

January 2020

Edition 173



USEFUL NUMBERS

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Braintree District Council | 01376 552525 |
| Castle Hedingham Surgery | 01787 461465 |
| Colchester Hospital | 01206 744491 |
| Doctor's Car Service | 07845 596092 |
| Freshwell Health Centre | 01371 810328 |
| Great Yeldham Surgery | 01787 237212 |
| Halstead Hospital | 01787 273110 |
| Kaaren Berry, Parish Clerk | 077889 55038 |
| Little chestnuts Pre School | 079018 80914 |
| Little Hedgehogs Toddlers | 01440 785778 |
| PumpHouse Brewery | 07801 042545 |
| Rev. Liz Paxton | 01787 277270 |
| Sally Croft, Pastoral Assistant | 07850 361101 |
| Sible Hedingham Surgery | 01787 460612 |
| St Margaret's School | 01787 237354 |
| The Green Man | 01787 237418 |
| Toppesfield Community Shop | 01787 236003 |
| Toppesfield Village Hall Booking Secretary - Daphne Jude | 01440 788270 |
| Vets – Great Yeldham | 01787 238255 |

Toppesfield Community Shop
Church Lane, Toppesfield
01787 236003

Fresh Fruit & Vegetables, Milk,
Newspapers, Confectionery, Pet Food,
Dairy Products, Meat & Poultry, Kindling
and Coal, Cards, Stationery and more!

Mon/Tuesday/Thursday/Friday
8.30 am – 4.00 pm,
Wednesday 8.30 am – 1.00 pm,
Saturday 10.00 am– 12.30 pm.

Toppesfield Post Office
Church Lane, Toppesfield

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

Toppesfield Parish Council

Councillors - Alan Collard, Andrew Bull, Amanda Smith, Andrea Chinery,
Boyd Page, Chris Neale and Robert Stafford-Baker.

Parish Clerk - Kaaren Berry

Parish Council Meetings are normally held on the first Thursday of every month in the Village Hall. You are welcome to attend the Open Session that starts at 7.30pm.

A Parish Councillor will also be available to listen to your views and answer your queries at the Village Markets.

Toppesfield & Gainsford End Parish Newsletter

Published by Toppesfield Parish Council

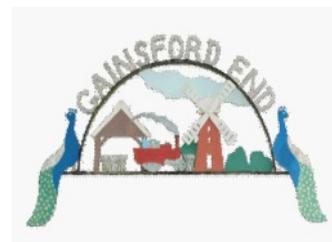
Editor: Kaaren.berry@kaaren.co.uk

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

Twitter & Instagram - Toppesfield & Gainsford End Community :
Website: www.essexinfo.net/toppesfield-parish-council/

From the Parish Council



Welcome to the first Newsletter of 2020 and the first of new decade. All of us at the Parish Council would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year.

And it looks as though it will be another busy year for Toppesfield & Gainsford End. In this Newsletter you will see that things continue to move ahead with the Neighbourhood Plan, the preparations for the VE day anniversary celebrations are coming along and the Brewery has some exciting opportunities ahead of it.

For the Newsletter, we will try to introduce new items as we move through the year. This month we have the first of what we hope will be a regular article on environment, resource management, reducing waste and reducing carbon footprint. Anyone is welcome to contribute to this; just get in touch with Kaaren Berry, whose contact details are opposite. The Parish Council will be looking at ways that we can address some of these challenges; we'll keep you updated.

This month the Newsletter also has the transcript of a letter sent by Nehemiah Cleaveland, an American visitor to the village from Topsfield, Massachusetts in 1851. Reading this, it's fascinating to see how familiar so much of what he writes still seems: it is certainly likely that the clients of the Green Man, now as well as then, are still expert at putting the world to rights! At the same time, there have been enormous changes such as the arrival (in 1856) of the school. We have a collection of similar letters and articles from Topsfield and these will appear in future Newsletters.

We hope you like the photos we have used on the front of the Newsletters. The idea is to capture Toppesfield and Gainsford End from different perspectives and we want to change these for every edition so if you have one that you would like to share with us please send it to Kaaren.

Finally, if you have any topic you want to discuss with the Parish Council feel free to speak to us or come along to the monthly village markets where there is always someone from the council to talk to.

News from St Margaret's Parish Church

It was great to see so many people filling our church at the Christmas services.

Here's a special New Year's greeting from our Rector Rev Liz Paxton:

New Years Resolution no. 1 : Go to church!

Why?

- 1) Because it is community and there are some amazing people who are already there who would love to meet you.
- 2) Because all the standing and sitting in between hymns is good for the thighs and you'll save money on gym membership.
- 3) Because singing does wonders for the soul and is a real spirit lifter.
- 4) Because the building is ancient, interesting and beautiful and simply sitting in it can reveal new things.
- 5) Because, fancy that, it is YOUR church. Crikey, what a thing! So it seems daft not to use it.
- 6) Because when Christians get together they end up changing the world in a way they can't do on their own.
- 7) Because if you'd like it to be around for a wedding, christening or funeral then someone's got to be there every week to make that viable – and it might as well be you.
- 8) Because it's good to think sometimes 'what can I give?' rather than 'what can I gain?'
- 9) Because in giving you will gain, and that's the funny thing.
- 10) Because you will meet Jesus. In the person sitting next to you. In the words you find spoken to your soul. In ordinariness of bread and richness of wine. You will meet Jesus.

And you would be very, very welcome.

Wishing you a happy and blessed New Year

Rev Liz Paxton

You can get in touch with Liz on 01787 277270 or revlizpaxton@gmail.com or next time she's here in church on Jan 12th.

Services in January and February

Jan 5 Morning Prayer 11.00am
Jan 12 Family Communion 11.00am
Jan 19 Morning Prayer 11.00am
Jan 26 Holy Communion 11.00am

Feb 2 Morning Prayer 11.00am
Feb 9 Family Communion 11.00am
Feb 16 Morning Prayer 11.00am
Feb 23 Holy Communion 11.00am

Toppesfield and Gainsford End Village Show 2020

For many many years there has been a village show in Toppesfield. This actually dates back to the days when it was a fair for the hiring of labour. I have been involved in running the show for 45 years and feel I have done my bit.

The show has usually been held on the second Saturday in September and of old, as well as the actual competitive show, we have had games, stalls and other activities going on as well. I would really love to hand over the reins now but will be of course very happy to help with all the admin part.

New people with new ideas would be great. Are you that person?

I believe passionately in the importance of keeping these traditional events alive.

So many villages have lost their shows. Please do not let Toppesfield be one of them.

Please contact me if you would like to get involved.

Ann Read email: skomerann@tiscali.co.uk tel: 01787 237464



Toppesfield Community Pub

Update from TCP:

Out with the old and in with the new – windows that is!

After a bit of a wait, the committee can finally say that the window replacement scheme is underway. The first units were installed on Monday 9th December and they look very good. Tenants David and Paul can now enjoy the benefits of state of the art sash windows that will keep the heat in, provide a better living environment and will not need painting every few years. The windows come with authentic features such as original putty line details, traditional patented Timberweld butt jointed corners, deep bottom rail, run-through horns and a white wood foil finish. And from the outside you'd never tell them apart from timber windows, except that these look much better!

The next window is on order and we hope to get the funds for others as soon as possible.

Wishing you all a happy New Year and hope to see you in the Green Man in 2020.

TCP Management Committee

The more things change, the more they stay the same.....

In November 1851, Nehemiah Cleaveland, a resident of Topsfield, Massachusetts, visited England. During his travels he came to Toppesfield and wrote the following article for the Salem Register newspaper. Some things, it seems, just don't change.....

"Toppesfield, England, November 1851. I found the ride exceedingly pleasant, along the narrow but excellent road, which winds its way through an unbroken succession of luxuriant cornfields and meadows.

It was evening when I arrived, and the 'Green Man Inn' received me. This is a small, but neat and comfortable tavern, and bears the marks of a respectable antiquity. It is, in fact, just such a place as the ale-house of Goldsmith's poem¹, and has been, I presume, the nightly resort of the Toppesfield politicians, for at least two hundred years.

When I went out the next morning, I found myself in a small village, composed of stone cottages, mostly plastered, white-washed and thatched. I saw nothing in them particularly pleasing, beyond that aspect of neatness, and those floral adornings, which rarely desert even the meanest rural home in that beautiful country.

My first visit was to the church of St. Margaret. The interior interested me much. A place of worship more rude in aspect, or less adapted to comfort, it would, I am sure, be difficult to find in all New England.

The pews are narrow, upright boxes, with high sides, and, with the exception of the Rector's, are uncushioned and uncarpeted, a few of them, however, were supplied with straw covered hassocks.

In the church registers I found the name of Samuel Symonds², gent., and that of Dorothy, his wife. Between 1621 and 1633, I found and copied the baptisms of ten of their children. The Parsonage is a charming residence, surrounded by flowers and shrubbery, and smooth-shaven lawns.



The Parsonage in the 19th Century

The present incumbent lives among his people and seems to be regarded with respect and affection. Here I was in a community of several hundred people, not a man of whom owns one rood of the land which he cultivates – not an individual of whom possesses the house that shelters him. These skilful farmers are tenants at will – and are perpetually struggling under an oppressive burden of rents, and tythes, and taxes, and rates. These hardy laborers think they do well, if their toil yields them the average remuneration of a shilling a day. As to religious privileges they have indeed a sitting, hired or free, in yonder rude church. Their Rector, sent them by the Queen, may be a good man, or he may not. With the question of his appointment or dismissal, they have just as much concern as you have. They are, however, permitted to pay him. From that glebe, which is made so rich by their sweat, he draws an annual stipend, three times as large as that which you raise for your two clergymen. And here, in a parish which pays its Rector more than thirty-five hundred dollars a year³ - here within four hours ride of the grand metropolis of the world, here in the middle of the nineteenth century, a free school is a thing which yet remains to be invented."

¹ 'The Deserted Village' by Oliver Goldsmith published in 1770

² Samuel Symonds had lived in Toppesfield, at Olivers Farm and was a founder of Topsfield, Mass

³ Equivalent to nearly £90,000 today



TOPPESFIELD



Community Shop

- *GROCERIES *BREAD *MILK *FRUIT & VEG
- *PET FOOD *PLANTS *COAL *LOGS *KINDLING
- *STATIONERY *STAMPS *CARDS
- NEWSPAPERS - MAGAZINES - CIGARETTES**

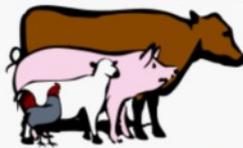


We have a new freezer cabinet &

NOW STOCK A WIDE RANGE OF FROZEN CONVENIENCE FOODS

Don't forget our fresh foods and wines ordering service

PRIORS HALL FARM



Fresh Quality Meat



TOPPESFIELD
Vineyard



OPENING TIMES

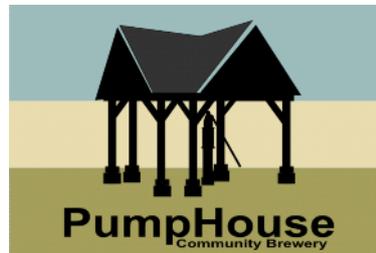
(CLOSED FOR LUNCH 1PM - 2PM)

| | | |
|-----------|-------|-------------------|
| Monday | | 8.30am - 4.00pm |
| Tuesday | | 8.30am - 4.00pm |
| Wednesday | | 8.30am - 1.00pm |
| Thursday | | 8.30am - 4.00pm |
| Friday | | 8.30am - 4.00pm |
| Saturday | | 10.00am - 12.30pm |



WEDNESDAY 10am - 1pm





Five days a week made for a Happy Christmas at the Brewery

With Aaron working five days a week, ably supported by Kaaren and Bill for one day a week each; the whole run up to the busy Christmas period was far easier to manage than in previous years.

There was no need for a special 'festive day', as we were able to supply customers old and new with a good range of beers throughout December, even those latecomers who started thinking about their orders on the 20th!

Ultra fast card payments - but not just yet.

As promised, we are now equipped with a state-of-the-art card reader which would work perfectly well, if only the broadband connection was up to it. Like everyone else in the village we are just going to have to be patient for a little longer. Hopefully the end of February will see us enjoying one of the key benefits of ultra fast broadband - card payments at the Brewery!

Special beers for special times

2020 brings of course the 75th Anniversary of VE Day and PumPHouse will be aiming to contribute to our community celebrations with a special commemorative ale.

It will also bring the 10th Anniversary of the Prince's Countryside Fund (one of our marvellous funding partners) and we will be meeting with their team at the end of January to plan the production of a joint PumPHouse/PCF ale for their celebrations nationally. It will be a great opportunity for our community micro brewery to gain recognition throughout the UK.

Aaron will have to be at his creative best when it comes to the brewing, but we don't expect him to have all the ideas. We will be looking for names for both celebration ales early in the spring. If you have any bright ideas, do please let us know. Doubtless there will be a beer or three for the person who suggests each winning name.

PumPHouse beers, more widely available...and on sale at the Brewery

As always, we are aiming to increase our sales to pubs, clubs and individuals. Through the autumn we were delighted to supply regular customers and outlets that have been taking our beer including, Lamarsh Lion, Red Lion, Belchamp Otten, The Drum in Earls Colne, The Globe in Clare and several Beer Festivals in the region.

With Kaaren now in post we will be able not only to open more new accounts, but to maintain frequent and regular contact with them. 2020 should see PumPHouse beers more widely available than ever before.

Aaron will be delighted to welcome you at the Brewery and give a quick update on what's happening with the building works and which beers are currently available.

You can of course order or buy your own beers by the bottle, pin or firkin, direct from the Brewery, Monday to Friday any time between 10am and 4pm.

Please join us for the AGM

The date for our AGM will be held on a Saturday afternoon during April, the date to be confirmed shortly. It will be great to see as many shareholders and customers as possible. Do join us if you can. There will be beer!

and finally, a belated but very sincere, Happy New Year!

Email: pumphousecommunitybrewery@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/Pumphousecommunitybrewery

St Margaret's School

The autumn term was a busy one for us at the school. Firstly, we had our Ofsted visit, which confirmed that we remain a Good school. The visit recognised that our pupils have a great attitude towards learning and their behaviour and manners shone through during the visit; they are an asset to the school and their families. Our mathematics curriculum is addressing gaps in the children's learning, with Key Stage 2 teaching organised well and showing good progress. Reading is central to the school's overarching curriculum, with Key Stage 2 teachers bringing together a topic in such a way in that it interweaves different parts of the curriculum (science, history, diversity etc) to become a theme rather than disjointed lessons. The Governors are close to the steps which the school needs to take and we have enhanced our monitoring further to be even closer to these developments.

Of course there are aspects which we need to focus on and through the short time that Mrs Newland has been in place, she has already established plans to develop the school further. The plans address our Phonics and Reading as well as enhancing writing standards. In addition, Curriculum improvements, in particular for English and Mathematics have already made some great progress. The school wants to ensure that the children's education journey is enhanced at every opportunity.

In November we held our annual open day for prospective parents to view the school. This was a great opportunity for us to show to families in the community the great setting we have developed for our early years children.

As is tradition, our annual Christmas Fete and Nativity Play were both held in December. A lovely festive time was had by all prior to us breaking for the Christmas holidays.

As a governing board supporting a small school, every member of the board is hugely important and bring with them different skills. At present we are looking to recruit a governor with financial/accounting background. If you know anyone in the community who would be interested please contact me via the school.

Helen Kent-Jackson

Chair of Governors - St Margaret's C Of E - Toppesfield



Little Chestnuts Pre-School

Well, it certainly was the season to be jolly at Little Chestnuts with festive baking, decorating, dress up and even time for a visit to see Father Christmas at soft play.

Our little elves worked so hard in learning their Christmas songs and truly shone by opening our Christmas Market. This year we had a variety of lovely local stalls, 'Twas The Night Before Christmas' reading from Sible Hedingham Library and a fantastic raffle all of which was donated from the local community and our parents/carers. We wish to thank all those that supported us by attending and to those who made monetary donations. With your help we raised a fantastic £320.00.

Little Chestnuts and their committee have been working hard to fundraise this academic year and with toy sales, coffee mornings, pirate treasure hunts and our Christmas market, so far, we have raised a fantastic £520.00 for the pre-school.

As we head into 2020, we have lots more family friendly events coming up, with Bingo in February, a Quiz and an Easter Egg Treasure Hunt, we have something for everyone. So, eyes down, look in and dabbers at the ready to put some dates in your diary.

Once again, we would like to thank the community and all parents/carers for their continued support, we wish you a happy and healthy 2020 and look forward to a wonderful new year with our Little Chestnuts.

Laura Hughes
Committee Secretary

Tree Planting

The Parish Council are actively looking for new sites to plant trees this year.

If you know of any potential locations for planting new trees please contact Councillor Boyd Page or Kaaren.

Thank you

Toppesfield Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Good news arrived at the close of 2019 with the granting of conditional funding to carry out a Housing Needs Survey and a Landscape Character Assessment, both key activities to inform the final Neighbourhood Plan. Professional consultants have been identified to lead these activities, and as soon as due diligence has been completed they will be formally appointed.

The Housing Needs Survey probably needs little introduction. The Parish Council commissioned one in January 2015, and an update is going to be undertaken in 2020.

The unique natural beauty of an area is described in a Landscape Character Assessment, which is then used to inform other planning policies. A Landscape Character Assessment is a process to identify and understand the things that give character to the landscape. Understanding the character of an area is the vital first step in making almost any landscape-related decision, whether it is for a village street or an entire region.

In essence, the appointed consultant will co-ordinate the creation of a visual archive of hand-drafted maps and surveys, annotated sketches and hand-drawn pictures. This will include photographs of landscape features at different times of the year. This is going to need the active involvement of the whole community, so please get involved by taking photographs of your favourite landscape features that you would wish to see retained for the future enjoyment of us all. Forward them to us via email at ToppesfieldNP@gmail.com, or via our new FaceBook page, which can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/tgenp>.

Full details of both the Housing Needs Survey and Landscape Character Assessment will be widely publicised once the relevant consultants are formally appointed and the work begins in earnest. Remember, this is your community, and this Neighbourhood Plan is YOUR plan! We need as many people as possible to come forward with their thoughts and ideas, so please do get involved. Without you this Neighbourhood Plan is not going to fly!

Just to recap, this is going to be a two to three years undertaking, and there is a very good free introduction to Neighbourhood Plans at https://neighbourhoodplanning.org/wp-content/uploads/NP_Roadmap_online_full.pdf. Have a peek, and if you feel this is something you'd like to be involved in, either at the Steering Group level or just anyone who has specific skills or interests that would help the project move forward, please get in touch via email at ToppesfieldNP@gmail.com. This is a community-wide undertaking, on behalf of us all, so the more people involved the better!

A diary of monthly Steering Group Meetings has been set up, and every fourth meeting will be fully open to all members of the Community. The public will of course be welcome at any meeting, subject to the ongoing business of the day.

The meetings for the first half of 2020 are scheduled for :

Thursday 23rd January 2020 – 7pm to 9pm – Toppesfield Village Hall – Open Mtg.

Thursday 27th February 2020 – 7pm to 9pm – Toppesfield Village Hall

Thursday 26th March 2020 – 7pm to 9pm – Toppesfield Village Hall

Thursday 23rd April 2020 – 7pm to 9pm – Toppesfield Village Hall – Open Mtg.

Thursday 28th May 2020 – 7pm to 9pm – Toppesfield Village Hall

Thursday 25th June 2020 – 7pm to 9pm – Toppesfield Village Hall

If you have any queries, thoughts or opinions, do please feel to contact us at ToppesfieldNP@gmail.com.

Toppesfield Allotments

Welcome to Bob Hall at the allotments - our latest recruit, he is looking to get fit with a good session of Digging for Victory.

If you have enough space, why not plant a permanent asparagus bed this autumn? Choose an autumn planting variety. Although asparagus beds take several years to establish, each crown can produce up to 25 spears per year and will continue cropping for 25 years. You will need to be patient with this crop as it will be 2 years before you can harvest them properly - but the promise of tender, home-grown asparagus spears is well worth the wait.

For an exceptionally early crop of carrots in spring try growing Thompson's Adelaide. This fast-maturing variety can be sown as early as November to March in the greenhouse and as late as July outdoors.

Tommo's Tip: Karma is an interesting concept. Sow and you will reap. Plant potatoes in black bin liners supported with a container for an easy to harvest method (don't forget to stab the liner to stop it getting waterlogged).

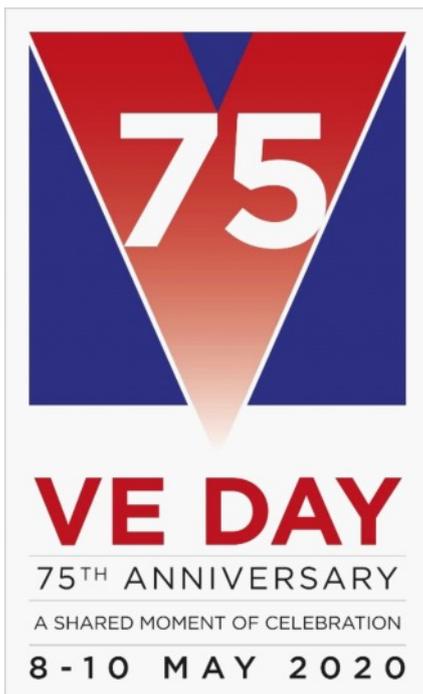
Last year was the last year of free allotments. As our bank balance diminishes due to water charges, there will be a committee meeting in January to set charges. These should be modest as the PC has agreed that it will take over the cost.

I am sure all will wish to see Mike and Mary James back on their patch in the spring, and to wish Mike a speedy recovery.

And finally...

Please take this as a gentle reminder that dog mess should be cleaned up as you go.

Paul Thompson



75th Anniversary of Victory in Europe 8th May 2020

Plans are progressing for the celebration of the 75th anniversary of VE Day, on Friday 8th May.

We now have an outline programme for the day which will include:

- A street party outside The Green Man between 2:00 and 6:pm. Bring your own picnic and join in.
- There will be music from the 1940's , games and general shenanigans.
- Everyone will be encouraged to dress up 1940s-style. Ladies, get you frocks and hats out; or perhaps you're more land-girl! As for you men, let's see what you would have looked like in uniform.

We will be going door to door over the coming months to see if anyone needs assistance to attend or has any special requirements.

If anyone has any further ideas for activities on the day do let us know.

So , mark your diary for 8th May; this will likely be the last time there will be a big VE anniversary.

Hope to see you all there.

Jacqui Burnett
Tel. 07743 162308

Environment and Ecology News

Stuck for a New Year's Resolution?

For starters, how about reducing your plastic waste?

With society becoming increasingly conscious of the plastic waste it produces, a lot of people have found an easy way to help with reduction is to start using the milkman. Fresh milk delivered to your door in one pint glass bottles which when empty will be collected and re-used.

A local dairy in Sudbury, H Byham & Sons, delivers to Toppesfield every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

You can contact Byham's by phone - 01787 372526 - or by email -

info@byhamsdairy.co.uk

Milk & More also delivers to the village, using an online ordering system -

www.milkandmore.co.uk

Or, perhaps you could try to increase use of non-plastic wrapped fruit & veg?

Some of you may know that Mitch who runs the fruit & veg market in Halstead has recently been coming to the pumps in the centre of the village on a Saturday between 4.00-5.00pm. If you haven't yet used this service, please pay him a visit; the quality and variety is very good and he can also provide fruit and veg boxes to pre order for delivery every Tuesday to the village. I am sure he would be happy to give you more information.

On the recycling front, it was good to see the bottle bank was well used over the festive season; there must have been a lot of happy people in Toppesfield! There is also a bottle bank on the Yeldham to Hedingham road if the Toppesfield bins are full. They also have a clothing bank and paper bank there.

Finally for now, you may be interested to know that a young lady has recently opened up an Eco Shop called BeaEco within the Post Office in Castle Hedingham. She does refills of toiletries and household liquids amongst other eco products such as toothbrushes and wipes. If you don't have a container to refill, reuseable glass bottles are available to purchase. They have beeswax candles and wraps made from local bee hives and of course their honey.

BeaCo is open

9-1 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

3-5 Tuesday & Wednesday

9-5 Thursday

11-3.30 Saturday

if you have any ideas on how we can improve recycling in the village, improve our environment or reduce our carbon footprint please get in touch with any parish councillor.

You can contact the parish council via the Clerk, Kaaren Berry, at

kaaren.berry@kaaren.co.uk Get in touch - we want to hear your ideas!

'Gaia'



Toppesfield Village Hall is a centre for community activities and is also available to hire for private functions. The Hall is run by a committee of volunteers drawn from local residents and is, in the main, funded by the proceeds from the hire of the Hall and periodical fundraising events.

The Village Hall can comfortably accommodate around 110 guests and is a fantastic space suitable for all sorts of activity from line dancing, Pilates and indoor bowls to committee meetings, children's parties and Christmas lunches.

We have excellent kitchen facilities and a small bar area with crockery and cutlery available for hire to make your event go with a swing.

We have an area adjoining the kitchen/main hall that can be used for small meetings, and we even have a stage if you wanted to put on a show or performance.

Outside of the Hall, we have a few parking spaces and a lovely enclosed garden laid to lawn.

Private hire for functions, parties and events. Please call Daphne Jude on 01440 788270

or email us at Toppesfieldvillagehall@gmail.com to find out what's on and to make your ideas happen!

A booking form and full set of information regarding health and safety issues are available from Daphne.

We would just like to say a big thank you to everyone for their support and generosity.

Whether you've hired the Hall, attended a fundraising event, given your time or recommended us as a venue it all helps to keep this special part of Toppesfield alive and kicking. Thank You!! Please carry on...

FUNDRAISING EVENTS

The improvements to our Village Hall over the past year, have been many and varied, from our state of the art heating and lighting systems to our new decor, all of which make for a very welcoming atmosphere.

However, we are still looking to make new additions as well as maintain the improvements already implemented.

Although we already have a few ideas in mind, what better way for us to raise 'new money' for these projects than to hold the kind of fundraising events that you yourselves would like?

Therefore, we invite you to send us your ideas, whether that be a quiz, dinner dance, tea dance games night etc?

Please contact us so that we can get the ball rolling;

wendygames121@hotmail.com;

Facebook messenger/ Toppesfield Village Hall

or drop us a line to the

Village Hall C/O Toppesfield Village Stores.

We look forward to hearing from you.



Ukulele & Sing-along Social Club

Alternate Thursday Nights 7.30 – 9.30pm

"Red Hot Ukes @ The Green Man"

meeting at the Green Man in Toppesfield and
consisting of beginners, players with some experience,
playing and singing along from tailor-made songbooks

Come along and join us!

Thursdays - 9th and 23rd January 2020

Singers and Percussionists wanted

*FREE - 30 minute coaching session for Beginners from
7.00pm and stay for the fun!*

Further details at www.redhotukes.co.uk
or contact 07721064270

Village Markets for the start of this year will be held on:

Saturday 1st February

Saturday 7th March

The markets are held in Toppesfield Village Hall from
10.30 am - 12.30 pm

Please pop along to see what is on offer from fresh meat, jams, pastries
and cakes to handmade crafts, jewellery and much more. Or pop in for
a tasty bacon roll and a cuppa with friends.

If you would like a stall please contact Zoe on 01440 785778

The Green Man Toppesfield

Your Community Pub

Opening Times:

Mon: Closed

Tues: 17:00 - 23:00

Weds: 17:00 - 23:00

Thurs: 12:00 - 23:00

Fri: 14:00 - 23:00

Sat: 10:00 - 23:00

Sun: 12:00 - 20:00

Telephone: 01787 237418

Address: Church Lane, Toppesfield, Essex. CO9 4DR

Email: info@thegreenmantoppesfield.com

'Or Just pop in for a chat'



****** *During the months of January and February 2020*
for every roast dinner you purchase you will receive
*a free glass of wine. ***