

September 2021

Edition 183



**TOPPESFIELD  
& GAINSFORD END** *Parish Newsletter*



## USEFUL NUMBERS

Braintree District Council	01376 552525
Colchester Hospital	01206 744491
Doctors Car Service	07845 596092
Freshwell Health Centre	01371 810328
Hedingham Medical Centre:	
Castle Hedingham	01787 461465
Sible Hedingham	01787 460612
Kaaren Berry, Parish Clerk	07341264219
Little Chestnuts Preschool	079018 80914
Little Hedgehogs Toddlers	01440 785778
Pumphouse Brewery	07780 702293
Rev. Liz Paxton	01787 277270
St Margaret's School	01787 237354
The Green Man Public House	01787 237418
Toppesfield Community Shop	01787 236003
Toppesfield Village Hall Booking Secretary—Daphne Jude	01440 788270

## TOPPESFIELD COMMUNITY SHOP

Church Lane, Toppesfield. Tel: 01787 236003  
Fresh Fruit & Vegetables, Milk, Newspapers,  
Confectionery, Pet Food, Dairy Products, Meat &  
Poultry, Coal and Kindling, Cards, Stationery and  
lots more!

Monday—Friday

8.30 am— 4.00 pm

Saturday—10.00 am—12.30pm

## TOPPESFIELD POST OFFICE

Church Lane, Toppesfield

Wednesday— 10.00 am—1pm

Services include: Special Delivery, Mobile Top Up,  
Insurance Services, Household payments, Travel  
Money, Moneygrams, Savings Accounts plus more!

## Toppesfield Parish Council

**Councillors** — Alan Collard, Amanda Smith, Andrea Chinery, Boyd Page, Gemma Mackman,  
Chris Neale and Daisy Watson.

Parish Clerk — Kaaren Berry

Parish Council Meetings are normally held on the first Thursday of every month in the village hall.  
During lockdown the parish council are meeting virtually. You are welcome to attend the Open

## Toppesfield & Gainsford End Parish Newsletter

Published by Toppesfield Parish Council

Editor: [clerk.toppesfieldparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:clerk.toppesfieldparishcouncil@gmail.com)

Please see our online resources to find out what is happening

Facebook Pages :-

Toppesfield & Gainsford End Community

Toppesfield Village Hall

Toppesfield Village Stores

The Green Man, Toppesfield

Pumphouse Community Brewery

Toppesfield and Gainsford End Neighbourhood and Development Plan

Twitter & Instagram— Toppesfield & Gainsford End Community

Website—<https://e-voice.org.uk/toppesfield-parish-council/>



## From the Parish Council



September already!

Back to school and back to work; this summer seems to have truly raced by and without the warm weather we have been promised for weeks by the forecasters. Let's hope we have an Indian summer to balance things out a little.

Despite the disappointing weather, there has been a fair bit going on in the village over the past couple of months and that looks likely to continue going into autumn.

One of the most important things under way currently is the Neighbourhood Plan which is taking shape and which we are keen to press ahead with as quickly as possible. A drop-in day was organised in July to provide an up date as to what has been done thus far and about 40 people stopped by. David Oxnam, who is now leading the process, has written a brief update which you will see later in this Newsletter. The final plan which comes out of all the work will provide a framework for any future development in Toppesfield and Gainsford End. This will indicate a level of new development that will be acceptable, the type of development, the visual aspects and how it should fit in with our environmental and landscape requirements.

Questionnaires addressing these topics were available at the drop-in event and many have been completed and returned so the data can be collated. We would, however, like to see as many questionnaires returned as possible so that the final Plan reflects as fully as possible the views of the community. The questionnaires are available from the shop.

Please take some time to do this. It is your opportunity to put your views forward: if you don't, then they won't be heard!

It was also good to see over 150 people attend the music evening at the Green Man in early August. Not only was it a great event, open to all, but it highlighted again how valuable a resource the Green Man is to the parish as a focal point for meeting up. We've all realised over the past 18 months how difficult life can be when meeting up is not possible.

In late July, a Welcome Coffee and Cake event for new and old residents was hosted in the Village Hall. This proved very successful, with a large turnout including about 20 people who have moved into the parish over the past 2 years and with copious amounts of delicious cakes supplied by a number of residents. Perhaps this could be a regular event; any thoughts?

We would like to thank those who have responded to the parish council's request for comments about the proposal to purchase the Green Man barn. Several important points arose from these comments and they will all help determine how things proceed; we should have further news over the next month or so.

The parish council is always happy to hear from residents of any thoughts and ideas they may have to improve the village and make it more sustainable. Please let our clerk, Kaaren Berry, know if you have any suggestions. Whether we like it or not, the world is changing and if villages like Toppesfield don't adapt with it we will become unsustainable.

Our next Newsletter will be published and delivered on the first weekend of November so please let us know in good time if there are any events you would like to advertise.

## **A welcome transformation**

Most of us recall only too well the recent inconvenience of the bridge closure at Cust Hall, particularly we in Gainsford End who were long cut off from our Toppesfield metropolis! Furthermore we had to endure the unsightly mess of the muddy quagmire in the land between the junction of the two roads which had been churned up by heavy equipment and huts of the Highways Authority's workmen.

Now we have a new bridge but more extraordinary is the transformation of that muddy quagmire into a beautiful wild flower meadow as this amateur photograph attempts to show. The reality is even more colourful and well worth a visit before it fades away.

I do not know whether the flowers were planted manually or grew naturally. In any event I thought I would never say this but - Bravo Highways Authority!!

Or should the plaudits go elsewhere?

Rodger Smith



Note: We understand the meadow was sown by residents of Sainsbury's Cottages.

# **TOPPEFIELD** *Community Shop*

**Good morning to you all from your local shop!**

I would like to take this opportunity to reintroduce myself as the 'new' chairperson of Toppesfield's community shop committee. After many great years heading the team, Ann Read has now stepped down and handed me the reins. I truly hope that I can, fulfill my vision, do the village proud, and steer the shop in a new and exciting direction. Shopping locally is not only beneficial to us, it is also beneficial to the environment, therefore, making it the very best it can be is extremely important. We, the committee, have some progressive ideas for new product lines and revamping the premises (watch this space) but don't forget, this is your shop, and we welcome your suggestions and requests.

As a benefit society, the more successful the shop, the more we are able to give back to the village! Along with my new appointment, we've also secured a couple of new, very committed, committee members. Jac Watson and Jacqui Burnett. However, we are still in urgent need of volunteers to lighten the load of our current happy band, so please, if you can spare a little time to help out, don't hesitate to get in touch.

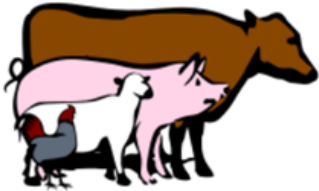
*Wendy Ames*

## Order Services

**Weekly orders**

Bacon  
Ham  
Sausages  
Chicken  
Lamb  
Beef

**PRIORS HALL FARM**



**Fresh Quality Meat**

*Prices dependent on cut and weight*



*Specialty*  
**CAKES, PIES, PASTRIES**

to order, also available  
fresh and frozen  
in our shop



**TOPPEFIELD**  
*Vineyard*

## OPENING TIMES



Monday	.....	8.30am - 4.00pm
Tuesday	.....	8.30am - 4.00pm
Wednesday	.....	8.30am - 4.00pm
Thursday	.....	8.30am - 4.00pm
Friday	.....	8.30am - 4.00pm
Saturday	.....	10.00am - 12.30pm

### Magazines & Newspapers

Do you have a favourite periodical?  
Albeit Daily, Fortnightly, Monthly  
we can order it for you.



**WEDNESDAY 10am - 1pm**

# News from the Footpaths



Hi Everyone

I hope you are all well and enjoying the footpaths. What a strange few months it has been weather wise. I think we are all still waiting for Summer to arrive. However as always there are things to delight us when out walking.

I particularly enjoyed the footpath sign covered in lichen. The footpath sign is an old concrete one and you will find lichens growing on tomb stones and trees too. Lichens are an interesting group of plants. They are a mixture of an alga and a fungus living together for mutual benefit (*marriage?!!!*) Many are a source of natural dyes. You may remember from your school days in the chemistry lab litmus paper turning from pink to blue indicating acid or alkaline conditions. Litmus is extracted from a lichen. Also the dye for Harries Tweed is extracted from a lichen. In addition, as a source of dyes, lichens are also an indicator of pollution. The bushier they grow the less polluted the atmosphere.

The late flowers are still providing a colourful display and also a feed for the bees and butterflies. On the same walk I spotted a lovely patch of poppies and also several painted lady butterflies on the thistle. Thistles, knapweed, bramble and teasels seem to be firm favourites with the bees and butterflies, providing them with a rich feast of pollen and nectar and of course us with the blackberries.



The horse chestnut tree is always the first to come into leaf in the Spring and the first to start to lose its' leaves as Autumn advances. Now we have lovely clusters of conkers and I spotted some field mushrooms as well, a sure sign that Autumn is on its' way. It always fascinates me that you seldom find a perfect mushroom. There are teeth marks and holes there so something has been having a nibble!



Of course, as I said in the newsletter last September, we would normally be looking forward to The Village show and hoped that this year we would be able to hold it. I did think long and hard about it and felt that at the time I would normally have started to plan the show the covid situation was still so uncertain. Let's hope for next year.

Keep well and safe.

Ann Read





## St Margaret of Antioch – Toppesfield

Well my summer was supposed to be a time of rest and renewal but like the sunshine I think that all passed me by!.

My ordination at Chelmsford Cathedral is on September 11<sup>th</sup> at 1.30pm, so a feeling of anticipation, nerves and excitement all prevail.

I continue to come into the village and chat with anyone who crosses my path and I hope to get to know more of you as the coming months unfold. I will be serving my curacy predominantly at St Margaret's but to develop my training and experience further I will also be working across the benefice as well.

Plans are in place for our Harvest Festival on 3rd October at 5pm (see the poster in the magazine), and it would be lovely to see as many of you there as possible, we are going to arrange a meal for anybody who wants to come in The Green Man, so let us know if you would like to join us.

I am very excited that I have registered St Margaret's as a Messy Church location. Our 1<sup>st</sup> event is in October half term (see the poster in the magazine).

I am still looking for helpers, so if you are interested, whatever your age, in helping me set up a Family/Children's, Toddler group, Messy Church, please let me know and we can have a chat.

**Every Wednesday from 15th September to 20<sup>th</sup> October between 10.30am-12.30pm, I will be in Church, if you want a chat or just to say Hello, I can soon put the kettle on.**

My head is full of ideas but perhaps you have some of your own?  
Is there a project? or group? you think would help the community of Toppesfield.

Thank you for the warm welcome I have received. And please get in touch if you need any help, want a chat, or have an idea. And also, if you know someone who is house-bound or home from hospital that would welcome a visit.

Caroline Brown  
[revcarolinebrown@gmail.com](mailto:revcarolinebrown@gmail.com).

## More church news.....

### THE SUPPER AUCTION IS BACK!

All being well we're planning to hold the famous

Supper Auction again this year on

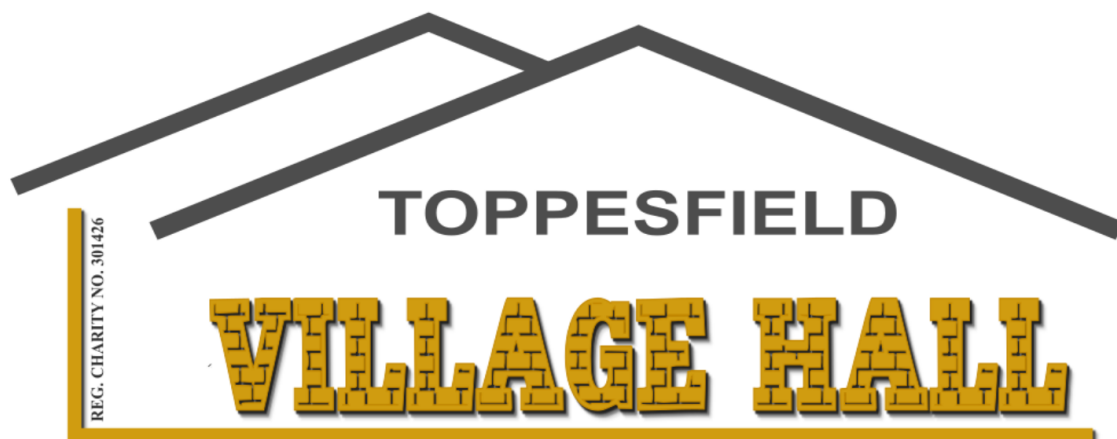
**NOVEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup> at 7.00PM in THE VILLAGE HALL.**

Tickets will be on sale soon, so put the date in your diary and start collecting wonderful things to put in the auction.



We can also sing again in church. The choir sings in church on special occasions and is about to start practicing for Harvest, Christmas etc. There are currently eleven members and we would like to invite more, especially if you can sing alto, tenor or bass.

Don't worry whether you can sing well – the main qualification is to enjoy making music in the company of like-minded friends. If you're interested please call Sue Blackie (01787 237642).



*our newly refurbished hall is*

# **NOW AVAILABLE FOR HIRE**

*We have excellent kitchen facilities and a small bar area, a fantastic space suitable for all sorts of activities*

*please contact our bookings secretary Daphne Jude on 01440 788270*





Call to book on  
01787 237418

Follow us at @greenmantopps

Enquiries

[info@thegreenmantoppesfield.com](mailto:info@thegreenmantoppesfield.com)



Olympics, Euros, and the full return of The Green Man, what a summer! This is a full packed edition to keep you updated with our news and events.

**Dining** - All current menus are available on our social media accounts or in the pub, including our main menu, Saturday breakfasts and Sunday roasts. Come sample our brand new à la carte menu. Thursday lunch club is back, each week we are offering an alternate meat or fish option, alongside a vegetarian choice. We continue to offer the very best value with prices remaining at £12 for 3-courses, £9 for 2-courses or £6 for a main only. Takeaway service continues.



**Events** - What an event to start all events with the Community Revival. Around 150 people turned out to listen to our local talent Chris Ruggles, Reptile Dysfunction and Strangers Know More. It was a fantastic night to bring the community together (quite literally with standing rooms only at the back of the marquee). Huge thanks to the volunteers with their organisation, rehearsals, equipment, time and more, who made this event the success it was. We continue our commitment to entertainment, by serving you monthly live music nights, keeping it local.



Fancy a flutter and going 'out out'? We are organising an afternoon away at the 'Sun Chariot Day' at Newmarket Racecourse on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Please contact David and Paul to express your interest. We would appreciate hearing from you by 9<sup>th</sup> September so that we can start making arrangements, however, please still ask if you are interested and reading this later.



Quiz nights are back! You've had plenty of time to spec up, nonetheless, join for some fun and healthy competition by joining a team. Pop in and challenge yourself. Quiz nights will run every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month.

We've been very pleased to start hosting private functions again. Our restaurant room can accommodate 22 seated, or many more with a standing buffet and use of the garden marquee. We can deliver on any culinary delight you can think of, talk to us about any ideas or dates.



**Opening hours:** Tuesdays to Thursdays open 5 – 11 pm, Fridays 2 – 11 pm, Saturday 10 am – 11 pm, Sundays 12 – 7 pm.

**Food:** Wednesdays to Fridays 5 – 8 pm, Saturdays 10 am – 12 pm and 5 – 8 pm, Sundays 12 – 4 pm

## INDIA -- NOTES FROM SCAD AFTER COVID

India as a whole has again been in Lockdown for approx. 4 months, and it is just beginning to ease up now although schools and Temples are still closed. Many children have had no schooling for 20 months, although the older children have benefitted from SCAD's TVs installed publicly in 27 villages (accompanied by volunteers) for children to benefit from the national TV educational programmes. The smaller children need supervising and aren't generally using the system. SCAD estimates that the educational sessions were being attended by 30% of the oldest children

Some of the Toppesfield residents have met Charles from SCAD – either when visiting SCAD in India or when he has been staying with me. Sadly, he was very ill with COVID and was in Intensive Care for 5 days. However, I'm glad to report that he is now feeling well again and in good spirits, recuperating at home. He is not allowed contact with villagers for several months yet, but goes into SCAD office.

The 200 vulnerable women SCAD has put on the tree-planting programme have been achieving wonders and now have c 150,000 saplings ready to plant out this September.

The SCAD Medical Centre has been closed to all but Covid cases for months but has just re-opened for other needy patients.

Almost all community projects are back up and running now, since the Government eased some lockdown restrictions on 15 June. The saltpan workers are back for 3 – 4 hrs/day, which is at least providing them with some basic income.

Anbu Illam (the SCAD School for Differently Abled Children) is still closed but their out-reach teams continue to work in the villages to reach as many children as possible with educational games and activities. SCAD's School for the gypsy children had to close under Covid but their teaching/outreach team has been encouraging the children to come at 11am for educational activities; later they are provided with lunch and go home at c 2.30pm every day, so they are also being catered for in so many important ways.

The team on the Cheranmahadevi College Campus who have been making the aids and appliances for the physically challenged children continue to visit the villages. There they assess and measure up the disabled children to work out what's needed in the way of orthopaedic equipment. These are all made from recycled cardboard transformed into strong, robust papier maché (eg special small chairs, arm/back supports, etc). This is such essential work, often making it possible for a child to sit in a chair for the first time, where previously they had simply lain on the floor, unable to support themselves upright. Since the cardboard is a free and readily available source of material, these orthopaedic supports can be easily re-made as the child grows. The team has made 150 aids during lockdown.



One other project has been successfully completed next to the BioDigestion plant. Following the successful completion of the SCAD URBED Ecohouse, which won the Indian Green Building Council's top award, SCAD with the support of Urbed Trust wants to establish and strengthen the centre for sustainable development "Gardens of Delight" within a period of two years and then focus on further development.. Further information on this project can be obtained from [www.smarterurbanisation.org](http://www.smarterurbanisation.org).



## **Toppesfield Parish Neighbourhood Plan**

On Saturday the 31<sup>st</sup> of July we had our reboot event for the neighbourhood plan in the village hall. 40 people came along to see the exhibition which was to primarily look at the factors that would potentially influence any plans that the community may have for the future of the village.

A number of constructive conversations took place and everyone who visited was encouraged to take away the questionnaire which will assist the planning group with formulating some thoughts and proposals for the future.

Responses to questionnaires are currently being analysed but we would like some more!

If you would like to contribute, please pick up a questionnaire from the village shop or alternatively you can log on to [toppesfieldnp.co.uk](http://toppesfieldnp.co.uk) where you can download a form and find additional information about our neighbourhood plan.

If you would like to become more actively involved with the plan we would be delighted to hear from you ([info@toppesfieldnp.co.uk](mailto:info@toppesfieldnp.co.uk))

David Oxnam



**The Next Village Markets will be held on**

**Saturday 4th September, 2nd October and 6th November**

At Toppesfield Village Hall from 10.30 am — 12.30pm

Please pop along to see what is on offer from fresh meat, jams, pastries, and cakes to handmade crafts, cards, jewellery and more.

Or pop in for a tasty bacon roll and a cuppa with friends.

Due to the ongoing covid-19 situation there will be a track and trace form for you complete, a one-way system will be in place, masks are requested to be worn and please respect social distancing.

# PUMPHOUSE

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## BREWERY

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## It's Beer Festival Season and the beers are going down a treat!

The weather in August may have been disappointing, but it was a really good month for the Brewery. For two weeks in August draught beer was completely sold out.

As well as regular orders from an ever increasing number of pubs, our sales were boosted by a rush of Beer Festivals including Halstead Cricket Club and the Railway Arms at Saffron Walden, both over the Bank Holiday weekend. Still to come is CAMRA's major Beer Festival at Chappel (7 - 11 Sept), where three Pumphouse beers will be on sale to the region's real ale enthusiasts.

We have had fantastically positive feedback on the taste and quality of the beers, from customers and pub landlords - even a retired Head Brewer from a major competitor! In particular 19 Elms, which isn't usually available in the summer, has attracted a large group of fans asking for it to be brewed all year round. Please let us know which are your favourites!

Aaron has already brewed a new Seasonal Special, 'Dark Chocolate', which will be bottled and conditioned ready for the run up to Christmas. Those of us lucky enough to have enjoyed a preview taste reckon it's smooth and gorgeous.



We have good stocks of bottles at just £2 each. Draught beers available as takeaways at £2 a pint.

Brewery open: Fridays 11am-5pm. Saturdays 10am-1pm.

Card payments or cash welcomed.



THE PRINCE'S  
COUNTRYSIDE  
FUND

# Thank you

## Coffee, Cake and Catch up

We were so pleased that the event could be held after the initial postponements. It was wonderful event. There are so many people to thank for making it such a success. From the amazing bakers to the generous donations for the raffle and the overwhelming attendance. We were humbled and grateful for the support. The village hall was a buzz with laughter and chatting. Thank you all so much as you raised over £300 for charity.



Lynn and Fran.



**St Margaret of Antioch  
Toppesfield  
Family Harvest Festival Service  
October 3<sup>rd</sup>  
5pm**

**Donations of Goods this year will be in order to support:**

**The Food Bank  
Requests include**

Fruit Juice, Custard, laundry detergent, baby wipes, washing up liquid

**See the link below for latest requests:**

[Donate food | Braintree Area Foodbank](#)

**Abi's Footprints**

**A Sudbury Church charity that supports new families.**

**They request:** Baby soap, shampoo, wipes and bottles.

Disposable nappies, maternity pads and breast pads.

Good condition second hand (or new) items:  
Clothes (0 to 3 years), muslins, bibs, nappies, blankets, sheets and towels.

**Donations can be left in the Box in the porch or brought to the Service.**

**This will be followed by a meal at The Green Man, if you wish to join us,  
please ensure you book a table.**

**Any queries, please contact [revcarolinebrown@gmail.com](mailto:revcarolinebrown@gmail.com)  
Tel: 01787 469161.**



**St Margaret of Antioch**

**Toppesfield**

**October 27<sup>th</sup> 2021**

**10am - 12pm**

**Please come along and join in a fun time with crafts, activities and stories around a Bible theme.**



**Children under 5 must be accompanied by an adult.**

**CURRENT COVID RULES AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND GUIDANCE WILL APPLY TO THE EVENT.**

**THEREFORE, NUMBERS MAYBE RESTRICTED.**

**REGISTER YOUR INTEREST NOW !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

**[revcarolinebrown@gmail.com](mailto:revcarolinebrown@gmail.com)**

Messy Church values are about being Christ-centred, for all ages, based on creativity, hospitality and celebration.





## St. Margaret's C of E Primary School

Welcome back to the new school year!

We are only just back into school and are delighted to have welcomed 15 children into our reception class, as well as also welcoming some children into classes further up the school.

We are delighted that we are able to start mixing together again, although we continue to take a cautious and staggered approach over this term as we keep a close eye on the case numbers of COVID19. We have been very fortunate that we have had an extremely small number of cases in the school and will continue to do all we can to keep pupils, families and staff safe whilst also providing an appropriate learning experience for the children.

As we continue on into the year, I look forward to keeping you up-to-date with school life.





## Recycling & Eco-Waste Guide

The parish council has recently agreed an Environmental Policy, which can be viewed on our website. In line with this, we have created a recycling guide for residents. Please contribute to this list and we will up-date with new schemes and local initiatives as we become aware of them.

### Braintree District Council Household Collection

- Clear bag approved content (please ensure all recycling waste is washed and clean prior to bagging):
- Plastic bottles with lids left on, including plastic cleaning, detergent and shampoo bottles, plastic pots, tubs and trays such as yoghurt pots (please separate card outer) and ice cream tubs
- Paper and cardboard
- Metal items such as tins, cans and aerosols

### Plastic Bags, Wrapping & Bubble Wrap

Sainsbury's Supermarket Halstead, 48A High Street, Halstead, CO9 2JB

### Miscellaneous Plastics

Including soft plastic packaging, pens, spectacle frames, small toys, beverage (coffee) pods, and disposable face masks. There are collection points for these and other items not recycled through our waste collection. Information can be found on the Terracycle website: <https://terracycle.com/en-GB?#>

### Glass bottles, jars etc

Bottle bank located in front of the Green Man barn on Church Lane (please empty, rinse, and replace lids on glass bottles and jars before recycling).

### Tablet/Medication blister packs

Drop off to Toppesfield village store – container in small shed. These are delivered to area co-ordinator.

### Tetra Pak - Drop Off Locations:

- Old Council Yard, Dickett's Hill, Gt Yeldham, CO9 4HS ('Drawell)
- Playing Fields, Stephen Marshall Avenue, Finchingfield, CO7 4LZ

### Razor Blades

Register to receive return envelopes at: <https://www.gillette.co.uk/recycle.list>

### For larger items:

Haverhill & Sudbury.

<https://www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/where-to-recycle/recycling-centres>

**Please book a slot prior to visiting this centre.** All Suffolk Recycling Centres are currently accepting the following items for re-use: TVs, Monitors, PCs, Sky boxes, DVD players, Consoles, Laptops, Audio, Power tools, Bikes, Dyson's, Henry's, Mowers and Strimmers, and Trade Waste. You can donate items in the orange Re-use containers on site.

Please visit Braintree DC's page to find other specific schemes:

<https://www.lovessex.org/find-your-nearest-recycling-centre/braintree-recycling-centre/>

### Garden Waste

Local collection (Green Bin):

Grass cuttings, shrubs, plants (including house flowers), weeds, leaves, small branches

### Composting

Local collection (small food waste bin):

- Cooked and uncooked food waste
- Egg shells, seafood shells
- Fruit and vegetables including peelings
- Newspaper if used to line your food caddy

## Green Gardening

### Ideas for a low carbon garden

We've all been learning about the urgent need to reduce our carbon footprint. A low-carbon garden buzzes with life, sparkles with water, and is packed with plants. All gardeners have a chance to make a direct, practical difference in combatting climate change. Every time you grow a tree, mulch your soil, or let your grass grow long, you could actively be increasing the carbon your garden absorbs.

A billion tiny actions have brought us to the edge of environmental crisis. And a billion tiny actions can help pull us back from the brink.

Here are a few ideas, suggested by the Royal Horticultural Society:

#### Grow a hedge

Not only do hedges actively sequester and store carbon, they also providing nesting sites, food sources, and shelter for wildlife.

#### Grow your own plant supports

Coppices of hazel, birch, willow and dogwood trees provide a renewable, carbon-free source of bean-poles and pea sticks as well as a wildlife habitat. Hazel is best for uprights, and willow for weaving poles. BUT don't stick willow into the ground as it roots very readily!

#### Pick greener ways to grow your own

Home-grown food, when grown sustainably, has a much lower carbon footprint than that produced by conventional agriculture. Vegetable gardens store more carbon when permanently planted with fruit trees, berries, and perennial vegetables, interspersed with annuals to fill gaps. Use mulches such as homemade compost, make paths from woodchip rather than concrete or grass, and grow organically for maximum carbon benefit.

#### Make your own compost

Compost bins make good use of green waste from the kitchen and garden; this avoids waste going into landfill where it releases methane. Soil mulched with compost holds on to nutrients and rainwater better, meaning less need to water and feed your garden. An all-round winner!

#### Plant a tree

Trees suck in carbon. Plant a tree in your garden and you help offset not just your own carbon footprint, but that of your children too. It's one of the most effective ways your garden can help fight climate change. It's estimated that on average a single broadleaf tree stores 2.9 tonnes of carbon in its lifetime.

**And finally, this month's 'Top Tip for Gardeners' comes from Rose Thorne**



**Remember,  
when you bury a body, cover it with endangered  
plants so it's illegal to dig it up**



# Danaher Animal Home

Beautiful Reggie is looking for a forever home to call his own.



He isn't coping in kennels so is desperately looking to find his perfect match soon. Reggie absolutely adores playing, and will happily engage in games with you. He has previously lived with children around 12 years of age and we feel this would be a suitable match for him as he can be very lively!

Reggie has an extremely high chase drive when it comes to cats and smalls animals. Due to this, he has to be walked wearing a greyhound muzzle to ensure the safety of other animals when out and about on walks! Due to Reggie's high chase drive, he has also been known to jump 6ft fencing! He previously had 9ft fencing in the home which was heightened with the use of trellis, this would have to be considered by potential adopters.

Reggie is very affectionate and adores human interaction he cannot be left for long periods of time. He would love it if someone was around all day! Reggie does prefer his own space when it comes to greeting other dogs. He is nervous and can sometimes react if they get too close, however he will walk past them calmly given enough space.

If you think you can offer Reggie a home then please fill out an interest form online at

[www.danaheranimalhome.org.uk](http://www.danaheranimalhome.org.uk)

Meet our beautiful Judy, she came into us as a stray so we do not know anything about her past but it didn't take us long to see her character and affectionate side.

She has such a loving nature and will make a loving companion for someone who loves their staffies! She is typical of her breed so if you love your staffies Judy is perfect for you or if you're simply looking for a loving family dog Judy would certainly suit you.

Judy has some slight arthritis which is currently being managed with a daily glucosamine based joint supplement, we recommend continuing in the home.



As Judy loves human company she is finding it hard being in a kennels so all the staff are keen to see her find her new family soon. She loves her walks and exploring in woodlands and would love day trips out with her family. Her favourite treat is kongs filled up with tasty meat!

If Judy is the girl for you then please fill in an interest form on our website

[www.danaheranimalhome.org.uk](http://www.danaheranimalhome.org.uk)



# STAMBOURNE CHAPEL

Being Church Every day, Gathering on Sundays to Worship

Affiliated to  
  
Congregational  
Federation

  
Department for  
Digital, Culture,  
Media & Sport

In partnership with  
THE NATIONAL LOTTERY  
COMMUNITY FUND



## Stambourne Chapel Care

*Matthew 25:40 (CEV) The king will answer,  
"Whenever you did it for any of my people,  
no matter how unimportant they seemed, you did it for me."*

**Are you feeling lonely or isolated?**

**Don't know where to go for help?**

**Stambourne Chapel Care can provide support to you  
or someone you know.**



**Advocacy, Befriending, Advice,  
Signposting to other agencies  
Shopping, collecting prescriptions  
These are just some of the things we offer.**

**If you have an unmet need then please get in contact  
and we will see if we can help.**

Jill Holmes

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