

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

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**Church and Community together**  
**September 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

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	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



We have been living through some really scary weather. I don't know about your gardens but mine is suffering. I visited both Hyde Hall and Beth Chatto to look at what survives in this sort of weather. All very pale and lavender in colour apart from Gaura which floated beautifully and was the brightest thing in either garden. I shall be adding some to my garden, but not until the autumn,

I am doing a huge sort out at home, the charity shops are gaining a lot of stuff. It is a really cathartic thing to do. It makes me realise how much 'stuff' I have that I neither want or need. I am applying the William Morris philosophy:

"Have nothing in your house that you do not know to be useful, or believe to be beautiful."

I shall save some for the Great Maplestead Jumble Sale on the 17 September in Great Maplestead Village Hall.

Again, a plea for a new editor. I shall be retiring at the end of the year, and it is always useful to have a handover period, so please get in touch. If no one is willing to take over the magazine will fold at the end of this year.

## Contents

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Page 2	Village contacts and information
Page 3	Letter from the Editor
Page 4	Letter from our Vicar
Page 5	Bus service
Page 6-10	Little Maplestead
Page 11	Nature Notes
Page 12-14, 17	Great Maplestead
Page 18	Gardening Corner
Page 19-20	Gestingthorpe
Page 21	Pets Corner
Page 22-24	Pebmarsh
Page 25	Drivers wanted
Page 26	Cooking Corner
Page 27	Braintree Area Food Bank
Page 28	Hedingham Heritage Society
Page 29-30	Local information
Page 31	Church services
Page 32	Coming up, save the date and the Parish News website

## Letter from the Reverend Beverley Vincent

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September is here and we prepare once again to enjoy the colours of autumn, the 'seedtime and the harvest' being sung about again in our churches and schools, as we recognise the familiarity of the turning of the seasons.

But the recent heat wave and drought in parts of Britain and also in significant areas of the globe have meant that the browned dry grassland and fields, hedges and verges have been with us for quite some time, with devastating wildfires breaking out across both fields and forests. The seasons seem less defined, the wildlife less prevalent, and the lives we live just a little more precarious perhaps.

We have to ask ourselves, what are we doing to our world and what are we doing to mitigate disaster?

The Millenium Seed Bank at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew suggests that two in five plant species are in danger of extinction – not just from this year's drought or fire but as a consequence of our failure to look after our world with respect and the devastating changes to the climate that are happening as a result. The Millenium Seed Project is collecting seeds from as many species across the UK and the world as it can. It will keep them at sub-zero temperatures in specially designed underground flood, bomb and radiation-proof vaults. They currently have over 2.4 billion seeds - and counting! A 'Noah's Ark' of seeds for the future, should we need it.

The seed is so important for the future of our world, so important for our survival, so important to God that we should be mindful to make sure that we do our best to protect and preserve it.

This autumn perhaps we could find the space and time to reflect on the precariousness of our ecosystems, to think about how we use the world's resources and to make the changes needed in our own lives to preserve our world. Perhaps also, we could sow, plant or grow something new for God and for the future of our world.

*Rev'd Beverley*



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 £2.50 single, £4 return. Concessionary bus passes are accepted after 0900 Monday to Friday and all day on Saturdays.

For more information 01621 874410 or [info@essexandsuffolkdart.co.uk](mailto:info@essexandsuffolkdart.co.uk).

## Sudbury - Gestingthorpe - Pebmarsh - Gt Maplestead - Halstead (Demand Responsive Service) F315

	Monday to Friday (Except Bank Holidays)						Saturday						
Operator	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT
Notes	STATH	STATH	STATH	STATH	STATH	BOOK STA	STATH	STATH	STATH	STATH	STATH	STATH	BOOK STA
Sudbury, Bus Station (A)	0900	1100	1300	1530	1730	1915	0900	1100	1300	1530	1730	1915	
Ballingdon, Strawberry Stores (opp)	0903	1103	1303	1533	1733	1918	0903	1103	1303	1533	1733	1918	
Bulmer Tye, Park Lane (adj)	0907	1107	1307	1537	1737	1922	0907	1107	1307	1537	1737	1922	
Bulmer, The Street (adj)	0911	1111	1311	1541	1741	1926	0911	1111	1311	1541	1741	1926	
Gestingthorpe, Foundry Corner (S-bound)	0917	1117	1317	1547	1747	1932	0917	1117	1317	1547	1747	1932	
Wickham St Paul, The Victory (o/s)	0923	1123	1323	1553	1753	1938	0923	1123	1323	1553	1753	1938	
Pebmarsh, The Kings Head (o/s)	0932	1132	1332	1602	1802	1947	0932	1132	1332	1602	1802	1947	
Pebmarsh, War Memorial (opp)	0933	1133	1333	1603	1803	1948	0933	1133	1333	1603	1803	1948	
Little Maplestead, The Cock (W-bound)	0939	1139	1339	1609	1809	1954	0939	1139	1339	1609	1809	1954	
Great Maplestead, Church (opp)	0945	1145	1345	1615	1815	2000	0945	1145	1345	1615	1815	2000	
Little Maplestead, Little Maplestead Pump (E-bound)	0951	1151	1351	1621	1821	2006	0951	1151	1351	1621	1821	2006	
Halstead, High Street (SW-bound)	0956	1156	1356	1626	1826	2011	0956	1156	1356	1626	1826	2011	
<b>Sunday</b>													
no service							no service						

**NOTES**

BOOK Journey must be pre-booked

STA Most times approximate (confirm by booking on 01621 874411, costs apply)

TH Passengers to/from Pebmarsh and Gt. Maplestead must pre-book

**OPERATORS**

ARWT Arrow Taxis Essex Ltd 01621 855111

Suffolk 01/12/2021

## Halstead - Gt Maplestead - Pebmarsh - Gestingthorpe - Sudbury (Demand Responsive Service) F315

	Monday to Friday (Except Bank Holidays)						Saturday						
Operator	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT	ARWT
Notes	STATS	STATS	STATS	STATS	STATS	BOOK STA	STATS	STATS	STATS	STATS	STATS	STATS	BOOK STA
Halstead, High Street (NE-bound)	0730	1000	1200	1400	1630	1830	0730	1000	1200	1400	1630	1830	
Little Maplestead, Little Maplestead Pump (W-bound)	0735	1005	1205	1405	1635	1835	0735	1005	1205	1405	1635	1835	
Great Maplestead, Church (opp)	0741	1011	1211	1411	1641	1841	0741	1011	1211	1411	1641	1841	
Little Maplestead, The Cock (E-bound)	0749	1017	1217	1417	1647	1847	0749	1017	1217	1417	1647	1847	
Pebmarsh, War Memorial (opp)	0754	1023	1223	1423	1653	1853	0754	1023	1223	1423	1653	1853	
Pebmarsh, The Kings Head (opp)	0755	1024	1224	1424	1654	1854	0755	1024	1224	1424	1654	1854	
Wickham St Paul, The Victory (opp)	0804	1033	1233	1433	1703	1903	0804	1033	1233	1433	1703	1903	
Gestingthorpe, Foundry Corner (N-bound)	0810	1039	1239	1439	1709	1909	0810	1039	1239	1439	1709	1909	
Bulmer, The Street (opp)	0815	1045	1245	1445	1715	1915	0815	1045	1245	1445	1715	1915	
Bulmer Tye, Park Lane (opp)	0819	1049	1249	1449	1719	1919	0819	1049	1249	1449	1719	1919	
Ballingdon, Strawberry Stores (o/s)	0823	1053	1253	1453	1723	1923	0823	1053	1253	1453	1723	1923	
Sudbury, Bus Station (A)	0830	1056	1256	1456	1728	1928	0830	1056	1256	1456	1728	1928	
<b>Sunday</b>													
no service							no service						

**NOTES**

BOOK Journey must be pre-booked

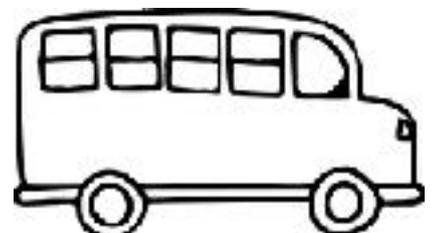
STA Most times approximate (confirm by booking on 01621 874411, costs apply)

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**OPERATORS**

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Suffolk 01/12/2021



# Little Maplestead

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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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You are cordially invited to come to our

## Harvest Lunch

a 3 course home-cooked meal in the Round Church

Little Maplestead

Sunday October 2nd at 12noon

Tickets Adults £10 Children £5

Please contact

Jane Piper on 01787 473933

to book your place or for further details

Please bring your own beverage and glasses!

Our Harvest Lunch is always a very popular and well-attended event. The food is home cooked from scratch by our volunteers and brought to the church on the day, just in time to be enjoyed.

It takes a few people a lot of time and effort or a lot of people very little time and effort to organise the event.

We would be delighted if you would be one of the many who will volunteer to help before, during and after the event.

If you can help with any of the following please let me know:

- Preparing the church on Saturday afternoon
- Cooking a main or a dessert to serve 6 or 8
- Buying cream, cheese, butter, bread or chocolates
- Arranging 6 table posies
- Providing tablecloths
- Washing up... and anything else I have not thought
- 



of!

Please call Jane Piper on 01787 473933

**Thank you**

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## More Little Maplestead

### Craft Fair at the Round Church

Following a very successful plant sale in May we are holding the second part of our annual event on Saturday September 10th with our Craft Fair. This is a fantastic opportunity to come along and see a whole variety of crafts in the widest sense of the word. Every stall is a local business so it is great to support them as well as raising funds for our little church. The regular favourites like Tiger Lily bags, Zebra Jewellery and wonderful Craft gins will be there. In addition we have a local artist bringing paintings and our local beautician will be there with the amazing Neal's Yard products for sale. This year we will also have a local author who also sells ceramics and will have copies of her book for sale

Our legendary tea and cake stall will also be returning due to popular demand. So pop along on the day to enjoy a browse and a cup of tea with a slice of cake with friends. If anyone would like to help out on the tea stall or make a cake for us please do get in touch with Jane on 472525. We would love to have some new helpers join us for an hour or two. See our poster in the magazine for further details. We look forward to seeing you all there!

## Maplesteads' WEA

# WEA

The majority of articles and reviews of paintings and illustrations depicting wartime events omit to mention the many talented **Women War Artists** commissioned to undertake such work.

To find out why these women have been ignored, and to discuss and appreciate some of their unjustly neglected art in an informal, friendly atmosphere, enrol for our **7-week course** online at [www.wea.org.uk](http://www.wea.org.uk) or by phone on **0300 303 3464 (quoting C2228954)**.

This course will help to correct the conventional narrative; it starts on **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm** in **Great Maplestead Village Hall**.

We're confident you will find it both enlightening and informative...

Please contact the Maplesteads' WEA Secretary, Jean Bowers prior to the first session for any further information: Tel: 01787 460 181 or E-mail: [jean.bowers@wea.ac.uk](mailto:jean.bowers@wea.ac.uk)

More details at <https://greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk/community-village-life/wea/>



# Craft Fair

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September 10 am - 3.00 pm

at the Round Church

Little Maplestead CO9 2SL



- Handbags and Scarves
- Local Crafts
- Books & bric-a-brac

- Jewellery
- Greeting Cards
- Craft Gins



- Ceramics, Pottery
- Local Artist
- Beautician
- Plus many more!

*Refreshments available:*

*Snacks, Teas, and Cakes*

£1 entry includes free cup of tea/coffee.

Free entry for children



**Little Maplestead Parish Council** invites you to

# Meet the Police

on

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 10.30am**

in

## The Round Church

**PCSO 70714 John Thorne** will be explaining what's involved with policing in our area and discussing with parishioners matters that are of particular interest/concern.

If there are any aspects of local policing you would like to talk about with him, for example:

- ✚ Speeding/Speed Checks
- ✚ Rural Crime
- ✚ Hare Coursing
- ✚ Safety & Security (Property & Equipment)
- ✚ Reporting Suspicious Activity
- ✚ Response Times

please submit your questions in advance to the **Parish Clerk:**

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

**Meet the Police** has been set up to enable you to talk directly with a member of our local **Community Policing Team** – please make the most of this special opportunity.

# More Little Maplestead

## The Order of St John

The annual Choral Evensong service was held at the Round Church on the 12th June, after a gap of 2 years due to the pandemic. Our picturesque church of St John the Baptist has links to St John through the Knights Hospitaller dating back to 1185. This annual event is unique and very special to the Order of St John in Essex. The procession ahead of the service used to start in the village and makes its way up to the church but now it begins at the gate.

The weather was extremely kind to us and guests included:

- Lord Lieutenant of Essex, Mrs Jennifer Tolhurst
- The High Sheriff of Essex, Mr Nick Alston Esq and Mrs Phillipa Alston
- The Chairman of Essex County Council and his wife, Councillor Eddie Johnston and Mrs Carol Johnston
- Mr Michael Messinger, Chancellor of the Priory of England and the Islands
- Mrs Caroline Sunnucks of the Order of Malta

Other guests included long standing friends and Members of the Order of St John in Essex, including Knights of Grace, Lord Petre and Bob Mann. The Lord Lieutenant was superbly supported by the St John Ambulance Cadet of the Year for Essex, Kaavya Chandrasekar.

The sermon was delivered by the County Chaplain, Fr James McCluskey.

Following the service, two presentations were made:

- The Jack Petchey Award to Rebekah Pike, for work supporting Vaccination Training at Stanstead Airport
- An award recognising 7 years as County President to John Hopkins MStJ JP as he steps down from the role.



## Nature Notes

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What an extraordinary summer we are having! As I write we are enduring our second heat wave, this one (only mid-30s) less exhausting than the first, but still a challenge. The garden is a brown swathe, yet the rabbits are still visiting and birds flit about, seemingly unaffected. We ensure there is water available all the time and this must help.

Despite the weather there has been some remarkable sightings since last reporting. Most unexpected was in early July when I photographed a white-letter hairstreak on the Alderford road early in the morning. This is an uncommon butterfly, more so as it is very elusive and can occur undetected, spending much of its time in the canopy of elms, particularly wych elm, where it lays its eggs. Sitting on the road seemed so out of character; I reached out to touch it, but it flew off strongly, much to my delight.



By mid-July birdsong is on the wane, but an unusual melodious song, reminiscent of a blackcap, was followed by a clear view of a garden warbler, my first record for the patch. While fairly common in southern England, the garden warbler has a patchy distribution in Essex. It is a plain pale grey with no distinguishing features and rather secretive, so easily overlooked. The similarity of its song to that of the blackcap also contributes to its relative anonymity. It is always nice to add a new bird to the patch list.

Perhaps the most surprising event was a collection of red kites spotted in a field by a neighbour, who kindly alerted me to the fact. There were five gathered on the ground – they didn't appear to be doing anything in particular and soon took to the air. My neighbour called again later to say she had counted nine on the wing, an astonishing number given they are usually seen in ones or twos.



On a more mundane though no less charming note, the new generation of robins is already starting to sport the red breast that is their hallmark. When first out of the nest they are dark brown with spots, almost thrush-like, and can be mistaken as such. Worth looking out for, they have the robin's shape and habits but not the colours we are used to. Juvenile blue and great tits are also much duller than the adults but they take longer to assume their full splendour.

**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

### **Coffee at St Giles**

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Come to the Wednesday Coffee Mornings the Tower Room at St. Giles. We'll be serving from 10.30am until noon – outdoors if it's warm enough, in the church if not. Also twice a month after the St. Giles services on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. Please come along and join us if you can.

### **The Maplesteads' Autumn Show**

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Saturday 10th September

We hope that all Maplesteads' residents have received their schedule for this year's Autumn Show in Great Maplestead Village Hall and have found something of interest for all the family.

Otherwise, a full schedule can be viewed and downloaded at: <https://greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk/parish-information/activities/autumn-show/>

The Committee hope for a good show, despite the recent heat and, until recently, lack of rain.

If your fruit, flowers and vegetable have suffered in the sun maybe you would consider entering the Domestic Cup or the Craft Cup instead.

Alternatively there is the Men's Challenge Cup, the Photographic Trophy, which is open to adults and children, as well as the specific categories for children – we are looking forward to seeing their wonderful creations.

And don't forget the tallest sunflower competition – contact Jo Green (e-mail [jo@stgreenbuilders.co.uk](mailto:jo@stgreenbuilders.co.uk)) to register.

Please bring your entries to the Hall either on Friday 9th, between 6.30-7.30pm, or on Saturday 10th, between 11.30am-2.30pm.

The Hall will close at 2.30pm for judging and will reopen at 5.30pm for viewing and prize giving.

There will be refreshments, a produce sale and raffle so please come along for an enjoyable evening and take home some bargains.

For any further information please contact Carol Brownlie on 01787 461 527 or e-mail [carolbrownlie@gmail.com](mailto:carolbrownlie@gmail.com)

## More Great Maplestead

### *The Maplesteads'* **JUMBIE SALE**

*is back in Great Maplestead Village Hall!*  
**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 3.00pm**

**Admission 30p : Raffle & Refreshments**

All donations of clothing, fabrics, toys, books, bric-a-brac and small pieces of furniture  
(e.g. tables/chairs) welcome  
[but **no large furniture**, such as beds, wardrobes or settees, please]

For further information contact: Diane Smith (473 300) or Doreen Faulks (460 727)

**Deliver contributions to the Village Hall only on:**

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September : 8.00am-4.00pm**  
or **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September : 8.00am-noon**



*All proceeds in aid of the Village Hall*

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

## **NEW CPR & DEFIBRILLATOR COURSE**

for **Maplesteads' Parishioners**



to be held in

**Great Maplestead Village Hall**

on



# **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October**

**Session 1: 10.30am - 12.00pm**

**Session 2: 2.00pm - 3.30pm**



*Please wear suitable clothing, as training involves kneeling on the floor and leaning across "patients".  
Also bring a pen/pencil & notepad.*

**Refreshments will be provided**



The course is **free** – to reserve your place, please confirm your attendance and session preference in advance to:

**Ann Crisp** – E-mail: [anncrisp@greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk](mailto:anncrisp@greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk) or tel: 01787 460 216

## More Great Maplestead

**The Maple Leaves present...**

*...an entertaining evening in Great Maplestead  
Village Hall, with an interesting talk by*

**The Detectorist**

**Thursday 1st September**

*Starts 7.30pm : Members & Guests welcome*

*Guest Speaker Howard Davis will be giving a talk on*

**‘The Lefts and Rights of Metal Detecting’**

*a presentation about treasure hunting in the local area, how it works,  
and what can be found - he has some stories to tell!*

**Entry £2** *(to include refreshments)*

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

**Save the Date!**

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October**

**Maple Leaves present...**

**...Paula Short talking about ‘Stars in the War’**

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October**

**Centenary Celebration of the Village Hall Opening  
and a Greyhound Race Night!**

**More information in the October Magazine**



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## More Great Maplestead

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### DAVID OAKES : 1942 - 2022

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David Oakes of Great Maplestead sadly passed away on 21st June 2022.

A Chartered Mechanical Engineer by profession, and indeed by thinking, he would say, 'Always do the right thing'. Born and brought up in Beckenham, he left college with an Engineering Diploma, starting work with British Rail, perhaps in some way connected to his lifelong interest in trains.

When David retired in 1996, he and his wife Sue moved to the village, spending much time and effort turning their cottage into their new home with a beautiful garden which was Sue's pride and joy, while David (now a general garden labourer) definitely enjoyed a cold beer in the garden at the end of the day, watching the sun set over the fields.

David contributed greatly to the community, serving on the Parish Council and co-editing the Village Design Statement, where he spent much time coordinating the team and bringing the work together. He would regularly attend Parish Council Meetings, always ready to ask relevant questions.

He was an active member of the village Task Force, eagerly lending a hand whenever required, ditch clearing and tidying the churchyard, where he could usually be found managing the bonfire. He regularly conducted a solo litter pick round the village, which usually resulted in a 'pit-stop' (or two) for a coffee.

Ready to lend a hand and always good company with a great sense of humour, David was never short of an invitation and his easy company lead him to 'bubble' with his friends and neighbours during the pandemic.

Naturally, he had many interests and kept in regular contact with family, friends and colleagues, often travelling either by train or car to see his daughter Natasha in Yorkshire, his son Trevor in Scotland and regularly flying to New Zealand to see his sister Margaret. David loved walking and travelling and in recent times crossing Australia by train and spending time in Switzerland with friends from the village, including travelling on the Glacier Express, combining trains, scenery and friends all in one activity.

With the many interests he actively pursued, he contributed his time generously and enjoyed life to the full.

David will be missed by all those who were lucky enough to know him.

**David Money – Great Maplestead**

## Gardening Corner

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We are experiencing incredibly dry conditions at present and any 'grey' water that can be recycled is a bonus. I find washing-up water, collected in a bowl, can revive a flagging shrub in a matter of hours. If you can, water first thing in the morning or mid evening when the sun is low.

Plant of the month for me is the *Agapanthus africanus*: both the striking blue and white varieties make a bold statement in a flower border. Do read the label when you buy the bulb to make sure your garden can provide the right conditions. *Agapanthus* tend to like their roots restricted and are ideal grown in a pot; they can then be moved into a cool greenhouse or placed in a sheltered location for the winter. They are on sale at the moment, you will be spoilt for choice.



It is important to continue dead-heading, especially annuals and repeat flowering roses. Look out for lupin aphid and cut the stems right down. Dahlias need to be staked and, if you take out the side shoots, the larger varieties especially will reward you with excellent blooms.

Try and 'wet' your greenhouse floor when watering in the evenings, as this will create humidity and help slow down excess drying out. Continue to dig up second early potatoes and pick French beans, courgettes and spring onions. Main crop potatoes can be lifted too; the dry weather has 'crisped' the tops.

Remember, it is important to keep yourself hydrated as well as your plants!



Keep cool

**The Arborist**

## **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 September will be held on the Fridays of the 9 and 23 of September. All Friday 'gatherings' start at 10am and run until 12 noon.



## **RAISE THE ROOF PARTY AN EVENING OF MAGIC, MUSIC AND FRIENDS AT GESTINGTHORPE VILLAGE HALL 30 SEPTEMBER 2022 7PM**

- \* **Tickets £15 (Entry, buffet, 1 free drink, Magical entertainment, Lucky door prize)**
- \* **Cash bar - Card Payment Available**
- \* **For tickets email [Gestingthorpevillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:Gestingthorpevillagehall@gmail.com) or call Penny 07840 367172**
- \* **All funds raised go towards running costs and capital improvements of the Village Hall**

### **Book Club**

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There is a book club that takes place on the first Tuesday evening of each month at 7.30pm. The next meeting is the 6 September - they are currently reading 'Vera by Elizabeth von Arnim.

There is also a book exchange open during the coffee mornings, bring a book to swap or buy a book for £1.

## More Gestingthorpe

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### Cricket

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28th August Home to Castle Hedingham 1:30pm

4th September Away to Bures 1:30pm

11th September Home to Dedham 1:30pm

18th September Home to Halstead Rovers 1:30pm

### Red Arrows

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On Sunday August the 21st we were lucky to have the Red Arrows pass over Gestingthorpe, we are used to planes passing overhead as they come into land at Stansted, but these were a little louder, lower and faster!

Have a look at the photograph on the front cover.

### Fun Fit Fab

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When the weather turns in the Autumn, the Fun Fit Fab exercise classes will move from the playing field to the village hall - but not yet.



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## Pets Corner

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Growing up, I had a much-loved dog: a black Labrador called Peter. One of my earliest memories is playing with him in the snow in our back garden when I was 3 years old. This was in the late 60's. Snow was new to both of us, and we both had a fabulous time eating (and possibly playing) with it. Frankly it's just nice thinking about snow at the moment, never mind my old pal.

Fast forward 47 years(!) and Cathy, I and our 3 boys were debating getting our own dog. I was on gardening leave for 3 months, so the argument put forward by everyone else was that I'd have time to puppy

train it. Despite my best resistance I finally caved and the vision of spending 3 months skiing or lying on a beach promptly vanished. My proviso, of course, it had to be a black lab.

After a short search a little black pup duly arrived, and we named him Rigby. This was either after Leonard Rossiter's character in *Rising Damp* (although that's actually Rigsby), or a chap I worked with who both enjoyed eating and seemed to spend much time at work fast asleep. Perhaps a combination of the two. Rigby certainly has his namesakes' characteristics – that is eating and sleeping – and being a miserly curmudgeon, but only when it comes to food.

Other than meals, Rigby's favourite things are broadly any woman, and chasing things. On this last point, our move to Great Maplestead from Chelmsford a year ago was probably the most exciting thing to happen in his life. The range of different things to chase has gone from one (cats), to some huge number. So much so that he now generally looks a little confused when presented with a deer/rabbit/hare/pheasant and tends not to bother any more. That said, for dog (and man?) maybe this is just a feature of middle age.

Rigby's least favourite things are hats, tall men, and French Bulldogs. All 3 in combination is likely to send a generally lovable, friendly creature into an unexplained paroxysm of barking. We have no idea why.

So, if you see us wandering around the village on one of our many walks, do come and say hello. Unless you're a tall man in a hat, in which case take your hat off and bend a bit at the knees. That said, if you have food, then he'll just love you anyway.

**Richard Price**

# 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 your village Volunteer.

### Friends of Pebmarsh Church Summer Draw

£1,140 Raised - A big Thank You to all who bought a ticket, as well as those that sold them and supplied the prizes.

An especially BIG Shout out to The Kings Head Pebmarsh, who sold over £200 of tickets over the bar AND contributed a fantastic prize.

Result of the Raffle drawn at "A Bit of a Do" by Mr Michael Barnes (Pictured)

1st Prize Hamper worth £250 won by Mrs Jo Watson of Mapelstead (pictured) who said "I am really thrilled - I never win anything!"

2nd Prize of a case of champagne ~ Mr Peter Hogsbjerg

3rd Prize Dinner for two at The Kings Head ~ Ms Ceri Yates.

Many congratulations to all the winners.

Watch out for our 2023 Raffle - Bigger and even better.



## More Pebmarsh

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### Interested in an Allotment?

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Absolutely nothing surpasses the flavour of fresh home grown produce or indeed the satisfaction of having grown it yourself.

If you are of a mind to grow your own but maybe don't have enough garden space why not consider renting one of the allotment plots in Pebmarsh.

They are managed by a charity and details can be obtained from Graham Tufnell by e-mailing [grahamtufnell@btinternet.com](mailto:grahamtufnell@btinternet.com).

Nott Family Trust

**St John the Baptist Church Pebmarsh**

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Since our last magazine in July, we have seen record temperatures and little or no rain. Our gardens and trees and many crops suffering and an early and quick harvest for many. Many farmers will be facing a hard time ahead as preparing and sowing next year's crop will be a challenge.

We have had a stand at the village "Bit of a Do" organised by Mr Barnes and his team. The Friends of Pebmarsh Church had a very successful raffle organised by John Flack. John was in attendance most of the weekend and we greatly appreciate all he did to make the stand and raffle happen. Thank you to all who gave their time to help man our stall over the two days and Perry Crimmins for putting together a great dog friendly tombola.

Our rounders match went ahead on the 31st July and, believe it or not, we had some rain although thankfully only a few small showers. £88.00 was raised for the church and our thanks go to Mark Harrington and Laura McGlashan for organising the event. An entertaining afternoon for all and only a couple of balls lost. So, if your dog finds a rounders ball in the hedge at the village football pitch could you leave it in the church porch ready for next year!

I previously mentioned our clock needed repairing. The good news is the specialist team have been out to remove the hand and part of the mechanism that had been damaged and taken it away for repair. We are hopeful it will be up and running soon.

We have unfortunately had to put the repair of the wall on hold as the funds weren't place in time to meet the weather deadline. This was due to the use of lime mortar. So, we are now aiming for the Spring next year once the frosts have finished. The Friends of Pebmarsh Church have been working hard to secure the grants need. We know they were very disappointed not to be able to start in August, but we are very grateful for all their efforts on our behalf.

# More Pebmarsh

## More St John the Baptist Church Pebmarsh

Pebmarsh Church saw our first baptism for a long time in July as Felicity Chamley and her family and friends attended the church for a short service. It was so nice to see the church full of children playing and joining in with Beverly's sermon. The only downside was no one else was offered a marmalade sandwich. But I'm sure Paddington enjoyed it!

Pebmarsh school visited us for its Year 6 Leaver Service in July which was emotional as teachers and staff said their farewells, as well as the children. The children all spoke beautifully about their time at the school, how positive it had been for them, and the many memories and lessons they will carry with them for the rest of their lives.

On the 28th of July we helped the Williams family to say their final goodbyes to Violet Williams who had lived in the village since 1957, but until more recently she had stayed in care. She will be remembered for her strong and colourful character.

On the 23rd of August we will be hosting the celebration of life for Margaret Harrington who has also lived in the village since the 1950's and will be remembered by many in the village with great fondness

Our condolences go to both families at this difficult time.

Next services

Sarah Burgess Church Warden

# Braintree Male Voice Choir

**Are you male? Do you enjoy singing?**

**Then why not join the Braintree Male Voice Choir?**

Singing is good for you (doctors have proved that)  
Singing together is even better (psychologists have shown that)

The Choir sing a variety of songs, from classics such as *Nessun Dorma* and *Morte Chryste*, through *Bring Him Home*, *Sweet Caroline*, Ed Sheeran's *Perfect* and, recently added, the popular *The Wellerman*.

Rehearsals are for **two hours** in Braintree on **Wednesday evenings, from 7.30pm** at:  
**St Peter's Church Hall, St Peter's in the Fields, Braintree CM7 9AR**  
The next sessions start in September.

Do I have to be able to read music? **No**  
Do I have to have an audition? **No**  
Will I have to sing alone? **No**

**So what's stopping you?**

Contact the Choir Secretary Ron Fosker on 01376 512 582 or [rfosker@btinternet.com](mailto:rfosker@btinternet.com) for details  
or go to the Choir's website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/thebraintreemalevoicechoir/>  
and fill in the contact form

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[community.transport@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:community.transport@braintree.gov.uk)  
[www.braintree.gov.uk/communitytransport](http://www.braintree.gov.uk/communitytransport)



## Cookery Corner

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### Greek Briam (baked mixed vegetables)

A very easy-to-make vegetable dish that can be served on its own with some crusty bread or as a side dish to BBQ meats, especially lamb.

#### Ingredients:

Greek extra virgin olive oil  
6 garlic cloves, sliced  
2 tbsps dried oregano  
3 sprigs of rosemary  
2 tbsps chopped fresh parsley  
250ml passata  
500g waxy potatoes, peeled and cut into chunks  
2 large courgettes, diced  
1 large aubergine, diced  
1 large red onion, thickly chopped  
1 large red pepper, cut into chunks  
1 large green pepper, cut into chunks  
6 medium tomatoes, chopped into wedges



#### Method:

Preheat the oven to gas mark 5 (170oC Fan or 190oC).

Drizzle some olive oil into a large roasting tin and spread the potatoes evenly across the base of the tin. Season with salt and pepper.

Add the garlic & courgettes as your next layer and again season with salt and pepper.

Work up the layers, with the aubergine then the peppers and then the onion, seasoning as before between each layer.

Sprinkle 1 tbsp of oregano and 1 tbsp of parsley over the top, then layer on the chopped tomatoes. Add the rest of the herbs and season again.

Pour passata over the top and add 200ml water. Finish with another generous drizzle of olive oil.

Cover the roasting tin tightly with foil and bake for about 1½ hours, or until vegetables are tender, then it is ready to serve.

Suitable for 4 people as a main meal, or 6 as a side dish.

Kali Orexi!

**Ann Crisp:** Great Maplestead



**We have a new collection point in the Tower Room, at St Giles Church, Great Maplestead, please drop off your donations if you can.**

5708 emergency food parcels were provided to people between April 2021 and March 2022. 2596 of these went to children.

And we expect this to rise further, which is why we are asking for stock items so that we can maintain our food parcels.

We currently have good stocks of dried pasta and pasta sauce.

\* Please note: We ask for small packs as larger packs do not fit in our boxes making it difficult for our clients to carry home we are also unable (for hygiene reasons) to split large size or catering packs.

#### URGENT FOOD ITEMS

- SPONGE PUDDING (TWIN PACK)
- TINNED SPAGHETTI
- TINNED FRUIT
- TINNED RICE PUDDING
- INSTANT MASH
- INSTANT SNACK (POT NOODLE ETC)
- PACKET SOUP
- LONG LIFE JUICE (1 LITRE)
- LONG LIFE MILK (1 LITRE)

#### URGENT TOILETRY ITEMS

- SHAMPOO
- SHOWER GEL
- TOOTHBRUSHES

#### URGENT NON-FOOD ITEMS

- STRONG CARRIER BAGS, PLEASE.

#### OUR GENERAL SHOPPING LIST (TO MAINTAIN OUR STOCKS)

- COFFEE
- SUGAR

## Hedingham Heritage Society

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The Heritage Society's autumn indoor meetings restart on:

Thursday 1st September with:

'The Story of Essex in Rocks': 180 million years ago, during the age of the dinosaurs, Essex was an island fringed by coral reefs.

Gerald Lucy, from the Essex Rock and Mineral Society, will tell us more about the primeval origins of our local environment.



7.30pm, Castle Hedingham Memorial Hall

Sunday 18th September – The Heritage Autumn Walk:

A circular, local and natural history walk in the rich and varied environment of The Hedinghams and The Maplesteads. This walk is about 5 miles and starts and finishes at the Memorial Hall.

Meet at 10.30am in the Hall car park – please book your place.

Thursday 6th October – The Essex Coast:

David Simmonds from the National Trust will talk about the ecology and history of the longest coastline of any English county.

7.30pm, Castle Hedingham Memorial Hall

All walks and talks: Members – free : Non-Members - £5

Everybody Welcome

Special Note:

Our Christmas Social, with superb food and musical entertainment, is on Saturday 3rd December. Please book your tickets and save the date.

For more information about our events, please contact any of the committee listed below:

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)

## 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.

### 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).

## 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 September 2022

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Sunday 4 September	9:30am Holy Communion	Great Maplestead
	9.30 Morning Prayer	Gestingthorpe
	11am Holy Communion	Little Maplestead
Sunday 11 September	9.30 Holy Communion	Pebmarsh
	11am Holy Communion	Gestingthorpe
	10.30 Café Church	Great Maplestead
Sunday 18 September	11:00 Holy Communion	Harvest Benefice Service with picnic Great Maplestead
Wednesday 21 September	10:00	Holy Communion (BCP) Gestingthorpe (BV)
Sunday 25 September	9:30 Holy Communion	Great Maplestead
	11am Morning Worship	Pebmarsh
	9:30 Morning Prayer	Little Maplestead
	4pm Compline	Gestingthorpe

### Join us for the Alpha Course!

Alpha is a 10-week series that explores the basics of the Christian Faith in a welcoming, open, and friendly environment. It is free and there is no pressure or follow up.

Each session you will be hosted in a group where you will hear different topics on Christianity and have time to chat through any thoughts. You can say anything you like or nothing at all.

Everyone is welcome. No matter your background or beliefs, **you're invited!**

For more information or to book your place please contact

**ev'd Beverley Vincent** [khvicar@gmail.com](mailto:khvicar@gmail.com) **01787 460273**

Date: Monday evenings at 7.00pm. Starting 26 September 2022

At: Bulmer Village Hall, CO10 7EH. Parking available

## Coming up and save the date

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- 1 September Great Maplestead Maple Leaves - The Detectorist
- 1 and 18 September Hedingham Heritage Society
- 9 and 23 September Gestingthorpe Gatherings
- 10 September Little Maplestead Craft Fair
- 10 September Maplesteads Autumn Show
- 17 September Great Maplestead Jumble Sale
- 23 September Little Maplestead - Meet the Police
- 26 September Maplesteads WEA course starts
- 30 September Gestingthorpe Raise the Roof Party
- 1 October Maplesteads CPR and Defibrillator course
- 2 October Little Maplesteads Harvest Lunch
- 6 October Great Maplestead Maple Leaves - Stars in the war
- 22 October Great Maplestead Centenary celebration of the village hall

### The Reverend Beverley Vincent

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

07944 200132

The Rectory

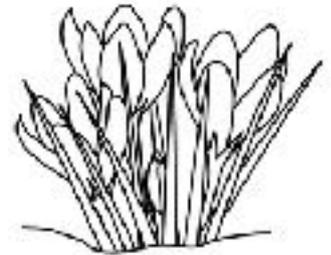
01787 460273

Church Street

Great Maplestead

Halstead

CO9 2RG



The copy deadline for the September magazine is **Friday 23 September 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>
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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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Halstead . Essex . CO9 3PY 01787 469628 [sales@paulclarkprint.co.uk](mailto:sales@paulclarkprint.co.uk)

### 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)