will be visible in 2022!

Woodland Warriors, a forestry school in Centenary Woods, is now up and running on a Friday morning, thanks to the tenacity of Cllr Hance who has been planning Woodland Warriors for the last two years. More can be read about this in an article in this magazine.

If you have any ideas that you feel would make Broomfield an even better place to live than it is now ... please contact the undersigned via the Clerk's office. We would love to hear from you!

Cllr Sue Hubble, Village Amenities Chairman

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Broomfield Christmas Craft Fair

Broomfield Parish Council were very pleased that their very first Christmas Craft Fair went so well.

Some of the handmade crafts were outstanding and it was only because of the Covid lockdowns that many new skills were learnt! There were handmade soaps, personalised Christmas baubles, felted decorations, cushions, knitted items, fairy lights in bottles, hand-made biscuits, bags, and lots more.

Mulled wine was served with mince pies or cookies. A beautiful Christmas cake was won by someone who guessed its correct weight, and lots of other lovely raffle and tombola prizes were distributed.

The queue for Santa's Grotto snaked out the door, and children with happy smiling faces took away lovely gifts, and many promises were made to be good for the rest of the year.

Letters to Santa were left and Santa's Helper has promised to get them to Lapland in time for Christmas.

More craft fairs will be advertised shortly... Crafters, get crafting!



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Woodland Warriors Friday Forest Fun at Centenary Wood near Broomfield Village Hall

What an exciting few weeks we have had! We have transformed centenary woods into a woodland stay and play where 15 families have been enjoying making mud pies, sorting sticks and stones, and making magic come alive with our fairy houses.



The session starts with free choice of play, followed by a short woodland story whilst enjoying a warm hot chocolate and biscuit, some more free time to explore, and ending with some woodland singing. We are fully booked for the next few weeks but do have spaces for January, so if you would like to book, please email:

woodlandwarriors20@gmail.com



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Chelmsford City Council Report November 2021

Civic Theatre: It could be argued a long overdue refurbishment of the front of house

will commence shortly. The intention is to make it a destination for those to enjoy even if you are not attending the theatre, but to encourage more to meet there, pre-shows.

Click-it-Local: A superb initiative to support local business, you can buy from many different local shops online and get one delivery to your home. Small businesses employ a significant number of local residents so please consider buying local if you can, it may save our High Street, boost Chelmsford's economy, and give local people a more luxurious Christmas.

Sustainable Transport and Parking

Consultation: Changes are being considered to Chelmsford in the future; you may wish to read and respond, encouraging your vision for how people will move around. What are your thoughts on reducing congestion and private cars, would you like low traffic neighbourhoods, car-free areas, and more Park and Pedal? Do you think the City Council should develop their car parks to create more affordable homes? Would that encourage you to use the Park and Ride, or discourage the use of the City Centre? Is a congestion charge a good idea? The consultation should commence January 2022.

BeWell: The leisure side is working really hard to get residents back being social and active. Please visit CCC website and search Heart & Sole, With You in Mind, Forever Fit.

Local Plan: Is under review, yes already! Chelmsford's original 805 houses per annum will be inflated and this is being spread over all sites. Masterplans are overdelivering to accommodate this; Bloor Homes on Blasford Hill have applied for a total of 550 new homes.

Secure Bike lockers: The City Council listened to concerns over theft of bikes and are awaiting delivery of lockers for the city centre. SPIN Scooters: the 330 scooters have seen over 180,00 rides since start date in Feb 2021.

The trial has been extended to March 2022 along with a view to stop the free parking anywhere outside the city centre, replaced with designated parking areas.

Parking at Hylands: is now in effect. You need to register on CCC website to gain the resident's discount.

Cllr Wendy Daden

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Highways Winter Service – from your Essex County Cllr, Mike Steel Essex County Council (ECC) move into its

Winter Service period from late October to mid-April (weather dependent!).

During this period, they grit PR1s and PR2s (Priority Routes) – over 2,000 miles of roads carrying about 80% of traffic and accounting for 40% of the network. They also grit access routes to hospitals, fire and ambulance stations, public service bus routes (where there are four or more a day – five days a week), other high-risk sites such as a severe gradient or higher than usual traffic levels, access routes to a settlement or parish of +50 households. Roads with schools are not necessarily included if they do not meet these criteria.



Weather patterns over the last couple of decades have varied with mild winters before 2009 (so authorities reduced salt stocks). 2009 to 2013 saw some severe winters and salt demand soared. Highway authorities need to predict usage and are applying smarter forecasting. They don't want to waste their salt stocks if the weather is good, nor overstock, as it does deteriorate over time. They have switched to mobilising the gritters based on forecast road surface temperature rather than air temp. It does make a difference.

Some roads hold heat for longer depending on location and composition so road temp can be different from air temp. Gritting does



not remove snow! It is important to lay the grit down before the snow comes, hence the importance of forecasting. ECC have 2 types of gritting trucks – the larger ones can cover 80km of road with a heavy spread, and the smaller ones 55km. They can cover more distance if the spread is reduced when less severe temperatures are forecast.

ECC collaborate with City Council/Parish Councils – they are all invited to join the salt bag partnership.

This year we have 72 Parishes and District Councils signed up to organise teams of volunteers to clear the snow and then apply salt/grit to areas of local concern, such as paths to schools and other important services not covered by ECC. One tonne of salt is provided free of charge plus a support/training pack. I have been a volunteer for my local parish for many years and we have a text group set up to get out when the weather deteriorates and we clear and grit the paths to the school, village shop and elderly residents' homes.

More info on www.essexhighways.org/roads-and-pavements/winter-travel which includes a map of the areas that will be gritted but it also allows tracking of the gritting trucks.



A Class Act

Act First is an independent drama school that provides fun and inspiring workshops for young people aged between three and 18 years old

The Company was founded by professional actor and drama teacher Sarah Hitchin, who runs successful centres in Essex, Cambridge, and Suffolk.

Act First Broomfield (its flagship centre) is run from Broomfield Village Hall on Friday evenings 4-8pm. Sarah says, "I am so proud of all the amazing pupils past and present that have been attending our weekly sessions here in beautiful Broomfield for the past six years. As well as learning valuable drama skills, our students also gain greater confidence, improved concentration, and a huge sense of pride in their accomplishments! At Act First, we are not only passionate about acting but also about stimulating young imaginations and, of course, having fun! We feel that drama also plays a big part in understanding the world around us and helps with emotional and social development."

Sarah worked as a professional actor for many years in the UK and Europe after going on to work in Theatre-in-Education and to teach at the National Theatre School.

Sarah also worked at Broomfield Primary School as a specialist subject teacher for over 10 years. She now delivers drama to many primary schools across Essex and Suffolk. Act First teach a wide range of ages, with the younger pupils being whisked away on a new flying carpet adventure every week to enjoy role play games, characterisation, improvisation, and storytelling! Meanwhile, the intermediate students (6-11s) will find themselves immersed in fun, interactive activities, and work towards delivering a performance for their family and friends. Senior students (12-18s) will explore a wide range of drama styles and methods in preparation for a fantastic showcase performance at the end of each term!

Act First students are all delighted to be once again performing at the Civic Theatre Chelmsford, scheduled next year for 2nd October 2022.

If you think your child would benefit and enjoy our sessions, please sign up for a trial.

The Act First taster sessions will take place on Friday the 7th of January 2022

www.act-first.co.uk



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Broomfield Cottage Gardeners' Society

Broomfield Cottage Gardeners' Society held their Autumn Flower and Produce show on 26th September.

The Committee were really pleased with how well it went. There were around 300 entries from 41 individual exhibitors, so it far exceeded our expectations. We also had over 100 people attend with several new members joining the society. You can view photos from the show here www.broomfieldcottagegardenerssociety.co.uk - below is a photo of some of the prize winners.



Prize winners Autumn Show 2021. (left to right: Nicola Riley, Sheila Schofield, Chris Whitby, Chris Whiting, Nick Welch, Christine Welch, Sheila Hasler, Les Steed)



If you are interested in gardening, why not join our society – it's great value at just £4 per year (£3 if you are over 60). We run a Summer and Autumn show, have a plant sale, and run a programme of open gardens in the summer. Membership also entitles you to use our Trading Hut where you can buy seeds, compost, and garden sundries at discounted prices. See our website www.broomfieldcottagegardenerssociety.co.uk or Facebook site for more information and contact details or email bcgsshowsecretary@gmail.com.

"Every Day Counts" group hosted by Essex dementia care provides support for local residents

Essex Dementia Care, a small Essex based charity, has been actively supporting residents with early onset dementia to retain their existing skills and to experience fun days undertaking many different activities and creative crafts.

Kelly Bleasdale, Senior Manager for Essex Dementia Care, says, "At EDC we really do believe that every day counts, and there is always something new and stimulating happening at our group in Broomfield Village Hall. Clients get to enjoy socialising with others, have lunch together, and engage in many different activities, physical, mental, and artistic. We could be cooking, painting, pottery making, or exercising but there is always a sense of great enjoyment and a lot of pride when clients get to show off their crafting skills.

"Recently our clients were asked to produce



their personal expression of Autumn and it is easy to see how their individuality shone through."

Residents and their carers are welcome to experience the group first-hand by calling **01245 363789** and booking a taster day. The "Every Day Counts" group meets every Friday at Broomfield Village Hall from 11am to 4pm.

EDC also offer a host of other services for clients at different stages on their journey such as One-to-One support and Oasis Centres at different locations in Essex.

Visit the website at www.essexdementiacare.org.uk for full details.

Knit & Natter

The second 'Knit and Natter and Craft Afternoon' at Broomfield Village Hall took place on Wednesday 17th November - with 46 booked in, we are almost at the 50 limit!

It has become so popular that from January 2022 we are holding TWO meetings a month - one on a Wednesday and the other on a Sunday afternoon. The first Sunday afternoon is on January 9 from 2.30 to 4.30. Many asked us for another time to hold the meetings as of course family commitments and/or work means they cannot attend on a Wednesday afternoon.

Local businesses have been contacted to see if they could donate a prize for the free raffle draw we hold at each meeting, and Franklins of Moulsham Street have given two prizes, a large brand new sewing box (for December meeting) and a £10 gift voucher (for the 9th January meeting). A few other businesses have been contacted and we are awaiting replies. Each meeting has three or four raffle prizes - meaning that one in 10 ladies will win something! If we reach a full house of 50 ladies, then we shall have five prizes!

We are so pleased that we can help the community in this small way, and it brings

ladies with the same interests together where they make new and meet old friends. All the ladies are given name badges to save the job of trying to remember names - and making it easier to get to know each other.

Each meeting we have free tea, coffee, and biscuits and a free raffle, but to cover the costs of the hiring of the hall and public liability insurance we are charging £2.50 entrance (for the 15th December meeting) but from January we are forced to increase this to £3 - but it will continue to include the free raffle and free refreshments.

All we ask is that ladies contact Jan Spiller (**01245 512997** or mobile **07760 881936**) or email **knitandnatterbroomfield@aol.com** or visit the website **www.knitandnatterbroomfield.com** to book their place at the meetings. PLEASE don't just turn up - once we have 50 ladies coming along, we cannot allow entrance to those that have not booked. (Already a large number have booked for both the Wednesday and Sunday in January!) Should we get more than 60 wanting to come along, then we will try and hire the small hall along with the large hall.

Jan Spiller (and husband Ray who is the tea-boy for the ladies every afternoon!)



Your local U3A needs you!

Earlier this month, on Wednesday 8th December, the Broomfield & District U3A had another face-to-face speaker meeting, when we were pleased to welcome Ray ('Ray Radio') Clark and his extensive selection of music from the 60s for everyone to enjoy, along with our popular book and puzzle swap, and raffle.

We are happy to welcome new members, so if you're recently retired or no longer in full-time work, please visit our welcome page at <https://u3asites.org.uk/broomfield/welcome> where you will find links to our membership forms, newsletters, and other information. Our membership year started on 1st September, but it is never too late to join.

At our AGM in October, the existing committee was re-elected unanimously. However, in 2022 some of our committee members will be standing down after several years of service, so we need new volunteers to help

u3a

learn,
laugh,
live

take us forward. In fact, without a functioning committee, we can't carry on as your local branch, so it really is up to you! It would be a shame to have to wind up the Broomfield & District U3A, especially during the U3A's 40th anniversary year.

To get in touch and express your interest, please contact any existing committee member or use the contact form on our website.

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Weekly Timetable for

Day	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Sm	
Hall	Small	Large	Small	Large	Small	Large	Sm	
8:00								
8:30								
9:00	09.00 - 12.30 Sing and Sign			09.00-10.00 Shimmy & Groove				
9:30								
10:00			09.15-11.15 Stay & Play					
10:30							09.15-11.30 VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING	
11:00				11.00 - 12.00 Line Dance				11.00
11:30								
12:00								
12:30								
13:00								
13:30	13.30-16.15 Carpet Bowls							
14:00				13.30-16.15 Support Group (monthly)				
14:30							14.30-16.45 Knit & Natter (monthly)	
15:00								
15:30								
16:00								
16:30								
17:00		16.30-18.30 Kazen Kai		14.00-20.00 Slimming World				
17:30								
18:00								
18:30								
19:00							17.45-20.00 with Kle pregnan 8.10 st menop	
19:30	18.45-21.30 Puppy Training	19.00-20.15 Zumba	18.45-21.15 Bingo		1st & 2nd of month Parish Council	1st of month WI, 2nd Broomfield Birds, 3rd & 4th Parish Council		
20:00								
20:30		20.30-21.30 Line Dance						
21:00								
21:30								
22:00								
22:30								

MUGA Ti				
Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	
		17.45-18.45 PRIVATE HIRE	17.00-18.00 PRIVATE HIRE	17.00
		19.00-20.00 PRIVATE HIRE	18.15-19.15 PRIVATE HIRE	
	20.15-21.45 PRIVATE HIRE			20.15

Community Event

Please see contact details on our website:
It is advisable to make contact with the individual g

ge Hall Charity

or Regular Sessions

Thursday		Friday		Saturday		Sunday	
Small	Large	Small	Large	Small	Large	Small	Large
					9.45-11.30 Karate		
- 12.00 Line Dance				10.45-12.30 AA			
			10.30 - 16.00 Essex Dementia Care			12.45-16.15 Support Group (monthly)	
		15.45-16.45 Act First					14.30-16.30 Knit & Natter (monthly)
		16.45-20.00 Act First					
1.15 Yoga erra (6-7 cy, 7.10- ages of ause)							

metable			
Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
0-18.00 PRIVATE HIRE	17.30-18.30 PRIVATE HIRE	09.30-10.30 PRIVATE HIRE	
5-21.15 PRIVATE HIRE			

New Hirer

<http://broomfieldessex.co.uk/village-hall/>

group before attending a session for the first time.

Last updated: 26/11/2021



Village Hall Report

The Village Hall continues to thrive and be busy with bookings and community events.

Stay n Play and the Village coffee morning are now weekly events and are booming – forty people were at the coffee morning in the week of writing this. Stay n Play has been equipped with some lovely new toys.

We are very excited to have employed two new staff – Stuart Jones as Village Hall Premises Manager and Donna Hance as Community Events and Grant Funding Manager, a restoration to the staffing levels of a few years ago. We are looking forward to a new era where they will work together with Steff and Fitz to make our hall and David Smith field and the MUGA a really buzzing place!

There are still some gaps in our timetable, so please contact Steff if you would like to book the hall – telephone **(01245) 443902** or email **bookings@broomfieldessex.co.uk**.

Recently we successfully obtained a grant to replace the windows in the hall and are applying for a further grant to install a heat recovery ventilation system in both halls and the office, as keeping our staff and users safe through another winter of the pandemic is our main priority. We are still imposing some covid restrictions on numbers attending in the hall, but we will keep under review when this might be increased.

At time of writing, we are still awaiting to hear whether our cycle shelter grant will come through.

We are completing some improvements to the storage in the hall which we hope will make it easier to lay out the tables and chairs.

We are looking forward to our new “Trees for Life” arriving later in the winter for our 2021 new babies.

A core group of parish councillors have volunteered to keep the village hall open in difficult times. And our staff have been magnificent throughout – a big vote of thanks to them.

Cllr Angie Faulds – Chairman Village Amenities



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Yoga for the Stages of Menopause – Yoga with Kierra, Broomfield Village Hall

Local yoga teacher, Kierra Barnard from www.yogawithkierra.co.uk is launching another new and exciting yoga class in Broomfield on the 13th January: Yoga for the Stages of Menopause.

After recently completing training in this discipline, Kierra is excited to be adding this new service alongside her pre-existing pregnancy yoga sessions.

Yoga for Stages of Menopause is a specially curated service aimed at supporting and nurturing individuals through this transformative and often unpredictable time. Unlike many other forms of yoga, these sessions take the focus away from how yoga looks and instead encourages participants to focus on interception and inspires body acceptance, pleasure seeking, and promotion of relaxation. The yoga sessions are about far more than holding a pose; Kierra will introduce techniques and provide information that may help students manage symptoms on and off the mat, for example practical advice to manage stress and anxiety which may in turn positively impact on the experience of hot flashes and insomnia.

The menopausal transition is also a time for increased risk of multiple health conditions. The phrase 'use it or lose it' applies to number of age-related health declines including bone density, muscle mass, brain health, pelvic floor strength, and cardiovascular health, in so much as we can actively work to reduce the impact of aging. For example, weight-bearing exercise, such as yoga, can be useful for both stimulating bone tissue production and strengthening the muscles to help maintain levels of flexibility and mobility, and the inclusion of simple yet mentally challenging movements into sessions may be advantageous for brain health and neuroplasticity.



WELLNESS *with Kierra*

Kierra is teaching Pregnancy Yoga every Thursday evening from 6pm and Yoga for the Stages of Menopause from 7.10pm to 8.10pm at Broomfield Village Hall.

Pregnancy classes are suitable following the 12-week scan. Stages of Menopause classes are suitable for anyone at any point in their menopause journey.

Use the code FREETRIAL to attend your first session for free (code expires 13/01/2022).

For more information, please visit www.yogawithkierra.co.uk or call **07971 349932** Facebook and Instagram: Yoga with Kierra

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Broomfield Cricket Club Season Round Up

Another good season for our thriving junior section culminated in their annual awards presentation evening held at the Club in September. The well-deserved winners were: Under 11 - Batting - Jack Round, Bowling - Kapardhi Peddasomayajula and Manager's award - Will McTurk

Under 13 - Batting - Jamie Tweed, Bowling - Alfie Alexander, Manager's award - Spencer Moore and Player's award - Edward Baker.
Under 15 - Batting - Noah Pyne, Bowling - Dara Gleeson, Manager's award - Kush Patel and Player's award - Noah Pyne.

Several of the juniors also acquitted themselves very well when called upon by the Saturday Senior teams. None more so than Noah Pyne who scored 107 v. Writtle in the last 2nd XI Division 7 league game and finished with 368 runs and 26 wickets for the season as a whole.

Evening Winter Indoor Net Practice for the Juniors starts on the 14th January and runs through to Easter, and new junior members are welcome. Email me as below for further details.

The Senior teams had a mixed season with the 1st XI being relegated from Division 2 after a disappointing year despite the best efforts of Captain Rob Lynn who scored over 500 league runs with a best of 109. The 2nd XI finished a creditable 6th in their Division, captained by Robin Baker, and won their Division 7 Sporting marks award finishing 4th of 114 in the league overall. Congratulations on an excellent achievement which highlights the values we as a Club hold.

Winter Indoor Nets for Senior players start on Wednesday evening 2nd February, also at the Writtle cricket centre. Again, new members are welcomed.





Tony Cowell, Chairman
tony.cowell1@btinternet.com

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Sustainable and Wildlife Gardening

Following on from my last article around making your gardens hedgehog friendly – any size area, and even a small window box can be a haven for wildlife.

Around 87% of UK households have gardens in some form. This land together covers 433,000 hectares and that is a fifth of the size of Wales!

Gardening is not only beneficial to the environment, but for ourselves too. The NHS' Long-Term Plan encourage 'green social prescribing' due to the therapeutic benefits gain from the outside spaces. Wildlife, particularly in an urban environment needs a helping hand, and the opportunity to make a positive impact has never been greater. Gardening is sustainable too, right? But have you ever thought about the chemicals, supply chains, and waste? Here are a few tips on how you can.

- **Planting Practices** – go for single or semi-double flowers to attract bees and insects. Avoid double blooms with lots of petals as these are harder for pollinators to access. Remember to collect the seeds, saving money and reducing pot waste. Go for a mosaic mowing regime, leaving some wild.

- **Food Supplies** – plant for nectar and pollen throughout the year and not just spring and summer. Do not de-head all flowers; a lot of perennial seed heads provide food for birds over the winter. Remember to provide extra food too.

- **Water Suppliers** – capture rain through water butts, which can be placed beneath sheds/roofs with downpipes. Drip-trays beneath pots can collect drainage, and wood chip mulch around plants reduces soil evaporation.

- **Making habitats** – untidy areas are great! Shrubs, leaf and log piles, dead wood, broken pots, or tiles all work. Making bird or bat boxes, hedgehog homes, and leaving a 13cm x 13cm gap in fences will help.

- **Pest Control** – pesticides and herbicides can indirectly poison wildlife and reduce food sources. Avoid chemicals wherever possible. Try wool pellets, salt, seaweed, broken egg shells, or coffee grounds for slugs.

Our lifestyles are important and all changes make a difference. With a few small changes, our gardens can provide relaxation not only for ourselves, but for our surrounding wildlife too.

*Written by David Jackson
Sustainability AIEMA,
working at University of Greenwich*



Christmas Services at Broomfield Methodist Church

Saturday December 18th at 4pm
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Sunday December 19th at 11:00am
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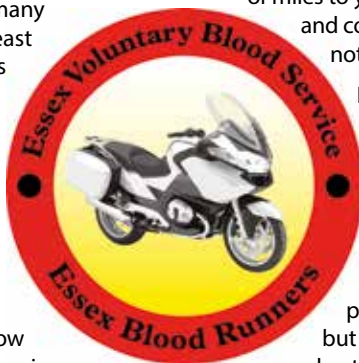
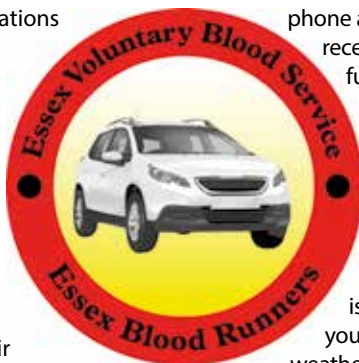
Could YOU be a Bloodrunner?

The Essex Voluntary Blood Service - or Essex Bloodrunners for short - is a charity providing medical courier services to the NHS and our local Air Ambulances.

We are one of 30 such organisations in the UK.

From the NHS Blood Bank at Basildon, our unpaid volunteers deliver blood and blood products to A&E Hospitals in Essex and East London, deliver samples for analysis to an NHS Lab in North London, and via Princess Alexandra Hospital in Harlow, supply blood to the Air Ambulances at Earls Colne and North Weald every night. Amongst many other tasks we also courier breast milk from donors to the Hearts Milk Bank and Addenbrooke's Hospital. We operate every weekday night, and day and night shifts at weekends and Bank Holidays.

Our enhanced support to hospitals during the COVID-19 pandemic has also introduced a weekday daytime shift. We now need more members. You choose in advance the days and shifts you work. We are looking for reliable and responsible men and women from all backgrounds, employed or retired, with a motorcycle, car or van, a mobile



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However, rather like being a First Aider or Blood Donor, this is one of the very few ways that an ordinary member of the public can help save a life.

Most of you reading this piece will think "sounds good, but not for me", which we quite understand, but just one of you may wish to enquire further. If so, see our website at: EssexVoluntaryBloodService.com. And thank you for your kind attention.

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**Collections on 7, 8, and 9 January
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Essex Soroptimist

Interested in helping to improve the lives of women and girls? Think about joining Soroptimist International, Chelmsford & District

First of all, what is a Soroptimist? Soroptimist International is a global women's organisation active in over 120 countries, working to improve the lives of women and girls through education, enablement, and empowerment, and through our consultative status at the United Nations. Our members around the world work on grassroots projects that help women and girls achieve their individual and collective potential, realise aspirations, and have an equal voice in their communities. Founded 100 years ago this year, there are Soroptimist branches in every continent on the planet – that is, apart from Antarctica!

There is also a small but friendly and active branch in Chelmsford – very likely the nearest branch to readers of this magazine – and



this year we have been celebrating our 70th anniversary with a range of online and in-person activities. You can find out more about what we do at local, national, and international levels on our website: <https://sigbi.org/chelmsford>

We normally meet on the third Thursday evening of every month at St Mary's Church Hall, Church Green, Broomfield. We also use Zoom when we are unable to meet in person.

We'd love to hear from you if you are interested in finding out more about what Soroptimists do, or perhaps you'd like to attend a meeting to 'try us out'. Just email our secretary at sichelmsford@gmail.com or alternatively use the contact form on our website.

Friends at Broomfield Hospital

Patients who need physiotherapy to benefit from new leg machine

A machine that will help improve the lives of patients who have had surgery and then need physiotherapy has been given to Broomfield Hospital. The leg press machine, which costs £3,295, works the lower body of a patient with the option of adjusting weights to match their strength. It was donated by The Friends at Broomfield Hospital.



Shown is physiotherapy patient, Mark Pitman and Advanced Amputee Physiotherapist, Alex Bailess.

Alex Bailess, advanced amputee physiotherapist, said, "We'll be using this equipment to help a range of patients, including those who have had lower limb surgery and amputees. We are very grateful to the Friends at Broomfield Hospital and know the patients that it will help rehabilitate are extremely thankful as well."

Grants available!

from CHELMSFORD EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION * Subject to eligibility

About... Chelmsford Educational Foundation is an educational charity, registered by the Charity Commission. Founded in 1964, its Trustees can award grants for educational purposes. These include grants of money for individuals to help with education or training, such as books, fees, tools, or equipment.

Eligibility... To be eligible for a grant, applicants must meet one of the following conditions:

- You attended a school or sixth form college in the area of benefit.
- Your permanent home is within the area of benefit. Trustees considering an application based on residence alone shall usually refuse any application relying on less than five years residence in the area of benefit.

*The area of benefit is the Chelmsford City – including South Woodham Ferrers – or former Chelmsford Rural District.

Process... Applicants are asked to fill in an application form and will be invited to an informal interview with some of the Trustees. Interviews are held three times a year: January, Easter, and August.

The Trustees have total discretion in whether to award a grant, on what conditions, and how much it should be.

Apply... Application forms and further information can be obtained from the secretary Richard Emsden by emailing: chelmsfordedu@gmail.com



Helen Rollason Cancer Charity Host Monthly Men's Social Group

We are pleased to announce the launch of the Men's Social Group at their Mid Essex Support Centre in Hatfield Peverel, near Chelmsford.

The sessions, which will take place on the first Thursday of the month from 10am to 12pm, are to encourage men and their peers to talk about going through the issues of either having cancer or being directly affected by cancer.

Following on from our first event, a small group of attendees have already been busy building a new gazebo donated to the charity by Sandra and Daz Liversidge, for the garden of our Mid Essex Support Centre in Hatfield Peverel. A big thanks to Mark Cannon, Phil Morris, Ken Perry, and Daz Liversidge (pictured).

We have many more plans for the future including meetings for walks, bike rides, small



Helen Rollason Cancer Charity

work projects for the charity, and potentially a sponsored event or two – watch this space!

For more information, please visit our website www.helenrollason.org.uk or call our Helen Rollason Cancer Charity Mid Essex Support Centre on **01245 382888**.

1st Broomfield (Kantankye) Cub Pack

After a very active summer, we returned to HQ-based meetings for the Autumn term.

Cubs celebrated National Make A Hat Day with some amazing creations, built and tested Lego bridges, and showed some useful skills in "minute game" challenges.



They played human battleships to practice co-ordinates and took part in Parliament week games and debates. We've also been outside playing games in the dark, anyone walking down School Lane may have heard us...!



We did not run our usual Autumn camp this year, but we replaced this with an activity weekend at Riffhams.

Leaders chose some popular activities from previous camps, including Shere Khan's lair – a tunnel system build of boxes and tarps that the Cubs had to find their way through, and blindfold and taste challenges. At lunchtime, the Cubs found boxes containing their food had been suspended from a tree and they had to light small fires to burn through string to release them. Fortunately, all teams were successful, and no Cubs went hungry.



The Indiana Jones-inspired boulder game (Cubs running up a hill path avoiding being touched by a variety of balls) was great fun, and wore them out a bit too! Cubs also put up tents in preparation for future camps and tie-dyed neckers (scarves). We finished Saturday with campfire singing and toasted marshmallows before the Cubs went home for the night.

Before we knew it, they were back again bright and early, this time to a pirate-themed day. After being waylaid by fearsome pirates on the track to the site, Cubs were challenged to complete some pirate tests before joining the crew for the day. Ship's biscuits were nibbled, limes eaten, grog drunk (non-alcoholic of course!), and they battled through an assault course. Each team also created their own pirate flag. They made quesadillas for lunch, and we cooked these on the fire followed by camp doughnuts. After lunch, Cubs followed a trail and found a treasure map where "X" marked the location of further clues; these were cunningly written in semaphore which,



when eventually decoded, led them to the buried treasure... Then after a final game, the winning team were announced and Cubs were heading home. It was a great weekend, even without the Cubs camping, we really felt we were getting back to Scouting as it should be.



Looking ahead, we have a Christmas Hike and Sleepover planned, and then in January, our postponed Winter Camp. We've already got lots of ideas, so this should be a fun-filled weekend.

We do have a few places available after Christmas. We meet on Wednesday evenings, usually from 6.45pm – 8.15pm. Email broomfieldcubs@live.co.uk for further details.

The Cub Team Leader

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1st Broomfield

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Thursday 16th - 5.30 pm

Ladies Group Christmas Celebration

Sunday 19th - 5.30 pm

Village Carol Service with lighting of Christmas Tree

Christmas Eve - 3.00 pm

'The Christmas story' in the Churchyard

Christmas Eve - 11.30 pm

Midnight Mass

Christmas Day - 9.30 am

Christmas morning worship with Eucharist

Boxing Day - 9.30 am

St Stephen's Day Eucharist



Walking for the spire

When I last wrote in the Summer 2021 edition of Broomfield Times, I advised that I would be walking 140 kms of the Peddars Way and North Norfolk Coastal Path.

As with my previous walk along the Camino de Santiago in 2019 I was seeking support to raise funds for the restoration of the tower, and its unique Rutherford fresco within the spire of our Beautiful Parish Church of St. Mary's <https://justgiving.com/campaign/stmaryssaveourspire>

By mid-September, my walk had been completed; it was very much a walk of two halves – Peddars Way almost as straight as an arrow South to North across Norfolk. Following in the footsteps of the Legions sent to eradicate Boudicca and the Iceni, the pilgrims seeking to worship at ancient shrines, and tradespeople heading to and from the coast.

Traces of the military can still be found along the way – the vast military ranges of Brettenham Heath, with jets conducting mock dog fights overhead. Sites that were once US Airfields during the Second World War with their memorials, still neat and tidy under the eye of local villagers, but alas the base is now a go-kart track!



Part of the route bears the name "Processional Way" in recognition of the many pilgrims passing through from the great Priors of Thetford and Castle Acre to Walsingham and elsewhere, perhaps reciting the stories of St. Edmond, the Vikings, and a great wolf. It was ancient man who first trod this way to the coast exchanging furs for fish or other commodities. All the others were followers.

Peaceful walking (once away from the military!), listening to the bird song and the cooling breeze in the leaves, and then another sound starts to impose – the sound of surf on gravel beach. It is now time to turn East and follow the Norfolk Coast Path.

Heavy walking along shingle beaches and sand spits built to stop the sea's mighty encroachment. Through the fishing villages of Burnham (once home to the boy Nelson), Blakeney, and Wells-next-the-Sea. The once-large fishing fleets now unable to reach the sea as a consequence of silt. Only Wells maintains a fishing fleet, navigating down a narrow channel to reach the sea.

Over a week of contrasts, with contrasting weather on occasion, total solitude, and time to think on occasion. Happily, I did not meet the mythical local resident of this area – Black Shuck – who preys on solitary travellers (suffice to say Conan Doyle based his Hound of the Baskervilles on "Shuck").

I could tell you more – if you make a donation to the Spire (see above) I'll even tell you where Black Shuck hides, and for another I'll take you there!

Malcolm Taylor

St Mary's Church - Project Rutherford – Fantastic Funding News!

We are delighted to be able to announce that Project Rutherford has been awarded a grant of £135,000 by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

The full title of the project – “An historic wartime fresco as centrepiece to a heritage project for learning, conservation and well-being” sums up our hopes for delivering an exciting project that will conserve Rosemary Rutherford’s unique fresco, repair the spire and the tower, and bring many more people into the church to discover our wonderful village heritage.

Accepting this funding commits us to opening up our church in new ways to a diverse range of people and involving them in activities that will enhance their appreciation of its historic character. We have to produce an exhibition about the life and work of Rosemary

Rutherford and explore with our local children how the fresco was made and why Rosemary chose the subject for the painting in 1941.

We are committed to holding lectures and workshops for our local community and to creating a space for quiet reflection in the tower by the fresco.

The project will offer opportunities for everyone in the church to take part. We will be needing many guides, stewards, and welcomers to look after our visitors. Do tell your friends and neighbours about Project Rutherford and encourage them to join us.

The project will start officially in April 2022 when we will have a launch event for supporters. Watch this space...!



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Broomfield British Legion

November was a busy month for the branch organising the Poppy Appeal, by getting out the collection boxes and poppies to local businesses and schools, along with manning a desk at Morrisons where we sell merchandise and collect donations.

This year we collected £6101.31 from Morrisons alone; thank you to all who contributed.

We held a Remembrance Sunday service at St Mary's church. Lay preacher Andrew Mussell gave a very moving service, after which we laid wreaths on seven war graves in the churchyard. The local scouts group also attended, along with members of Broomfield Football Club who also laid crosses on the graves. After the service we held an afternoon of refreshments at the British Legion with vintage singer Kitty Collins (pic 4) providing the entertainment. It was lovely to see so many smiling faces.



The Blue Knights England VII have adopted the legion as their meeting point. For those of us who didn't know them, they consist of active and retired law enforcement personnel.

They like to support charities and promote a positive motorcycle image. See their website www.bkeng7.com They held their AGM at the legion on 21st November, and afterwards their President Tracey Bishop (seen on TV on Motorcycle Cops) presented our Poppy Appeal Organiser Cherrill Barnard with a cheque for £132. They would also like to help us next year to raise more money.

On a sad note, Bob Groves, our last founding member of Broomfield British Legion, passed away peacefully on the morning of 21st November at 98 years old. He was instrumental in building the branch we have now, which was originally the old water pumping station.



Many men volunteered their time and efforts to make the club habitable over 75 years ago.

We leave you with a poem he wrote many years ago:

*When you go to the Legion in Saxon Way
Your game of cards or snooker to play
Or perhaps you just want to have a chat
Have a talk about this or that
Think of those who walked into this shell
A hole in the middle with a pipe from the well
This was where the work began
There were jobs for every man
They also bought for the widow's coal
In order that they didn't get cold
If they could see how the Branch had prospered
They would know it was all they had fostered
It's all been put there at great cost
But I think of all the friends I've lost...*

RIP Bob, from all your friends





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