

**July / August  
2023**

**Edition 194**



## 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. Caroline Brown	01787 469161
St Margaret's School	01787 237354
The Green Man Public House	01787 237418
Toppesfield Community Shop	07895 510767
Toppesfield Village Hall Bookings	
Wendy Ames	07933743724

## TOPPESFIELD COMMUNITY SHOP

Church Lane, Toppesfield. Tel: 07895 510767

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

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## TOPPESFIELD POST OFFICE

Church Lane, Toppesfield

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

## Toppesfield Parish Council

**Your Councillors are** - Alan Collard, Amanda Smith, Trisha Roberts, Kitty Bourlet, Frances Winter and Jeremy Graves. This means there is currently one vacancy for a parish councillor. If you are interested in joining the Parish Council please inform one of the councillors or the parish clerk.

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 which starts at 7.30pm.

## 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



Welcome to the July 2023 edition of the parish Newsletter.

Already, we are well past midsummer day; soon schools will be closing for the long summer break and many of us will be making plans for a holiday. It never ceases to astonish me how quickly time flies by. No doubt some shops will be stocking Christmas items by the time the September issue is delivered!

There are a few items to note and dates for your diary, with further details later in the newsletter:

- A Braintree Council Amenity vehicle will be in both Toppesfield and Gainsford End on 15 July. This is to enable you to get rid of unwanted household waste. This was used very successfully in 2021 so don't forget to use it this year. More details are given later in the newsletter.
- Both the community shop and Toppesfield Community Pub are holding their annual Members' Meetings in July: TCP will be on Wednesday 19th July at 7:30pm in the Green Man and the shop the following day, Thursday 20th, at 7:30pm in the village hall. Everyone is invited to attend and you are urged to do so as both are important parts of the village social and economic structure.
- The annual Toppesfield & Gainsford End Village Show will be held on 16 September at the village hall. This is an event that has its roots in the traditional hiring fairs and, as Ann says in her article, many communities have lost that link with their heritage. It is always a great day so do look at the event schedule in the newsletter and plan to enter one (or preferably more) of the categories.
- At the church, Revd. Caroline is arranging a Coffee Morning on 26th July between 10:30am and 12:30pm and a Fun Day for children between 10:30 and 3pm on 9th August. All are welcome.
- The cricket club is hosting a Crinders afternoon on 15th July at 2:00pm. This is an event that is open to everyone and is even better if you have low skill levels (Q. Is that why it's the cricket club that arranges it?).

Turning to other matters, the Doctor's Car Service is a something that many people may not be aware of. It was set up many years ago and is supported by the parish council. It's purpose is to arrange lifts to the local surgeries for anyone who is unable otherwise to get to appointments. We have a team of volunteer drivers who will pick you up and bring you

## From the Parish Council continued....

home after your appointment. There is no charge for this. All you need to do is ring 07845 596092 and tell us the date, time and location of your appointment and everything will be arranged.

There has been a lot of coverage of the Home Office plans to house 1,700 migrants at Wethersfield and this has understandably been a major concern for many people and for number of reasons, including the possible security issues. It has been suggested that the Neighbourhood Watch group be restarted. If anyone is interested in getting involved in this, please contact the Parish Clerk, Kaaren (details on page 2).

The Newsletter returns in September; meanwhile, enjoy the rest of the summer!



## Keep our countryside tidy



The above photo is of the litter I picked up from Stambourne Road on my way up to Toppesfield.

PLEASE if you are going to have a takeaway take your litter home and BIN IT.

THANK YOU

From a disgruntled villager

## Parish Council Information

A short summary of Parish Council goings-on at the May and June Meetings:

Councillor Richard Van Dulken provided the following report in May:

- He has been re-elected for another term
- He is a deputy cabinet member at Braintree District Council (BDC)
- Wethersfield Asylum Centre – Braintree District Council have put in an appeal against the refusal of the High Court injunction. BDC have received assurance that no one will be moved onto the site until the end of June.
- Garden waste charges – BDC are not in a position to make a decision at the moment as to whether or not the charge for the service.

In June he reported:

- He had called into the site office for the bridge works on the A1017 (Nr the White Hart) but no further information as to when works will be complete. The expected completion date is Summer 2023.
- Wethersfield Airbase prison/Asylum Centre – The appeal is being heard at the Court of Appeal on the 12 June. The Home Office have confirmed that there will be no residents on site prior to the 26th June 2023.
- Dart 3 – Cllr van Dulken attended a meeting with Essex County Council, Arrow Taxis and Dart 3 and requested advertising material to promote their service. There is provision for a service from the Pump in Toppesfield to Haverhill on a Friday, leaving at 10am and returning at 2pm but to retain this service it needs to be used. Cllr van Dulken to source advertising materials.
- The decision as to whether BDC will charge for the garden waste collection will be made in July.
- Councillors Community Grant - £100 has been granted to the Church for children's activities over the summer. An application was received for installing matting in The Green Man garden but the application did not meet the grant fund criteria. £400 is reserved for the Men's Shed project in Gt Yeldham so there are still funds available.

In the open session Cllr Roberts asked what BDC were doing as contingency planning in case the Home Office were successful in establishing an asylum seeker processing centre at Wethersfield. Cllr van Dulken responded that, as far as he was aware, the attention was on fighting the proposal and no contingency planning was in progress. Cllr Roberts offered to email him with her thoughts and contact details of an organisation in Colchester which provides asylum seeker support on behalf of Colchester council.

A waste collection lorry to attend the parish has been arranged for the 15th July 2023.

Cllr Collard reported the first draft of the Neighbourhood Plan is nearly complete with some village organisations still to provide details to go into the plan. It is hoped the draft plan will be completed by the end of June and that a referendum be held in the first quarter of next year.

## **Parish Council Information continued**

Cllr Roberts reported that Finchingfield and Wethersfield have lodged a planning application with BDC for the joint Neighbourhood Plan. WASC have been looking into alternative uses for the airfield site. Cllr Roberts asked if the parish council could put something into the Toppesfield Neighbourhood Plan which covers the part of the airfield that falls within the parish boundary. Cllr Collard will liaise with the planners of the Joint Neighbourhood plan regarding this.

It was noted that the Gainsford End Signs are in need of repair and costs were agreed for a small works order for sub £500 for materials to complete the repairs. A working group is prepared to carry out the work free of charge.

The re-establishment of a Neighbourhood Watch group was discussed and it was agreed that an article be placed in the newsletter to explore its re-instatement.

It was agreed to appoint Cllr Collard and Dusty Millar to the Toppesfield Charities as the parish council representatives to the Toppesfield Charities.

Cllr Winter reported that Toppesfield Village Hall Committee (VHC) has agreed to remove clause 8 of their lease. They have been informed by the Charity Commission that this is an administrative change and not a legal one. A resolution was made at their AGM and approval from the Charity Commission has been received. RCCE advised VHC as the lease is a Trustee, they did not need the agreement of the parish council to make the change. It was agreed that the lease needs to be examined at to understand and differentiate the responsibilities of the parish council and VHC. The lease and other pertinent documents are to be circulated to councillors and discussed at the next parish council meeting.

The parish council objected to Planning Application 23/01053/REM re the Mission Hall in Gainsford End due to the size of the proposed development and it is not in keeping/incompatible with the surrounding properties.

At the June meeting, Cllr Smith gave an update on setting up a football team. For several reasons this was not possible to set this up independently but a school football team has been established. Cllr Smith will ask Toppesfield Community Shop to see if they would be able to give a grant for this.

It was reported that 2 plots of land have been put up for sale by auction along Park Lane with a guide price of £10,000 each. It was questioned if this could be a good basis for affordable homes as a rural exception site. Cllr Collard to liaise with BDC planning to see if planning permission would be achievable.

Documents related to the Village Hall lease were circulated to everyone prior to the meeting. Cllr Winter reported that the Village Hall Committee felt that clause 8 in the governing document is restrictive, and the charity commission's remit is wider. Advice from the RCCE and the charity commission was that the village hall committee were allowed to change the clause 8 without consultation with the parish council as it is a governing document only.

## **Parish Council Information continued**

The lease and the village hall policies were discussed at length and it was agreed to leave the lease as it is but the village hall will update their financial policy and review all their other policies. Cllr Bourlet offered to help to do this.

It was suggested to arrange a meeting between the parish council, the village hall and the community shop to discuss general operating practices and hold half yearly meetings to maintain good communications and operating practices between all parties.

Cllr Collard reported that a draft Neighbourhood Plan is hoped to be completed by the end of June.

Cllr Collard will liaise with John Pearce regarding the joint Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Roberts reported WASC have applied for a number of buildings on the airfield to be listed, some of which are in the parish of Toppesfield and Historic England are recommending the listing.

Wethersfield Airfield and Asylum centre update. A full update was given. BDC is awaiting the outcome its appeal from the High Court. The application for judicial review will be heard on July 13<sup>th</sup>.

Parish Council Office Overhaul – Cllr Winter commented on the poor working conditions in the parish office and as an employer the parish council has a duty of care. The Clerk will compile a list of what improvements could be made to the office space.

Overgrown area behind the pavilion, update including quotes received – no quotes had been received. It was reported the area has had some rubbish dumped but not too overgrown. It was suggested that the rubbish is removed and leave the trimming of the hedge until September to avoid any nesting birds. The school will also be advised to trim the hedge their side.

Update on basketball hoop and works required – Cllr Winter has researched an acrylic backboard and costs would be £208.73 plus a £15 delivery charge. It was discussed whether a wooden backboard would be better. It was proposed that Cllr Winter will look into this and then progress project up to the cost of the acrylic board as above.

Verge cutting – it was agreed to get verges cut so the views at junctions are not obstructed.

Replacement Council representatives for Braintree Association of Local Councils (BALC) and WASC need to be appointed and administration of the Facebook page needs to be addressed as Chris Neale is no longer on the parish council.

The next Parish Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at 7.30pm at Toppesfield Village Hall.



## St Margaret's Church

Change, love it or hate it, change is inevitable

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 includes these words, there is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:

We all will have had situations where we did not want to let something go, whether that is a child as they grow up, a job, house, car or a relationship. However, sometimes through accepting change (although we do not always recognise it at the time) it can bring about new things that are good or maybe even better for us.

As you will have read in last month's issue Rev Liz is retiring and that means as a benefice, we go into a period called interregnum. This means that as a Church community we need to take stock, consider, discern, what do we want to let go off and what do we want to keep, and what may the future hold.

Our churches are steeped in history and many will tell you stories such as 'I remember when ...', and these often involve a situation of a church packed full of people. Like a lot of other things in our lives and world church has changed, we do not have full pews on a Sunday, and children do not generally want to attend Sunday school.

While the Churches in our benefice together with the diocese plan a way forward, that does not mean your local churches will stop or the people in them are not there to help and support. We will endeavour to ensure there are services every Sunday, and we have a few baptisms planned as well as 5 weddings across the benefice.

Things may not be as you have been used to, or as Rev Liz would have done them, but without doubt worship, prayer and pastoral care will continue.

On the last point we have a fantastic prayer line group, who will ensure that you / and or your family are prayed for should you need it.

Despite all of this, or maybe because of it, the one thing we can be sure of is God, his love that never ceases his steadfastness, a never changing presence that we can always turn to in prayer.



## St Margaret's Church continued

There is a peace which the world doesn't understand, which is the result of steadfastly **trusting God**. Steadfast is the attitude you have when you say, "No matter what my feelings tell me, or how dark the circumstances, I will put myself in the Lord's hands and trust Him." That's when your heart is filled with peace.

We are not just here for funerals, but also for christenings and weddings. So, if you are thinking of planning either of those get in touch and we can have a chat.

And the normal pattern of services continues on Sundays with services starting at 11.00am.

In addition, the Church is open every day for private prayer. And as always if you know anyone in need of a visit, or you would like a visit yourself. Please get in touch.

[revcarolinebrown@gmail.com](mailto:revcarolinebrown@gmail.com): 01787 469161



**Old Photo time.... do you have any old photos of the parish that we could feature in future editions? If so please send them to the clerk.**

**A Toppesfield house known as 'The Tenements'. About 1890.**





# St Margaret's Church

## Church services for July and August

All services at 11.00am

July 2nd	Morning Prayer
July 9th	Holy Communion - Rev Caroline
July 16th	Morning prayer
July 23rd	Holy Communion – Rev Graham
July 30th	Benefice Service at Great Yeldham
August 6th	Morning Prayer
August 13th	Holy Communion - Rev Caroline
August 20th	Morning Prayer
August 27th	Holy Communion - Rev Graham

## Dates of Future Events

July 26th Coffee Morning in the church 10.30 -12.00

August 9th Holiday event in and around the church on the theme of Creation

## Advance notice

November 10th

Supper Auction in the Village Hall



Put the date in your diaries and start collecting wonderful things to put in Toppesfield's famous Supper Auction. Details on how to get tickets will be made available nearer the time.



TOPPESFIELD  
**CRICKET**  
CLUB



Toppesfield Cricket Club would like to pay our respects to Dave Chapman, one of our team and an ardent supporter of the club. Our fondest wishes and thoughts are with Sue and the family at this really sad time. RIP.

**Crinders will take place on Saturday 15th July 2023 at 2pm**

Please join us at Toppesfield Playing Field for an afternoon of family fun, followed by drinks at The Green Man. All ages and abilities welcome/required!



## **Toppesfield Village Hall**

Hello Everyone.

Just a quick update on the Village Hall. We held another warm hub coffee morning combined with a table top sale in May, which was poorly attended, but you may like to organise one yourself!

We recently heard that not all villagers know that there is a garden to the rear of the hall which is included in the hire fee. We recently decided that if anyone wants to book the hall, we are providing some free sessions to enable users to see the benefits of hiring the hall. This also includes evening hire. At the moment we are trying to organise a Bingo session and if this is supported, it could be a regular event!

We still have a regular Bowls Club on a Tuesday evening and are sure there must be others out there who have a hobby or exercise class etc. that they would like to promote.

During the summer break we are hoping to make more improvements to the outside and garden areas.

For more information or to look around please contact me on 01787 238178.

Jean Bagnall on behalf of the Village Hall Committee.

Thankyou.

**The Next Village Markets will be held at  
Toppesfield Village Hall on:**

**Saturday 1st July 10.30 am – 12.30pm**

**Saturday 5th August 10.30am – 12.30pm**

**Saturday 9th September 10.30am – 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.

# **Toppesfield and Gainsford End Village Show 2023**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September**

**Toppesfield Village Hall 2.00pm**

## **THE DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

Yes it is that time of year again. You will find a schedule for the show inside this newsletter so you can be thinking about and planning your entries. We have a few new classes this year and I hope something for everyone. Just think if everyone entered just one class what a show it would make.

### Time line

**Now** have a look at the schedule and decide what you wish to enter and fill in the **entry slip**. Please note for the children's classes the age must be written on the entry slip.

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> Sept** - Bring your completed entry slips to the village hall between **7.00pm and 8.00pm** and collect your exhibitor's cards.

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> Sept** - Bring your entries to the village hall between **8.30 am and 10.00 am**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> Sept 2.00pm** - Come and check on your winnings and awards and enjoy the show.

## **Come and enjoy the show.**

Check out the competitive entries and admire what amazing talent we have in our community.

There will be stalls, games, a fantastic raffle and delicious strawberries and cream teas.

Sit in the garden and have a chat with friends.

A great afternoon for all the family.

So many villages have lost their shows.

Show everyone that Toppesfield is the greatest!

Further information please contact Ann Read 01787 237464



## News from the Footpaths



Hi Everyone

I have just looked back to see the article I wrote at this time last year and it was very hot at 32C. That was hot enough but little did we know it was going to get to 40C!

Today, as I write this it is pretty hot and the soil is so dry and cracked open as it was last year. Is this what we have to expect now?

This is such a magical time of the year with all the bird activity and song and everything rushing out of the ground. We seem to have a cock pheasant taking up residence in Stambourne Road. He is a magnificent sight as he proudly walks up and down. Stambourne Road seems to be his territory.



To me June means cascades of dog roses in the hedgerows and the foamy fragrant flowers of the Elder bushes. Now that no mow May has been suggested the verges, pastures and grassland are just spectacular with all the flowers, buttercups, vetches, ox eye daises and the grasses waving in the wind.

Something I have noticed this year is some bushes look as though they are covered in cobwebs. In fact this is the activity of the Ermine moth. The adult moth lays its' eggs on the leaves of the bush and the caterpillars that hatch out spin the webs, covering the bush and protecting them from predators and parasites, also protecting their



self service food supply! The caterpillars will munch their way through the leaves and finally form a cocoon inside which the caterpillar will pupate and when the metamorphosis is completed, the adult moth will emerge. It would seem that once the caterpillars have pupated the bush will recover and the webs just disappear. Amazing!



In the last edition of the newsletter I did say that I had done a survey of the footpaths noting where the waymarkers were broken or missing and that highways were going to get them repaired. Unfortunately I have not heard any further news on this but I will keep trying.

Enjoy your walking and take care in this heat.

Ann Read

# PUMPHOUSE

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## BREWERY

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## Remembering David

We are remembering our friend and fellow Committee Member

David Chapman, who sadly passed away early this month.

David joined the committee at the start of the year and was clearly enjoying his time with the Pumphouse team. He made enthusiastic and positive contributions to our business activities and plans for the future.

David arranged and secured improved insurance cover for the brewery, and, on Wednesday 7 June, joined us for a business breakfast seminar with Braintree and Essex Councils.

Conversations with David covered a wide range of subjects, and we used the return journeys to put the world to rights.

The same day he helped us prepare for two Farmers' Markets we were attending at the weekend.

He was hoping to be on the sales team at the markets and would have been so good at it. Sadly he never got the chance.

All of us at Pumphouse offer our sincerest condolences to Sue and her family at this most difficult of times.

We are sure that David would have wished us to keep helping people enjoy Pumphouse traditional, real ales. It's now the start of Beer Festival season and we'll be featured at several through the summer and autumn.

We are also supplying more and more weddings and special events.

So do let us know if you have an upcoming event and you could be serving your guests Pumphouse draught beer (for as little as £1.20 a pint).

As always, we would love to hear from anyone interested in joining us as a volunteer and, of course, please keep drinking and enjoying our traditional real ales.

All Pumphouse bottles are available direct from the Brewery on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 10 to 4.

*Aaron, Kaaren, Tina, Paul, Mick & Richard*



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

We have been really busy since the last Parish Magazine and are excited to share with you some of the things we have been doing.

Of course, there was the Coronation in May and we celebrated in school with a Coronation picnic and Coronation Games. We also had our first worship group led session – a group of year 5 and 6 pupils led collective worship for the whole school linked to the Coronation. Our thanks to Rev Caroline for supporting the group.

Our football team went out for the first time in three and a half years to play again St. Peter's School in Sible Hedingham. The teams were very evenly matched and St. Margaret's won two matches and lost two matches.



We also had a whole school trip to the zoo. The children were fantastic and showed great respect during the day making it a brilliant day for everyone.



Year 6 also had a Leavers' Service at Chelmsford Cathedral with some other schools. The children reflected on their time at primary school and looked forward to their time at secondary school.



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



Finally, we are looking to update our English Curriculum and are hoping to introduce an updated, more diverse range of books to the children. If you feel able to support us by purchasing any books and donating them to us, we have an Amazon Wish list:

<https://amzn.eu/0pu68nj>

As always, don't forget to follow us on social media and keep an eye on the website for updates!

Website: [st-margaretscofe.essex.sch.uk](http://st-margaretscofe.essex.sch.uk)

Facebook: [St. Margaret's CofE Primary School, Toppesfield](https://www.facebook.com/StMargaretsCofEPrimarySchool)

Twitter: [@StMargaretsTopp](https://twitter.com/StMargaretsTopp)

Instagram: [stmargaretstopp](https://www.instagram.com/stmargaretstopp)

A poster for Danaher Animal Home's Open Day '23. The background is a blue sky with white stars. At the top is the Danaher Animal Home logo. The main text reads 'OPEN DAY '23' in a large, stylized font with a yellow ribbon. Below this, it says 'Sunday 3rd September 2023' and '11am - 3pm'. The location is 'Danaher Animal Home, Wethersfield, CM7 4EP'. A list of activities includes 'DOG SHOWS · STALLS · BBQ · REFRESHMENTS + MORE!'. At the bottom, there is a photo of six dogs of various breeds sitting in a grassy field. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner. At the very bottom, it says 'visit [www.DanaherAnimalHome.org.uk/open-day](http://www.DanaherAnimalHome.org.uk/open-day) For More Information!'



**St Margaret of Antioch  
Toppesfield**

**July 26<sup>th</sup> 2023**

**10.30am-12.30pm**

**Coffee Morning**

**including**

**Book / Puzzle / DVD 'S and Children's Games sale.**

**Plus**

**Soft Toy Tombola**

**There will be a colouring table available for the children**

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







## TOPPESFIELD ALLOTMENTS with NASLAG

It is with a sad heart that I must let all know that my great friend Eddy the Jack Russel - a constant companion at the allotments from the start of the re generation, and a family pet for some 15 years sadly passed away in May.



### **JOBS TO DO July**

July is usually one of the driest months, so watering can be essential. To help with this, hoe regularly to break up the soil and remove weeds. Water in the cool of the morning or evening.

### **Harvest**

Keep up with the harvesting of all crops because the allotment is now in full production. Lift early potatoes and carry on earthing up the rows. Harvest garlic and shallots as the foliage begins to become yellow and strawy. Pick the first of the early tomatoes. July is the start of globe artichoke season. If your plant is into its second year then cut off the top bulb once big and swollen with a couple of inches of stem attached. Lift autumn planted onions for immediate use. Continue to pick rhubarb until the end of the month and begin to harvest the main crop of your strawberries. Start to pick plums, early pears and apples.

### **Sowing and planting**

Start sowing the seeds of the overwintering crops of kales, spring cabbage, radicchio, chicory, spinach beet and a hardy type of onion to mature in the early summer of next year. Now is the best time to sow the main crop of carrots to avoid attack from root fly. Continue with successional sowings of beetroot and lettuce. Follow the instructions on the back of the seed packet, and sow every 2 - 4 weeks for a continuous supply of crops.

Plant out the last of your marrow, pumpkins, squashes, overwintering cabbages and leeks. Cover with netting to help protect them from the birds.

### **General**

Aim to keep the hoe moving at every opportunity. Water all crops at least once a week. Start to draw the soil up around the base of Brussels sprouts and sweet corn plants to encourage extra roots.

## TOPPESFIELD ALLOTMENTS with NASLAG continued

### Pest and diseases

This is the start of potato blight season, and if the weather is wet and humid in July then your crop is likely to be at risk. You can use fungicides containing copper to help protect your crop from aphids and pea moth with an insecticidal soap brought from the garden centre. the blight; these should be sprayed from June onwards if a wet July is predicted. (Crop rotation the following year is advisable). An infected plant will have a watery rot on its leaves, causing them to collapse – the infected matter should be binned or burned and not placed into your compost, as this will not kill the disease and it will reoccur the following year.



The main pests are aphids, cabbage white butterfly caterpillars and pea moth. Spray to control the affected Plants.

Paul Thompson Chair



**Toppesfield Community Pub Ltd are holding their**

**Annual Members Meeting on**

**Wednesday 19th July 2023**

**At 7.30pm in The Green Man, Toppesfield**

**All are welcome to attend**



**Toppesfield Community Shop are holding their**

**Annual General Meeting on**

**Thursday 20th July 2023**

**At 7.30pm in The Village Hall, Toppesfield**

**All are welcome to attend**

## **An update from SWAP and WASC May 2023**

WASC has applied for listing protection of several cold-war era buildings on the base and English Heritage has recommended the listing of all of them. This has now to be ratified by the Minister for Media, Culture and Sport.

The BDC Appeal was heard in the High Court on June 12th and was subsequently refused.

The applications for Judicial review of the decisions of both the Home Office and the Minister for Communities, Business, and Levelling Up will be heard in the High Court on July 13th.

Whilst the legal actions proceed, the Home Office continues to prepare the site for the accommodation of 1700 people seeking Asylum but has stated that no one will be brought to the site before July 11th. Discussions with the Home Office continue to be very frustrating as it is difficult to find anyone who actually knows the area or understands the issues. The meetings that have been held have not provided any meaningful answers. An example is: when asked about the increased level of traffic that can be expected, the answer was an additional two trucks! When asked about the impact of increased traffic on the various pinch points on the roads around the base, the answer was that this would be mitigated. No detail. Some of the people at the meetings did not know where the nearest city was and had no idea just how isolated this area is.

I have the feeling that the Home Office team has been tasked with making this happen and anything else is unimportant. Of course, in the corporate world this happens too and it is rarely those who create the mess that have to resolve it.

The latest information regarding Wethersfield Airbase can be found on the SWAP Facebook page and also on the BDC planning portal.

Trisha Roberts

**St Margaret of Antioch  
Toppesfield**

**SUMMER HOLIDAY FUN DAY**

**August 9<sup>th</sup> 2023**

**10.30am-3pm**

**The Theme is: Creation**

**Please come along and join in a fun time with crafts, activities with the theme of creation.**

**If dry the event will be held outside.**

**Please bring a picnic.**



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC](#)

**Drinks and snacks will be provided.**

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

**It would be helpful if you could REGISTER YOUR INTEREST NOW**

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





## BAR OPENING HOURS

Monday - Closed  
Tuesday - Thursday 3 - Close  
Friday - Sunday 12 - Close

## KITCHEN OPENING HOURS

Wednesday & Thursday 5-8  
Friday & Saturday 12-9  
Sunday 12-4

## Weekly specials

Sunday Roast featuring sirloin of beef and large selection of fresh vegetables

## What's On

Fun Quiz - Last Sunday of the Month from 6pm  
Proceeds to Air Ambulance

Open Mic - First Sunday of every month from 5pm  
All welcome

For take away and table bookings please call 01787 237418



This handsome boy is our charming chap Charlie! Charlie is a super friendly boy who loves meeting both people and dogs. He has lots of energy and therefore is looking for an active family who can take him on lots of adventures! His favourite activity is to run around off lead in a secure area so would benefit from being in a home that has a safe and secure garden for him to run around in throughout the day. Charlie responds well to training and already knows sit. He will require training within the home as well as regular socialisation and plenty of positive experiences as he grows up.

Pablo is our lively affectionate Lurcher. He loves nothing more than a cuddle with anyone who has the time to give him a fuss. Although Pablo came in with a kennel mate, and loves the company of other Lurchers, he can be picky with other breeds, so is looking for a home as an only dog. Despite this, he would still love to socialise and share walks with other friendly dogs where possible. Lurchers love off lead time in enclosed freedom fields/gardens to play, but need to be kept on long lines whilst out walking due to their high prey drive.



If you would like to register interest in Charlie or Pablo please go to our website [www.danaheranimalhome.org.uk](http://www.danaheranimalhome.org.uk) and fill out an interest form.

### **Sponsorship - Not able to adopt, but would like to help Charlie find their perfect forever home?**

Please consider sponsoring or part-sponsoring Charlie whilst they in our care to help find them the perfect loving home they deserve faster, also enabling us to help even more animals.

Danaher Animal Home would like to welcome everyone to our Open Day here at the Centre in Wethersfield on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2023. There will be lots to do! We have lots of Stalls, a Danaher Dog Show, tombola, dog displays, and plenty of refreshments for sale, including a tasty BBQ. It is from 11-3pm. Parking is on site. See you here!

Danaher Animal Home, Thorley Farm, Heddingham Road, Wethersfield, CM7 4EQ  
For more information, please call us on 0300 1114321 9-3pm daily (Closed on Wednesday)





# TOPPESFIELD



## Community Shop



*Support your community  
to enable them to support you!*

**We stock a wide range of  
frozen and convenience foods  
as well as many household products  
alongside our fresh and 'to order' services  
all at very competitive prices**



**Weekly orders**

Bacon  
Ham  
Sausages  
Chicken  
Lamb  
Beef

**PRIORS HALL FARM**



Fresh Quality Meat

*Prices dependent on cut and weight*

**Fine wines**



**TOPPESFIELD**  
*Vineyard*

**OZES**  
cdp

*also available in  
our freezer cabinet*

Specialty  
CAKES  
PIES  
PASTRIES

### **Magazines & Newspapers**

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

### ***Eat In or Takeaway***

***Coffee, Tea, Hot Chocolate, Cold Drinks, Ice Cream  
Soup, Rolls***

### **OPENING TIMES**

Mondays	.....	8.30am - 4.00pm
Tuesdays	.....	8.30am - 4.00pm
Wednesdays	.....	8.30am - 4.00pm
Thursdays	.....	8.30am - 4.00pm
Fridays	.....	8.30am - 4.00pm
Saturdays	.....	10.00am - 12.30pm

**POST  
OFFICE**

**OPEN**  
Wednesdays  
10.00am - 1.00pm



# RIDGEWELL CHAPEL

*Bringing Living Water to Serve The Community*



## Holiday Club

**WHEN:** 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> August for children aged 5-11years (approx.)

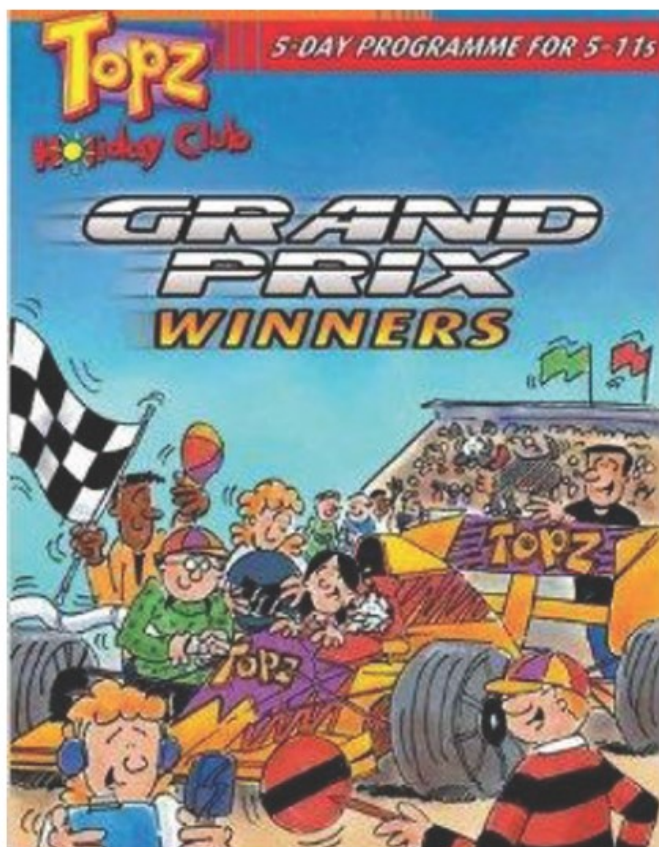
**START:** on the grid for 10am

**ENDING:** at 1pm

The race includes:

- Crafts
- Games
- Pit stop refreshments
- And some songs to sing along to!
- There will be time for the children and helpers to eat a packed lunch ...

On the 13<sup>th</sup> August there will be Sunday Service which will reflect all that has been done in the week!



**TO BOOK** please contact: Jill Holmes, Ridgewell Chapel, by email or in the post box on the Chapel Door. [RidgewellChapel@gmail.com](mailto:RidgewellChapel@gmail.com)  
Enquiries and more details from Jill on 07883 423528





LITTLE CHESTNUTS PRE-SCHOOL



TOPPESFIELD

**SPACES  
AVAILABLE**

**WEEKDAYS**

**8.30AM - 3PM**

**CALL 07901 880 914  
TO BOOK A VISIT**