

Great and Little Maplestead Pebmarsh and Gestingthorpe



Church and Community together

November 2020

Free

Village contacts and information

Reverend Beverley Vincent and the churchwardens see page 20.

Village Emergency Telephone Service and Neighbourhood Watch representatives see page 19

Magazine copy see page 20

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 Boydel	07801 492312 pebmarshparishclerk@gmail.com

The Maplesteads

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

Gt Maplestead

Task Force	Martin Elms	01787 461421 martinelms@greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk
Village Hall	Liz Newton	01787 461308 lizatlucking@hotmail.com
Playing Field	Joe Newton	01787 461308 lizatlucking@hotmail.com
Mixed Ability Yoga	Victoria Ashworth	07751 911923 justinashworth@hotmail.co.uk
Pilates	Catherine Pawsey	07814 459683 catherinepawsey+pilates@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 lesliecrumptontaylor@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 Crudginton	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



Plea again. Please, please, please let me know if you would like to contribute to the magazine. It would be really interesting to have recipes (our local restaurants), seasonal relevant gardening tips (our local gardeners, tree surgeons etc), local history snippets from our local history groups and/or your lockdown stories. I am delighted that Gestingthorpe History Society has sent us a piece on the "unknown soldier", so relevant to this month. St John the Baptist, in Pebmarsh will be holding our Remembrance Day service on behalf of all our four villages. Thanks also to Jane and Bruce for their story about adopting their dog during lockdown and Belinda Nott for her story about her son's litter picking adventures.

We now have a new set of COVID rules and we have printed Essex County Council's information on these rules. All our villages are still offering support services to our vulnerable and elderly

After our saga last month, I am delighted that Mum is enjoying her respite care, it's a small home and is mixed with some with dementia and some without. She is looking really well, getting very mobile, chatting to everyone and teaching the care assistants French!!! Such a relief.

I wish everyone well and hope that the increase in lockdown is bearable.

With love to you all.

Contents

Page 2	Village contacts and information
Page 3	Letter from the Editor
Page 4	Letter from our Churchwardens and the Parish News website
Page 5	Bus service
Page 6-7	Essex County Council Covid guidance
Page 8	Local Companies
Page 8	Lockdown stories
Page 9	Remembrance Sunday
Page 9-10	Gestingthorpe History Croup - the Unknown Warrior
Page 11	Little Maplestead
Page 14-15	Pebmarsh
Page 16-17	Gestingthorpe
Page 18-20	Great Maplestead
Page 21	12 tips for Christmas and after
Page 22	Local information
Page 23	Council information, VETS and Neighbourhood Watch
Page 24	Church services and Churchwardens

Letter from the Pebmarsh Church-wardens

This year seems to have flown by despite Covid 19 and autumn has come in with a vengeance. We are coming to that time when we remember those who gave their lives in the cause of freedom. I sometimes wonder if they would consider that their sacrifice is appreciated enough nowadays.

This year is even more relevant as we have celebrated 75 years of V E Day and as Capt. Tom has brought home to us V J Day or the forgotten war. Also we have remembered the 80th anniversary of The Battle of Britain. We must also remember those on the home front who supported the war effort.

Eileen and I have visited The National Memorial Arboretum, which is in Staffordshire, on two occasions on the way back from reunions with my RAF colleagues with whom I served in Cyprus for 20 months during the Eoka and Suez Crises.

In the Arboretum there are memorials to all the armed services and also to civilian organisations but the central memorial is a circular structure with a small opening down one side through which the sun shines on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month on to a memorial to the fallen. The walls of this monument have the names of personnel from the three services who have died in conflict since the end of the second world war and there is not a year without names.

This year the Benefice Remembrance Service is being held in Pebmarsh Church at 10.45 on Sunday 8th Nov and because of today's hidden enemy Covid19 numbers will be limited. We hope we can seat all who wish to come, but to make sure that this is the case would you please contact your Wardens so that we can arrange to seat you according to the guidelines, whatever they may be at the time.

Pebmarsh is hoping to have a service at the War Memorial at 11am on the 11th

Jim Crayston (Church Warden)



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 Coronavirus 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 all 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



Essex County Council **Essex is at High local Covid alert level**

We need you to please do two things. Both are critical if we are to reverse the increases in cases in Essex and minimise the impact on businesses, who we are working with to support.

First, please work from home if you can.

Second, please follow the [High alert level restrictions](#) These are mainly about not mixing with other households.

If we all play our part, we can reduce the number of people who die or become seriously ill from Covid-19. By acting now, we hope to exit High alert level restrictions sooner rather than later.

What this means for you

The main difference between the Medium and the High alert level is socialising with other households. You must follow these rules all the time, even if you are seeing friends or family who live in a Medium alert level area. The restrictions apply to you as an Essex resident.

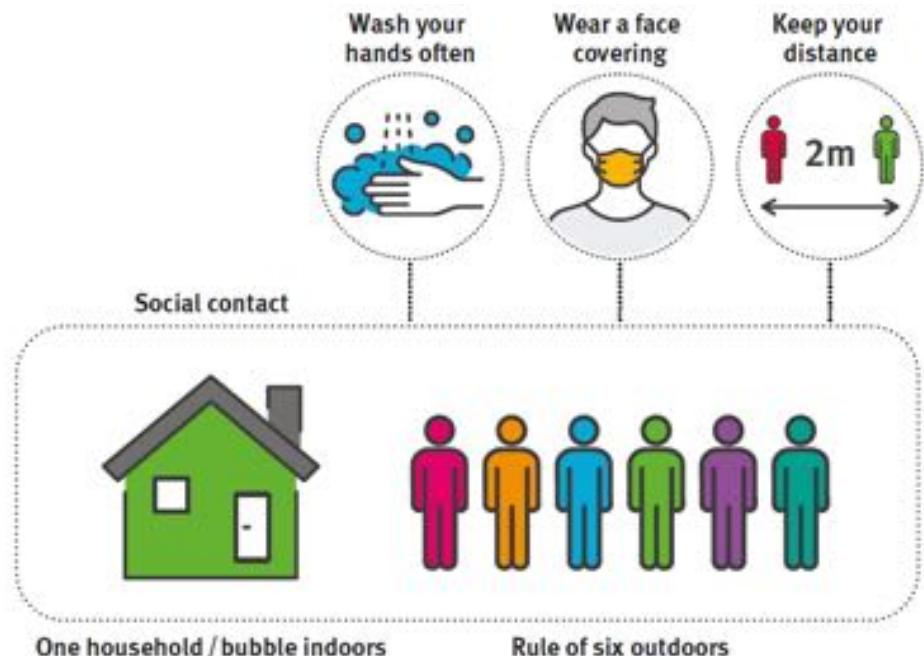
What's changed

You can no longer socialise indoors with people from a different household unless they are in your support or childcare bubble.

The Rule of Six (up to six people from different households meeting) applies outdoors, in both private and public spaces.

Work from home if you can. Take extra precautions if you work in other people's homes. Aim to only make essential journeys.

Do not visit a care home except in exceptional circumstances, for example to visit someone at the end of their life.



What's stayed the same

Covid-secure businesses can keep operating and hospitality venues can stay open until 10pm.

You can still go to school, university and places of worship. Weddings and funerals can go ahead in the same way as before.

You can still use registered childcare settings, including childminders, after-school clubs and nannies.

Where to find more details

View the government guidance on [High alert level restrictions](#). We've also produce a helpful guide, what the High Covid alert level means for you. We'll be regularly updating this guide with any local information which will help you understand how the restrictions apply in Essex.

Guidance for businesses

Business must work in a Covid-secure manner. Guidance is available for [businesses and venues](#).

Tradespeople

Official or registered tradespeople can continue to go to other people's homes for work purposes. Follow the guidance for [people working in, visiting or delivering to other people's homes](#).

Hospitality

If you work in hospitality, [use the guidance for your type of workplace](#) to keep your employees and customers safe.

Funding and support

We are working to do everything we can to [support our people and businesses in Essex](#). Use [GOV.UK's business support finder](#) tool to see what support is available for you and your business.

Help and support for residents

Looking after yourself and others

Confusion, anger, anxiety, despair - these feelings are common reactions to the ongoing pandemic and changing restrictions. You might be worried about your job, your business, juggling work and home life, loneliness or being unable to see friends and loved ones.

Whether you need support or need help to support someone else, you can [get help and support](#) from a range of local organisations.

Support from the Essex Wellbeing Service

Set up in response to the pandemic, the Essex Wellbeing Service is here to help all residents, providing a single point of access to practical, emotional and specialist support.

Whatever you need support with, there is help available. If you or anyone you know needs support, visit the [Essex Wellbeing Service](#) or call 0300 303 9988.

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.

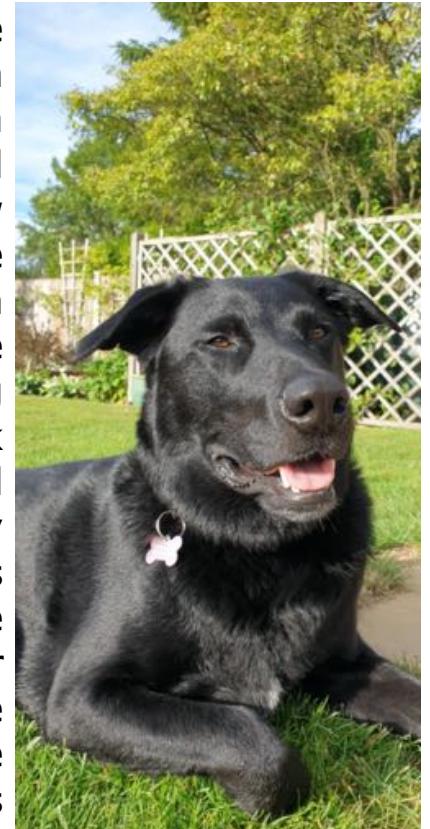
The Mobile Lunch Company is delivering freshly prepared meals. Visit www.themobilelunchcompany.co.uk 01787 476264

The Kings Head in Pebmarsh have reopened.

Lockdown Stories

The story of Rocky

Two years ago we lost our Labrador to cancer and we had not felt ready for another dog. However lockdown helped us to decide that it was time. As Ally was a rescue dog we returned to the LRRSE (Labrador and Retriever Rescue Sothern England) to let them know were ready to foster again and possibly adopt. People were not allowed to be new fosters during lockdown due to all the house checks etc but we were fortunate as we were already on their books. It wasn't long before they told us about a three year old black labrador who needed a foster home as his family had lost everything due to Covid. We picked up this lively dog from the Charity in Surrey at the end of May. His previous foster parents couldn't handle him as he lunged and barked at absolutely everything. However with a lot of training with treats and the clicker we can now walk Rocky without any problems. He is the most loving dog anyone could wish for and is wonderful with the grandchildren. After three months we decided to adopt him and you may see us around Little Maplestead with him as we walk quite a bit! The pleasure that any dog gives you is worth all the effort needed but also to know that you have given a home to a dog in need is a very satisfying feeling . Feel free to get in touch if you want to know more. Jane and Bruce.





Remembrance Sunday

**The Remembrance Service for our four parishes
will be held on**

Sunday 8th November at 10.45 am

at St John the Baptist Church in Pebmarsh

**Social distancing means that numbers will be limited, so if you
would like to attend, please contact your Church Wardens* by**

Tuesday 3rd November

*** Church Warden contact details for each Parish can be found elsewhere
in this magazine**

Gestingthorpe History Group

On November 7th, 1920, in strictest secrecy, four unidentified British bodies were exhumed from temporary battlefield cemeteries at Ypres, Arras, the Asine and the Somme.

None of the soldiers who did the digging were told why.

The bodies were taken by field ambulance to GHQ at St-Pol-Sur-Ter Noise. Once there, the bodies were draped with the union flag.

Sentries were posted and Brigadier-General Wyatt and a Colonel Gell selected one body at random. The other three were reburied.

A French Honour Guard was selected and stood by the coffin of the chosen soldier overnight.

On the morning of the 8th November, a specially designed coffin made of oak from the grounds of Hampton Court arrived and the Unknown Warrior was placed inside.

On top was placed a crusaders sword and a shield on which was inscribed: "A British Warrior who fell in the GREAT WAR 1914-1918 for King and Country".

On the 9th of November, the Unknown Warrior was taken by horse-drawn carriage through Guards of Honour and the sound of tolling bells and bugle calls to the quayside.

There, he was saluted by Marechal Foch and loaded onto HMS Vernon bound for Dover. The coffin stood on the deck covered in wreaths, surrounded by the French Honour Guard.

Upon arrival at Dover, the Unknown Warrior was met with a nineteen gun salute - something that was normally only reserved for Field Marshals.

A special train had been arranged and he was then conveyed to Victoria Station, London.

He remained there overnight, and, on the morning of the 11th of November, he was finally taken to Westminster Abbey.

The guests of honour were a group of about one hundred women. They had been chosen because they had each lost their husband and all their sons in the war. "Every woman so bereft who applied for a place got it".

The coffin was then interred in the far western end of the Nave, only a few feet from the entrance, in soil brought from each of the main battlefields, and covered with a silk pall. Servicemen from the armed forces stood guard as tens of thousands of mourners filed silently past. The ceremony appears to have served as a form of catharsis for collective mourning on a scale not previously known.

The grave was then capped with a black Belgian marble stone (the only tombstone in the Abbey on which it is forbidden to walk) featuring an inscription, composed by Herbert Edward Ryle, Dean of Westminster, engraved with brass from melted down wartime ammunition.

The idea of the unknown warrior was thought of by a Padre called David Railton who had served on the front line during the Great War the union flag he had used as an altar cloth whilst at the front, was the one that had been draped over the coffin.

It was his intention that all of the relatives of the 517,773 combatants whose bodies had not been identified could believe that the Unknown Warrior could very well be their lost husband, father, brother or son...

THIS is the reason we wear poppies.

We do not glorify war.

We remember - with humility - the great and the ultimate sacrifices that were made, not just in this war, but in every war and conflict where our service personnel have fought - to ensure the liberty and freedoms that we now take for granted.

Every year, on the 11th of November, we remember the Unknown Warrior.

At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, we will remember them.

Little Maplestead

Support in Little Maplestead

If you are self isolating, or scared, or lonely or need any help please contact Bill 01787 473933, 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

The Round Church Little Maplestead is open for private prayer. The opening times will be Wednesdays 9am-5pm and Sundays 9am to 5pm.

Parish Room

The PCC members have great pleasure in confirming that all the remaining significant building conditions have been met. This just leaves the fire risk assessment, tree planting scheme and the report from the archeological works to be provided in due course.

In addition, the church faculty pre-notification advice was granted in September. The final stage of the faculty application can now be progressed.

Once a faculty has been granted, we can start the process of applying for grants.

Parish Giving Scheme

It's now even easier to sign up - a simple phone call is all it takes. If you wish to make a donation please call the central PGS administration team on 0333 002 1271 and quote our parish ref: [080608408](tel:080608408).

Remember there are no hidden fees, whatever donation you make, 100% goes to your parish and any tax you pay on the donation is also automatically reclaimed from HMRC and paid to your parish the same month.

Further information on the scheme can be found here: <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/how-it-works/>

County Broadband

County Broadband are continuing their initial design and survey works to bring Hyperfast broadband to Little Maplestead.

They are clearing any blockages, surveying the initial design, particularly checking the accurate location of telegraph poles and contingency planning.



All Aspects Of Tree Surgery

Crown Reductions and Re-Shaping,
Pruning and Thinning, Tree Removal
Hedge and Shrub Trimming

All work is carried out to the highest
standards by NPTC qualified
Tree Surgeons

Please contact us for
Free Quotes and Advice

01787 269711 / 07902 216069
www.maestrotreeservices.co.uk

S.T.GREEN

BUILDERS & CONTRACTORS

Specialising in extensions and alterations



Architectural design & planning service

Extensions, alterations, conversions, restorations, ground works & drainage.

www.stgreenbuilders.co.uk info@stgreenbuilders.co.uk



01787 460980

blushandrose

makeup and nails

Beauty Studio specialising in Bridal, Photoshoot and Occasion Makeup and Nails

makeup artist

Prices from £35

Wedding - Bride, Mother of the Bride, Bridesmaids

Photoshoot - Fashion, wedding, events

Occasion - Prom, party, festive,

the gel bottle nail technician

Prices from £25

Gel Manicure & Pedicure

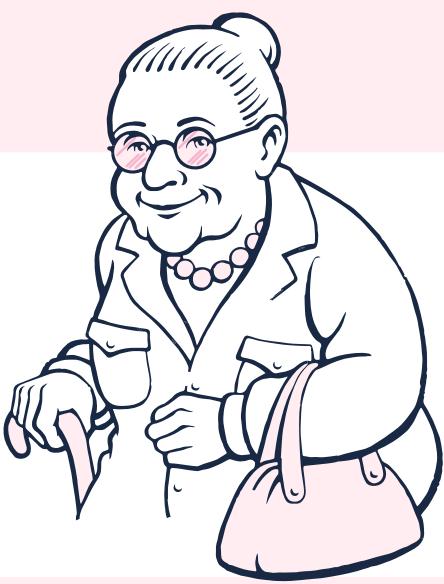
Builder in a Bottle Overlays (BIRB)

Nail Art

Stablefield House, Gestingthorpe Instagram: @blushandrosebeauty Email: blushandroseb@gmail.com
Call: 07766243245

Let the oil lady look after
your heating oil needs

THE OIL LADY



Kerosene / Gas Oil / Diesel for domestic and commercial premises

Fuel when you need it with daily orders and deliveries

Our lowest price given everytime, no hassle or need to haggle

Registration is free, by phone, email or through our website

We are here to help, from your order through to delivery and beyond

t. 0800 228 9140 e. info@theoillady.co.uk

www.theoillady.co.uk

Pebmarsh

Support in Pebmarsh

Over 50 Pebmarsh residents have volunteered, and the 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.

St John the Baptist

This year the Benefice Remembrance Service is being held in Pebmarsh Church at 10.45 on Sunday 8 November and because of today's hidden enemy Covid 19, numbers will be limited. We hope we can seat all who wish to come, but to make sure that this is the case would you please contact your Wardens so that we can arrange to seat you according to the guidelines, whatever they may be at the time.

Pebmarsh is hoping to have a service at the War Memorial at 11am on the 11th November.

The church is open for private prayer on Wednesday afternoons from 2pm-4pm.

Rhett Mills

Rhett Mills is a member of 1st Bures Scouts. He is very keen to achieve his chief scout award before he finishes scouts next summer and he needs to complete 6 hours community work as part of his World Challenge Badge and decided he would like to litter pick in Pebmarsh as he had noticed so much rubbish when walking and cycling around the village. So far he has collected a huge amount of cans and plastic bottles and wrapping, but unfortunately quite a lot of disposable face masks too. He hopes to complete this task in October, bags of rubbish may be seen along the road side which will be collected after each session.

This is a really useful lesson to us regarding the face masks. Consider using a washable face mask rather than a disposable.



More Pebmarsh

Pebmarsh.com

New to the village? The website contains links/information about the Parish Council, Village Hall, VETs and the Kings Head pub.

Village Allotments

The John Nott Charity which provides support for elderly residents of Pebmarsh needing help currently has some allotments available in Pearsons Close. If you would like to rent one of these please contact Graham Tufnell for more information - grahamtufnell@btinternet.com



Fully insured, qualified Tree Surgeons

All remedial tree work

(Everything from crown reduction to section felling)

Tree Felling; Hedge Trimming; Grass Cutting; Garden Clearance

Fully Qualified and Insured Tree Surgeons

No job too big or too small Call for free quotation*

Telephone: 01376 567646 Mobile: 0775 4621888

Laurel, Shafford Road, Panfield, Braintree, Essex

Partners: Thomas & Jonathan Self

Gestingthorpe

Support in Gestingthorpe

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

St Mary's Church

This year's Remembrance Sunday service (November 8th) will be at Pebmarsh church at 10.45am. As numbers will be limited by the coronavirus restrictions on social distancing it will be necessary for those wishing to attend to book their place. Please speak to Peter (460126) or Alice (469688) by November 1st. There will also be a limited civic Remembrance event at Halstead in which Rev Katie de Bourcier will take part.

Morning prayer will be held on Sunday 15 November at 9:30am.

On Sunday November 29th, which is a fifth Sunday in the month and also the first Sunday in Advent, there will be a short service of Compline at St Mary's for the Benefice at 4pm. Thereafter there will be a 4pm service of Compline or Evening Prayer on the first Sunday of every month, starting on December 6th. These services will be lay-led.

Gestingthorpe Village Hall. Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held on Thursday 12th November at 7.30pm

The COVID-19 restrictions mean that this AGM will have to be a Skype meeting.

You are invited to join the meeting and to do so please contact Chris Harman (01787 462763) so that we can send you the appropriate link to Skype. If Chris is unable to answer the 'phone please leave a message and your number.

All villagers from the Parish of Gestingthorpe are invited to take part in the AGM to hear what we have done in the last year and what we are planning to do in the future for your village hall.

We need everyone at the meeting to vote on the March 2020 year end accounts and also on who is to represent the villagers by being part of the Village Hall Committee.

If you would like to stand for, or nominate someone for, a position on the Committee please contact Chris Harman (01787 462763) by 7th November.

More Gestingthorpe

Gestingthorpe Village Hall. Annual General Meeting

If you are unable to join the meeting through Skype but want to see the Accounts then please 'phone Chris by 7th November 2020 with your contact details. We will then provide you with a paper copy of the Accounts.

If you wish to submit your comments for notification and discussion at the AGM then please let Chris know.

We do need to hear from you with your views and thoughts on your village hall and the running of it.

If you can join us for the AGM we will be pleased and look forward to seeing you.

Gestingthorpe Educational Foundation

BOOK VOUCHERS FOR YOUR CHILDREN!

Books can give joy, hope and knowledge this winter!

The Foundation is offering a £30 voucher to all households in the ancient parish of Gestingthorpe who have children of Primary School age.

To get a voucher please contact Jane with the names and ages of your children.



KATE
ABBOTT
PILATES

REFORMER
PILATES

GESTINGTHORPE

07771535523

@KATEABBOTTPILOTES

MAT PILATES



Great Maplestead

Message from the Great Maplestead Volunteer Network Coordinator

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

As we are all aware, COVID-19 cases have risen significantly across Essex; the county is now in 'Local COVID Alert Level: High', otherwise known as Tier 2.

To help cope with these new restrictions we have a large team of excellent volunteers who are willing to assist and support vulnerable residents during this challenging time. If you are self-isolating, or finding it difficult to get out, our volunteers are happy to help with shopping, picking up prescriptions, or just having a chat on the phone.

If you would like any help please do not hesitate to contact me by phone on 01787 461 002 or 07773 627 897, or by e-mail at jacqui.mee62@gmail.com so that I can organise and coordinate volunteers to help. Thank you Jacqui Mee

News from Great Maplestead Parish Council

Pre-Planning Consultation for a Mobile Phone Mast in Great Maplestead

As parishioners will now be aware, representatives for Telefónica (O2 and Vodafone) have contacted the Parish Council regarding a proposal for the installation of a mobile phone radio base station in the field to the north of the junction of Mill Lane and Toldish Hall Road.

Detailed information about this proposal, including links to location maps, design drawings and rejected alternative sites, can be found on the News page of the Council's website.

The Council has delivered a questionnaire to all households seeking parishioners' views on the proposal and will be considering all the replies it receives before formulating its response to Telefónica.

If you have not received a questionnaire please contact the Parish Clerk, Ann Crisp (details below), if you wish your opinion to be considered.

Please ensure you return your completed questionnaire to the Clerk, either in hard copy or by e-mail, by 5.00pm on Friday 6th November.

Results of the questionnaire will be published and the Council will keep residents informed of its response to Telefónica via the usual channels – the Council's website, its Facebook page and the Maplestead Magna Carta newsletter.

Clerk contact details: New House, St Giles Close, Great Maplestead, CO9 2RW. 01787 460216 . anncrisp@greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk

More Great Maplestead



Reverse Advent Calendar November 2020



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

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

1	2	3	4	5
Cereal Bars	Christmas chocolates	Coffee (small jars)	Dried pasta	Long Life Fruit Juice
6	7	8	9	10
Packet Soups	Rice	Shampoo	Soap	Sugar (500g)
11	12	13	14	15
Tinned Fish	Tinned Meat	Tinned Soup	Tinned Tomatoes	Washing-up Liquid
16	17	18	19	20
Breakfast Cereal	Chocolate Bars	Christmas Pud (small)	Deodorant	Jam
21	22	23	24	25
Mashed Potato	Pasta Sauce	Rice Pudding	Shower Gel	Sponge Pudding
26	27	28	29	30
Tea Bags	Tinned Fruit	Tinned Potatoes	Tinned Spaghetti	Toothpaste

When your box is complete*, please drop it off to either:

Dorothy Weight (1 Stone Cottages, Church Street) or
Ann Harris (The Forge, Lucking Street) by

Friday 4th December

so the boxes can be sorted and taken to **Halstead Food Bank**

*Alternatively, we would be happy to receive suitable individual items to enable us to make up combined boxes

<https://braintreearea.foodbank.org.uk/>

More Great Maplestead

GREAT MAPLESTEAD



ADVENT WINDOWS

This seems the perfect year to host advent windows around the village to help brighten the long dark December nights. As singing is not currently allowed, maybe displays could reflect a Christmas carol or song to help create some festive cheer.

Naturally, there can be no social gatherings to watch window unveilings, but we can all appreciate each other's creativity as we go about our business in the village.

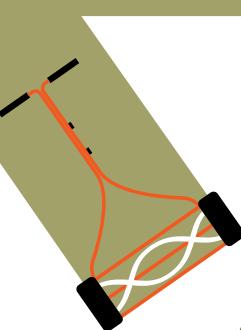
To kick start the event, the village elves will erect a village Christmas tree on **December 1st** on the triangle outside St Giles School in Church Street.

The tree will be dedicated as a **thank-you to the NHS** and you are encouraged to help decorate the tree with festive NHS rainbows throughout the advent period.

If you would like to create and display an advent window, please let me know which date you would like to reveal your design, from **2nd – 24th December**, together with your choice of carol/song.

I will then endeavour to create a map of where each window will be displayed so you can look out for them.

Telephone Ann Crisp on 01787 460216 or email at anncrisp@greatmaplesteadpc.co.uk



**Garden machinery
service & repairs**

simon@randrgardenmachinery.co.uk
www.randrgardenmachinery.co.uk

R&R
GARDEN MACHINERY

Unit 1
Gainsborough Yard
Sandy Lane
Sudbury
Suffolk
CO10 7GY

01787 375194

Twelve tips for Christmas and after

With Christmas rapidly approaching here are a few tips to help keep you safe at home, shopping and visiting (whilst Covid compliant).

1. If you store Christmas food and drink and presents within garages and outbuildings, ensure that they are out of sight and that it's securely locked with good quality locks. Treat your shed to a shed alarm.
2. Avoid tempting window shopping burglars; don't leave presents and valuables on full view in front of a window.
3. Ensure that your windows and doors are closed and locked before leaving the house (remember your face covering). Don't attract burglars to your home by leaving it in darkness; leave lights on timers, perhaps treat yourself to a TV simulator too.
4. Lock gates to keep unwanted visitors from getting to the rear of your home.
5. Whether an evening out or Christmas shopping keep your bags, handbags, wallets and mobile safe. Busy places make it easier for the sneak thief, so be alert at all times.
6. Park safely; look for a Parkmark accredited car park www.parkmark.co.uk/car-park-finder Check that your car is locked before you leave it and don't leave valuables on display in your car.
7. When you go to leave the house and find that your car is all iced up, don't leave it unattended with the engine running to de-ice it. It only takes a second to steal your car and it would invalidate any insurance claim.
8. A small Christmas get together – make sure that you have considered how you are getting home in advance and avoid using unlicensed taxi's. Ensure you drink responsible, social distance and are aware of your surroundings, whilst keeping your drink and belongings safe. www.suzylamplugh.org/Pages/FAQs/Category/personal-safety
9. Watch what you put on social media; check your settings to ensure that you are not broadcasting when you are not at home and the lovely gifts you may have received.
10. After Christmas don't advertise your nice gifts to the thieves by putting the empty boxes out for collection, disguise them, fold them up inside out or put them inside another non-descript box.
11. Record your new property free on www.immobilise.com , install tracking and security apps on relevant electrical and computer products.
12. Have a Great Christmas and New Year!! For further crime prevention advice see: www.essex.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/



Local information

Solar Society will not be starting again this year: 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 | • Packet mash potato |
| • Sponge puddings | • Tinned spaghetti |
| • 1L cartons long life fruit juice | • Tinned potatoes |

Food that they are short of

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

Due to Corona virus many of their usual donation points are not available. Call 01376 330694 or at 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.littlemapplesteadpc.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

Church Services for November

Sunday 1 November 10.00am – Little Maplestead. Holy Communion

Sunday 8 November 10:45 - Pebmarsh. Service of Remembrance

Please let your churchwarden know you will be attending because of restricted seating

Sunday 15 November 9:30am - Gestingthorpe Morning Prayer

Sunday 22 November 10.00am – Great Maplestead Holy Communion

Sunday 29 November 4.00pm - Gestingthorpe Compline

Please note services might be subject to change depending on the latest Covid restrictions.

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

Parish News is printed by **Paul Clark Printing Ltd**

Suite 6 . Enterprise House . Rippers Court . Sible Hedingham
Halstead . Essex . CO9 3PY 01787 469628 sales@paulclarkprint.co.uk

The copy deadline for the October magazine is **Friday 20 November 2020**

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	01787 472159	pmeditor@icloud.com
Gestingthorpe	Andy Craig	07970 395640	andy@mdamarketing.com
Gt Maplestead	Ann Harris	01787 462818	ann66harris@gmail.com
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