

**Parish  
News**

# **Great and Little Maplestead Pebmarsh and Gestingthorpe**

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**Church and Community together**  
**November 2022**

**Free**

## Village contacts and information

Reverend Beverley Vincent can be found on page 32 and the churchwardens on page 30.

Village Emergency Telephone Service and Neighbourhood Watch representatives see page 30

Magazine copy see page 32

### Parish Clerks

|               |                 |              |                                       |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| Gt Maplestead | Ann Crisp       | 01787 460216 | anncrisp@greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk      |
| Lt Maplestead | Ann Harris      | 01787 462818 | littlemaplesteadparishclerk@gmail.com |
| Gestingthorpe | Kevin B Money   | 07810 781509 | gestingthorpepc@gmail.com             |
| Pebmarsh      | Shelley Boydell | 07927 775989 | pebmarshparishclerk@gmail.com         |

### The Maplesteads

|                  |                |              |                           |
|------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| The Maple Leaves | 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       |
| Dance & Keep Fit   | Judy Cowell       | 01376 561757 | judy.cowell@btinternet.com         |
| Carpet Bowls       | Janice Chaplin    | 01787 469600 | bobandjanicechaplin@btinternet.com |

### Gestingthorpe

|                    |                 |              |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| Village Hall       | Steve Bagby     | 07840 367182 |                       |
| Village amenities  | Nick Duncan     | 01787 313558 |                       |
| Tower bell ringing | Valerie Fullman | 01787 462755 |                       |
| Cricket Club       | 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 | steveharris@greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk |
| 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 | acantor56@outlook.com   |
| Knitting group   | Carol Brownlie       | 01787 461527 | carolbrownlie@gmail.com   |
| Handbell Ringing | Margaret Crudgington | 01787 476259 |   |
| Benefice Choir   | Gill Peskett         | 01787 462786 | gillpeskett43@gmail.com   |
| Scouts           | Stuart Carter        | 01787 461149 |   |
| Guides           | Kathy Hoy            | 01787 280200 |   |
| Molly's Wood     | Jane Postma          |              | <a href="https://www.mollyswood.org/contact">https://www.mollyswood.org/contact</a> |

## Letter from the editor



Hello everyone and welcome to the November issue of Parish News. My apologies for it being slightly late, I have had Covid. Again.

We are now entering a difficult time with energy costs, although oil does not appear to have increased in cost as much as gas, although finding accurate information that can be trusted is difficult and we are still awaiting details of Government help for oil users. Great Maplestead church is providing a warm space and further details can be found on the church services page.

The John Nott Charity have asked us to let you all know that the Pebmarsh allotments are available for people outside Pebmarsh. If anyone is interested, please see the Pebmarsh section.

The cover photo is from my garden. I have been a building site for a long time and a builders bag sat for many years under my oak tree. It was removed last year and the cyclamen that had been squashed came back in abundance. Isn't nature wonderful.

Next month will be the last issue of the year, and my last issue as editor. I have hopes that we may have found a replacement. I will let you know next month.

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## Letter from the Reverend Beverley Vincent

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November is often the time in the year when we focus on remembering, for many churches up and down the land the start of November focuses on All Saints; a time to remember loved ones we no longer see and to give thanks for the good times and memories of them.

Just a little way into November, we remember again the ultimate sacrifice made by so many people during the First and Second World Wars and many conflicts since. This remembering is an interesting counterpoint; because no doubt as you read this the shops will be full of Christmas goodies, the organised amongst us will already have bought Christmas cards, and some may already have written them. Excitement for children will already be mounting, and no doubt lists will have been started to be complied.

In a few short weeks, we will be ready to welcome the Christ Child into the manger, but first it's good to remember, It's good to think about and say thank you to so many people, those who have impacted on our lives, some we might have known well and some we might only have heard about in family stories or village tales.

Whenever I walk past a war memorial and see the names engraved into it, I stop and reflect on a name that jumps out at me from the stone, and I ponder on that particular person as I carry on my walk. I wonder what that person's life was like, I wonder how the person lived, how their life was, if they left a wife, sweetheart or family behind.

There are no longer any veterans left from the First World War and there are very few left in the country from the Second, but we must never forget to tell their stories. We need to tell the generations to come, about those who came before and not leave them simply reduced to a name on a memorial.

The bible tells us that all Christians are saints, not just those who are famous in history, and so I am left pondering about us, this present generation. What will our stories be, when the time comes for them to be passed on? At some point in the future we may well be names on a memorial stone. What will people say about us?

Rev'd Beverley





## 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



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## Nature Notes

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Autumn has arrived and fungi are to be seen everywhere. Many organisations run 'fungus forays', where an expert will lead a walk through woodland or meadow identifying species and offering advice on what can be eaten and what should be avoided.



One of the commonest and most attractive mushrooms is the Fly Agaric, *Amanita muscaria*. Up to eight inches in diameter and with a scarlet cap adorned with white pyramidal warts, it is hard to miss. The name comes from the practice in medieval times of breaking the cap into a plate of milk that is put out and fed on by flies, thus rendering them senseless. As you may suspect, this mushroom is poisonous. However, it is also hallucinogenic and an intoxicant, a fact not unnoticed by the Lapps who dry the cap and swallow pieces without chewing. The effects are described as experiencing vivid visions, elation and abundant energy. The Lapps are believed to have learnt the habit by observing their reindeer, who are affected by it in the same way as humans. However, it must be said that this practice is not to be recommended!

Fly Agaric is only one of about three thousand species of larger fungi to be found in Britain. Each one will have a story, although not all as dramatic as *A. muscaria*'s. Mushrooms are the fruit of the fungus, the reproductive part. The main part is below ground or within the body of the decomposing vegetation they are feeding on. They are an integral and essential part of the natural world.

Out and about, late September and early October have been somewhat subdued. Birdsong has disappeared, the summer migrants have departed and the winter visitors are yet to arrive.

A walk in early October was graced by a brilliant Brimstone butterfly; these are the earliest butterflies on the wing in spring, so I was surprised to see one so late. However, a little reading revealed them to be the longest-lived British butterfly; they emerge in early July and fly until late September (mine was the first week of October) before hibernating. With the wings closed they resemble ivy leaves and this is one of the favourite hibernation sites. These adults then re-emerge in spring to mate and lay their eggs (buckthorn is the host plant) from mid-April until July. It is surprising that something so delicate could live for a full year but, having hatched in July, they must survive at least until the following April to mate. There are published records of old, very worn, hibernated specimens on the wing in late July together with freshly emerged examples.



**Patch Patroller**

## Great Maplestead

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### Great Maplestead Volunteer Network

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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](mailto:jacqui.mee62@gmail.com)

### Coffee at St Giles

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Please join us for coffee on Wednesday mornings in the Deane Chapel at St Giles' – or outdoors in the churchyard, if it's warm enough. We serve from 10.30am until 12 noon. There is no charge – these are social get-togethers, not fundraisers.

Also, we now serve coffee after our regular services, so please join us if you can.

### The Maplesteads' Autumn Show

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Following this year's Autumn Show, Carol Brownlie presented Jean and Bill Bowers with a gardening voucher in recognition of their 20 years' service on the Show's committee.

They have always been supportive and enthusiastic members and took great pride with their entries on show day – Jean's prize winning dahlias are legendary!

Sadly Jean and Bill have decided to retire from the committee – they will be sorely missed.

Carol has asked if the cup winners could return their cups to her for engraving.

To contact Carol, ring 01787 461 527 or email [carolbrownlie@gmail.com](mailto:carolbrownlie@gmail.com)



## Save the Date!



### Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> December

### Maplesteads' Christmas Village Walk

**More information in the December Magazine**



**More Great Maplestead**

**Festive Coffee Morning**

St Giles Church Great  
Maplestead

FESTIVE  
COFFEE  
MORNING

RAFFLE, CAKE STALL, CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS AND  
LOTS MORE

SATURDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

10.30AM TO 12.30PM



## More Great Maplestead

### A Seat With A View

On Wednesday October 12th Tony Hume welcomed relatives and villagers to the interment of his mother Connie's ashes in the St Giles' churchyard grave of his father John.

Connie, who died in March this year aged 96, was one of Great Maplestead's oldest residents; she had lived in the village her entire life and was known to almost everyone.



The committal service was performed by the Rev Beverly Vincent, after which everyone moved to the southern part of the churchyard for her dedication of a beautiful bench, donated by Tony in memory of Connie and John, inscribed with their names flanked by maple leaves.



The location chosen by Tony for the bench offers extensive views of the delightful rolling countryside around the village and it will doubtless be a most sought-after resting place for church visitors, walkers and residents alike.



# More Great Maplestead

## Great Maplestead Advent Display 2022



***This December, parishioners are, once again, invited to create an advent window/festive garden display as part of the village's Christmas celebrations.***

If you would like to register a display, please notify the Parish Clerk which date you would like to reveal your design, from 2<sup>nd</sup>- 24<sup>th</sup> December, together with your title/theme for your display (eg: Christmas carol/song/film).

***A map of where each display is and daily photos will be circulated via village social media channels.***

To start off the event, the village Christmas tree, kindly donated by Joe Newton, will be unveiled on **1<sup>st</sup> December** on the triangle outside St Giles School in Church St. **Light up time 6.00pm**. This is a community tree so do feel free to add your own decoration to those provided by the village elves.

***Let's create another visual treat for us all to enjoy as part of the Christmas festivities!***

**Clerk contact details: Ann Crisp 01787 460 216  
or email: [anncrisp@greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk](mailto:anncrisp@greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk)**

## Great Maplestead Cost of Living Liaison Group

A reminder that we are holding an informal drop in/coffee morning to share information and ideas that may help with some of the cost of living challenges we all face this winter.

**Where?** At our community hub in St Giles Church

**When?** Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November

**What Time?** Any time between 10.00am-12.00pm

We hope you can join us for coffee, cake and a chat!

## More Great Maplestead

**The Maple Leaves present...**

*...an informative, hands-on event in Great  
Maplestead Village Hall, run by Jo Green of*

# Radiant Beauty

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November**

*Starts 7.30pm : Members & Guests welcome*

*Jo will be running a beauty workshop, with the  
involvement and participation of members and guests,  
using her relaxing personalised treatments*

*More information about the remainder of the Maple Leaves' 2022 programme is at:  
<https://greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk/parish-information/activities/copy-of-the-maple-leaves/>*

## GREAT MAPLESTEAD QUIZ NIGHT

**in the Village Hall**

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November**

**Doors open 7.00pm - start 7.30pm**

**Entry £5 per person; maximum 10 teams; 6 people/team**

*Please bring your own drinks, glasses and nibbles*

**Book your team entries by 19<sup>th</sup> November**  
e-mail: [avp28@btinternet.com](mailto:avp28@btinternet.com)

**All proceeds in aid of the Playing Field Development Project**

## Gardening Corner

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The time of year is upon us when most jobs in the garden involve clearing and weeding, but try and leave your vegetable area until November. If you clear and dig now [and we are still experiencing mild weather] the weeds will grow with vigour. If you do dig it's a good idea to leave the turned over ground in a rough condition so the winter frosts can break down the clods of soil into friable ground which can then be broken up with a fork or spade.

Pick any top fruit before it falls to the ground. Apples and pears can be stored in a cool, dry and frost-free shed but do check on them regularly and place the fruit so it does not touch so as to reduce the likely-hood of mould spreading.

Clear up fallen leaves from lawns and borders where they can smother small, herbaceous plants. Be particularly careful around rose bushes as leaves can harbour black spot; old rose leaves should be put in the recycling bin. Roses can be pruned back to shape them before taking off half this year's growth in November, preventing wind rock.

Next, a few recommended bulbs to plant:

Allium, which are a member of the onion family, give good height to a planting scheme.

Daffodils (or narcissi, to give them their correct name) are now available in a number of variants and heights. Tete-à-Tete are a dwarf type; vibrant yellow, they make a good front to any border. Carlton or King Alfred are really old varieties, they have stood the test of time and make a good backdrop to a planting scheme.

Tulips. Red Riding Hood look good in pots and containers. Some of the large Parrot tulips make a statement when planted in clumps in a herbaceous border.

Hyacinth and crocus are good for random planting in pots and grass areas respectively.

Plant, or shrub of the month, for me has to be Abelia. This hardy shrub is available in a variegated leaf form and has a bright pink flower, a splash of colour in the shorter, autumn days.



### The Arborist



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# **Gestingthorpe**

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## **Support in Gestingthorpe**

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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.

### **Gestingthorpe 'Gathering' Coffee Mornings.**

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Our coffee mornings during November will be held on the Fridays of the 4th and 18th November. All Friday 'gatherings' start at 10am and run until 12 noon.

Funds raised at our coffee mornings usually go towards the upkeep and running of our village hall.

It is great to see so many regulars and some new faces at our 'gatherings' and to hear the buzz and laughter between everyone enjoying a chat with their friends over a hot or cold drink and delicious home baked cakes.

If you haven't yet been to a coffee morning; please come along. We would love to see you and guarantee a warm welcome.

### **Raise the Roof Party**

---

At the end of September we had a wonderful 'Raise the Roof' party in our village hall to raise funds for the replacement roof which inevitably ran over budget in the summer.

I think all who attended would agree it was a resounding success. It was lovely to see so many people in the hall including a few villagers who have not previous (or recently) attended our fundraising events.

The magician was amazing, the food lovely and the drinks plentiful. I am sure there were a few sore heads in the village the day after as well as sore feet and knees from too much dancing.

For the first time, we ran a cash bar and took payments with a card reader. Both worked well and contributed significantly to our takings. Our profit after costs for the event was £522.68 which will be much needed to help bolster the coffers of the village hall and its ongoing costs.

Please watch out for announcements about future fundraising events.

### **Skittles**

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The next skittles evening will be on Wednesday 30th November. at 7.30pm, a lighthearted and fun evening with your friends and fellow villagers. Who will get the first 'Strike' of the new season?



# More Gestingthorpe

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## Gestingthorpe History Group

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We are very pleased to be able to welcome back Charlie Haylock to the Gestingthorpe Village Hall on the 26th of November for his latest presentation 'Charlie and "The Dig"'

This is an intriguing and sometimes hilarious look behind-the-scenes in the making of the Netflix film "The Dig" . . . a film based on a novel with the same title about the famous Sutton Hoo burial ship and the people involved.

Charlie will explain how a potential "scam" email from "The Dig" producer, turned out to be real and was followed by a phone call from Ralph Fiennes.

Charlie will show how Ralph Fiennes, who played Basil Brown, and the other "Suffolk" actors learnt their Suffolk accent . . . and not sound like West Country pirates!

Charlie will also explain the extreme lengths Ralph Fiennes took, not only to play Basil Brown . . . but to become Basil Brown.

The talk is both informative and very entertaining.

Tickets are priced at £7 per person to include a glass of wine or soft drink.

Cash payment on the door or tickets can be reserved and paid for by contacting [gestingthorpehg@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gestingthorpehg@yahoo.co.uk)



## **Pebmarsh**

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### **Support in Pebmarsh**

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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 your village Volunteer.

### **Pebmarsh allotments.**

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Just to clarify that the allotments are not restricted to Pebmarsh residents so if you are interested simply email Graham Tufnell at [grahamtufnell@btinternet.com](mailto:grahamtufnell@btinternet.com).

John Nott Charity.

### **St John the Baptist Church Pebmarsh Church Wardens**

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I find myself once again writing the article for the magazine, it seems to come round so quickly and another list of events has happened.

The beautiful colours of autumn have arrived against a backdrop of blue skies and some blustery days. I have to confess it is my favourite time of the year with crisp mornings and vibrant colours appearing all round us changing each day.

Today the Clock repairers are returning so all being well we will have our church clock chiming and telling the right time once again. We know many of you have missed it and the clock face looks so forlorn the same without its hands.

We have welcomed the children, staff and parents of Pebmarsh school to the church for their Harvest Festival service. With 140 of us enjoying poems, prayers and songs performed by the children, and as always, they were very well behaved and did it so well.

Only a few days later we had Annie Blacks thank giving service with her family and friends on a bright sunny day with lovely light streaming into the church and the smell of fresh flowers that hopefully were a reflection of the person she was.

That same week we also had our meeting with the Friends of Pebmarsh Church to discuss the fund raising and projects for the future. I'm hoping we will have positive news soon about the recent grant application to enable us to repair the Church wall next to the Manor house which collapsed some time ago.

The Friends have very kindly offered to help us produce a Christmas card of the church this year. It will be an A5 card in full colour supplied with envelopes for £7.50 for 10 cards.

## More Pebmarsh

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### St John the Baptist Church Pebmarsh Church Wardens

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You will be able to purchase these from John Flack on 07768 605590 or email team@friendsofPebmarshchurch.uk or myself on 01787269092 or sarahburgess@btinternet.com. All the money raised will go to the church to help us with the everyday cost of keeping the church open and we thank the friends for the generous support as their normal task is to fund raise for the fabric of the building only.

As mentioned in last month's magazine the Remembrance Service this year will be held at Gestingthorpe on 13th November at 10.45 for all four churches in our benefice and we will hold a Remembrance service at the war memorial in Pebmarsh on the 11th November at 10.45 with a minutes silence at 11am. The school have kindly invited anyone attending to join them for a cup of coffee in the school afterwards. The school will be taking part laying crosses and reading the names of those lost in our village during the first world war.

With Christmas fast approaching we will be organising our Carol Concert to be held at the church with the Long Melford Silver Band on the 11th December at 4pm. We will be filling the church with Christmas light and greenery and the school children will be helping to decorate the tree with Doves of Peace this year. Please mark it in your diary as the church always looks festive and hopefully will get you in the Christmas spirit.

Sarah Burgess. Church Warden

### The King's Head Pebmarsh

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#### Upcoming Autumn and Winter Events

Ryan and Cathy are planning a number of community events at the King's Head over the next few months, which we hope will be of interest:

- Quiz Nights: Thursdays: 3 November, 1 December
- Bonfire Night Fireworks, 5 November, "Fury Fireworks" have been booked to provide a fantastic professional display, which Ryan and Cathy are providing free of charge. Starts at 6pm, with firework display at 7pm
- World Cup Football, screening all the Lion's matches, quarter, semis and finals
- Christmas Stalls, 3 December
- Christmas Carols, with Long Melford Brass Band, 16 December
- New Year's Eve, 31 December - food served 12-6pm

Party with "Into the Sun" from 8pm, tickets £15, includes buffet

## More Pebmarsh

### More the Kings Head Pebmarsh

If you are planning ahead for Christmas, the opening times at the King's Head will be:

- Sunday 25 December - drinks & nibbles 12-3pm
- Monday 26 December - drinks 12-5pm, food served 12-3pm
- Tuesday 27 December - drinks 12-7pm, food served 12-5pm

As always you can find out about events at the pub via [www.kingsheadpebmarsh.co.uk](http://www.kingsheadpebmarsh.co.uk) or by following the pub on Facebook @kingsheadpebmarsh or Instagram @kingshead\_Pebmarsh

Ryan, Cathy and their team look forward to welcoming you!

#### **CHARITY CHRISTMAS CARDS AVAILABLE 1<sup>st</sup> November**

**High quality full colour gloss finish with white envelopes**

**To support Pebmarsh Church**

**Pack of 10 - A5 size (8.3 x 5.8 Inches)**

**Only £7.50 per pack of TEN**



**The Greeting inside says -**

**Best wishes for a wonderful Christmas and a peaceful New Year**

**Available in Pebmarsh from Sarah Burgess - Oak Farm, Oak Road 269092**

**or John Flack, Keepers Cottage The Street 269182 .**

## A Sunday Lunch Suggestion...

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'Easy like Sunday morning' – Jeff's radio alarm clock sprang into life, the gentle chords of the Commodore's classic drifting into Jeff's left ear. As he woke from his slumber and gathered his thoughts, he realised it actually was Sunday morning, and that in less than 4 hours, a group of his friends would be descending on his flat expecting to be fed and watered. That spur-of-the-moment invitation he had sent around last week was now looking somewhat less of a good idea.

Still, credit to Jeff, he'd got himself organised yesterday, ingredients had been purchased and a recipe chosen. Rosie, sitting on the end of the bed staring at him intently, would be proud of him. Holding what looked to be a partly dismembered fluffy reindeer in her mouth, and wagging her tail furiously, Jeff decided that actually Rosie didn't look very proud at all...

Dressed and showered, Jeff gave his appearance a quick appraisal in the full-length mirror – 7 out of 10 he thought. Rosie sat staring at herself in the mirror, '2 out of 10' Jeff said to her, 'and that's being generous'. Rosie wagged her tail furiously; she was delighted to score so highly.

Jeff took the leg of lamb from the fridge, chopped some rosemary and lavender, and reached for the English sambuca. He basted the...hang on a minute... English sambuca I hear you cry? Absolutely!

Copper pot distilled sambuca, the only scratch-distilled sambuca produced in the UK by English Spirit Master Distillers in Great Yeldham. Founded by Dr. John Walters, and with a mission to produce the best spirits and liqueurs possible, they also make the widest collection of spirits in the world.

Back to the story... Lamb successfully basted in sambuca, roast potatoes in the oven and carrots ready for cooking, Jeff was feeling pleased with himself. He knew just before serving he would brush the carrots with Old Salt rum, the first commercially produced rum in the UK, triple distilled in copper pots at English Spirit Distillery.

If you would like to find out more about English Spirit Distillery, the story of John and the brand, take a look at [www.englishspirit.uk](http://www.englishspirit.uk). It's a fascinating story! Equally, tours – including a tasting experience – are available: phone the friendly staff at Great Yeldham on 01787 237 896 and they will be delighted to help you. They would be very happy to discuss arranging either a private or group tour.

Lastly, just to let you know, Jeff's dinner party was a success – the English toffee vodka liqueur drizzled over ice-cream was always going to be a winner after the sambuca basted lamb...

Mind you, Rosie seemed quite happy with her dismembered fluffy reindeer.

**Martin Crisp**

## Hedingham Heritage Society

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Thursday 3 November –  
Amphibians and Reptiles

Ray Cranfield, Herpetologist from the Essex Amphibians and Reptile Group, will be talking about our native species, including adders, grass snakes, slow-worms, lizards, frogs, newts and toads.

7.30pm Castle Hedingham  
Memorial Hall



**\*\*Saturday 3 December\*\*** – Our Christmas Social with Tracey's superb food, and musical entertainment from Gareth Buckland and friends.

Tickets available at the November meeting or contact any of the numbers below.

All welcome – £22.50 per head.

7.00pm for 7.30pm Castle  
Hedingham Memorial Hall



Wednesday 28 December – Christmas Walk in the Hedinghams – more details to follow.

Members: free for all walks and talks

Non-members: £5

All Welcome

Rob Worley 01787 460 664: Trudi Cullum 01787 462 889:

Peter Bayes 01787 469 953

Or reach us at:

[hedinghamheritage@gmail.com](mailto:hedinghamheritage@gmail.com)

[www.hedinghamheritage.org](http://www.hedinghamheritage.org)



## Exploring the experiences of working age people with financial pressures in rural Braintree

Essex County Council is carrying out research to explore the experiences of individuals and households in rural areas of Braintree district, who are having long-term or more recent struggles and financial pressures. We want to talk with a range of working age people (aged 18+ years), including those with and without dependent children, and those with a disability or long-term condition.

Your views will help to understand what these challenges are, and your ideas for improving standards of living. This will help us to develop opportunities for strengthening our response and local support.



### “Have your say”

To register your initial interest please scan the QR code, and complete our survey or contact us: [research@essex.gov.uk](mailto:research@essex.gov.uk)

We will be offering an incentive for those who are involved in the detailed research project.

**Register your interest by 21 November 2022.**

Essex County Council in partnership with Braintree District Council



## Local information

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

**Local Libraries:** Halstead and Sible Hedingham Libraries, [libraries.essex.gov.uk](http://libraries.essex.gov.uk).

**Four Parishes Book Group:** Alison Cantor. 01787 462537 or [acantor@linus.plus.com](mailto:acantor@linus.plus.com)

**Sudbury Area Cancer Support Group:** Ruth Worsley on [ruth-SACSG@outlook.com](mailto:ruth-SACSG@outlook.com)

**The U3A Halstead:** [u3asites.org.uk/halstead/welcome](http://u3asites.org.uk/halstead/welcome)

**The U3A Sudbury:** [u3asites.org.uk/sudbury/home](http://u3asites.org.uk/sudbury/home)

**U3A Braintree:** [u3asites.org.uk/braintree/events](http://u3asites.org.uk/braintree/events)

**Halstead & District Photographic Society:** [www.halsteadphoto.org.uk](http://www.halsteadphoto.org.uk)

**Gestingthorpe History Society:** [www.gestingthorpehg.co.uk](http://www.gestingthorpehg.co.uk)

**Community Agents;** Community-based support for an ageing population: [www.communityagentsessex.org.uk](http://www.communityagentsessex.org.uk).

**The Empire Theatre Halstead:** [www.empire-theatre.co.uk](http://www.empire-theatre.co.uk)

Halstead and District Local History Society: [www.halsteadhistory.org.uk](http://www.halsteadhistory.org.uk).

**The Hedingham Singers:** Bob Lilley on 07790 573435 or [www.thehedinghamsingers.com/](http://www.thehedinghamsingers.com/).

**Sudbury Newstalk:** [www.sudburynewstalk.co.uk](http://www.sudburynewstalk.co.uk) or 01787 468535.

**Clare Bridge Club:** <https://www.bridgewebs.com/clare/>

## Hedingham Medical Centre

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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](http://www.hedmed.co.uk).

From Saturday 1 October 2022, out-of-hours appointments will be available from 6.30pm to 8pm on weekdays, and from 9am to 5pm on Saturdays.

An out-of-hours appointment might not be at your regular GP surgery. When you book an appointment, you will be told where the appointment will be.



# Would you like to help make a real difference for people in need this Christmas?



You can do so by building up your own Food Bank Box during November, putting a selected item into it each day

We know it's hard for many more people this year, that's why most of the items listed are small – and if a whole Food Bank box is just too much, why not join in with friends or neighbours, or classmates or work colleagues?

## Reverse Advent Calendar – November 2022



Please try and put an item in your own box each day in November  
*(remember, long use-by dates please and no fresh food – except Christmas cake and Christmas puddings, which usually have long dates )*

|                       |                 |                            |                       |                      |    |  |
|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----|--|
|                       | 1               | 2                          | 3                     | 4                    | 5  |  |
| Stuffing Mix          | Cranberry Sauce | Tinned Potatoes            | Instant Mash          | Christmas Cake       |    |  |
|                       |                 | (small)                    |                       |                      |    |  |
|                       | 6               | 7                          | 8                     | 9                    | 10 |  |
| Christmas Pud (small) | Custard         | Nuts/nibbles               | Chocolate Biscuits    | Christmas chocolates |    |  |
|                       | 11              | 12                         | 13                    | 14                   | 15 |  |
| Crisps (6-pack)       | Chocolate Bars  | Long Life Fruit Juice (1L) | Long Life Milk (1L)   | Rice                 |    |  |
|                       | 16              | 17                         | 18                    | 19                   | 20 |  |
| Packet Soups          | Sponge Puddings | Tinned Fruit               | Tinned Rice Pudding   | Tinned Spaghetti     |    |  |
|                       | 21              | 22                         | 23                    | 24                   | 25 |  |
| Tinned Ready Meals    | Tinned Meat     | Tinned Tomatoes            | Tea Bags (40 if poss) |                      |    |  |
|                       |                 | Washing-up Liquid          |                       |                      |    |  |
|                       | 26              | 27                         | 28                    | 29                   | 30 |  |
| Shampoo               | Conditioner     | Shower Gel                 | Deodorant             | Toothbrushes         |    |  |

Please can you bring your boxes to The Forge in Lucking Street by  
**Sunday 4th December** so that Ann & Steve can take them to  
 Halstead Food Bank on Monday 5th December

## Local and National Authority Representatives

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### Essex County Council

Councillor Peter Schwier - [cllr.peter.schwier@essex.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.peter.schwier@essex.gov.uk)

### Braintree District Council

#### Great and Little Maplestead

Councillor Peter Schwier - [cllr.pschwier@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.pschwier@braintree.gov.uk)

#### Gestingthorpe

Councillor Wendy Scattergood - [cllr.wscattergood@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.wscattergood@braintree.gov.uk)

#### Pebmarsh

Councillor George Courtauld - [cllr.gcourtauld@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.gcourtauld@braintree.gov.uk)

Councillor Gabrielle Spray - [cllr.gspray@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.gspray@braintree.gov.uk)

### Westminster

James Cleverly MP - [james.cleverly.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:james.cleverly.mp@parliament.uk)

## Parish Council Websites

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|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Gestingthorpe     | <a href="http://www.gestingthorpepc.co.uk">www.gestingthorpepc.co.uk</a>           |
| Great Maplestead  | <a href="http://www.greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk">www.greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk</a>       |
| Little Maplestead | <a href="http://www.littlemaplesteadpc.co.uk">www.littlemaplesteadpc.co.uk</a>     |
| Pebmarsh          | <a href="http://www.parishcouncil.pebmarsh.com">www.parishcouncil.pebmarsh.com</a> |

## Village Emergency Telephone Service (VETS)

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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**

## Neighbourhood Watch representatives

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

## The Churchwardens serving our Benefice are

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|                   |               |              |  |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|--|
| Great Maplestead  | Gill Peskett  | 01787 462786 | <a href="mailto:gillpeskett43@gmail.com">gillpeskett43@gmail.com</a>           |
|                   | Jill Newton   | 01787 463893 | <a href="mailto:gilliannewton4@gmail.com">gilliannewton4@gmail.com</a>         |
| Little Maplestead |               |              |  |
| Gestingthorpe     | Alice Nolda   | 01787 469688 | -  |
|                   | Peter Nice    | 01787 460126 | <a href="mailto:peter.427nice@btinternet.com">peter.427nice@btinternet.com</a> |
| Pebmarsh          | Jim Crayston  | 07957870340  | <a href="mailto:jim@craystonfarms.co.uk">jim@craystonfarms.co.uk</a>           |
|                   | Sarah Burgess | 01787 269092 | <a href="mailto:sarahburgess@btinternet.com">sarahburgess@btinternet.com</a>   |

## **Church Services in November 2022**

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|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Sunday 6 November     | 9:30 Holy Communion Great Maplestead<br>9:30 Morning Prayer Gestingthorpe<br>11am Holy Communion Little Maplestead   |
| Friday 11 November    | 10:45 Pebmarsh War Memorial  |
| Sunday 13 November    | 10:45 Remembrance Service Gestingthorpe  |
| Sunday 20 November    | 9:30 Holy Communion Pebmarsh<br>9:30 Morning Worship Great Maplestead<br>11am Holy Communion Gestingthorpe   |
| Wednesday 23 November | 10:00 Holy Communion Gestingthorpe   |
| Sunday 27 November    | 9:30 Holy Communion Great Maplestead<br>9:30 Morning Prayer Little Maplestead<br>11:00 Morning Worship Pebmarsh<br>4pm Advent Evening Prayer Gestingthorpe |

### **Warm Haven**

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#### **St Giles Church, Great Maplestead.**

Winter can be a difficult time for some, it can be isolating with the shorter days and cold weather and this winter with rising costs of energy and food prices. we are also facing financial challenges. In acknowledging these issues St Giles Church will be offering the Tower Room as a warm haven, and all are welcome to make use of this space.

The room will be open during daylight hours, refreshments will be available for you to help yourself, books and magazines will be provided to read or borrow. If you want to bring your laptop or phone to work Wifi is available. Stay for as long as you like, you might meet others there or you might not, either way you are most welcome to use the space as often as you like.

Rev'd Beverley

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## Coming up and save the date

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Wednesday mornings Coffee at St Giles, Great Maplestead  
3 November The Maple Leaves - Radiant Beauty Great Maplestead  
3 November Quiz Night Kings Head Pebmarsh  
4 and 18 November Gestingthorpe Gathering Coffee Mornings  
5 November Cost of Living Liaison Group Great Maplestead  
5 November Fireworks Kings Head Pebmarsh  
26 November Charlie Haylock Gestingthorpe History Society  
26 November Festive Coffee Morning Great Maplestead  
26 November Quiz Night Great Maplestead  
30 November Skittles Gestingthorpe

### The Reverend Beverley Vincent

[khvicar@gmail.com](mailto:khvicar@gmail.com) 07944 200132  
The Rectory 01787 460273  
Church Street  
Great Maplestead  
Halstead  
CO9 2RG



The copy deadline for the September magazine is **Friday 18 November 2022**

We need to know who, what, where and when .....

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

#### Copy

|                   |                  |              |  |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------|--|
| Editor            | Jenny Bishop     | 07906 083999 | <a href="mailto:pmeditor@icloud.com">pmeditor@icloud.com</a>               |
| Gestingthorpe     | Andy Craig       | 07970 395640 | <a href="mailto:andy@mdamarketing.com">andy@mdamarketing.com</a>           |
| Gt Maplestead     | Ann Harris       | 01787 462818 | <a href="mailto:ann66harris@gmail.com">ann66harris@gmail.com</a>           |
| Little Maplestead | Beverley Bratley | 01787 473281 | <a href="mailto:beverley.bratley@gmail.com">beverley.bratley@gmail.com</a> |
| Pebmarsh          | Luke Brown       | 07919 375341 | <a href="mailto:lhwbrown@hotmail.co.uk">lhwbrown@hotmail.co.uk</a>         |

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### Parish News Website

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The magazine is available on the Parish News website, which is a gateway to our four villages and their churches. The website address is:

[www.knights-hospitallers.org.uk](http://www.knights-hospitallers.org.uk)