



The Braxted

Bulletin

October 2024

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

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

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.

St Nicholas' Church, Little Braxted

In the Ecclesiastical Parish of Wickham Bishops with Little Braxted

Rector / Priest-in-charge: Vacant

Parish contact phone 07544 973705

Churchwardens: Vacant

Deputy Churchwarden Graham Wingrove

WEBSITE: churchinwickhambishops.org.uk

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

For Group guided tour contact: stnicholas@churchinwickhambishops.org.uk

IN AND FROM OUR PARISH : SERVICES FOR OCTOBER

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

Sunday 6th

8.00 am

10.30 am

19th Sunday of Trinity : HARVEST FESTIVAL

Holy Communion

Holy Communion

Sunday 13th

8.00 am

10.30 am

20th Sunday of Trinity

Holy Communion

Holy Communion

Sunday 20th

9.00 am

10.30 am

21st Sunday of Trinity

Holy Communion BCP at St Nicholas'

Sunday Praise Service

Sunday 27th

8.00 am

10.30 am

Last Sunday of Trinity

Holy Communion (BCP)

Holy Communion

Saturday 2nd November

All Souls

3.30 for light refreshments

4.00pm

Service commemorating the departed

Please leave names on sheet at back of church from mid-October



NOTES

+ Sorry to say that we are no forward to any news of a replacement for our incumbent for St Bartholomew's and St Nicholas'.

+ Harvest donations at 10.30 on 6th Oct will go to the local Foodbank or they can be dropped off at St Bartholomew's porch on Saturday 5th. Items required are on our Noticeboards

+ We have been able to secure the services of a visiting priest for St Nicholas' each month including the candle-lit Midnight Mass on Christmas eve.

ALL SAINTS GREAT BRAXTED

CHURCH NEWS

August 2024

Our pattern of services on the first and third Sunday of the month will continue until the end of October, with our Harvest Festival Parish Communion on Sunday 6th at 11.15 am and Morning Prayer (Matins) on Sunday 20th October, after which we will close for the winter (except for Christmas).

In the winter the church will not hold Sunday services to save costs on heating. We will still be here for you for booking weddings, baptisms and funerals. If you would like to arrange to visit when there is not a service, please do contact us.

We are pleased to report that Revd Anne-Marie Renshaw is recovering well from recent surgery and at the time of writing hoped to return to work at the end of September. During October she will be working shorter hours, and thank you for bearing with us, if we take a little time to respond to your enquiries.

Mike Puttick is no longer Churchwarden, and we would like to thank him for all his hard work and support over many years. Thank you too to Ken, Jenny and Sue who do so much for All Saints.

Next time: we will send you details of our special Christmas Services, to which everyone is invited!

Our contact details are:

Team Rector: Revd Anne-Marie Renshaw, 01621 815260
amlrenshaw@btinternet.com

Team Administrator: Christine Hall, 07421 178981

See our team website for more details, we have our own page its link is here:
thurstablewinstreechurches.org/all-saints-great-braxted



Head Teacher: Miss Sarah Vass

Great Totham Primary School
Walden House Road,
Great Totham,
CM9 8PN

01621 891091

admin@greattotham.essex.sch.uk

Would you like to give back to your local community?

Are you interested in the education of Great Totham's children?

Our Governing Body has vacancies for a Partnership and a Co-opted Governor¹. We are seeking interested people who have the skills and time to join the Governing Body and help lead our school for at least the next four years.

The Role of the Governing Body at Great Totham

As a Foundation School the Governing Body is the employer of all staff, the admission authority for children and has responsibility for the school's land and buildings. Its four main duties in ensuring high standards of achievement for all children are:

- With the Headteacher, setting the school's vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding the Headteacher and senior leaders to account for educational performance
- Overseeing financial performance and making sure the school's money is well spent
- Helping to shape the culture, working and learning environments of the school

Being a Governor is a responsible role and we are looking for people who will commit to both attend and contribute to meetings of which there are two a term (both in person and via Zoom). Further information is available on the school website <https://www.greattotham.essex.sch.uk/ourschool>

If you are interested and would like to discuss this voluntary position please contact us to arrange a meeting.

Andy Johnson
Chair of Governors

Sarah Vass
Headteacher

¹ Both partnership and co-opted governors are appointed by the governing body. A partnership governor cannot be a parent or have parental responsibility for a child at the school. A co-opted governor may, but does not have to, have such relationships

THE BIGGEST QUIZ NIGHT IN THE WORLD

(ever to be held in Braxted Park in 2024)

Sunday 3 November

Doors open at 7.00pm for 7.45pm start

Team tables of 8 maximum • £50 per table

Book early to avoid disappointment!

Prize for Best Dressed Table and Quizzers –

Theme: All White on the Night! *(optional)*

Bar Service - bring own nibbles

To book: **Dick Collins 07775 951317**
Bee Goody 07950 377237

Update from Maldon District Council

Future infrastructure that needs to be delivered by ECC in the district is a priority for Maldon District Council. The severe lack of infrastructure needs addressing. At the same time, the risk of St Peter's hospital's potential closure is a serious concern.

The Mid and South Essex ICB ran a consultation earlier this year on community hospital and patient services, and the Council responded with its concerns, echoing residents' views on St Peter's hospital, stating its dismay as to how such a vital building and valued community facility could be allowed to fall into disrepair.

It is very important that the Council attends meetings to protect the district from losing its health services. There are absolutely no plans to move any services either from ECC or the NHS into MDC estate. I personally will not support any changes until we get guarantees from the NHS about what they plan to deliver, in the long term. The library is not moving to our office, and we will not be moving any services into their premises. I along with other councillors will not facilitate anything negative for the District.

I need to reiterate there have been no decisions to move any services and Maldon District Council has not agreed anything with Essex County Council or the NHS. Any future decisions on how the Council's estate operates will be brought to Full Council. I along with all other members will act in the interests of residents and will oppose anything that we see as detrimental to delivery of services in the district.

Whatever the long-term outcome for St Peter's hospital, we cannot see health services leave Maldon and we must do all we can to prevent this from happening.

I am also pleased to announce that Doug Wilkinson has been appointed as the new Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service) for Maldon District Council following a rigorous selection process.

Doug's appointment is a crucial step in building on the Council's performance and delivery, and with his extensive experience in public service leadership, it makes him an excellent choice for this role, We are looking forward to the contributions he will make to our Council, the Maldon District community and our partners.

It is 6 years since the council had a Chief Executive, and the appointment will enable the Council to prioritise delivering high-quality, affordable services, fostering sustainable growth, and enhancing the well-being of our community.

Best wishes

Richard

The 2024 Saltmarsh Coast Walking Festival Celebrates Record-Breaking Success

The Saltmarsh Coast Walking Festival has once again proved to be a major success, as the 10-day event, which took place from 27 September to 6 October, saw 511 participants exploring the scenic beauty of the Maldon District on a series of guided walks.

The festival showcased the area's varied landscapes, rich history and abundant wildlife, featuring a diverse range of walking routes, offering something for everyone - from gentle strolls along the district's picturesque coastline to more challenging hikes through its woodlands and countryside.

Leader of Maldon District Council, Cllr Richard Siddall, said: "With over 500 walkers taking part in 34 different guided walks, the event exceeded expectations and also highlighted the growing popularity of outdoor recreation and eco-tourism in the Maldon District. Over 3,500 miles were walked during the festival, which is the equivalent of walking to New York!

"The influx of visitors during the festival provided a welcome boost to our local economy, benefitting hotels, pubs, cafes, shops and visitor attractions across the district. Festival participants came from near and far, the furthest all the way from Tucson, Arizona – a distance of over 5,000 miles."

Maldon District Council worked in conjunction with The Maldon Tourism Group and with local partners such as the National Trust, RSPB, Ramblers Association and Essex Waterways among others, who gave their time for free to deliver this landmark event.

James Burrell-Cook, Chair of the Maldon Tourism Group, said: "The Saltmarsh Coast Walking Festival is more than just a walking event - it's a celebration of everything that makes the Maldon District special.

"We're proud to showcase our area's natural beauty, and we're committed to promoting sustainable tourism that benefits both our visitors, our local communities and the rural economy."

Following the success of this year's event, plans are already underway for the 2025 festival, with organisers aiming to introduce even more diverse walking routes and special features.

For more information about the Saltmarsh Coast Walking Festival or to get involved in next year's event, visit www.saltmarshcoastwalkingfestival.co.uk or contact info@saltmarshcoastwalkingfestival.co.uk.

MALDON DISTRICT HERITAGE WINTER TALKS 2024-25

VENUE: Friends Meeting House, Butt Lane, Maldon, CM9 5HD
7pm Doors open / 7.30pm Talks start / 9pm Finish
FREE ADMISSION: no pre-booking required
FURTHER INFORMATION: Tim Howson, Principal Conservation and Heritage Officer tim.howson@maldon.gov.uk



5th November 2024: David Newman – A history of Beckingham Hall, Tolleshunt Major

Beckingham Hall retains a stunning Tudor brick gatehouse and courtyard wall and has a fascinating history. Local historian David Newman will use historic photos, maps and drawings to illustrate the story of the site up until the property changed hands in 2017.

3rd December 2024: Joe Bispham – 62 years as a carpenter and joiner: from indentured apprenticeship to historic buildings consultant

This talk will start from Joe's first day at work in January 1962. He was given a 6-month trial after which he signed his apprenticeship papers (indenture) which bound him to a master for 5 years to learn the craft as a carpenter and joiner. Joe will talk about some of the contracts he worked on and people that he met on his journey over the next 10 years. He will then illustrate and describe his work over the last 45+ years; the wonderful historic buildings that he has had the privilege to repair and the various interesting owners and professionals he has encountered.



7th January 2025: Rob Cullum – Excavation of a Bronze Age and Iron Age Settlement in North Heybridge

In this talk archaeologist Rob Cullum will explain the important findings of recent excavations on the site of the North Heybridge Garden Suburb. The principal discovery was several Iron Age roundhouses. Artefacts recovered include a Neolithic axe and Bronze Age jewellery made from amber, a material which was rare in Britain in this period.



4th February 2025: Stephen Nunn – Barges on the Blackwater

An illustrated talk on the historic link between Maldon and the Thames Sailing Barge. This is a study of some of the surviving barges that can still be seen at the town's Quay, sailing on the River Blackwater and taking part in the annual Blackwater Sailing Barge Match. The story of Maldon's barges – past and present.



4th March 2025: Douglas Kent– The Old Sun Inn, Saffron Walden: Then and Now

The Old Sun Inn is a captivating Grade I-listed building dating from the 1300s with 17th-century decorative external plasterwork - or 'pargeting' - that is among the best in the country. Originally medieval houses, then later an inn, the property has subsequently been in mixed commercial and domestic use. The Old Sun Inn is currently undergoing a project of major conservation in line with the principles of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB), which, by an interesting twist of fate, once owned the building. Douglas Kent, the present owner who is, by coincidence, also the Technical and research Director at the SPAB, will explain the history of the building, including the latest findings, and speak about the ongoing work and plans for the building's future.



PRESS RELEASE

Witham Hockey Club

Date: 17/09/2024



Centenary Tournament Weekend Kicks Off Witham Hockey Club's 100 Year Celebrations

This past weekend, Friday 13th September – Sunday 15th September, saw hundreds of hockey players, club members and supporters amass at Witham Hockey Club's clubhouse on Maldon Road for a weekend of fun, festivities, socialising and reminiscing as the club marks the start of their celebrations for their centenary season.

Witham Hockey Club were joined by teams across Essex and further who travelled to Witham for two tournaments, with some even travelling from Belize, Australia and Wales to name but a few places. The festivities started with a Walking Hockey tournament that took place on Friday, where six teams battled it out; Chairpersons VII, Lin Ward's Memorial VII, The

Noughties Beavers, Dad's & Bab's Army, Essex Vets, and Maldon. The day was kicked off by local MP, Dame Priti Patel, who enthusiastically sounded the air horn to denote the start of the tournament during her visit to congratulate the club on reaching the 100 hundred year milestone and hear the many stories the club has to tell.



After a number of games and a proper catch up for some of our older players who hadn't picked up a stick for a number of years, The Noughties Beavers took the crown winning the Centenary Walking Mixed 7s Cup in the afternoon's Cup league and Maldon emerging victorious in the Plate league. Both being presented their trophies by Witham Town Deputy Mayor, Cllr Paul Heath.



Cup Winners
The Noughties Beavers



Plate Winners
Maldon

The day quickly moved into a socialising evening with many making light work of the ales, beers and ciders that had been supplied for the weekend, so much so that further ale had to be sourced the following morning! Club President Bob Ward commented "What a great start to our Centenary and it was great to see so many old faces joining us".

Following this fantastic first day was a Mixed 7s tournament on Saturday where ten teams competed to be crowned champions. Six Witham teams were joined by Basildon, Crostyx, Maldon and Rickmansworth's Ricky Renegades.



After a long day in some glorious sunshine that required suitable refreshment, Witham's Elegant Eagles finished top of the leaderboard to take the Centenary Cup being presented by Witham Town Mayor, Cllr Lucy Barlow, who had also joined a Witham team, being a keen hockey player and umpire herself. Having been practicing trophy lifting in the week leading up to the tournament, Captain Joe Nichols put his practice into play and proudly lifted the Centenary Cup surrounded by his team.



Centenary Cup Winners Elegant Eagles

Back row (L-R): Ed, Josh, Kevin Bellehewe, Jacob Lawrence, Mikey Bird, Richard Dunnage
Front row (L-R): April Gardner, Sue Rayner, Cameron Brown, Joe Nichols, Witham Town Mayor Cllr Lucy Barlow

Further to this and in the afternoon's Plate league, the historically aptly named Spread Eagles won the Centenary Plate. And only rightly so did the Wooden Spoon go to a Witham team, with Captain Cameron Wilson being proud to receive the addition to his cutlery draw.

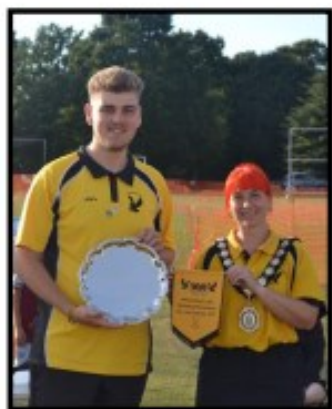


Plate Winners
The Noughties Beavers



Wooden Spoon Winners
Witham

As with the night before, the evening events took full swing with all in attendance partying the night away in the marquee and making full use of the bar.

Tournament Organiser, Kris Baker, stated "This event is the epitome of what Witham Hockey Club is to me, a fantastic weekend of hockey and socialising to kick off the start of our Centenary season, thank you to all that attended, volunteered their time, and otherwise helped make the event such a great success."



Club Chairperson, Jane Bellehewe, added her remarks "To everyone who supported the Centenary weekend's events in whatever way, organising, setting up, playing, watching, partying, tidying up, sponsoring or sending your best wishes for the event, thank you. The success of any event is never guaranteed, it only comes about through the willingness of people to take on the task of organising the event and then the support of members and the wider community and that was given in abundance this weekend. I couldn't be happier with how the event ran and the weather was so kind to us. This weekend sees the start of the league season. Let's see if we can make it a successful one throughout the club. Let's try and maintain the support we had this weekend through the season - for the club, for the committee, for captains and for team mates. I look forward to seeing you throughout the season either at the pitch, in the clubhouse after or at organised events."



If you're not a Witham Hockey Club member but would like to join us, no matter your skill level or experience (or lack of), we'd love to hear from you. Get in contact with us or simply attend one of our training sessions. All of our training sessions take place at Witham Sports Ground (behind ACL Witham) with Ladies training on Tuesdays at 20:00, Mens on Tuesdays at 20:00, and Juniors on Sunday at 10:00.

Contact Us



www.withamhockeyclub.co.uk



withamhockey@gmail.com



St Peter's Hospital, Maldon

Delay in final decision making

Important Update - 18 September 2024

The NHS Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board (MSEICB) has announced a six-month delay in the final decision-making regarding the reconfiguration of community hospital beds, a midwife-led birthing unit and ambulatory care services.

The decision follows an extensive public consultation, where valuable feedback was gathered from patients, staff, and the wider community. The delay aims to allow further engagement to ensure the final decision is fully informed and aligns with the needs of the local population.

This additional time will enable the NHS in mid and south Essex to develop comprehensive solutions that address the needs of local communities to enable staff to deliver the best possible care and make the best use of taxpayers money.

To ensure that the final decision reflects a broad range of perspectives, an independently chaired working group will be established to support looking at viable options in detail, including the long-term future of services provided at St Peter's Hospital in Maldon. This group will include representatives from the NHS, local authorities, community organisations, and key stakeholders.

A special decision-making board meeting was due to be held on 30 September 2024 but **will now be postponed** enabling the working group to complete its review.

The delay means there will be no immediate changes to the provision of community hospital beds or ambulatory care services. All current services will continue as they are while the engagement process is ongoing.

Terms of reference for the working group are currently being developed.

Volunteers Wanted Hedge & Tree Planting



Village Hedge Planting Initiative

Working in partnership with Essex County Council's Forestry and Woodland Team, Great Braxted Parish Council will be planting hedging and tree saplings around the field on Thursday the 19th December 2024 from 10am to 3pm.

**19th
Dec
2024
10am
to
3pm**

No experience necessary

Planting equipment will be provided

Please wear suitable clothing and footwear

Join in for as long or little as you can

Encourage others to join in the fun

Refreshments will be provided

Location

Great
Braxted
Cricket
Field

For More Information

parishclerk@greatbraxtedpc.org.uk

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 891424) Metafit [keep fit] - 6-7pm (Lisa Brand, 01621 893720)
Tuesday	Pilates Class—1:30-2:30pm
Wednesday	Home Schooling—All Day—Fortnightly Band Rehearsal 7pm
Thursday	Braxted Barkers Dog Club Thursday 11:30am—1:30pm Diane Sawford, 07840 778042 Band Rehearsal 2pm 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 £20

Outside GB and LB hires £50

Sarah Mann Secretary

Ken Hornett Chairman

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