

DECEMBER 2022

Village View

PAROCHIAL INFORMATION: BRADWELL-ON-SEA Rector Revd Steven Poss 779620 Churchwardens: Theresa Reed 776247 776846 David Thorpe School Head Teacher Mrs L Wood 776219 Village View Co-ordinator Bradwell Women's Institute Crime Stoppers 776341 Secretary:Mrs T Reed 776247 Roger Scurrell Anonymous Crime Report-Village Hall 2nd Wed 19.30 ing 0800555111 Church Flowers Badminton/Table Tennis David Thorpe 776846 Age Concern 01245 264499 Village Hall Two Rivers Association for Tuesdays 8pm John Noble Flowers at St Peter's Chapel Age Concern jbn bradwell@hotmail.com David Thorpe 776846 St. Cedd's School Parent-Fridays 10am Ann Barrett theannbarrett@gmail.com Teacher Association Bell Ringing - Tower Cap-Secretary: Contact School tains: Bradwell Quay Yacht Club 776438 776219 Laurie Main Secretary: Mr R. Price 890173 John Pryke 776260 St Thomas Bradwell Fridays Clerk to the Parish Council Emma 9mith 07873 585793 Mobile Library Practice 7.45, Sunday ringing Every three weeks Thurs-Parish Council meetings 09.30 am Village Hall, 3rd Monday East End Rd. Bradwell 8.00pm Thursday Club 10.55-11.25am. 9t Thomas' Chapman Room - 1st Thursday of month P.C.C. Secretary 776317 The Medical Centre Mrs Jayne Hill 200-400 778383 Tillingham Sheila Edwards 776517 Out of hours 111 Othona Community Warden Debbie & Richard Rainbows 5-7 yrs The Trinity Medical Centre Sanders 776564 Brownies -7 - 10 yrs Mayland 745400 Guides -: 10 - 14 yrs Out of hours 111 St Peters Chapel Chaplain for information phone Rev S Poss 779620 07757636446 or email enquir-Local PoliceTeam Phone ies@girlguidingesseone.org. Non Emergency 101 District Councillor uk Emergency 999 Richard Dewick 776581 Parish Safeguarding Bradwell Bay Football Club Bradwell Flower Show Representative Graeme Youth Foortball Team Con-Committee Secretary: Eyre 776981/07985520634 tact Krysta Collins Practice Teresa Fowler 776588 Village Hall Field Saturday Pastoral Assistant: 9am Village Hall Trustee's David Thorpe 776846 Chairman: R Scurrell 776341 Bookings:Mrs J Allen 776547

If any of the above information is incorrect or you wish to ublicise your organisation then please contact Roger Scurrell on 01621 776341

From the Vicarage

Dear Friends,

As we move into December, we enter the time of Advent. Advent is a time of of expectant waiting and preparation for both the celebration of the Nativity of Christ at Christmas and the return of Christ at the Second Coming. Advent is also the beginning of the liturgical year in Western Christianity, and is part of the wider Christmas and holiday season.

Advent is also a busy time for us as we rush around trying to get everything in order for the big day. Advent also paints for us various signs and symbols such as light and darkness and the beloved Advent ring. As we move each week to light a candle to remember the Patriarchs, the Prophets, John The Baptist and then Mary, we move closer to the light from darkness, the light that has come into the world, the light that sustains the world and the light that will one day come again to the world.

This Christmas, let us take time individually to move from the darkness of the world to light through Advent, as we come to the celebrate that great light, the birth of God's Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Have a happy Christmas and new year ahead.

Reverend Steven



Village View

All copy for the January Village View should be sent to Roger Scurrell by phone (776341), posted through the letterbox of 6 St Thomas' Row, Bradwell, or by email to the address below, all by December 12th.

Copy may also be submitted as a text or Microsoft Word or Publisher file, either on CD or, better still, by email to stthom-aspcc@btinternet.com. We ask you to limit your article to 300-350 words and please include a picture.

We apologise but no articles will be accepted after December 12th.

If you belong to an organisation that does not yet submit articles for the Village View we would like to hear from you even in longhand if you do not have access to a computer. Any news you have is always very welcome.



St Paul's Cathedral Christmas Concert

Thursday 15th December 2022

Tickets £25

Telephone: Revd Steven Poss - 01621 779620

The Othona Community

If you came down to Othona on 5th November, you would have been among 250 people who ooohed and aaahed at the amazing fire-



works display, munched on a (vegi) burger and shared a great time with other local people, and with a full house of those who came to Bradwell from far and wide. This year the display was set against the backdrop of Mersea Island's fireworks and reflections in our beautiful estuary – and more reflections later, as some of us tried to recall Othona fireworks events over many years. So often we reflect on the past, recalling those events which had an impact on our lives – and Othona has a long memory, because those who came in the earliest days in the 1940s hand on the stories of love, devotion, eccentricity and determination, to those who are beginning to take the baton and run with our Community into the uncertainties of our ever-changing planet.

Welcoming people of all faiths and none, the Othona Community, which has Centres here in Bradwell-on-Sea, Essex and at Burton Bradstock, on the West Dorset Coast, is founded on the Christian faith of our founder, Norman Motley. This was a faith that he, and those close to him, simply had to share.

Christmas is Jesus Christ's Mass – the celebration of the Eucharist – the time when Jesus shared his very last supper with his closest friends. That wonderful message of sharing and devotion was so profound that it touched not only the lives of his circle of close friends, but those in his wider community, making memories to be shared as stories from mouth to mouth, reaching through space and time, to the hearts of each one of us in our 21st Century communities. As we enter into our Christmas preparations at Advent, we are encouraged by the words of Jesus, who did not see his death as an ending, but as the way for us to build on his new start for his people on earth: "In truth, in very truth, I tell you, he who has faith in me will do what I am doing; and will do greater things still because I am going to the Father." (John's Gospel 14 V 12.) This is a remarkable challenge- to do "greater things" than the Son of God – but we live in remarkable times here on earth.

Community Christmas at Othona runs from Friday 23rd December to Tuesday 27th December, when you are invited to come and enjoy the Christmas Spirit in community. All the residential spaces are already booked, but if you would like to share some time and a cuppa with us you are welcome to join us in friendship and perhaps join our worship in St Peter's Chapel. If you would like to book a meal, please contact Othona first, to be sure we have space at the table. Our food is homemade and locally sourced where possible. We always provide a vegetarian option and can cater for most dietary requirements.

Othona celebrates New Year, open for bookings from Friday 30th December to Monday 2nd January.

We wish you all a Happy and Blessed Christmas, with time for fun, good food and friendly company.

Othona is accessed through East Hall Farm, East End Road, through a wind-powered electric gate – don't forget your exit token to get out again. Our Warden/Managers are Debbie and Richard Sanders.

Email bradwell@othona.org. Website: www.othonaessex.org.uk. Telephone 01621 776564.

Bradwell Bells

In this magazine you will see an advertisement inviting you to join the bellringers at St Thomas' church. But a question that some of you may be asking is: 'Why would I want to ring the church bells?'

Well, apart from it being an ancient art (see the advert), we are a part of our community and we ring the bells on important occasions. We ring for weddings so that the village know of this joyous happening and, as we did for the Queen, we ring at funerals where the bells are muffled to set a sombre tone for the proceedings. We also rang to



Bells

celebrate our new king, King Charles III. We ring before Sunday services, before village events and at the time of world events such as the climate conference being held in Egypt. I suppose you could say that we are an ancient form of Facebook or Tik-Tok, only louder!

But, apart from all the above, we are a mixed group of people who meet socially both in the tower and monthly for a meal together. We go on outings to other towers to try out bells in different places and on one occasion a wedding was taking place and they asked if we would ring for them. Also, if you are a bellringer, you know that anywhere that bells are rung you will be welcomed to have a go. Brigid and I have rung bells in Cornwall, North Yorkshire, Northampton and Derbyshire, just by walking up and asking if we could join in.

If you are interested in finding out more then contact either me, Laurie Main 01621 776438 or John Pryke 01621 776260 and we will arrange for you to come along to the tower and 'show you the ropes.'

Tales from RAF Bradwell Bay

It was Christmas Day in the Workhouse Aerodrome. It was tradition for The Offic-

ers and Senior N.C.O.'s to wait on the airmen and airwomen at their Christmas Dinner which was fully enjoyed by all in the Airmen's Mess.

RAF Bradwell Bay celebrated 3 Christmas's during its operational time. Operations were generally quiet, and the weather was often unflyable.

Christmas 1944 must have caused a bit of a panic for the chefs. About 50 extra aircraft had been landed at Bradwell Bay due to bad weather. Could they stretch the Christmas Dinner, did they get enough turkey? (No Avian Flu then). Who was going to peel extra potatoes for an extra 50 people.

No doubt they coped, and this was the menu.



Have a wonderful Christmas



See www.rafbradwellbay.co.uk

7

Bradwell WI

Wednesday 12th October at the Village Hall



A look at the history of St Thomas's Church with Kevin Bruce

For our October meeting, we were joined by Kevin Bruce for a very interesting talk about the history of St Thomas's church. As such a landmark of the village, it was fascinating to learn so much about it and its many features that most of us overlook daily! For example, when you next walk past the church, look up and see if you can see the many grotesques (face carvings) that line its outside walls! As part of our continuing efforts to combat climate change, we were also invited to all attempt to find a second-hand item of clothing and wear it to the meeting. It was so lovely to see everyone give it such a good try; there were some real gems there that didn't break the bank and had a much lower environmental impact than buying new!

Our next meeting is on the 9th November in the village hall, and our speaker will be Jackie Marshall-Ward on 'Hats off'. New members are always welcome, so please feel free to come along!

If you have any questions about what we get up to, you can contact Sue Pirret on 07824696807 or sue@dailygrindimports.com.

Alice Nightingale

Children's Society collection boxes due in by December 1st

Every year a collection is made in our Parishes for the Children's Society. The donations collected in the boxes and Christingle Service go to the charity to ensure that vulnerable children are heard, supported and cared for. Please let me have the collection boxes for emptying, I will be pleased to take delivery of them at the beginning of December

please call me, Eunice Siggins, on 01621778904

If anyone would like a 'house box' to collect for the charity over the next year, please let me know.

DENGIE EARTH MATTERS



Dengie Earth Matters is a new environmental initiative, which is open to anyone. It's grass roots, but supported by

the local authorities, including Maldon District Council, Solar Together, Essex Forest Initiative and

commercial organisations to encourage people to consider green alternatives and to take small and affordable action to improve the environment.

The Dengie Peninsular is a large geographical area, so it has been divided into sectors for ease of managing meetings, information sharing, etc. The groupings are:



NORTH SECTORWEST SECTORSOUTH SECTORAsheldhamCold NortonAlthorneBradwell-on-seaFambridgeBurnham-on-CrouchDengieLatchingdonCreekseaMaylandMundonSouthminster

On the agenda is:

St Lawrence

Steeple Tillingham

26 January 2023 at Bradwell Village Hall from 7.00 – 9.00pm (free entry)

Woodham Mortimer Woodham Walter

Purleigh Stow Maries

A public meeting for the North Sector to introduce Solar Together - an Essex County Council project - that reduces the price of solar panels using bulk buying based on demand from Essex residents, business owners and other premises, such as Village Halls, Sports Pavilions and other community buildings. The event will include information desks (manned or take away leaflets) on diverse green issues and stalls for people to browse and/or buy.

Our aims include:

Running awareness campaign of steps, underpinned by facts and statistics, about insulation and draught exclusion, rainwater harvesting, alternative domestic products and transport and planting trees, shrubs and plants to improve our ecosystems

9

Recruiting people across the Dengie to volunteer for various tasks to develop a rolling programme of projects that address Dengie specific issues, such as installing electric vehicle charging points in community car parks, planting shrubs and trees in public and domestic spaces and:

Researching the cost, benefits and drawbacks of installing bio-digestion plants to manage human and animal waste. The benefits are that bio-digesters take sewerage, slurry and plant matter and turn it into electricity (via methane gas driving turbines), fertiliser and water, which relieve the pressure on old and failing sewers and pumping stations

Opening and operating a Big Green Shed, which is upcycling and refurbishing household items by community members to be sold to cover costs and for donating to charities and individuals in need (a cross between the Man Shed idea and the Repair Shop), if premises can be found

Suggesting new projects

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Email: CAF@maldon.gov.uk

King Charles III Coronation Celebrations May 6th to 8th 2023

There will be a meeting in the Village Hall Committee Room at 7.30pm on Tuesday



January 10th to discuss the Village celebration of the Coronation of King Charles III taking place on May 6th and Bank holiday on May 8th.

The Village Hall Trustees thought it would be good to get all interested people and organisations together so we can plan a programme of events for the residents of Bradwell-on-

Sea. Please come along to give your ideas on how we could celebrate and activities over the weekend and to give your support for celebrating the Coronation and help in the organisation of events, they don't just happen and if everyone does a little it will create a great weekends celebration for all.

6th December: St Nicholas – a much-loved saint

One account of how Father Christmas began tells of a man named Nicholas who was born in the third century in the Greek village of Patara, on what is today the southern coast of Turkey. His family were both devout and wealthy, and when his parents died in an epidemic, Nicholas decided to use his inheritance to help people. He gave to the needy, the sick, the suffering. He dedicated his whole life to God's service and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. As a bishop

in later life, he joined other bishops and priests in prison under the emperor Diocletian's fierce persecution of Christians across the Roman Empire.

Finally released, Nicholas was all the more determined to shed abroad the news of God's love. He did so by giving. One story of his generosity explains why we hang Christmas stockings over our mantelpieces today. There was a poor family with three



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daughters who needed dowries if they were to marry, and not be sold into slavery. Nicholas heard of their plight and tossed three bags of gold into their home through an open window – thus saving the girls from a life of misery.

The bags of gold landed in stockings or shoes left before the fire to dry. Hence the custom of children hanging out stockings – in the hope of attracting presents of their own from St Nicholas - on Christmas Eve. That is why three gold balls, sometimes represented as oranges, are one of the symbols of St Nicholas.

The example of St Nicholas has never been forgotten - in bygone years boys in Germany and Poland would dress up as bishops on 6th December and beg alms for the poor. In the Netherlands and Belgium 'St Nicholas' would arrive on a steamship from Spain to ride a white horse on his gift-giving rounds. To this day, 6th December is still the main day for gift-giving and merry-making in much of Europe. Many people feel that simple gift-giving in early Advent helps preserve a Christmas Day focus on the Christ Child.

The story of mince pies

Did you know that mince pies have been traditional English Christmas fare since the Middle Ages, when meat was a key ingredient? The addition of spices, suet and alcohol to meat came about because it was an alternative to salting and smoking in order to preserve the food. Mince pies used to be a different shape - cradleshaped with a pastry baby Jesus on top.

DECEMER SERVICES

Time	Service	Church	Readings		
4 th Dec	Advent 2				
10:00	Parish Communion	St Thomas Bradwell	Isaiah 11; 1-10 Romans 15; 4-13 Matthew 3; 1-12 Psalm 72 1-7, 18-19		
10:00	All Age Service	St Nicholas Tillingham			
10:00	Christingle	St Lawrence Centre			
15:00	Evening Service	St James Dengie			
18.00	Light up a Life Service	St Nicholas Tillingham	ТВА		
11 th	Advent 3				
10:00	Parish Communion	St Nicholas Tillingham	Isaiah 35; 1-10		
10:00	Christingle & Toy Service	St Thomas Bradwell	James 5; 7-10 Matthew 11; 2-11 Psalm 146; 4-10		
10.00	Parish Communion	St Lawrence Centre			
15.00	Carol Service	St James Dengie	ТВА		
18.00	Carol Service	St Lawrence Church			
16 th	Friday				
18.00	Carol Service	St Nicholas Tillingham	ТВА		
18 th		Advent 4			
10:00	Parish Communion	St Lawrence Church	Isaiah 7; 10-16		
10:00	All Age Service	St Lawrence Centre	Romans 1; 1-7 Matthew 1; 18-25 Psalm 80; 1-8, 18-20		
10:00	All Age Service	St Nicholas Tillingham			
10:00	Café Church	Dengie Village Hall			
16:30	Carol Service	St Peters Chapel	TBA		
24 th		Christmas Eve			
16.30	Crib Service	St Thomas Bradwell	2 Samuel 7; 1-5, 8- 11, 16 Acts 13, 16-26 Luke 1; 67-79 Psalm 89; 2, 19-27		
18.00	Crib Service	St Nicholas Tillingham			
18.00	Christmas Commun- ion	St Lawrence Church			
23.30	Joint Benefice Mid- night Communion	St Thomas Bradwell			
25 th	Christmas Day				

25 th	Christmas Day			
10:00	Christmas Praise	St Thomas Bradwell	Isaiah 9; 2-7 Titus 2; 11-14	
10:00	All Age Service	St Lawrence Centre	Luke 2; 1-14 Psalm 97	
1 st Jan		Advent 2		
10:00	Parish Communion	St Thomas Bradwell		
10:00	All Age Service	St Nicholas Tillingham	Isaiah 63; 7-9	
10:00	Centre & Church All Age	St Lawrence Centre	Hebrews 2; 10-18 Matthew 2; 13—23	
15:00	Evening Service	St James Dengie	Psalm 148	

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Day	Date	Time	Event	Place		
Thursday	1 st	14:00	Thursday Club	St Thomas' Bradwell		
Friday	2 nd	12:00	Friday Communion and Lunch	St Lawrence Church		
Monday	5 th	10:00	Pebbles	Centre St Lawrence		
Monday	12 th	10:00	Pebbles	Centre St Lawrence		
Friday	16th	12:00	Friday Communion and Lunch	St Thomas' Bradwell		
Monday	19th	10:00	Pebbles	Centre St Lawrence		
Friday	22 nd	14:00	Service at the Home	Down Hall Bradwell		



St Cedd's Athletics Competition

On Friday 18th November, a group of KS2 children from St Cedd's Church of England Primary School attended an Indoor Athletics Competition at the Dengie 100 Sports Centre in Burnham, which was arranged by William de Ferrers High School.

Our children, hopped, skipped and jumped with everything they had. They raced faster than they ever had before! And even though we were by far the smallest school in the competition, we were victorious!

Our school beat St Nicholas C of E Primary School Tillingham, Maylandsea Primary

School, St Mary's C of E Primary School Burnham and Burnham Primary School and we are now heading to the finals on the 8th December in Wickford. When the

results were an-



nounced, it was a very emotional moment for all children and staff. Mrs Wood, Headteacher at St Cedd's proudly said "We may be a small school, but we are passionate about providing our children with the same opportunities as children attending larger schools. Our dedicated staff work tirelessly to teach the children the skills they need to participate in as many sporting competitions as possible. I was incredibly proud when the children returned to school having come 1st in the Indoors Athletic Competition. The atmosphere around school was incredible! The children are excited about participating in the final next month. Come on St Cedd's!!".



Join our team of bell ringers at St Thomas' Bradwell-on-Sea!



Does the peal of church bells give your heart a lift? You are not alone in feeling so. But did you know you can actually help make it all happen?

We are looking for people who would like to be ringers - we will give you all the training you need and you'll discover a fascinating and sociable hobby. And you'll be helping keep our tradition of English ringing alive!

You can join in and play your part in preserving the country's precious and ancient art of bell ringing.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT RINGING IN ESSEX



OR LAURIE MAIN 01621 776438 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION



The Christmas Market is in aid of Bradwell Village Hall and Church.

Celebrating 90 years since the opening of the Village Hall in 1922.

Christingle & Toy Service

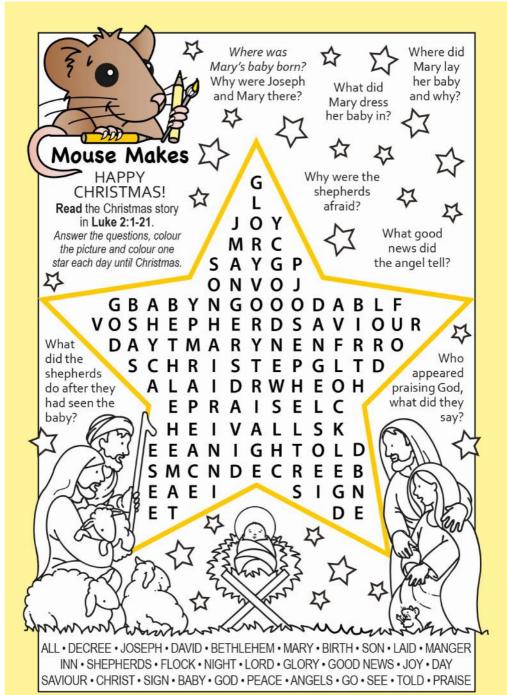
St Thomas' Church
Sunday 11th December
10:00 am - All Welcome!



Please bring with you or leave in the Church:

New toys with a piece of Christmas wrapping paper separate.

These are being collected by the Salvation Army
for distribution to children in need.



Dec22 © deborah noble • parishpump.co.uk

300

It can be read in the Bible in Luke ch. 1 verses 1-25 & 57-80

A short story from the Bible

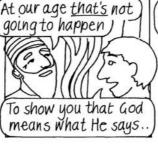
The Romans had invaded Israel and still ruled it. Zechariah and Elizabeth were an old childless couple living in the hill country.

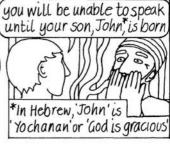


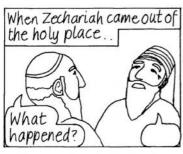






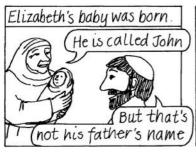
















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PAROCHIAL INFORMATION: ST. LAWRENCE Rector Revd Steven Poss 779620 Churchwardens: Jane Pudney 772345 **Gerry Lewsey** Village View Pebbles Thursday Shirley Lea 779403 10.00 - 12.00noon St. Lawrence Art Group Mothers and toddlers get to-10 - 12noon Stone Sailing Club gether for tea, coffee and a chat 778392 St Lawrence PCC Secretary Bob Dorks Rev S Poss 779620 The Friends of St Lawrence Eley v.eley@icloud.com Bridge Club 1.30pm Newland Church 1st Wednesday of the Carole Taylor 778523 Parish Council Chairman; month John Barnes 779267 Gerry Lewsey: St Lawrence Social Club cllrelewsey.slpc@email.com Secretary Gwen Adams Church Centre Activities Clerk to the Parish Council: 778386 All Church Centre bookings: Kevin Money 778904 slparishclerk@gmail.com Eunice Siggins Rainbow, brownies, St Lawrence Village Hall District Councillor Guides Fund Penny Channer 740607 5-7 years for information phone Contact: K. Terkelsen Michael Helm 778742 07757636446 or email Tara Pringle 779063 enquiries@girlguidingessexne.org.uk Stone Sailing Club Mobile Library (Weekends) 779344 Fridays 11.45am to 12.30pm Coffee Morning South Woodham Library Church Flowers Tuesday II.00am Maureen

Janet Cowell 779310 Women's Institute 2nd Wednseday 7.30 pm at St Lawrence Singers Church Centre Friday at 5.45 - 7.00pm Margaret Garlick 779328.

779219

Storey

778904

Children's Society

Margaret Cowell

Euroice Siggins 778904 President: Cathie Bonich Secretary: Eunice Siggins

(01245) 29555

The Medical Centre Tillingham 778383

William Fisher Medical Centre 772360

If any of the above information is incorrect or you wish to publicise your organisation then please contact Shirley Lea on 779403

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