

Great and Little Maplestead Pebmarsh and Gestingthorpe



Church and Community together
June 2021

Free

Village contacts and information

Reverend Beverley Vincent can be found on page 24 and the churchwardens on page 22.

Village Emergency Telephone Service and Neighbourhood Watch representatives see page 22

Magazine copy see page 24

Parish Clerks

Gt Maplestead	Ann Crisp	01787 460216	anncrisp@greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk
Lt Maplestead	Ann Harris	01787 462818	littlemaplesteadparishclerk@gmail.com
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Pebmarsh	Shelley Boydel	07801 492312	pebmarshparishclerk@gmail.com

The Maplesteads

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

Gt Maplestead

Task Force	Martin Elms	01787 461421	martinelms@greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk
Village Hall	Liz Newton	01787 461308	lizatlucking@hotmail.com
Playing Field	Joe Newton	01787 461308	lizatlucking@hotmail.com
Mixed Ability Yoga	Victoria Ashworth	07751 911923	justinashworth@hotmail.co.uk
Pilates	Catherine Pawsey	07814 459683	catherinepawseypilates@gmail.com
Dance & Keep Fit	Judy Cowell	01376 561757	judy.cowell@btinternet.com
Carpet Bowls	Janice Chaplin	01787 469600	bobandjanicechaplin@btinternet.com
Youth Club	Myra Jeggo	01787 474285	m.jeggo@sky.com

Gestingthorpe

Village Hall	Steve Bagby	07840 367182	
Village amenities	Nick Duncan	01787 313558	
Tower bell ringing	Valerie Fullman	01787 462755	
Cricket Club	Nick Duncan	01787 313558	
Football Club			
History Society	Gill Webb	01787 581836	gillwebb880@gmail.com

Pebmarsh

Village Hall	Jonathan Nott	01787 269231	jonathannott44@hotmail.com
Dog Training	Halstead Dog Club	01787 473154	halsteaddogclub@hotmail.co.uk
Card making	Pauline Andow	01787 228790	
Ladies Club	Pauline Andow	01787 228790	
	Sandra Beaney	01787 222220	
Carpet bowls	Jim Crayston	01787 222241	jim@craystonfarms.co.uk
Youth club	Carol Parker	01787 269996	taximother@googlemail.com
Baby Sensory Class	Helen Whiting	07703 790273	braintree@babysensory.co.uk

Footpaths

Gt Maplestead	Steve Harris	01787 462818	steve198harris@gmail.com
Lt Maplestead	Geraldine Holloway	01787 476530	geraldineholloway2017@gmail.com
Gestingthorpe	L Crumpton-Taylor	01787 460277	lesliecrumpton-taylor@gmail.com
Pebmarsh	Michael Sharp	07725 909986	michael@broomhills-farm.co.uk

All villages

Book Club	Alison Cantor	01787 462537	acantor@linus.plus.com
Knitting group	Carol Brownlie	01787 461527	carolbrownlie@gmail.com
Handbell Ringing	Margaret Crudgington	01787 469049	
Solar Society	Miles Scrivens	01787 469766	lauri.scrivens@gmail.com
Benefice Choir	Gill Peskett	01787 462786	gillpeskett43@gmail.com
Scouts	Stuart Carter	01787 461149	
Guides	Kathy Hoy	01787 280200	
Molly's Wood	Jane Postma		https://www.mollyswood.org/contact

Letter from the editor



The sun has finally come out, my rain gauge shows 2 inches of rain, all since I bought the gauge a couple of weeks ago. It has meant that all the new plants that I have planted are surviving and growing. Historically I have been a bit of a plant murderer.

As you will read in the magazine, social activities are commencing in our villages. The village halls are reopening as are pubs and restaurants. Tomorrow, both David and I are going to see my mother together, something we haven't been allowed to do until now, which we are really looking forward to.

A plea to you all, we are all volunteers and any feedback, articles or any offers of help would be gratefully received. If any one is interested in taking over the editorship to give me a break, I would be very grateful.

Also, please remember Braintree Food Bank, there are very many people who have been very badly affected by the lockdown.

With love to you all.

Jenny

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Letter from the Reverend Beverley Vincent

In my study is a large patterned box which is very special – it contains my ‘memories’. In it are all sorts of memorabilia since being ordained, the order of service from my ordination, thank you cards, photo’s of babies I’ve baptised and the kind letters from bereaved relatives. Words of encouragement when I’ve needed them most. All precious memories which tell the story of my faith and my ministry in recent years. Every now and again I look through it and my heart is warmed by those memories.

I’m sure many of you will have something similar up in the loft, or perhaps you have your memories on display all around you at home. Sometimes it is good just to spend some time with our memories, to remember and reflect on all that has been good in our lives, and especially having lived through this last year of enforced separation, to be thankful for the memories that have often kept us going.

Our Bible is full of memories too, written down with love and care to remind us of the story of God in the lives of so many through the age; Memories of encounters with God in the Old Testament, and with Jesus in the Gospels, memories of friends made as the new followers of ‘The Way of Jesus’ began to grow in number with the spread of the early Church. Memories of the difference encountering God had made to their lives. St Paul, separated from the people of the newly planted Church in Philippi, spoke with deep affection in his letters to them:

‘I thank my God every time I remember you.’

Philippians 1:3

As we gradually ease back into a life of connection again in person – the first coffee with friends, the first barbeque with family, that first hug with grandchildren and those we have missed so much, let’s not forget to start making fresh and lasting memories again. Memories we can look back on in the future with great gladness and say with confidence ‘I thank my God every time I remember you’.

Praying for a summer full of making good memories for you.

Rev’d Beverley



Parish News Website

The Parish News website is a gateway to our four villages and their churches. The website address is:

www.knights-hospitallers.org.uk

Unlike a conventional bus, you need to first register as a customer and you need to book your seat on a journey at least two hours in advance of travel.

Flat fare £3 single, £5 return between any two stages. Concessionary bus passes are accepted after 0900 Monday to Friday and all day on Saturdays.

To get more information call Essex DaRT on 01621 874410 or email info@essexandsuffolkdart.co.uk.

The latest timetables for the DaRT service at www.essex.gov.uk/dart is incorrect.

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

F315							From 01/03/2018
Sudbury, Bus Station	09:00	11:00	13:00	15:30	17:30	19:15	
Ballingdon, Kings Head	09:03	11:03	13:03	15:33	17:33	09:18	Timings in BOLD are fixed timing points
Bulmer Tye, Park Lane	09:07	11:07	13:07	15:37	17:37	19:22	
Bulmer, Cross Roads	09:11	11:11	13:11	15:41	17:41	19:26	All timings in Italics need to be pre-booked
Gestingthorpe, Foundry Corner	09:17	11:17	13:17	15:47	17:47	19:32	
Wickham St Paul, The Victory	09:23	11:23	13:23	15:53	17:53	19:38	
Pebmarsh, Bus Shelter	09:32	11:32	13:32	16:02	18:02	19:47	Timings other than those in bold type will vary up to 10 minutes either side of stated time, dependent on the number of passengers booked on the service.
Pebmarsh, War Memorial	09:33	11:33	13:33	16:03	18:03	19:48	
Little Maplestead, Corner	09:39	11:39	13:39	16:09	18:09	19:54	
Great Maplestead, Church	09:45	11:45	13:45	16:15	18:15	20:00	
Little Maplestead, Pump	09:51	11:51	13:51	16:21	18:21	20:06	
Halstead, High Street	09:56	11:56	13:56	16:26	18:26	20:11	latest arrival time
Halstead, High Street	09:37	11:37	13:37	16:07	18:07	19:43	earliest arrival time

F315							From 01/03/2018
Halstead, High Street	07:30	10:00	12:00	14:00	16:30	18:30	
Little Maplestead, Pump	07:35	10:05	12:05	14:05	16:35	18:35	Timings in BOLD are fixed timing points
Great Maplestead, Church	07:41	10:11	12:11	14:11	16:41	18:41	All timings in Italics need to be pre-booked
Little Maplestead, Cock	07:49	10:17	12:17	14:17	16:47	18:47	
Pebmarsh, War Memorial	07:54	10:23	12:23	14:23	16:53	18:53	
Pebmarsh, Bus Shelter	07:55	10:24	12:24	14:24	16:54	18:54	
Wickham St Paul, The Victory	08:04	10:33	12:33	14:33	17:03	19:03	Timings other than those in bold type will vary up to 10 minutes either side of stated time, dependent on the number of passengers booked on the service.
Gestingthorpe, Foundry Corner	08:10	10:39	12:39	14:39	17:09	19:09	
Bulmer, Cross Roads	08:15	10:45	12:45	14:45	17:15	19:15	
Bulmer Tye, Park Lane	08:19	10:49	12:49	14:49	17:19	19:19	
Ballingdon, Kings Head	08:23	10:53	12:53	14:53	17:23	19:23	
Sudbury, Bus Station	08:07	10:37	12:37	14:37	17:07	19:07	earliest arrival time
Sudbury, Bus Station	08:30	10:56	12:56	14:56	17:28	19:28	latest arrival time

Nature Notes

We had the coldest, driest April for a very long time and this had an effect on spring's progress. Butterflies and moths were scarce, but the spring flowers did not disappoint. Roadside verges boasted stitchwort, garlic mustard, dog's mercury and ground ivy while woodland offered cuckoo flower, wood anemone and common violet.

As May got underway the bluebells came into their own, carpeting every patch of woodland around. A little farther afield, in Chalkney Wood near Earl's Colne, they were astounding, in great, unbroken swards. Also in Chalkney there was a pond alive with either smooth or palmate newts – it is hard to tell them apart.

Grey wagtails re-appeared at Hull's Mill, as they do every year, with their long bobbing tails and rich buttercup yellow undersides. The Alderford Farm pond had a pair of little grebes (or dabchicks, as they are also known), whose trilling calls reveal their presence even if they are not seen. In breeding plumage they sport chestnut cheeks and throat with a yellow patch at the base of the bill. They are not much bigger than a tennis ball and dive for food, often reappearing quite a distance from where they submerged.

I also had a glimpse of a pair of bullfinches; these birds occur widely in our area but are seldom seen. A good ear might pick up the soft piu which is the contact call. The male is arguably one of the most beautiful birds in the country.

Frosts continued into May and we were blessed with some rain before it finally warmed up a little in the second week. Suddenly, in every hedgerow, whitethroat were singing, orange tip butterflies dancing and bees buzzing.

The first local swallows were seen on the 15th of May around the buildings at Hopwell's Farm and the first cuckoo for the patch was calling there too. Five minutes later, at Hosden's Farm corner, there was a little owl – these are quite common in our area but not often seen. House martins and swifts have both eluded me so far.

I have an update on the rook spotted last month: another (or possibly the same one) flew over the garden, pursued by raucous crows. They are unpopular even among their own and the size difference was obvious.

Deeper into May we are still awaiting some really warm weather and the sight of butterflies in numbers, so plenty to look forward to in the months ahead.

Patch Patroller

Local Companies supporting us

Courtyard Stores in Pebmarsh are open and offering a delivery and collection service. For information look at www.facebook.com/courtyardstores or ring 01787 389222. They can be found at The Courtyard, Pebmarsh CO9 2NU.

The Mobile Lunch Company is delivering freshly prepared meals. Visit www.facebook.com/mobilelunchcompany or phone 01787 476264

The Forager's Retreat is currently closed. See their website www.theforagersretreat.co.uk or ring 01787 389123 for the latest information.

For information on the **The Pheasant** in Gestingthorpe phone 01787 465010.

For information on the **The Kings Head** in Pebmarsh see www.facebook.com/kingsheadpebmarsh or phone 01787 267942.



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Gardening Corner

After another cold month, the temperature should now hopefully rise to a more seasonal normal. I really cannot remember a year when I have spent most of the past month putting out and taking in bedding plants, admittedly into a cold green house, to avoiding the continuous night frosts; so much for me saying the worst of the frosts were over!

Now is the time to prune back early flowering shrubs to promote growth and flowering for next spring. If you're planting up hanging baskets, remember to unhook the chain so it does not become tangled in the young, quickly growing plants. Also, leave a slight dip in the centre of the basket to retain water and lessen 'run off'. Pots and containers can be enhanced with a small immature shrub or herbaceous plant, for example an Euonymus or Hosta, before adding annuals.

If you have a wild corner in your garden, think about a bug hotel for ground beetles, bugs and centipedes; a few old logs, bark and leaves make an ideal habitat.

As I am writing this article the rain is pouring down, making up for a dry April. This will top up water butts, which in my garden were getting low; it is amazing how dry containers with tulips and polyanthus can get in the dry, cold wind.

Continue to earth up potatoes. This will protect the young top growth and keep the developing tubers from becoming green if exposed to the light. Runner beans and French beans can be sown directly in the ground, as can radishes, carrots and beetroot. Try and sow your carrots in a raised bed or place some fleece around the plot. This will help keep carrot fly away as they are unable to fly to any height. A slightly more unusual veg to grow is celeriac: this root vegetable is hardy and grows rather like a swede or turnip, gathering girth as it matures. It is ideal in casseroles or treat it like a parsnip.

Roses will be maturing this month, budding up for June flowering. Three favourites of mine are the ramblers, Rambling Rector, Kiftsgate and Gold Finch. All three flower profusely and need a lot of room to mature; look up height, spread and the required support before planting.

Keep an eye out for slugs chewing Dahlias, Hostas and Delphiniums. Try placing orange skins near the plants; slugs will hide under these and you can then go out on a damp night with a torch and remove the offending molluscs. I will leave you to dispose of them as you will!

Enjoy your garden.....The Arborist.

Gestingthorpe

Support in Gestingthorpe

Please if you are self isolating, or scared, or lonely or need any help please contact Carrie on 07872 170277 or Helen on 07793 402297 if you live in the Church Street, Sudbury Road and Nether Hill area and Nic 07908445239, Penny 07840 367172 or Kate 07771 535523 for the Audley End, Moat Street and outlying areas. The village is there to help you.

St Mary's Church

A delightful Rogation service was held at St Mary's Church on 9 May, the Rev'd Janet Nicholls (Diocesan Rural Advisor) officiated and the highlight was being able to sing in the churchyard accompanied by Charles Wilhelms on his harmonium. CW's harmonium by the way is one of five that he owns! Over 100 yrs old.



FUN. FIT. FAB.

Exercise classes are in full swing on a Monday evening (7.00-7.45pm), Thursday morning (9.45-10.30am) and Saturday morning (9.00-9.30am) - all taking place on the village sports field. Contact Nic Smith to book your place 07908 445239

More Gestingthorpe

Gestingthorpe Village Hall. Annual General Meeting 2021

On the assumption that COVID-19 restrictions will allow for a public meeting indoors the AGM will be held on Thursday 1st July at 7.30pm in Gestingthorpe village hall. The Committee need you to observe the COVID-19 rules applying on the day.

All villagers from the Parish of Gestingthorpe are invited to come along to the AGM and to hear what we have done since the AGM in the village hall in 2019 (a COVID-19 compliant AGM was held in 2020) and what we are planning to do in the future for your village hall.

Please come along to have your say in the running of your village hall.

We also need you to cast your vote on who is to be on the Village Hall Committee for the following 12 months.

If you would like to stand for, or nominate someone, for a position on the Village Hall Committee please contact either Steph Prior 01787 462351 or Chris Harman 01787 462763. All those voted onto the committee are asked to attend the committee meeting that will follow on from the AGM.

Gestingthorpe Cricket Club.

The cricket season has started. Nets practise is open to all new players on a Thursday evening.

These are the June fixtures:

SUN 30	MAY	ALAN WRIGHT XI	HOME	2.00pm
SUN 06	JUNE	HELIONS BUMPSTEAD	AWAY	2.00pm
SUN 13	JUNE	STANSFIELD	HOME	2.00pm
SUN 20	JUNE	WICKHAM ST PAULS	HOME	2.00pm
SUN 27	JUNE	SUDBURY	AWAY	1.30pm
SUN 04	JULY	TOPPEFIELD	HOME	1.30pm

Colour Advertisements

If any of our advertisers are interested, they can have a colour advert on either the front or the back of the back page. This will cost £35.00 per issue plus a generous donation to our churches. Have a look at February's to see the effect. If any one is interested contact Jenny the editor.

Pets' Stories

Hello my name is Little Red and I live with my mum, my great aunt, the pesky cat and my humans in Little Maplestead, I was born here along with five brothers and sisters. They all keep in touch by Facebook.

When I was four weeks old my humans noticed a small hole in my back where the fur looked like a small whirlpool, so my female human took me, nestled in the palm of her hand, to see the nice Vet, who told my human that I had the doggy equivalent of spina bifida – unusual in my breed.

She took me back at 12 weeks, when they operated on my back. However, they noticed, from the X-rays, that I was deformed. I had bones sticking up from my back like a Spinosaurus and not many bones at the back end. The nice Vet sent my X-rays to all the nice orthopaedic Vets he knew and they all said they had never seen anything like it before – send her to us. The nice vet said that, if I was his dog, he would love me and just let me have a short, happy, doggy life, and not to send me away to be experimented on – but not to let me go on walks, because of my problems.

When my humans took me for my first birthday check-up, a birthday I had not been expected to achieve, the nice Vet asked my lady human to take me for a short walk in the courtyard. Well, what an opportunity! I decided to show him how well I had come on, so my human and I ran round the courtyard.

Well I say ran but, because of my odd bone structure, I bunny-hopped – I can run as fast as my mum, bunny-hopping when we are in the garden. The nice Vet was gob-smacked! It looked like I had developed muscles that totally compensated for my weird bone structure and I was behaving like a normal dog.



I have never looked back; I am now four and fully intend to live my full three score doggy years and ten.

By the way you might like to know why I am called Little Red (or Rougepops for short). When I was born my lady human put a different coloured Tyvek collar on each of us so they could tell us apart. We were called Red, Yellow, Green, Blue etc. and I was Little Red because I was the smallest. When my siblings left home, my humans discovered that I liked being called Little Red, and I came when called, so they didn't change my name to the silly one they had thought up. Thank goodness!

Pebmarsh

Support in Pebmarsh

Pebmarsh Volunteers continue to be here for you during the pandemic. If you need anything, such as if you're isolating/quarantining and need help to collect prescriptions or with shopping, get in touch with Kate Carling (Phone: 267 924) and she will put you in touch with the village Volunteer for your area of the village.

Pebmarsh Village Hall - Now open - All welcome

Pebmarsh Village Hall reopened on the 17th May 2021 and are pleased to welcome back regular hirers and all new hirers.

The regular classes covering dog obedience and training classes, art classes, baby sensory classes and much more are back.

To find out about booking the hall, meeting room, etc please call us on 01787 269450 for a chat. Casual and regular bookings are available at extremely reasonable rates.

Ample facilities including off street parking, kitchen facilities, male, female and wheel chair access toilets as well as the attached parish children's playground.

We look forward to seeing you soon

Jonathan, Alistair, Kathy, Tricia and Perry

Pebmarsh Village Hall

Pebmarsh Art Group

We are pleased to say that as lockdown eases we will be resuming our regular weekly meetings from 3rd June. If you have an interest in painting or drawing in any medium why not join us? We meet in Pebmarsh Village Hall on Thursdays from 11am to 4pm, anyone is welcome for the entire session or just drop in for as long as you wish.

The group has been running for some years, most recently under the guidance of Anne Duffill until she moved from the village. We now operate on an informal basis with no regular tuition but have visiting artists run occasional workshops & demonstrations.

We would love to have some new members whatever your level of experience, so please come along for a taster session or just a chat.

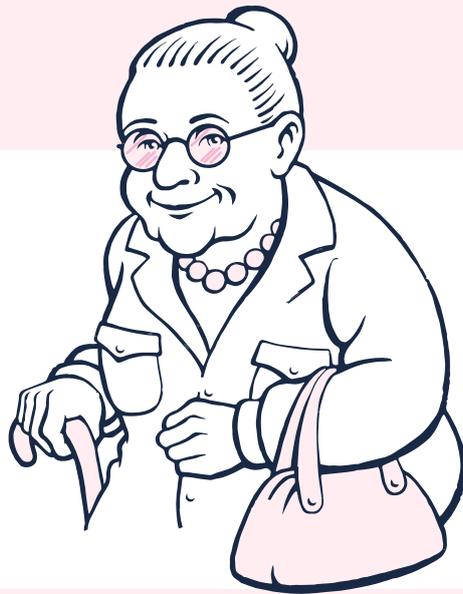
Alternatively for more Sue Burgess on 01787 460359 269738.



information please call either or Ann Hepburn on 01787

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01787 469600

More Pebmarsh

Pebmarsh Parish Council

At the AGM on the 5th May and via a zoom meeting chairman Dave Ballard stepped down from the chair. Jackie Tufnell was voted in as the next chair and Michael Sharp was voted in as the vice chair.

Remaining councillors are Dave Ballard, Sharon Smith and Tom Donaldson.

**THE BIG PEBMARSH
CLEAR OUT**

Post Lockdown Boot Sale

**SUNDAY 27TH JUNE 2021
11AM – 3PM**

**PEBMARSH VILLAGE HALL &
GROUNDS**

SELL YOUR UNWANTED GOODS FOR CASH AND HELP
RAISE FUNDS FOR OUR NEXT COMMUNITY PROJECT:

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PITCH**

Little Maplestead

We can collect drugs, search the internet if you do not have a computer, or just be a friendly voice on the other end of the phone. If you or others you know feel may need support please contact one of us.

Please contact Bill Piper on 01787473933, Jane Stone on 01787472525, Gemma Frost on 07826523187

Pop-up Plant Sale

Despite the wet weather we've had recently, it stayed dry for us on Saturday for the return of the plant sale at the Round Church. It was great to see everyone again after the lockdown restrictions have been eased.

Thank you to all who helped out by growing so many plants and to those who brought plants to sell on the day. There was a steady stream of visitors buying vegetables, perennials or summer bedding plants throughout the morning, but we were all astonished to have raised a total of £806.50!

Members of parochial church council would like to thank you all for your fantastic support; look out for details of the craft fair on the 18th September.

Regards

Kevin Caddy



More Little Maplestead

Volunteers needed!

Are you willing to open the church one day a week? Our lovely church is open every day from around 9am to 5pm. It can be done earlier or later if that fits in with your routine. Often people do it on their way to work or an early dog walk. It is all very relaxed and there is no problem if you can't do your day or go on holiday, simply swop with another member of the team and do their duty when you can.

If you can help, we would be so grateful.

Please contact Jane Piper on 01787 473933 for more details.



Phone Mast

Little Maplestead Parish Council has been advised that a telecom mast is to be erected in Little Maplestead. This should enable all houses to be equipped with a smart meter and hopefully improve the mobile phone reception.

There was a pre planning application consultation notification sent to us, proposing the mast be sited on farmland down Little Lodge Farm Road. Details of this were included on the Little Maplestead Parish Council website and also Maplestead Mates Facebook page. 80% of the people who made comment were against the proposed site. This was mainly due to the detrimental effect it would have on the natural beauty of the site and the amount of wildlife and grazing animals in the vicinity.

There was a Parish Council meeting that discussed the issue, where it was decided to initially object to the proposed position and offer a possible alternative. This objection has been lodged.

There is a flyer included in the Parish News for the resident of Little Maplestead. People are encouraged to reply so that the most acceptable location for a mast can be achieved..

THE READING ROOM

This month our three reading recommendations have been suggested by **Jane Stone** from Little Maplestead:

Mornings in Jenin by **Susan Abulhawa**

This book starts in a refugee camp in Jenin in Palestine in 1948 and follows a story of a family through four generations. Although fictional, it is based on real life events told through the eyes of a Palestinian girl and provides a sometimes harrowing insight into the problems of one of the most intractable conflicts of our times. A powerful book especially in the light of the recent events in Israel.

The Rose Code by **Kate Quinn**

For anyone who has been to Bletchley Park this is a really fascinating story based on actual life at this code breaking centre. It follows three girls from hugely different backgrounds who get jobs at Bletchley Park and have to sign the Official Secrets Act to work there. The research that the author has done is excellent and has made me want to revisit Bletchley Park again.

The Six Tudor Queens by **Alison Weir**

This series of six books details the story of each of Henry VIII's Queens and is written in a very engrossing style. Alison Weir has a way of drawing you into their actual lives and you find how they really lived. The first book - the Katherine of Aragon story - revealed her enormous strength of character and shatters many myths about Henry's first wife.



The advertisement features a dark blue background with a subtle bokeh effect. On the left, a man in a blue suit and sweater (Damian Prior) is smiling. On the right, a hand is shown holding a smartphone displaying a house icon. Logos for 'rightmove' and 'Zoopla' are in the top corners. The text 'Personal Estate Agent DAMIAN PRIOR' is prominently displayed in white. Below this, it says 'POWERED BY exp UK'. Further down, it lists services: 'Professional Photography, Floorplans and Presenter lead walkthrough videos'. At the bottom, it provides contact information: 'Experienced country estate agent offering an exceptional service to all villages surrounding Halstead and Sudbury. Call now for a free valuation of your property. Tel: 01787 275256 Email: damian.prior@exp.uk.com www.damianprior.co.uk'. Social media icons for Facebook and Instagram are also present.

rightmove

Zoopla

Personal Estate Agent
DAMIAN PRIOR

POWERED BY
exp UK

Professional Photography, Floorplans and
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Experienced country estate agent offering an exceptional
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Call now for a free valuation of your property.
Tel: 01787 275256 Email: damian.prior@exp.uk.com
www.damianprior.co.uk

Facebook icon

Instagram icon

Great Maplestead

Great Maplestead Volunteer Network

Just to let you know that the Great Maplestead Coronavirus Volunteer Support Network is still up and running.

If you would like any help please do not hesitate to contact me by phone on 01787 461002 or 07773 627897, or by e-mail at jacqui.mee62@gmail.com

The Maplesteads WI extend a warm invitation to anyone who would like to join them to celebrate their Centenary Planter at the Village Hall Great Maplestead on Thursday 1st July at 7.30pm.



The Maplesteads WI



The May meeting of the Maplesteads WI was another fun session on Zoom.

The Sir Tom Moore 100 Challenge: Carol asked if anyone had achieved 100 of anything? Jane Stone and Carol Brownlie had walked 100km; Janice Chaplin had not only walked 100km but also completed 100 sit-ups; Anne Fletcher had batted her swing ball 100 times – with both her right and left hand – and Lyn Haylock said she was currently on her 99th glass of wine but was confident of making it 100 soon!

Jill Gozzett, Chair of the Centenary Planter Sub-committee, reported that a meeting had been held to discuss the position of the planter outside the Village Hall and the choice of plants. The Planter would be delivered to the Hall and will be planted up on the 24 May.

More Great Maplestead

More The Maplesteads WI

Jill has arranged to access water from nearby neighbour Ted. The Sub-Committee thought it would be a good idea to hold the dedication on Thursday 1 July as the Planter would be in full bloom.

Subsequent to the meeting the Maplesteads WI Centenary Planter was delivered and is now outside the Village Hall. The Sub-Committee responsible for planting it met to take delivery and would like to extend a big thank you to Joe Newton and Peter Gozzett for installing it ready for planting up.

The next WI meeting is on June 3rd and will be in Diane Smith's garden.

Mid-Summer **VILLAGE WALK**



Sunday 27th June

Meet at 3.00pm in the Village Hall Car Park

Half-way refreshments provided

Finish at the Village Hall for afternoon tea and cakes

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

**Proceeds to the Playing Field Development Project –
please pay before the start of the walk**

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

The Maplesteads' Autumn Show.

This year's Autumn Show will be held on Saturday 11th September in Great Maplestead Village Hall.

The schedules will be delivered next month with your Parish Magazine and we hope that you will find plenty to interest you, whether it's gardening, cookery, crafts or photography.

More Great Maplestead

More the Maplesteads' Autumn Show

There will also be copies of the schedule in both church porches and available to download from the websites of each village.

The children's section is always popular and we look forward to seeing their wonderful creations and the men always amaze us with their culinary skills for the highly fought-over Men's Challenge Trophy,

This year we are introducing two new trophies for the winners of the Photographic Competition – one for the adults and one for the under 16's.

We are also holding a '*Grow the Tallest Sunflower*' competition for all ages.

You can either grow your own plant or you could visit the Maplestead Plant Sharing Stand down from the St. Giles Church gateway, where you may be able to pick up some donated sunflower plants or seeds.

If you require a sunflower plant, or need any further information about the Autumn Show, please contact Carol Brownlie.

Tel: 01787 461 527 or e-mail: carolbrownlie@gmail.com

Great Maplestead's Community Plant Sharing Stand

Earlier this year some of the residents of Church Street had taken to swapping small plants amongst ourselves, putting them outside our houses. Then, on a day trip to Mersea to celebrate the easing of lockdown, my husband Noel and I saw a plant-sharing stand constructed from a pallet in West Mersea parish churchyard and we thought it would be a great idea that we could 'borrow' for the village.



The way it works is that if people have surplus plants they can put them on the stand; if people need a plant, they can take one or two.

I posted a suggestion on the Maplestead Mates Facebook page and to the parish WhatsApp group about us having a stand, incorporating a seed-swap box for packets of seeds, and was overwhelmed by the amount of support there was from the village for the idea!



More Great Maplestead

Great Maplestead's Community Plant Sharing Stand

Ashleigh Rouse donated wood stain and a pallet and on a freezing cold March afternoon Glen Lewingdon did the adaptations to it. Carol Brownlie helped me paint it and I added some artwork and lettering. Graham Mills made a lovely label for the seed-swap box.

Revd Beverley Vincent and the churchwardens, Gill Peskett and Jill Newton, gave permission for the stand to be located on church land, so Noel and I positioned it on the grass bank under the big tree directly opposite Stone Cottages – this allows Paula Sillett and myself to monitor the plants for watering and so on.

Glen also came up with the idea for the finished stand to feature a white-board header for messages; the current message is "caring is sharing" and the latest notice is promoting a competition for the tallest sunflower grown from seedlings shared in the swap box. The plan is to see who can grow the best example for the Autumn Show in the Village Hall on Saturday 11th September – and the race is hotting up!

The plant share stand has now been up and running for a while and lots of people have been donating, taking and swapping plants and seeds. Now that the weather is improving the turnover is increasing – the contents of the stand aren't staying there too long...

To sum up, the whole project has been a great example of what can be achieved by the joint efforts and wonderful community spirit of people in this village – I like to say a big thank-you to everyone who has 'cared and shared' to make this idea a reality.

Denise O'Connell



Two simple but tasty recipes

These have been passed down through my family and have always been a firm favourite.

Pommes Anna

Ingredients;

Any type of potato, butter, salt and pepper

Method; Pre-heat oven to 170 ° C. Peel the potatoes and slice them into thin (5mm) slices. Pre grease an oven proof saucepan or casserole (with lid). Place, at random, two layers of sliced potato and add two to three knobs of butter. Season with salt and pepper and then repeat the whole process. When the casserole is full (or you have used all the potatoes) place a wetted piece of grease-proof paper on top of the potatoes and put the lid on. Cook in the oven for a minimum of 45 minutes (This dish can spend over an hour in the oven with no ill effects)

Cabbage Provençal

Ingredients;

White cabbage, one white onion, garlic (as much as you like), butter, salt & pepper, freshly ground nutmeg.

Method; Remove the outer loose layer of the cabbage and cut it in half. Cut out the central core and slice into lengths at about a width of 1cm (or use a food processor to slice it.) Peel and finely slice the onion. Peel and flatten the garlic using the side of a knife and then finely chop it. Add about 75 gm butter into a casserole or saucepan with lid, then add the cabbage, onion and garlic. Add a pinch of salt and some freshly ground pepper and then the nutmeg. Heat on a low to medium heat, stirring occasionally and cook for at least 30 minutes. This dish can be kept warm in a low oven for ages, if necessary and can be re-heated (once) in a microwave. The cooked cabbage can also be frozen.

Next time: two unusual ways to cook leeks!

David Singer

Website: www.themobilelunchcompany.co.uk

Facebook: #mobilelunchco

Local information

Solar Society will make every effort to restart their meetings when it is appropriate.

Programme to be announced.

In the meantime , take care everybody.

Further info from Miles Scrivens 01787-469766 or Wanda Sellar 01787 463449.

Local Women's Running Group: laurabloom@btinternet.com or on 07801 749802

Local Libraries: Halstead and Sible Hedingham Libraries, libraries.essex.gov.uk.

Four Parishes Book Group: Alison Cantor. 01787 462537 or acantor@linus.plus.com

Sudbury Area Cancer Support Group: Ruth Worsley on *ruth-SACSG@outlook.com*

The U3A Halstead: u3asites.org.uk/halstead/welcome

The U3A Sudbury: u3asites.org.uk/sudbury/home

U3A Braintree: u3asites.org.uk/braintree/events

Halstead & District Photographic Society: www.halsteadphoto.org.uk

Gestingthorpe History Society: www.gestingthorpehg.co.uk

Community Agents; Community-based support for an ageing population: www.communityagentsessex.org.uk.

The Empire Theatre Halstead: www.empire-theatre.co.uk

Halstead and District Local History Society: www.halsteadhistory.org.uk.

The Hedingham Singers: Bob Lilley on 07790 573435 or www.thehedinghamsingers.com/.

Sudbury Newstalk: www.sudburynewstalk.co.uk or 01787 468535.

Hedingham Medical Centre



The Castle Hedingham surgery is triaging all patients so please phone 01787 461465. Do not go to the surgery. The surgery is open from 11.00 - 13.00 and 14.00 - 18.00 Monday to Friday to collect pre-ordered prescriptions. Their website is www.hedmed.co.uk.

Local and National Authority Representatives

Essex County Council

Councillor David Finch - cllr.david.finch@essex.gov.uk

Braintree District Council

Great and Little Maplestead

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

Gestingthorpe

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

Pebmarsh

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

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

Westminster

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

Parish Council Websites

Gestingthorpe	www.gestingthorpepc.co.uk
Great Maplestead	www.greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk
Little Maplestead	www.littlemaplesteadpc.co.uk
Pebmarsh	www.parishcouncil.pebmarsh.com

Village Emergency Telephone Service (VETS)

VETS provide support when a defibrillator is required although the first action must be a 999 call. The telephone numbers of the village VETS are:

Little Maplestead 01787 852252

Gestingthorpe 01787 852850

Pebmarsh 01787 852300

Neighbourhood Watch representatives

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

The Churchwardens serving our Benefice are

Great Maplestead	Gill Peskett	01787 462786	gillpeskett43@gmail.com
	Jill Newton	01787 463893	gilliannewton4@gmail.com
Little Maplestead	Jane Piper	01787 473933	jane-piper@hotmail.co.uk
	Karen Sunnucks	01787 472145	karen.sunnucks@btinternet.com
Gestingthorpe	Alice Nolda	01787 469688	-
	Peter Nice	01787 460126	peter.427nice@btinternet.com
Pebmarsh	Sarah Burgess	01787 269092	sarahburgess@btinternet.com



We urgently need UHT long life milk, fruit juice (1L variant please), dog food, (cans or pouches please), hair conditioner and size 5 baby nappies.

We currently have large stocks of baked beans, cereals, pasta, pasta sauce, biscuits, fish, soup, baby food and cereals, and we would ask if you could donate one of the items from the list below.

Tea (40 bags if possible)

Cereal bars

Pasta sauce

Tinned fruit

Tinned tomatoes

Tinned spaghetti

Tinned sponge puddings

Sugar 500gms

Coffee (small jars)

Instant mash

Breakfast cereal

Packet soupd (cuppa soups)

Tinned rice pudding

Rice

Warmed tinned meat

Jam

Larger packs of items don't fit in our parcels making it difficult for our clients to carry home, this is why we ask for small packets.

Probus Club of Halstead

With the relaxation of CO-VID 19 restrictions, the Probus Club of Halstead is about to recommence our monthly luncheons at the Colne Valley Golf Club in Earls Colne and is ready to welcome new members to celebrate this new-found freedom!

Meeting on the first Wednesday of the month, we are a friendly group of retired and semi-retired people whose sole aim is to provide an association – especially for people with a wide variety of shared interests. Our members mostly come from professional and business backgrounds and meet for lunch and convivial conversation.

Throughout the year we hold events to which spouses, partners and guests are invited, including at least a couple of outings in the summer and warmer months. The rest of the year we invite an eclectic mix of speakers to address our luncheons.

If this is something that appeals, then please ring:

Mike Harrington Spier on 01787 469 804

or Keith Brownlie on 01787 461 527

either of whom will be delighted to tell you more.

June Church Services

6 June	9:30 Holy Communion	Little Maplestead (Rev'd Katie)
	11am Holy Communion	Gestingthorpe (Rev'd Katie)
13 June	9.30 Holy Communion	Pebmarsh (BV)
	9.30 Morning Prayer	Gestingthorpe (Lay Led)
	11am Holy Communion	Great Maplestead (BV)
20 June	9:30 Holy Communion	Little Maplestead (BV)
	11am Family Worship	Great Maplestead (Lay Led)
	11am Morning Prayer	Gestingthorpe (BV)
27 June	9:30am Holy Communion	Great Maplestead (BV)
	10am Morning Prayer	Little Maplestead (Lay Led)
	11am Morning Worship	Pebmarsh
	4pm Compline	Gestingthorpe (Lay Led)

Our churches remain open for private prayer on set days, please contact your churchwarden for times of opening.

The Reverend Beverley Vincent

The Rectory, Church Street, Great Maplestead, CO9 2RG

Tel 01787 460273 or 07944 200132. Khvicar@gmail.com

Save the date

Great Maplestead Jumble Sale 25 September 2021

Maplesteads Autumn Show 11 September 2021

Parish News is printed by **Paul Clark Printing Ltd**
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Halstead . Essex . CO9 3PY 01787 469628 sales@paulclarkprint.co.uk

The copy deadline for the July magazine is **Friday 18 June 2021**

We need to know who, what, where and when

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

Copy

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This magazine is now available electronically on the parish council web sites and the Parish News website at www.knights-hospitallers.org.uk