

Great and Little Maplestead Pebmarsh and Gestingthorpe



**Church and Community together
July and August 2020**

Free

Village contacts and information

Reverend Beverley Vincent and the churchwardens see page 28.

Village Emergency Telephone Service and Neighbourhood Watch representatives see page 25

Magazine copy and deliveries see page 23

Parish Clerks

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Pebmarsh	Shelley Boydel	07801 492312	pebmarshparishclerk@gmail.com

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WEA	Jill Newton	01787 463893	gilliannnewton4@gmail.com
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Gt Maplestead

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Playing Field	Joe Newton	01787 461308	lizatlucking@hotmail.com
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Dance & Keep Fit	Judy Cowell	01376 561757	judy.cowell@btinternet.com
Carpet Bowls	Janice Chaplin	01787 469600	bobandjanicechaplin@btinternet.com
Youth Club	Myra Jeggo	01787 474285	m.jeggo@sky.com

Gestingthorpe

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

Pebmarsh

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

Footpaths

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

All villages

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

Letter from the editor



Looking back over the last couple of months I am really heartened by the help and support our four villages have offered to everyone, a huge and heartfelt thank you to everyone involved. We have been especially grateful as we live with my 97 year old mother who we locked-down to protect, and our neighbours and others in the village have been really helpful and supportive. Although I must also thank Sainsbury's for our weekly food delivery.

We are also grateful to those local companies who support us by being open and providing food, They are on Page 6. If we have missed anyone let us know.

As we come out of lockdown it is important to our local economy that we support our local companies so we are continuing our monthly article 'spotlight on local companies'. This month Gay Ellis, our retired vicar, talks about her construction company, CastleGENT.

If you have a company in our four villages, email us to discuss an article in a future edition.

There is an article, provided by Great Maplestead, regarding the travellers in their village and it is reassuring to read about the good outcome. The travellers, when told that the school needed the playing field, moved on the same day and tidied up behind them. In the light of our current national discussion about racism it is good to remember that the majority of travellers are law abiding people. As with all groups of people it is a minority who give the majority a bad name.

I wish everyone well and hope that the easing of lockdown is beneficial to you.

With love to you all.

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Letter from the the Little Maplestead Church-wardens

We are living through the greatest time of political and economic upheaval since the war, due to the Covid pandemic. It has changed in a fundamental way how we view the world, society around us and who we are.

Schools are still not open for the majority of pupils. There is no more popping to the shops...The state of our health is vital, and when we greet people with the question "How are you?" it is not just a polite exchange - we really are interested in the answer. Many of us are offering to help not just friends, family and neighbours, but also people who we do not really know very well, and somehow we don't mind a bit about the queuing for their drugs or shopping. Time seems elastic, and the pressure we previously created for ourselves with a busy social whirl is gone, and I, for one, feel better for it.

One of the biggest changes for me is the lack of a church service on a Sunday - it gave a focus to my week a chance to somehow press a "reset" button, where everything was somehow put into its proper place and a sense of proportion and peace reigned (at least for a short while!)

Since the lockdown started, we have missed many major festivals and celebrations - Mothering Sunday, Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Easter Sunday, Ascension Day, Pentecost and lastly Trinity Sunday. We have no other festivals until Advent which begins at the end of November. Of course, the importance of the Church is not just the building, but spirit of the Christian community which is part of it.

When you read this magazine, the Round Church at Little Maplestead and St Giles at Gestingthorpe will have been opened for private prayer, which is a step in the right direction. Why don't you take the time to drop in and share the peace of your lovely buildings - you never know what you might find there.....

Jane Piper Churchwarden - Little Maplestead



Parish News Website

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

www.knights-hospitallers.org.uk

It provides you with links to the websites of our churches, our villages and local information as well as the latest copy of Parish News, including all our advertisers. When services and events restart it will be updated monthly with the latest information. It also contains links to the Government and NHS websites with information on the Corona virus outbreak.

The F315 Local Bus Service

Bold Roman indicates fixed time. Shading indicates bus only calls if pre-booked on 01621 874411. Italic indicates the bus will be later if it has called at Great Maplestead or Pebmarsh. All journeys on the last bus each way have to be booked. Out of town, away from bus stops the bus can be hailed anywhere with good visibility.

The two times for Sudbury Bus Station and Halstead High Street shows earliest and latest arrival time. A call at Great Maplestead adds 6-7 minutes, a call at Pebmarsh adds 12 minutes.

Please always check the website for the latest timetable.

F 315 Halstead - Sudbury flexible bus service Winter 2020 until f

A call at Great Maplestead adds 6 or 7 minutes. A call at Pebmarsh adds about 1

Mondays to Saturdays						
Halstead, High Street	07:30	10:00	12:00	14:00	16:30	18:30
Little Maplestead, Pump	07:34	10:04	12:04	14:04	16:34	18:34
Great Maplestead, School	07:38	10:08	12:08	14:08	16:38	18:38
Little Maplestead, Cock Road	07:41	10:11	12:11	14:11	16:41	18:41
Pebmarsh, War Memorial	07:50	10:20	12:20	14:20	16:50	18:50
Pebmarsh, Bus Shelter	07:51	10:21	12:21	14:21	16:51	18:51
Wickham St Paul, The Victory	07:45	10:15	12:15	14:15	16:45	18:45
Gestingthorpe, Foundry Corner	07:49	10:19	12:19	14:19	16:49	18:49
Bulmer, Cross Roads	07:55	10:25	12:25	14:25	16:55	18:55
Bulmer Tye, Park Lane	07:59	10:29	12:29	14:29	16:59	18:44
Ballingdon, Strawberry Stores	08:03	10:33	12:33	14:33	17:03	18:48
Sudbury, Bus Station	08:07	10:37	12:37	14:37	17:07	18:50
Sudbury, Bus Station	08:26	10:56	12:56	14:56	17:26	19:07

SUDBURY - BULMER - GESTINGTHORPE - WICKHAM ST. PAUL'S - PEBMARSH - GREAT MAPLESTEAD -

Mondays to Saturdays							
Sudbury, Bus Station		09:00	11:00	13:00	15:30	17:30	19:15
Ballingdon, opp Strawberry Stores		09:03	11:03	13:03	15:33	17:33	19:18
Bulmer Tye, Park Lane		09:07	11:07	13:07	15:37	17:37	19:22
Bulmer, Cross Roads		09:11	11:11	13:11	15:41	17:41	19:26
Gestingthorpe, Foundry Corner		09:17	11:17	13:17	15:47	17:47	19:32
Wickham St Paul, The Victory		09:23	11:23	13:23	15:53	17:53	19:38
Pebmarsh, Bus Shelter		09:30	11:30	13:30	16:00	18:00	19:45
Pebmarsh, War Memorial		09:31	11:31	13:31	16:01	18:01	19:46
Little Maplestead, Cock Road		09:25	11:25	13:25	15:55	17:55	19:27
Great Maplestead, School		09:28	11:28	13:28	15:58	17:58	19:43
Little Maplestead, Pump		09:32	11:32	13:32	16:02	18:02	19:30
Halstead, High Street		09:37	11:37	13:37	16:07	18:07	19:35
Halstead, High Street		09:56	11:56	13:56	16:26	18:26	19:52

Local Companies supporting us

Courtyard Stores in Pebmarsh are open and delivering and allowing for collection. The butcher sets up in the courtyard on a regular basis. For further information look at www.facebook.com/courtyardstores or ring 01787 389222. It is open from 7am to 7pm and can be found at The Courtyard, Pebmarsh CO9 2NU.

The Forager's Retreat in Pebmarsh is providing freshly prepared takeaway meals, look at their website www.theforagersretreat.co.uk or ring 01787 389123. Their food can be accessed through the Courtyard Stores

The Pheasant in Gestingthorpe is also providing freshly prepared meals, phone 01787 465010 to find out when and how.

The Mobile Lunch Company is delivering freshly prepared meals. Enjoy a three course, weekly changing menu for just £12! To find out more, visit www.themobilelunchcompany.co.uk, Facebook: @MobileLunchCo , Instagram: @themobilelunchcompany, 01787 476264

The Kings Head in Pebmarsh are reopening on the 4 July.

Spotlight on Local companies

This is our new regular series looking at the businesses who are located in our four villages. As we come out of lockdown it would help our local economy to support our local businesses

CastleGENT

Nick and I have moved many times during our lives and have renovated quite a few of our houses. In 2005, we were renovating a cottage and met a young man who came to do work for us his name was Tony Phipps, and we discovered he was very skilled and loved his work. Our friendship developed and we knew he was going to be a sole trader. Nick and I thought it would be much better to be a limited company and we said we would be interested in working with him and setting up a company. After discussions with solicitors and accountants that is what we did we became CastleGENT Builders Ltd. Tony lived in Castle and the GENT came from the first letter of our names.

Tony specialises in renovating wonderful old buildings and in recent years has done a fabulous Barn Conversion but we have also built a couple of new houses, built house extensions, loft conversions and masses of different kinds of work in between. Tony and the company is just finishing off renovating our retirement cottage. I loved being a vicar but love the building trade too and helping to transform buildings into homes for years to come. Gay Ellis

Gestingthorpe

Gestingthorpe Volunteer service

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.

Mr Whippy

'Oscar's Whippy' ice cream van will be starting his round locally to include Gestingthorpe from the week beginning the 22nd June - please follow his facebook page to be kept up to date on when he will visit the village.

St Mary's Church

St Mary's Church Gestingthorpe will reopen for private prayer for individuals from the (still awaiting confirmation!)

Workout

Nic Smith (Fun/Fit/Fab) has begun her socially distanced workout classes on the village playing field on a Tuesday & Thursday morning and evening, contact Nic on nic.smithpe@gmail.com or 07908445239 to book your place. Each session is £5.

Potting

Bella and Theo Prior took advantage of the free clay available during lockdown from Gestingthorpe Pottery to make these two handmade objects, they have now had their projects returned to them following firing and glazing.



Gestingthorpe HistoryGroup

has been producing a weekly blog on their website during lockdown with interesting facts, articles and images from their archives. www.gestingthorpehg.co.uk

Pebmarsh

Pebmarsh Volunteer Service

Over 50 Pebmarsh residents have volunteered, and the village has been divided into areas and each area now has a Lead Volunteer who heads-up a small team of volunteers. A yellow card has been put through every door with the contact details of the nearest Lead Volunteer.

Volunteers are helping with tasks such as shopping and collecting prescriptions, as well as generally keeping an eye on the people in their area.

Don't hesitate to get in touch with Kate Carling (Phone: 267924) if you need anything and she'll put you in touch with your most local volunteer.

Pebmarsh Defibrillator Team

The Pebmarsh Defibrillator Team volunteers are very grateful to James Hunter and all the team at Cape Contract Scaffolding Limited for their continued support for all our good work, and we thank them for their much valued donation in May. The donation goes towards paying for the support and services that supports and enables the volunteers to respond in the event of a call out. Thank you Cape Contract Scaffolding Limited.

Always remember that in the event of a cardiac emergency please first telephone the emergency services on 999 and then call out the Pebmarsh Defibrillator Team on 01787 852300.

Stay safe. Perry

Friends of Pebmarsh Church

The Friends of Pebmarsh Church (FoPC) volunteers are proud to report on our work in supporting the village church committee through the refurbishment of the St John the Baptist church yard retaining walls. The next section of church yard retaining wall to be refurbished is just east of entrance gate and footpath. By FoPC paying for the carrying out the works now at a cost circa £4,000, there will be a great saving on carrying out the work in two / three years' time when the work is estimated to cost circa £15,000. FoPC have used a grant donation of £2000 to put towards the costs of the refurbishment works which will start and be completed over these summer months.

For more information on becoming a Friend of Pebmarsh Church please visit our website friendsofpebmarshchurch.uk where more information can be found. As a volunteer working with local people, you can make a meaningful contribution to the safe guard of our historic church, and the community, within and around Pebmarsh.

More Pebmarsh

More friends of Pebmarsh Church

We have a variety of volunteers of all levels, from inexperienced to professional, and everything in between.

The few remaining limited edition FoPC mugs and tote bags can still be purchased with all proceeds going towards the good work of FoPC and the preservation of our village asset.

Stay safe. Perry

Pebmarsh Village Hall

Great news, your village hall committee are currently working towards a re-opening date of the 4th July 2020 when we anticipate your village hall will be allowed to reopen.

There will be come new rules and regulations in place to conform to the social distancing rules so that we can try and keep all users, visitors and committee members safe and well, these will need to be observed. Our regular hirers will be contacted to discuss the revised operating standards and new bookings will be advised of the best ways to stay safe.

Despite the closure, our upkeep and running costs have still needed to be paid and your village hall committee have successfully applied for grant support to help ease those financial pressures and in turn continue to provide this valuable village asset.

You too can help to support your village hall by booking your party, gathering, celebrations, functions, classes, events, etc at our fully equipped venue. To discuss future bookings please call Jonathan on 01787 269231.

Stay safe. Perry

Reopening of Pebmarsh Parish Church

Churches in England can now reopen for private prayer and we would like to reopen St John the Baptist although someone has to be present while the church is open. To reduce the amount of cleaning and to keep people safe we propose to open only part of the church, namely the south aisle. We should like open the church for 2 hours, twice a week and we shall need volunteers to man the church at these sessions. If anyone is able to help please contact Jim Crayston (church warden) 01787 222241 .

What is happening in Pebmarsh

The community spirit is thriving in Pebmarsh with people still shopping for neighbours, making calls to those who are housebound and picking up prescriptions.



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More Pebmarsh

More what is happening in Pebmarsh

Thank you to the staff at Courtyard Stores who are supporting the community by making local deliveries. This has been a great help for a lot of people in the village who are shielding or those not happy to venture further afield for their groceries. Foragers Retreat is also providing a take away service, with Pizzas on Friday's & Sunday roasts.

The anonymous artist's beautiful work continues to appear around the village footpaths, with a 'Stay Safe' message on the reverse of each painted stone. Once again, thank you whoever you are, you are brightening walks for lots of people.



The King's Head Pebmarsh

To all of our fabulous patrons ... you've been missed these last few months! During the closure we have spent the time giving the pub some TLC so it's looking it's best for your return.

We look forward to the 4th July when we plan to reopen our doors and welcome you all back. Our new freshly cooked Summer Menu and Children's Menu will be available including gluten free, dairy free and vegan options. Any updates will be available on Facebook @kingsheadpebmarsh or our website.

Debbie, Stuart and The Kings Head Team . www.kingsheadpebmarsh.co.uk

Great Maplestead

Great Maplestead has a Village Support Group for residents and has already hand-delivered the village personalised flyers to every household.

If you are self isolating, or scared, or lonely and need any help please contact Jacqui. The village is there to help you. The volunteers can shop for you, collect prescriptions and other helpful activities

We find ourselves in strange and different times as a result of the Government 'lockdown' restrictions that are intended to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Message from the Churchwardens of St. Giles, Great Maplestead

Great news!

The Church is being allowed to re-open for private prayer on

Saturday 27th June

Subsequently it will be open on

Saturday afternoons from 2.00 – 4.00pm

**Any further changes or updates to this information will
be posted on Maplestead Mates.**

**You may also contact either of us by phone or e-mail.
Our contact details can be found elsewhere in this magazine.**

Gill Peskett and Jill Newton

Travellers In Great Maplestead

On the evening of Saturday 13th June a group of travellers entered the village playing field and set up an illegal encampment. It is believed, although it cannot be proved, that the padlock on the access point (arrowed in photograph on next page) to the field through the telegraph pole security barrier surrounding the car park had been forced to gain entry.

This was extremely concerning for residents, particularly those living in close proximity to the site.

Great Maplestead

More travellers in Great Maplestead



Traveller encampment and forced access point

The Parish Council owns the playing field, so members of the Council were soon in attendance to both talk to the travellers' leader and also ask the people who had gathered to see what was going on to conduct themselves with restraint, keeping within the law. It was important to ensure that no attempts were made by residents to intervene and thereby possibly exacerbate what was a potentially volatile situation.

Two officers from the Essex Police Traveller Liaison Unit responded to a request to attend and made contact with the travellers that evening – the PTLOs also explained, to everyone present on Saturday night, what their powers were and what residents should and shouldn't do. Meanwhile the Council was already investigating the due legal processes that have to be followed in such cases to achieve a satisfactory resolution.

Intense activity throughout Saturday night and all day Sunday by members of the Council – and in particular the Clerk – involved contacting the Essex County Council leader and the Braintree District Councillor, liaising with the PTLOs, negotiating with the traveller group and investigating the procedures required to serve an eviction notice.

Matters were complicated in that the village school, in order to comply with its conditions of re-opening under the easing of the COVID-19 'lockdown', was making use of both the playing field and its car park as part of its required social distancing measures. While the field was being occupied, the school wouldn't have been able to open.

As it turned out, the presence of the school proved to be key to successfully resolving the situation: when the travellers were told that their presence on the field was going to have a detrimental impact on the school's operation they told the Liaison Officers that they did not want to stop children's education. As a result, they packed up and left the field on the Sunday evening.

The travellers had cleared up the site before they left, bagging most of their rubbish and leaving the field in a reasonably good state;

Great Maplestead

More travellers in Great Maplestead

The Council would like to thank all those at the school, the councillors and residents who carried out a further clear-up operation on the Monday, which meant that the school was able to fully re-open the following day.

As a result of this incident, the Council is formalising a Traveller Policy which, when agreed, will be published on its website, making sure everyone is aware of the necessary legal steps that need to be taken to properly deal with and resolve such situations should they occur in future.

Naturally, improving the existing security of the Village Playing Field demanded a quick response from the Parish Council to ensure the immediate and future protection of the site so, as early as that Sunday morning, various solutions were being assessed. Consultations were had with experts familiar with the positives and negatives of various alternative security arrangements and consideration was also given to some of the more effective measures used in neighbouring parishes.

As a result the Council, under its COVID-19 Emergency Standing Orders and with the help of a small team of willing volunteers, was able to put into place enhanced security measures for the playing field on Friday 19th June, less than a week after the travellers' trespass.



New Field Access Gate and Vehicle Barrier



New Vehicle Barrier

Whilst these were the quickest and most effective interim measures to install, they have also been designed – and are intended to remain – a permanent feature. This will not, however, preclude further security enhancements being investigated, or implemented should it be considered necessary in future.

In carrying out this work the Council took into full account the need to ensure that parishioners and the school can continue to enjoy unfettered pedestrian and disabled access to the playing field – which is a precious village amenity – whilst allowing the car park to remain freely available for use by the school, visitors to the village and the community as a whole.

Little Maplestead

If you are self isolating, or scared, or lonely or need any help please contact Bill 01787473933, Jane 01787 472525 or Gemma 07826 523187. The village is there to help you. For example they can pick up shopping, collect prescriptions and post mail, so get in touch with them if you need help or just want someone to chat to.

The Round Church

At last! The Round Church Little Maplestead will be open from next week for private prayer. The opening times will be Wednesdays 2pm-4pm and Sundays 10.30am-12.30pm. You are all welcome to use the church for a time of quiet reflection. There will be someone acting as steward to explain how we will still keep people safe and to answer any questions you may have. Do come!.

The structural drawings and calculations have now been approved, the Archeological monitoring plan has also been approved and the ventilation modelling report has been submitted for approval. The faculty application is currently in progress and once granted the next step will be to apply for grants.

Parish Council

There is a Parish Council meeting planned for 15 July, but it will probably be cancelled.



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The Forgotten Gardens of Easton Lodge

We are now expecting to be open in July and we are keeping our fingers crossed for rain to help bring on more flowers. The Gardens will be looking lovely, but we will have social distancing arrangements in place.



For the Open Day on Sunday 19 July, there will be our usual catering fayre but no special activities. We cannot put a booking arrangement in place to keep visitor

numbers down, so we will be limited by the size of the car park, with no overflow car park in operation. There will be no risk of being turned away if you arrive by bicycle or on foot.

From the beginning of July, for those local enough to be able to arrive without a car, we will also be open to visitors on our Thursday volunteering day. There will be no catering on Thursdays.

Our Facebook page and website will have further details on our opening arrangements for July onwards www.eastonlodge.co.uk

The Gardens have survived remarkably well, despite the drought conditions through April, May and June. Our volunteer gardeners are now back in force - getting back on top of the weeds and continuing with additional planting.

Thanks to our volunteers we have many lovely photos of the Gardens on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/thegardensofeastonlodge/> and our Instagram account <https://www.instagram.com/eastonlgardens/> .

Best wishes from us all, stay safe & see you soon.

Ecclesiastical Insurance

Ecclesiastical Insurance will make a donation of £130 to our churches for every new home insurance policy taken out. To take advantage of this offer call 0800 783 0130 or visit www.ecclesiastical.com/Trust130.

Cycle Security

Cycle security is always an issue with thefts from a variety of locations including the town centre, residential areas, and educational establishments. Commonly bicycles are either not secured or not secured properly, and this makes it easy for thieves.

Where do they go? Number of places: - in a container abroad, to another part of the country, stored in premises or sold as either a cycle or cycle parts via the internet, or third parties.

By taking some appropriate precautions and using good quality security products, and using them well, should help you to keep your property safe. Use the best security you can afford. Don't secure a £2,000 bicycle with a £20 lock! As a guide look to spend 10-15% of the value of the item on its security. Look for a "Sold Secure" certified chain and padlock or "D - Lock" preferably gold rated but certainly not below silver. Consider what you chain it to whether at home or whilst out, is that secure? Is it well overlooked to provide good natural surveillance?

Make a note of the frame number, security mark the cycle, there are a number of different methods available such as www.bikeregister.com, www.datatag.co.uk, and www.retainagroup.com. Take a photograph of the cycle and any areas of damage or marks of identification, and some insurance companies may require one with the owner in the picture with it.

At home remove that first attraction to the thief or burglar: 1) don't leave garage doors open for long periods showing your expensive cycle and other property, 2) consider a "Ground anchor" or "Shed shackle" within your shed or garage to secure your cycle to, 3) look at your shed or garages security and ensure you have good locks and that the hinges are protected, 4) consider a shed alarm.

If you can its worth getting your children or grandchildren into good habits, keeping their bikes secure and not leaving them discarded on the front lawn or other, may save problems in the future.

Check with your insurance company to see what security standards they require for your insurance cover to be valid.

For suitable security products see www.securedbydesign.com or www.soldsecure.com.

For further advice see <https://www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/theft-of-a-bicycle/how-safe-is-your-bike/>



Local information

Solar Society: Miles Scrivens 01787 469766 or Wanda Sellar 01787 463459

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Gestingthorpe History Society: www.gestingthorpehg.co.uk

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

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

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

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

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

Braintree Area Food Bank

In addition to the items below they are desperately short of bags for life.

Urgent Items

- Sugar 500G Bags
- Sponge puddings
- 1L cartons long life fruit juice
- Packet mash potato
- Tinned spaghetti
- Tinned potatoes

Food that they are short of

- Pasta sauce
- Cold tinned meats
- 1L long life milk
- Tea bags (40-80)
- Tinned tomatoes
- Small boxes non-biological washing powder/liquid
- Deodorant

DUE TO CORONAVIRUS MANY OF THEIR USUAL DONATION POINTS ARE NOT AVAILABLE. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION YOU CAN CALL 01376 330694 OR DONATE VIA THE COLLECTION BINS IN THE COOP IN HALSTEAD.

Local and National Authority Representatives

Essex County Council

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

Braintree District Council

Great and Little Maplestead

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

Gestingthorpe

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

Pebmarsh

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

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

Westminster

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

Parish Council Websites

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

Hedingham Medical Centre

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

Village Emergency Telephone Service (VETS)

All our four villages now have defibrillators, and Little Maplestead, Gestingthorpe and Pebmarsh have a Village Emergency Telephone Service. The purpose of VETS is to provide support when a defibrillator is required although the first action must be a 999 call. The telephone numbers of the village VETS are:

Little Maplestead	01787 852252
Gestingthorpe	01787 852850
Pebmarsh	01787 852300

Neighbourhood Watch representatives

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

The Churchwardens serving our Benefice are

Curate	The Rev'd Beverley Vincent	07944 200132	halsteadcurate@gmail.com
Great Maplestead	Gill Peskett Jill Newton	01787 462786 01787 463893	gillpeskett43@gmail.com gilliannewton4@gmail.com
Little Maplestead	Jane Piper Karen Sunnucks	01787 473933 01787 472145	jane-piper@hotmail.co.uk karen.sunnucks@btinternet.com
Gestingthorpe	Alice Nolda Peter Nice	01787 469688 01787 460126	- peter.427nice@btinternet.com
Pebmarsh	Jim Crayston	01787 222241	jim@craystonfarms.co.uk

Village Hall activities

Pebmarsh has the Bowls Club, the Youth Club, the Ladies Club, Card Making, Dog Training, Art Club (currently full) and Baby Sensory. Great Maplestead has Yoga, Legs, Bums and Tums, Dance and Keep Fit and Pilates. Gestingthorpe has Pilates. They are currently cancelled.

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The copy deadline for the June magazine is **Friday 19 June 2020**

We need to know who, what, where and when

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

Copy

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Little Maplestead	Beverley Bratley	01787 473281	beverley.bratley@gmail.com
Pebmarsh	Jan Bond	01787269082	janbond381@btinternet.com

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