

VILLAGE INFORMATION

Clerks to the Parish Councils:

Great Braxted	Lynda Townend	Tel 07307 891134
Little Braxted	Gordon Musset	Tel 01376 520103

Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator:

Great and Little Braxted Mandy Chapman
Email: thebraxtedsneighbourhoodwatch@yahoo.com

Non-urgent contact for Police: 101

Online: <https://www.essexpolice.uk/.../af/how-to-report-a-crime/>

Non-urgent contact for medical concerns: 111

Water: 0345 7820 999 **Electricity:** 0800 029 4285

Responsibility for Essex Highways:

Essex County Council 0845 6037 631

Library Information: Wickham Bishops Library

Wickham Bishops Library Opening hours:
Monday 2-5:30pm; Weds 2—5:30pm; Sat 9am—5pm
Contact 0345 6037 628

The library is a collection point for Maldon District Council recycling sacks

Next Parish Council Meetings

Gt Braxted PC next meetings:

12th January and **9th March** 2023 at 8pm in the Pavilion

Please look out for the agenda, which will be posted on the Council's noticeboard and website, and dates published on its Facebook page.

Email: parishclerk@greatbraxtedpc.org.uk

Website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/greatbraxtedparishcouncil/>

Little Braxted: all meetings are held at the Braxted Bakery and start at 7pm. Next dates are TBC.
Email for details:

littlebraxtedpc@hotmail.com

All members of the public are welcome to attend either PC meeting.

Message from editor:

Finally January has been put to bed! We can see bulbs beginning to sprout throughout the villages—so looking forward to the start of spring and seeing our villages in bloom again.

Braxted Facebook Groups:



For local updates and issues please feel free to join the following Facebook groups:

Search 'Great Braxted Residents' or use the link

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1637978482902828>

Search 'Little Braxted' or request to join via Facebook message to Ali Aldis

Great Braxted Trucam Patrols—speed camera checks

Speed camera checks are still taking place regularly in Great Braxted in an ongoing effort to maintain safety through the village.

Parish information

The below referenced website is updated by our parish clerk and includes local information, including planned road closures, as well as news from Maldon District Council, such as campaigns, new and bulletins

<https://e-voice.org.uk/greatbraxtedparishcouncil/>

Bulletin details

Advertising prices (per monthly edition)

Full page £30; Half page £15; Quarter page £10.

Enquiries: braxtedbulletin@yahoo.com (Editor: Michelle Davis)

All copy to be submitted by approx. 20th of the month for inclusion in the next month's Bulletin.

NB. The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the editor, nor can the editor guarantee the credentials or performance of any of the advertisers within.

Time to get walking again!

With Spring on its way we start to think about getting out to walk in the beautiful English countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Essex <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/essex> has loads of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (who maintains the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Essex (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

John Harris
www.walkinginengland.co.uk
john@walkinginengland.co.uk



Maldon District Councillor News

February News

The removal of local planning committees was voted down by members in December. I supported the proposal as it would mean that planning decisions would be based on policy and would have become more impartial. We need the impartiality as that is the only way we can ensure that planning is passed.

Like all local authorities we are under financial pressures from inflation. Unlike other local authorities, we have good reserves which will help the council weather this particularly negative time. The settlement given to the council by the government has helped, however as they only allocate this on an annual basis, it does not give is long term surety.

Over the past year at the council there has been a lack of strategy and vision. In the future we need to ensure we have strategy that works for residents and delivers the right customer service.

I also want to ensure that we have the right sustainable development for the villages To do that we need to ensure that our local plan is up to date and needs to be a priority for the council. That way we can also deliver the much needed and lacking infrastructure we are all suffering from.

Best wishes

Richard

Richard Siddall



ALL SAINT'S GREAT BRAXTED CHURCH NEWS February 2023

Well into the year of 2023 now.

In February we have the anniversary of St. Valentine which is also the day we note our loved ones. The 14th of course.

Ash Wednesday is the 22nd and the beginning of LENT. What will you give up this year.? It doesn't have to be say sweets or chocolate but you could perhaps give some of your time to something or someone else.

Tuesday the 21st is Shrove Tuesday otherwise known as Pancake Day – one of my favourites!

The services at All Saints will be as follows:

Sunday 5th February Communion at 11.15 am

Sunday 19th February MATINS (morning service) at 11.15 am

Contacts: -

Rector	Revd. Anne-Marie Renshaw	01621 815260
Churchwarden	Mike Puttick	01621 816830

Admin. Assistant Christine Hall [office hours] 07421078981

Website: www.tk-tiptree-braxted-benefice.org.uk

St Nicholas' Church, Little Braxted

In the Ecclesiastical Parish of Wickham Bishops with Little Braxted

Priest-in-charge Rev Hilary Le Sève 01621 892867
Churchwardens Graham Wingrove 01621 891844
Rick Smith 01621 928017

St Nicholas' is normally open daily, if closed borrow the key from the Estate Office.

For Group visits contact: stnicholas@churchinwickhambishops.org.uk

Christmas and the Epiphany season ended on Candlemas, the 2nd February when we celebrate Christ's presentation in the Temple and the purification of the Virgin Mary. We now enter a period of Ordinary Time leading up to Ash Wednesday and Lent.

IN AND FROM OUR PARISH : SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

At St Bartholomew's except at St Nicholas' shown in red.

Sunday 5th

3rd Before Lent

8.00 am* Holy Communion
10.30 am* Holy Communion

Sunday 12th

2nd Before Lent

8.00 am Holy Communion
10.30 am Holy Communion

Sunday 19th

Next before Lent

9.00 am Holy Communion (BCP/1662) **at St Nicholas'**
10.30 am* Sunday Praise Service

Ash Wednesday

22nd February 10.00am* Holy Communion with Ashing

Sunday 26th

Lent 1

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP/1662)
10.30 am Service of Lenten Reflection with Music and Readings

*In St Bartholomew's Church Hall

The season of **Lent**, in the Christian church, is a period of penitential preparation for Easter. In Western churches it begins on Ash Wednesday, six and a half weeks before Easter, and provides a 40-day period for fasting and abstinence (Sundays are excluded), in imitation of Jesus Christ's fasting in the wilderness before he began his public ministry. Do join us on the 22nd February.

GBPC and Park Project update

GBPC are pleased to have refreshed the basketball hoop and board in the park. The old equipment was rotten, and using some reserve funds from the playground project in conjunction with GBPC the hoop is now new to be enjoyed for years to come!



Pavilion Hire

Braxted Pavilion is available for hire to all residents from Great Braxted and Little Braxted for £20.

Many may not know that the hall has a table tennis table with all the bats/balls etc. and a darts board, as well as a well-equipped kitchen.

There is plenty of room for a chat and children to play. A great place for neighbours to get together in the winter.

VILLAGE ACTIVITIES IN BRAXTED PAVILION & GROUNDS

Lettings Officer & Key Holder: Sarah Mann, 892821, email sarahm66@btinternet.com

NOTE: The pavilion itself is subject to regular checks for such things as maintenance, cleaning and decorating, etc.

The pavilion can be booked by Braxted residents for private hire.

The cost is £20

Monday	U3A Bridge Group 9:30am—12:30pm (Ken Hornett 01621
	Metafit [keep fit] - 6-7pm (Lisa Brand, 01621 893720)
Tuesday	Metafit [keep fit] - 8:30-9:30am (Lisa Brand, 01621 893720)
	Pilates Class—1:30-2:30pm (Maureen Barnes, 07718741362)
Wednesday	Home Schooling—All Day—Fortnightly
Thursday	Braxted Barkers Dog Club Thursday 11:30am—1:30pm Diane Sawford, 07840 778042
	Band Rehearsal 7:00pm
	PC Meeting Bi-monthly
Friday	Braxted Art Club from 11:00am. David Joyce, 01621 891241
Saturday	Summer Cricket matches May to September 1pm
Sunday	Braxted Barkers Dog Club, first Sunday each month. Diane Sawford, 07840 778042

Braxted Pavilion Committee Announcement

After over 12 years, the Pavilion Management Committee have had to decide to increase the hire fees. This is due to inflation and maintenance costs.

They still remain very competitive.

Village clubs and societies £10

Other village hires £25.00

Outside GB and LB hires £50

Sarah Mann Secretary

Ken Hornett Chairman

Great Braxted Pavilion is on the move!

Great Braxted's Pavilion (the 'Village Hall') evolved from a modest shed which formed the clubhouse for Great Braxted Cricket Club (GBCC). This was one of 11 English cricket clubs formed in the 18th century. During its lifetime, GBCC has lived through the Battle of Waterloo; witnessed the advent of the grass mower; and welcomed the invention of the car to transport club players to matches further afield.

The timber shed was replaced with a modest single-skinned brick clubhouse in the mid 20th Century. It was built close to a then 200+ year old oak tree and several others that today are now more than 100 years old. Its proximity to the trees was determined by the access/entry gate and the edge of the pitch. It was insured for fire and theft but due to the trees there was no option for subsidence coverage. It possibly didn't seem a problem at the time.

Insulation and heating were not initially a consideration as it was after all just for summer cricket. Subsequently registered as a charity, the Pavilion began to be used for other community activities throughout the year, and basic electric heating was introduced. The modest hire charges for local clubs and activities were to encourage more local use, but all the same, they contributed towards its wellbeing and maintenance.

In 2016 a small extension was added to extend the hall size, add a small kitchen, and toilet facilities for all abilities. It gave the hall greater potential use which is reflected in today's demands by clubs, social groups and families.

In 2022 the ground movement was such that the new extension decided to move nearer to the cricket pitch! Mother Nature has moved the ground, most notably below the extension. This in turn has affected all the building, causing the separation and cracks we now see and recognise as 'subsidence'. The investigations have been done and a way forward is now being planned to deal with the building's movement.

However, at the same time it is intended to get the building properly insulated so that it holds the heat and thereby makes a genuine contribution towards the global and local goals of carbon saving.

These tasks require money that neither the Pavilion Management Committee nor the Parish Council has - so fund raising is vital. Applications to funding organisations and charities take time, but we have past experience of raising funds (e.g. playground and the 2016 extension). GBPC and the Pavilion Mgt Committee will work hard toward this goal, and of course if you have any thoughts or ideas than can contribute then please do get in touch with any one of us. Once we have more details about the insulation, repairs and fund raising progress, I will aim to send out another update for all.

Kind regards


CLlr Richard Collins (GBPC).

Annual Village Litter Pick

Saturday 18th March 2023

Meet at the Village Pavilion (10am-12pm)

Refreshments Provided

An illustration of a litter pick event in a park. In the foreground, three stylized figures are shown: a blue figure on the left holding a litter picker, a green figure in the center holding a large green trash bin, and a pink figure on the right holding a long-handled litter picker. The background features rolling green hills, a blue sky with white clouds, a large green tree on the right, and a wooden bench on the left. Scattered pieces of litter like a paper cup and a crumpled paper are on the ground.

Please bring gloves, your own litter pickers & hi-vis if you have them, as we only have a limited number to borrow. Bags will be provided

Any help would be greatly received - Great Braxted Parish Council

News from Great Totham Primary School

www.greattotham.essex.sch.uk



Essex Libraries - Summer Reading Challenge - Winners!

We were thrilled to be contacted by Essex Libraries to advise that once again, GTPS were the winners of the Maldon area trophy for having the highest number of children join and complete the Summer Reading Challenge 2022!

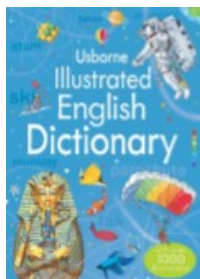


We were presented with a fabulous trophy in assembly which we get to keep until the start of the 2023 Summer Challenge.

Well done to each and every child who took part last summer. Wickham Bishops and Maldon Libraries were delighted to meet so many children and hear all about the books they enjoyed. Thank you for supporting the local library services.

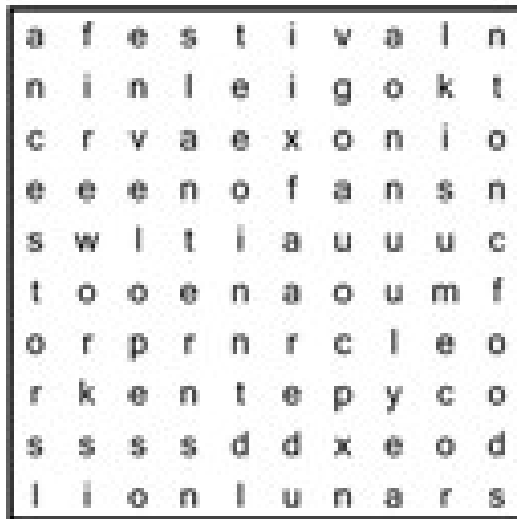
Y3 - Dictionaries 'For Life'

Thank you to Blackwater Rotary Club who visited in December to present each of our Y3 children with an Usborne Illustrated English Dictionary to take home and keep.



Just for fun!

Chinese New Year Word Search



fireworks

lanterns

lunar

envelopes

festival

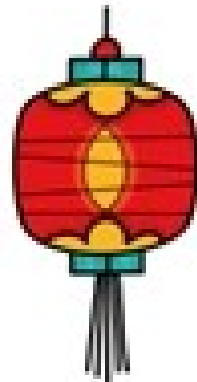
food

fans

red

ancestors

lion



Valentine's Day

word scramble

DER _____ KNIP _____

ERTHA _____ SESISK _____

OROWA _____ UFBRYRAE _____

HOLCETAOC _____ OPEM _____

SRHUC _____ LTETRE _____

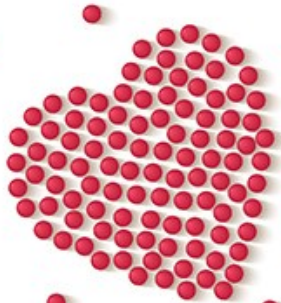
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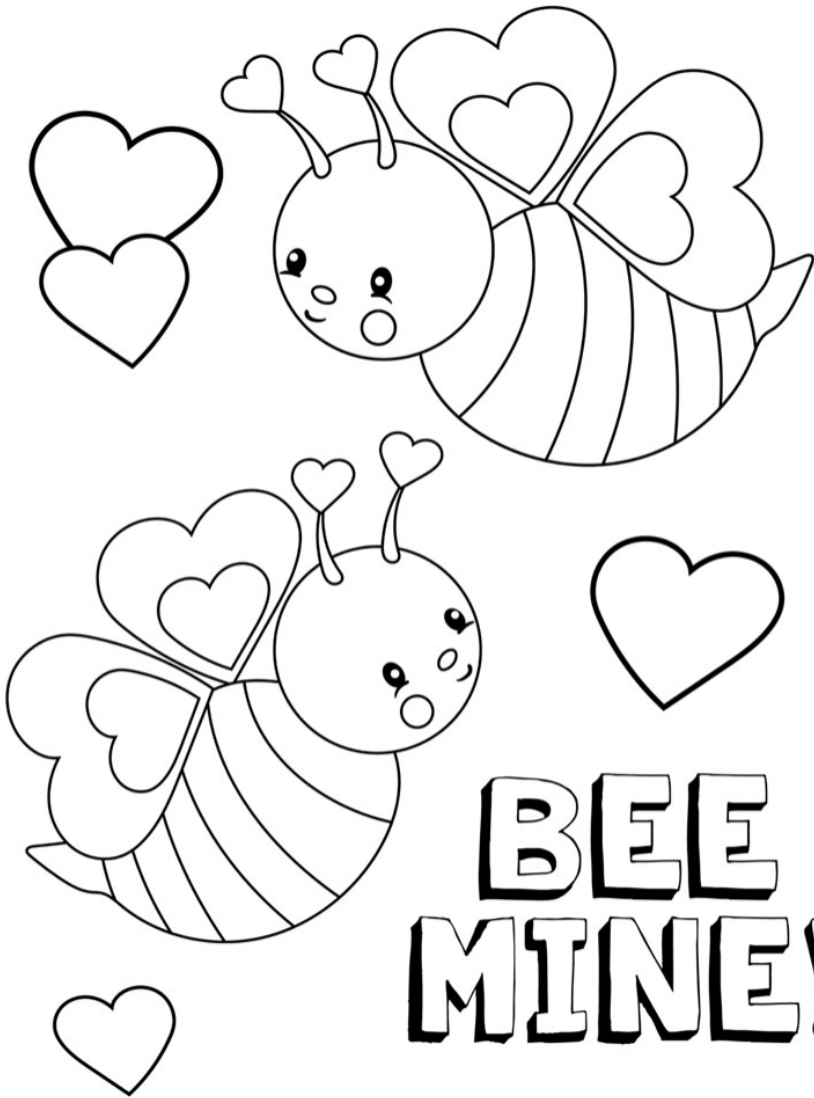
VLOE _____

PELEVEON _____

NEOYH _____

CIDPU _____





SUPPORT AVAILABLE FOR THE COMMUNITY

Little Braxted Community and Educational Fund



This fund benefits people living in Little Braxted, neighbouring villages and the surrounding rural areas. It also supports educational opportunities in Wickham Bishops and Little Braxted.

To apply for a grant please call the friendly Essex Community Foundation team on 01245 355947 or visit: essexcommunityfoundation.org.uk




Essex
Community
Foundation

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1052061