



Broomfield **TIMES**

Issue 70 | Autumn 2022

News & events from your Parish Council



21st April 1926 – 8th September 2022

The Chairman, Councillors and staff of Broomfield Parish Council have heard with great sadness the announcement of the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, and join with the residents of Broomfield, and the nation, in mourning her death.

We encourage all residents to pay tribute to Her Majesty by signing the Books of Condolence that will be available at Broomfield Village Hall, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings, between 10-12 and Broomfield Parish Church, St Mary's, all of next week. Both books will be sent to Buckingham Palace later in the month.

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Broomfield TIMES

Welcome to the Autumn edition of Broomfield Times.

Well hopefully by the time you are reading this edition the weather has cooled down and the ground has been replenished with rain! But what a lovely Summer we have had – the park around the Village Hall has been very busy with families enjoying the outside spaces.

The Village Hall has been a hive of activity with many events taking place as well as the variety of Clubs which meet regularly. You may be interested in looking at the Hall Timetable and see if there is a Club/activity you may wish to partake in.

STOP PRESS! As we are just going to print it has been announced that the Queen Elizabeth II has sadly passed away and the Parish Council joins the Nation in mourning her death.

Anyone who has an interesting article, photos, information of Broomfield you would like to share in future editions of Broomfield Times – please let me know either by email:

Editor@broomfield-pc.gov.uk

or by telephone **(01245) 441660**

or letter – next copy date **7th December**.

Karen Hurrell - Editor

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Broomfield Contacts



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Chairman's Chat

The Jubilee celebrations seem a distant but very happy memory.

Thanks to Stuart Jones for the wonderful photos in our last edition. The hot weather continued but at last we have had some rain.

Activities at the Parish Council continue – please read the article on Money and your Parish Council, as we are facing some changes very soon which require careful thought.

The Village Hall activities continue and are growing plus new activities. Following the carpet bowls demonstration at the Jubilee Fair more people are now attending, which is great to see. The indoor boot sales continue, with many a bargain to be had. The Coffee Club for Ukrainian refugees continues, and some of us joined them for their Independence Day celebrations.

The Parish Council pays for Play in the Park, organised by Chelmsford City Council, in the summer holidays; morning and afternoon sessions are held. The activities are many and varied and enjoyed by the children who attend the free sessions. Think about taking your children next Easter. Parents and carers stay with the children, aged 3-11, or join in if they wish.

The Events Manager at the Village Hall has been busy setting up new community groups, and you can read more about these within Donna's report.

Our new website is up and running and you will soon be able to subscribe to a monthly newsletter. Please visit:

www.broomfield-pc.gov.uk

We are very happy to have appointed two new members of staff recently: Steve Early, the Village Attendant and Nicola Goulter, the Deputy Clerk. They both live in the village and bring local knowledge and a great spirit.

We also have three recently-appointed Parish Councillors, also living in the village: Jo Bowman, Roy Perry, and Ray Spiller.

We welcome them and are already grateful for the hard work that they are contributing to the Parish Council.

Enjoy reading our autumn newsletter, and we look forward to seeing you at some of our activities.

Cllr Margaret Bleet





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Needs of our community

At the Annual Parish meeting, held in May this year, we asked you about your concerns about the village.

The main area of concern is about traffic, this is the responsibility of Essex Highways, at Essex County Council.

The County Council budget is of course complex. The largest part of the budget is for Adult Social Care and Health, at £470M for 2022/23 and representing 43% of the budget. Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport in contrast is £114M (11%) and has to cover potholes, bridges, car parks, public rights of way, road safety, footpaths, gritting, hedges, verges, passenger transport and home to school transport. With an ageing population the Adult Social Care budget will continue to rise. The County Council is therefore limited in what it can spend on Highways.

One of the main areas of concern is School Lane – there are two issues; one is the high speed of drivers and the other is safety around school travel times. We have researched various options, the Safer Essex Roads Partnership have suggested changes to Angel Green, both to slow drivers down when they enter School Lane and to widen the pavement to allow for families to walk on the pavement safely.

Highway improvements, such as the suggestions about Angel Green, have to go to the Local Highways Panel (LHP) via our County Councillor, Cllr Mike Steel. The Chelmsford LHP covers all parishes of Chelmsford and South Woodham Ferrers and with a budget of £500K pa so there is always a long waiting list of several years.

One option is for the Parish Council to pay for this work ourselves and highways costs are high. We are currently preparing a submission to LHP, for School Lane. We have a much greater chance of getting this work completed if the Parish Council pay for it. Once we have the costs we will decide how to fund the work.

We can arrange to do LHP work ourselves, but then become liable for the asset – both for damage and public liability. We must use certified contractors so it is easier to ask Highways to carry out the work then they retain responsibility and liability – as ECC is the Highways Authority responsible for the maintenance of public roads. These costs appear expensive, but they include design, public consultation, utility searches, land ownership searches, roadwork permits, safety audits and work by certified roadside contractors.

Another, separate issue, is the Erick Avenue pedestrian crossing on Main Road – it has no paint left on the road – making it hard for drivers to see it in the daytime. This is highway maintenance work. Highway maintenance work can be requested by residents or the Parish Council via the on-line reporting tool: www.essexhighways.org/roads-and-pavements

We have reported this as a Parish Council.

Other needs of the Parish:

The newly refurbished village hall is very popular and often full. We would like some extra rooms to use for various activities. We have been approached to ask if we could provide rooms for family therapy and by the Citizens Advice Bureau to provide advice to the people of Broomfield. So we will be looking to expand in some way in the future.

As we approach a difficult winter with the price of fuel skyrocketing, we are considering providing warm places or banks for people to save the cost of heating their homes. If we had smaller rooms, we could provide warm spaces more cheaply but also much more cosy spaces.

<https://metro.co.uk/2022/07/14/warm-banks-to-be-set-up-this-winter-but-what-are-they-16998804/>

Cllr Margaret Bleet
cllrmargaret.bleet@broomfield-pc.gov.uk

Money and your Parish Council

Parish Councils have two sources of money:

One is the 'precept' – rarely used word, in plain English, that means the amount of money we ask that you pay each month, along with other taxes to Chelmsford City Council and Essex County Council.

The other source of money is from developers who build homes in our parish – for each home that is built the developer must pay us a set amount of money.

The shape of our Parish is about to change – until now Broomfield has included the Channels development and our income from the new homes there was helpful – it allowed us to revamp the Village Hall and to renew the car park at the Village Hall, for instance.

Channels is to join a new Parish Council so we will no longer benefit from new building there. The changes happen in April 2023.

We are also losing the annual income from those homes.

As a result of this substantial loss of income, we are reviewing our finances. We have a few options and will keep you posted.

Cllr Margaret Bleet



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- Biscuits & chocolate wrapping
- Bread bags
- Bubble wrap
- Cling film
- Cereal packet liners
- Cheese, fish & meat wrapping
- Crisp & sweet bags
- Delivery bags
- Frozen food bags
- Multi-pack wrappers
- Old make-up

Sainsbury's also takes:

- Brita filter cartridges; portable batteries & empty make up containers

Aldi:

- Batteries

Morrisons:

- Bread bags; carrier bags; batteries; face masks

Argos takes:

- Large electrical (non-cooling) appliances; TVs & Displays; small electrical appliances; portable batteries

John Lewis:

- Gives members a £5 voucher to recycle five empty beauty products

Little Waltham Doctors Surgery:

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Dunelm: (bin by exit):

- Duvet & cushion covers
- Towels
- Sheets & pillowcases
- Bedding protection
- Fabric tablecloths; runners & placements
- Tea towels
- Fabric aprons
- Curtains
- Throws & blankets

B & Q (box by exit):

- Small electrical items
- Light bulbs
- Portable Batteries:

Chelmer Village Opticians:

- Contact lenses

Boots High Street Chelmer:

- Contact lenses

Most Opticians:

- Unwanted glasses & old frames

All Libraries (inc. Broomfield):

- Used domestic ink cartridges

WH Smith

- BIC Bin for any make of old pens



Play in the park – Broomfield

Around 334 local children attended six Play in the Park sessions held during the summer holidays on Angel Meadow – these sessions were hosted by Chelmsford City Council and funded by Broomfield Parish Council – the next sessions will be held at Easter 2023.

The Mayor of Chelmsford Councillor John Galley and the Mayoress Jackie Galley visited

the Play in the Park session on Wednesday 24th August and also enjoyed a cup of tea alongside parishioners in the Village Hall Coffee Morning which is held every Wednesday.





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Tree for Life

This scheme was operated for the second year in 2021 for babies born to parents living in the parish of Broomfield.

A total of seventeen trees were requested and supplied – sixteen for babies and one for the Broomfield Baby Bereavement Charity.

This year it was agreed by the Committee to supply a small fruit tree for those wishing to plant a tree in their own garden or a woodland tree for those who wanted one planted in David Smith Memorial Field (next to Broomfield Village Hall).

Nine woodland trees were planted around the inner edge of the cycle track, which will hopefully provide for a nice shady walk in the future. Next year's trees will continue this pattern.

Maintaining the trees in the drought has been a challenge and we have purchased ten watering bags from the Tree for Life Budget that have worked well. However, four trees did not make it and will shortly be replaced, just as soon as the drought is over. I have been supported well in the watering by the Village Attendant Steve, Councillor Roy Perry, and our Caretaker Fitz.

If you would like to have a tree for your baby born this year (2022 and live in the Parish of Broomfield), please apply to the Parish Council Office for an application form – email Nicola at Deputy.Clerk@broomfield-pc.gov.uk or ring **01245 441660** for a form (a copy of your baby's Birth Certificate will be required).

Here is a selection of photos of some babies enjoying their trees and fruit!

Cllr Angie Faulds



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Report from the Environment Committee

You may be wondering what this Committee is and why it is under the Parish Council, but it was decided at the Annual Parish Meeting in May to change the name from Village Amenities to the one above – the role of the Committee is the same as Village Amenities.

I have little to report this time but we are inviting Essex Wildlife Trust to come and give us ideas and guidance as to how we can improve our environment in Broomfield.

BROOMFIED IN BLOOM

If any road would like to have a planter under their street sign – please will you contact the Parish Office on **(01245) 441660**.

LITTER PICKING DAY

This will take place on Saturday 1st October at 10am from the Village Hall. Refreshments will be provided at the end.



CENTENARY WOOD

I am sorry to have to report that some bark has been cut away from the trunks which means we may have to cut some of the trees down.

Cllr Les Steed

Village Hall Report Autumn 2022

The Village Hall continues to be an action-packed place – as well as the range of hobbies and interests brought to us by outside providers who regularly hire the hall (see Village Hall timetable).

We continue to provide a range of support groups – Stay and Play, Coffee Morning, the Ukrainian Support Group with English lessons, Woodland Warriors in Centenary Wood and also a series of one-off events, such as our Jubilee tea dance with the Fleeting Shadows and a series of table top sales – see more details in the Events section.

Our bike shelter (which had installation issues) has now been properly installed and I am pleased to say regularly used – here is Pauline who likes to cycle to our Wednesday Coffee Mornings in Broomfield Village Hall and is now able to park her bike safely.

Here she is with Cllr Faulds, who worked hard to have the cycle shelter installed and obtained grant funding to pay for it.

The Hall seems to have hit a certain milestone when things start going wrong, so we have incurred some expenses with repairs to the boiler and oven, and the need to buy a replacement dishwasher. Thank you if you have soldiered on when the facilities have not been quite as they should be.

We still hope to provide something for the teenagers soon, so watch this space!

We would welcome some representation from Hall users on our Village Hall Committee (which meets six times a year). If you feel that is something you could contribute to, you would be most welcome!

Many thanks as usual to all the staff.

Cllr Angie Faulds



Broomfield Village Hall

Weekly Timetable for

Day	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		
Hall	Small	Large	Small	Large	Small	Large	Sm
08:00							
08:30							
09:00							
09:30							
10:00							
10:30	09.00 - 12.30 Sing and Sign	09.30-12.00 Stay & Play	11.00 - 12.00 Line Dance		09.30-12.00 VILLAGE COFFEE MORNING		11.00
11:00							
11:30							
12:00							
12:30							
13:00							
13:30	13.30-16.15 Carpet Bowls		13.45-16.15 Support Group (1st of month)				
14:00							
14:30							
15:00							
15:30							
16:00		16.30-18.45 Kazen Kai	14.45-20.30 Slimming World				
16:30							
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18:00							
18:30							17.45-20.30 with Ki pregnan 8.10 st meno
19:00	18.45-21.30 Puppy Training	19.00-20.00	18.45-21.15 Bingo		1st & 2nd of month Parish Council	1st of month WI, 2nd Broomfield Birds, 3rd & 4th Parish Council	
19:30		Zumba					
20:00							
20:30		20.30-21.30					
21:00		Line Dance					
21:30							
22:00							
22:30							

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Sing & Sign

Sing and Sign is about to begin yet another term at Broomfield Village Hall and we cannot wait to welcome and old and new to our festive term.

It's hard to believe that another Christmas is almost upon us but at Sing and Sign we are ready for some fun festivities!

This past year has seen Sing and Signers just weeks old learning new songs and signs alongside their mums, dads or carers to help make communication that much better as they grow. They may seem little now, but as our almost three-year-olds will demonstrate beautifully, the journey will be well worth it. For now, they can eagerly await their Sing and Sign Christmas sessions at the end of the Autumn term to see what games their good friend Jessie Cat will play, and the gift that she will bring them; she also has some fabulous festive songs and signs to teach them.

Sing and Sign is the original baby signing programme still going strong in its twenty-first year. It is simple in its approach, drawing on the value of music to establish the building

blocks of speech and language development whilst nurturing a quite incredible connection between parent and baby. With tunes and words that are easy to learn, you will soon be singing our songs in your sleep! What's more, you will be having so much fun with your little one, building on those natural gestures that they already have to teach them a language that you can both understand.

We have classes from 0-30 months at Broomfield Village Hall and across Chelmsford and the surrounding areas, every day of the week. Classes are strictly limited in size to ensure a comfortable environment for you and your baby to learn and have fun together.

If you would like more information please email me at martinebrockman@singandsign.co.uk or you can find us online at www.sasessex.co.uk. We are on Facebook too at www.facebook.com/singsignessex or Instagram [@singandsignchelmsford](https://www.instagram.com/singandsignchelmsford) Our Autumn Term will begin on Monday 19th September so be sure to book your place soon. If you have any questions or would like to join us for a free trial please do get in touch.



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Broomfield Cottage Gardeners' Society

We are delighted that Broomfield Cottage Gardeners' Society has now resumed a full programme of activities.



BCGS Summer Show prize winners

Our AGM was held in February and was followed by a very informative talk on "Soils" by Ian Mercer.



Then in April our very own Chris Whiting provided a fascinating talk on growing dahlias. We held our annual charity plant sale in May and raised £230 for Dementia Adventure (our chosen charity for this year). Our Summer Flower and Produce show took place July 10th. Despite the challenging growing conditions it was very well supported by both exhibitors and people helping us run the show – we also had good attendance with many people coming to see the exhibits.

Preparations are now well underway for the Autumn Flower and Produce show on 25th September and we also have a full programme of evening talks planned for this coming winter – please see our website for details: Broomfield Cottage Gardeners' Society broomfieldcottagegardenerssociety.co.uk

If you have an interest in gardening and would like to join the society please contact Selina at bcgsshowsecretary@gmail.com It's excellent value at £4 per member (£3 for over 60s) and entitles you to free or reduced entry at our events as well as use of the Barn (on the allotment site) where you can purchase discounted seeds, compost and other gardening sundries.

Broomfield Birds

We are a mixed-age group of women who meet on the second Wednesday of each month at Broomfield Village Hall, 8-10pm, for a bit of fun and friendship.

Each month we have a different activity. Plans for the coming year include quizzes, games, crafts, guest speakers, singalongs, fish and chip supper, etc. Cost is £10 per year membership and £5 a month on-the-door fee.

This includes tea and coffee and cake every month and all activities. We are looking for new members so if you are interested, please get in touch at:

broomfieldbirds1@gmail.com

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The Yoga Manifesto by Nadia Gilani

In this book which is part memoir, part guide to the history of yoga and part call to action, Nadia explores the highs and lows of her personal life and the ways in which a yoga practice has helped her.



She writes in such an honest and engaging way that once I had started the book, I just couldn't stop reading it.

Despite her love for the practice, Nadia does

not shy away from critiquing the way in which yoga has become so successful that at times it excludes so many people who could benefit from it.

This was an extremely thought-provoking book and as I enter the final few months of my teacher training course, it definitely made me think about why I practice yoga, how I wish to develop my practice and the way in which I want to share my knowledge with others.

As per Nadia's call to arms, I'll be ensuring that my classes are as inclusive as possible so that I can encourage as many people as possible to start practicing yoga.

Weekly hatha yoga classes for beginners will be starting at:

Broomfield Village Hall from Thursday 29th September 2022 at 6:15 – 7:15pm. To find out more please contact Chantelle via email: info@the-wellnessplace.com

Broomfield & District U3A

A new season begins

1st September marked the beginning of the 2022-23 membership year for the Broomfield & District. Earlier this year we resumed our in-person speaker meetings on the second Wednesday afternoon of each month, and we have been pleased to see that the number of attendees has been steadily growing.

The in-person meetings include the ever-popular book and jigsaw puzzle swaps, the chance to win a raffle prize, refreshments, entertaining and informative speakers, and of course the opportunity to chat with other members and their guests, as well as first-time visitors. New members are always welcome.

For the modest charge of £15 for the year, membership of the Broomfield & District U3A includes receiving the national U3A magazine Third Age Matters five times per year, our own monthly newsletter, and membership of as many special interest groups as you would like to join, with interests ranging from Art to Walking.

Details of these groups' activities can be found in the pages of our monthly newsletter, also available on our website:

u3asites.org.uk/broomfield/welcome

Just click on the 'News' tab to see recent editions.

We look forward to welcoming you at a future meeting.

Upcoming Dates 2022/23

Every Wednesday

Coffee Morning from 9:30 to 11:30am.

October 16th

Village Hall Boot Sale

October 26th - 9:30 to 11:30am

Tickets on sale for Seniors' Lunch

October 30th - from 2pm

Halloween Trail, and Arts and Crafts

December 4th

Christmas Craft Fayre

December 5th

Stay & Play Christmas Party

December 10th

Christmas in the Village

It has been a tough growing year with lack of rain, but most have managed to produce some amazing crops and some beautiful sunflowers for our "Grow A Sunflower for Ukraine".



The allotment association have managed to secure a grant for two new water harvesting systems and shelter. The work should be starting in early September.

We do have a vacant half plot and one vacant raised bed. If anyone is interested then please contact me and we can arrange a viewing. Call Donna on 07729239613

Sunflower grown by Sharon Boreham on our community plot.



Broomfield Village Hall

TOY DRIVE

Please Donate New, Unwrapped Toys for Our children in the village before:

Friday 9th December
Closing Time: 4:00pm

DROP-OFF LOCATION: Broomfield Village Hall
158 Main Road Broomfield

For More Info: 07729239613 or
eventsandfundin@broomfieldsex.co.uk

PiNS

Parents in need of support

Do you have a child with additional needs?
Are you looking for a group that can offer:

- Advice?
- Assistance?
- A listening ear?
- A friendly face?

Then come along to our new group

We are here to offer our Support

Dates of Meetings

- 9.15 - 10.30
- 22nd September
- 27th October
- 24th November
- 15th December

at Broomfield Village Hall.

HOW ARE YOU?

For more information call Donna on 07729239613

Broomfield Parish Council's



SENIORS

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

November 30th

12pm - 4pm

at Broomfield Village Hall

Tickets go on sale 26th October at the Village Hall Coffee morning 9.30 - 11.30

Broomfield Village Hall
PRESENTS



HAPPY HALLOWEEN

VILLAGE HALL TRAIL

30th OCT From 2 PM

Dress up and visit our spooky stalls and collect your trick or treats



Calling all Local Groups in Broomfield

Xmas Tree Decorating Competition

Saturday 10th December

Decorators arrive at 11.45

Open to Judging public at 4pm

What decorations will you go with?

Please call Donna on 07729239613

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When talking to the Manager of Cloudy2Clear windows Chris Miller it became clear that these

values have been held dear for a number of years. Since starting the business some years ago Cloudy2Clear have remained true to their core values of supporting the local community by providing a service that saves the public money.

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Broomfield Events

Welcome everyone! What a warm few months it has been.

Although the events side of my roles has been quiet, I have been busy planning the next six months and putting into action some new projects for around the village.

BROOMFIELD MEN'S SHED

We had our first meeting of the Men's Shed project where ideas were shared and committee roles were discussed. We took a walk over to the site to look at possible places for the shed, and I am now liaising with the Parish Council regarding the space we wish to use. Our next meeting will be 18th September 2:30 till 3:30 at Broomfield Village Hall. I am now looking for sponsors for the project, so if you would like your company involved with the Broomfield Men's shed, then please make contact.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

I have managed to secure a grant for £9000 for a community garden space on the David Smith field, and I will be looking for volunteers to help oversee the project, give ideas, and help to dig! I am also looking for companies who may wish to sponsor the project either with time or with equipment and plants.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S LOUNGE

I have secured some funding and some donations for a young people's space, and we are now trying to secure a time in the Village

Hall timetable so we can open to the young people – watch this space.

HALLOWEEN TRAIL

Come along for some spooky fun on our Halloween trail around the park – will you be able to find the hidden spook for your treats?

CHRISTMAS- SENIORS' CHRISTMAS LUNCH

We are having a move around of dates so we can sneak a third Lunch in over the year. We will be hosting a two-course Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 30th November at the Village Hall.

Tickets will be £10 and will be on sale at the coffee morning on 26th October 9:30 to 11:30.

Christmas is fast approaching, and we are in full swing taking bookings for our Christmas Craft fayre with our Santa's Grotto on Sunday 4th December from 2 to 5pm. Christmas in the Village is booked in too on Saturday 10th December, so it's time to decorate your tree and share your community group with the village. If you are interested in a spot, please contact me.

It's going to be a busy few months but I cannot wait to see you all, and if, in the meantime, you have any ideas for community projects or things you would like to see around the village, please contact me on

eventsandfunding@broomfieldessex.co.uk



Essex County Council

BROOMFIELD SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL

I am pleased to say that in early July I managed to get a

School Crossing Patrol sanctioned for School Lane, Broomfield. We advertised for the role, but so far no one has been appointed, so I am broadcasting the advert again. No experience is necessary and full training and uniform are provided. If you are interested or know someone who is, please contact us at schoolcrossingpatrol@essex.gov.uk or gillian.palmer@essex.gov.uk or apply online using the link, stating Broomfield as the position you are interested in. Our roles generally suit people with a positive and friendly attitude with good communication skills who are active, reliable, and able to attend work on time, consistently during the school term.

DIGIGO

DigiGo is a pilot transport method run by Essex County Council, funded by Department for Transport for an initial two-year period.

The service comprises 6 electric mini-buses operating from the Braintree GRIDSERVE electric forecourt. Using the TravelEssex app, passengers select their pick up and drop off points, and the system automatically calculates the route, catering for any pickups along the way. The app displays 'virtual stops' near to the pick-up locations, meaning that passengers are just a very short walk away from pick-up. (if you can't cope with Apps, there is a phone call alternative).

The service covers Braintree and North and West Chelmsford, and only just extends into Broomfield to the hospital.



But do watch out for updates on coverage. The charges are more like public transport but the service approaches that of a taxi! And concessionary fares and conditions apply. They operate 7 days a week, from 7am until 10pm. All the mini-buses have wheelchair access. I see this as an answer to public transport in low demand areas where bus companies find it uneconomic to run a regular bus with few passengers. Whether you are a pupil who can't get a school bus, living in a rural area that has limited public transport, someone who needs to get to a medical appointment, or a shopper, please make use of the facility and make the pilot a success. Residents can visit www.digigo.uk to learn more.

POTHOLES

Most of the correspondence I get is about Highway issues. We are part way through a Member Led pothole scheme and I have been working with my Parish Councils to nominate the worst ones, which are being fixed. You should be seeing an improvement which will continue. I also get a lot of complaints about pavements. I am pushing Highways to do a similar Member Led scheme for pavements.

Wanted – Community School Trustees

Chelmer Valley High School is a forward-looking, ambitious, and popular school. We have high expectations of our students and ourselves.

We believe that the partnership between student, the school and home is crucial to the success of our community.

Our school has a board of trustees to oversee the running of the school. They have a number of key roles. In conjunction with the Headteacher, they set the school's priorities, they are responsible for the proper use of school funds, and they hold the Headteacher to account for the school's performance.

Anyone willing to commit time and energy can be a school trustee. Trustees come from all backgrounds with differing skill sets and experience. Some have a teaching/education background and we really value this.

Some trustees are parents or have links with the local community, and this is what we need.

Parents know how their children experience life at Chelmer Valley High School. We want to develop children who will become valued, responsible members of the community and who understand the contributions different cultures make to a vibrant society. We want trustees from all parts of the community. We particularly seek trustees who have professional or business skills in legal, accounts, finance, and facilities management.

Education generates huge volumes of data and we have to have Trustees able to analyse and make sense of what the data show.

The point to stress is anyone with the willingness to commit time and energy to support the school, students, and staff achieve our shared objectives can be a trustee. It is a challenging role but is also very rewarding.

For more information, please contact Mrs Teresa Ratty, Clerk to Trustees at tratty@chelmer.essex.sch.uk or call **01245 440232**

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1st Broomfield Scout Group

WEDNESDAY BEAVER COLONY

The Beavers started work on The Great Outdoors, the communicator badge deciphering codes and playing hide and seek using telephone and text communication. We cooked up a 'lovely' chow mein for Chinese New Year and managed to complete our space badge followed by Pancake Day and lots of delicious pancakes. Then it was World Book Day, learning some knots and using the Group our climbing wall. We joined the Thursday Beavers for a sleepover and a scouting skills camp. This included a campfire and songs along with several other core scouting activities including pitching tents, cooking over a fire, roasting marshmallows, sewing badges on their camp blankets, and using a compass to collect clues. We had an Easter Bunny hunt, walking from Broad Green across the footpaths to Broomfield church. We started the summer term with archery, learning the green cross code, fencing, and a Queen's Jubilee party. We have fortunately recruited another member of the team, Jayne Pearson, which is great, but we really need someone to come join us as an assistant leader so there is another qualified person to run things when the leader is unavailable.

THURSDAY BEAVERS

We started the Easter term with making our own crockery bags for the sleepover camp and continued then looking at many international festivals from Chinese New Year, to Pancake Day around the world and to different Beaver promises around the world and the Beavers were amused to find out that the Hong Kong Beavers are called Grasshoppers! We looked at different refugees from history and even those fleeing the conflict in Ukraine, looking at the difficult choices they would be having to make as they left their homes and belongings. We asked the Beavers to mentally pack a small suitcase, they were only allowed five items (we had a lot of technology being packed). Then some of these things were given away in exchange for water, safe passage or blankets, and the Beavers were left with only one item in their case by the end of their journey. We had an Easter Hike to finish off the Easter Term. Summer term has started with different sports, including archery,

climbing, and even fencing. And we have a joint sleepover planned with the Wednesday Beavers coming up soon for a night at Braintree Museum.

KANTANKYE CUBS (WEDNESDAYS)



This term has been busy for the 1st Broomfield Kantankye Cub Pack! As well as a fun-filled weekly programme, we have finally been able to get back into the full groove of Scouting and have taken the Cubs out to camp and given them nights away. For some this was their first experience away from home, and what a time they had. We started off light with a sleepover at the hut filled with hikes, homemade pizzas with some unusual topping combinations, squishy biscuits over the fire and games. Stepping into May, the Cubs travelled to Belchamps to finally solve the mystery of "Where's Wally?" The Cubs hunted him down through Hockley woods, following clues that had been left behind, but Wally remained elusive. They also re-enacted many scenes from the books where Wally had been spotted previously with his friends. The costumes themselves were entertaining enough! More squishy biscuits over the campfire and a singsong tied up the weekend.

We were impressed with how well the Cubs conducted themselves and embraced new challenges, which for many was their first time under canvas.

All of this preparation for the main event... Megacamp! This is a County camp where Cubs from all over Essex (1600 of them!) visit Skreens Activity Centre for a jam-packed weekend of activities. The chosen theme for this year was pirates and anything swashbuckling. The Cubs themselves made a huge effort making decorations for our little

camp to scare off intruders. I'm not sure if it was the sea creatures on the shipwreck or the skull and cross bones on stakes that did the trick! The beauty of this camp is that the Cubs have their own independence to pick from the massive range of activities.



It all started on Friday with a group of very, very excited children meeting Bluebeard himself. After settling into camp and getting some sleep... the day of activities began. Starting off the morning with some entertainment from the resident pirates, the Cubs started ticking off the list; archery, kayaking (No sailors went overboard!), multiple inflatable obstacles, air rifles, fire lighting, learning about scurvy from the ship cook, nautical navigation and even a sword-fighting demonstration. The evening came around and there was a penny fair to attend.

Each group was tasked with making a fair stall to raise money for charity. We happened to have some spare stocks, buckets of water and sponges laying around. We can promise that all victims that went in the stocks did so voluntarily! To finish off the evening, everyone donned their best hats, eye patches, and striped shirts to head down to watch some pirate entertainment with muskets, cannons, and plenty of swashbuckling. Soon after a warm hot chocolate (it's a fancy pirate ship!), the Cubs were taking themselves off to bed for a good night's sleep.

The final morning was a slightly more relaxed affair, but even then there were plenty of activities to participate in. For the brave Cubs, a climb up a tower and abseil back down. Unfortunately, there was no rigging to clamber on or crow's nest. In-between going to the



tuck shop and making dens next to the camp, they did also fit in some telescope making, drumming, and a trip to the Planetarium. That afternoon, the festivities came to a close with a big tug-of-war between Cubs and pirates. I'm still not sure who won or who cheated... they were all pirates!

We hope the Cubs had as much fun as we did!

DINIZULU CUBS (THURSDAY)

The Cubs are now starting to see some of the Badges they have worked on since we started the pack.

We had a campfire in the car park, toasting marshmallows and singing some campfire songs, and as these are all brand new Cubs they had not done this before so it was a fabulous evening – “the best night ever” from one of the Cubs!

We have then decorated crockery bags in preparation for Megacamp. The Cubs cut up and cooked their own stir-fry to celebrate Chinese New Year – some parents who stayed to help were surprised their Cubs ate the stir-fry and we had the “They won't eat that at home!” comments. We celebrated World Book week and then learnt a bit about the Ukraine conflict, making models of temporary accommodation that would be suitable for a family who would otherwise be homeless.

We then made mini succulent gardens for our mums, learnt about first aid, and had lots of practice putting each other in the recovery position and doing slings and bandages. Then the Cubs all tried the Climbing Wall which was a huge success, as was MEGACAMP at Skreens Park, attended by over 1,500 Cubs from Essex.

SCOUT TROOP

The Easter term started off with our formal Patrol reshuffle with team challenges and games. We gained our photography badge at Riffhams campsite, which engaged all the Scouts into taking some arty photos.

We have participated in lots of adventure evenings, first at Jump-street plus using our Group activity equipment such as fencing, climbing, and shooting. We hiked to Riffhams campsite and made a bivvy to sleep in. Two Scouts joined the Explorers for the Bivvy Bag World Challenge – well done on a very cold night.

We entered teams into the District Plainsman Hike – a long hike but our teams made a marvellous effort. Summer term saw us start ticking off tasks towards the Chief Scout Gold Award in the troop. And then we attended the EPIC Scout camp at Skreens Park in June. This was a fantastic event - and now we are excitedly looking forward to our Summer Camp in Dorset.

GROUP ACTIVITIES, VOLUNTEERS, AND LEADERS

While we are always looking for more volunteers to join our leader teams, the Beavers Colonies are both in desperate need of new assistant leaders.

The annual book sale is back in 2022 after the 2021 event was subject to the Covid lockdown. It was well attended and very successful with over 10,000 second-hand books being sold, raising over £4000 in "over the counter" sales, with more funding coming from Barclays sponsorship and internet sales.

Congratulations to our Group Chairman, Malcolm Taylor, who was recently awarded a Bar to his Award for Merit, and to our Treasurer and Beaver assistant John Wallis who was granted the Award for Merit by the Chief Scout.

The wastepaper skip has overflowed on several occasions recently, resulting in the need to now consider having it replaced twice a week rather than once. This is still the major fund-raising activity for the Group raising over £8000 per year.

Scouts and volunteers helped to Plant a Tree for the Jubilee by planting more trees in the new churchyard meadow area.

The Group subsidised a trip for our Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts to see the Chelmsford Scout Gang Show in the Civic Theatre.

Roger Cole

Orchard Springs Women's Institute

We normally meet on the first Wednesday of the month at Broomfield Village Hall at 7:30 pm but as the photo shows we had a picnic/games afternoon in the park behind the Village Hall in August

This is the month when we do not normally meet up but we decided, like last year, to put on a games/ fun afternoon to meet again after Covid. We had fun with guessing games, Pass the Pigs and Roll the Can, including sharing a picnic together. A lot of fun and laughter ensued which is what the WI is all about.

Visitors always welcome at £4 a meeting for an interesting speaker, tea/coffee and biscuits, game, and a chat.

For all enquiries please email me on sheena.ager55@hotmail.co.uk or by mobile on 07816 185 382.

Sheena Ager

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN



News from Broomfield Hospital

NURSE WALKS THE LONG ROAD TO RECOVERY FOR CHARITY

A nurse recovering from Covid has been pounding pavements to raise nearly £3,000 for the unit she was treated on. Staff nurse Caroline Pridmore, from Chelmsford, was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at Broomfield Hospital after catching Covid in December 2020. Her illness was so severe she was placed into an induced coma and spent three months in hospital recovering, with six weeks in critical care.



Caroline set herself a challenge of walking 1km a day for six days to mark the number of weeks she was in critical care to raise money for the unit. She said: "This wasn't an easy challenge for me. My mobility has been affected dramatically and I'm still very short of breath completing tasks which I wouldn't previously have been." Caroline completed her daily walks with members of her family, whom she credits with being the driving force behind her recovery.

Paul Arnold, ICU matron, said: "Caroline's strength and determination is an inspiration to us all. This generous donation will go a long way to help boost the new ICU Rehab Garden which is currently in its planning stages at Broomfield."

BABY CARE THAT HAS NEVER BEEN FORGOTTEN SEES £2,400 DONATION



The neonatal unit at Broomfield Hospital was bursting with pride after it received £2,400 thanks to fantastic care it gave a family nearly ten years ago. Louisa Hicks from Ingatestone gave birth prematurely to her son Harry, who is now a healthy nine-year-old, but she and her husband, Robert, never forgot that kindness in those early days.

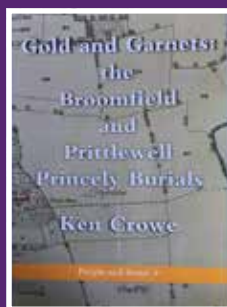
Yvonne Carter, fundraising officer with Mid and South Essex Hospitals Charity, thanked the Freemasons' lodge (Tutela no. 6559). "Thank you to Robert, his wife, Louisa, and his masonic lodge for this generous donation in support of our neonatal unit. Their fundraising will help enhance care for premature and poorly newborns and their families, just like it did all those years ago for Harry."

Anglo-Saxon Burial Site

We are very lucky in Broomfield to be on the site of a princely Anglo-Saxon burial, one of only two so far discovered in Essex, the other being at Prittlewell.

Possibly it was the burial of a high-ranking Anglo-Saxon nobleman from a putative high-status settlement based in Great Waltham. As 'our' burial was found during farm gravel workings at the end of the nineteenth century, it was not excavated to the highest standards, unlike that found at Prittlewell in 2003. Historian, Archaeologist, and Museum Curator Ken Crowe was heavily involved with the excavation of the Prittlewell burial and

brings his expertise to compare what is known from Prittlewell with 'our' burial. Copies of Ken's booklet can be obtained from Broomfield St Mary's Church for £8 or via post for £10.50. Cheques made payable to St Mary's Broomfield PCC should be sent to 2a Hearsall Ave, Broomfield Chelmsford CM1 7DD. Makes you wonder what's still out there to discover!
Neil Wiffen



CHELMSFORD SILVER BAND

When I tell someone I play in Chelmsford Silver Band, the question I frequently get asked is: "What's the difference between a brass band and a silver band?"

The second question is usually: "What instrument do you play?" People rarely ask about our musical programme, and that's a pity because the music we play is the lifeblood of the band. To answer those first two questions, there's no difference between a "brass" and "silver" band except the colour of the instruments. And I play a cornet. Our music requires a more detailed explanation...

Today we are lucky to have a huge repertoire to choose from – traditional marches, arrangements of the classics, musicals, film themes, popular songs from all eras, religious favourites, and some original pieces specially written for the unique combination of instruments that make up a brass band.

Our current programme includes Bohemian Rhapsody (the Queen version!), Jurassic Park, Abba, I Will Follow Him (from Sister Act), Radetzky March, Sweet Caroline (a special Jubilee request), The Great Escape,

The Floral Dance, The Dam Busters March, Panis Angelicus (Franck), Slavonic Dance No 8 (Dvorak), Hallelujah (Leonard Cohen), and A London Celebration (a descriptive piece written especially for brass).

If you play a brass instrument or have played in the past a fancy getting back to it again, you will get a warm welcome at our weekly Wednesday practice night. We start at 7:30pm at Broomfield Methodist Church, Main Road, Broomfield. We welcome all ages and all abilities, and we have instruments to loan if you need one. We don't enter competitions, we play for pleasure, and our engagement lists includes fetes, bandstands, carols at Christmas, supporting local charities, and usually at least one local indoor concert.

You can email us for more information on chelmsfordsilverband@gmail.com or phone our chair Satoko Brook on **07946 674 011**



Friends



at Broomfield Hospital

A few years ago, the Friends provided £40,000 to Broomfield Hospital to enable the purchase of an amazing piece of equipment, a "Fibreoptic Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing Machine" for use by the Speech and Language Therapy Department.

The new equipment benefitted a wide range of patients who presented with difficulty in swallowing and made a very valuable contribution to treating people suffering from neurological disorders; patients who have suffered a stroke and those who have undergone treatment for head and neck cancer.

To further enhance this service, we have recently provided £2,300 for the purchase of a "Phacon Throat Assistant Training Aid".



This will enable staff to practice on non-human models so they can assess and treat in-patients and out-patients effectively across a variety of specialties. This will benefit many patients throughout the Trust.

The Friends also recently donated £10,000 towards the refurbishment of a room for teenagers (for cancer patients) within Phoenix Ward at Broomfield Hospital, which the Friends were very happy to support.

Lastly, during the very hot spell the Friends supplied free sandwiches, cold drinks, and ice creams to the ambulance crews who were waiting outside A&E with their patients; we were delighted to make their wait a little bit more comfortable.

Despite the difficulties caused by Covid, including the hospital not yet wanting high levels of visitors, the Friends Shops are still operating, and donating all of its profits to Broomfield Hospital. This is due entirely to our wonderful volunteers who continue to operate a great service. If you would like to learn more about us, please do get in touch on

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News from Broomfield Library

Summer has been another busy season at Broomfield Library.

More than one hundred children joined in with the traditional Summer Reading Challenge, reading books and earning stickers, certificates, and medals along the way. But just because summer's over it doesn't mean that the reading stops. Broomfield Library has a wide range of books to please all tastes for both young and old alike, with new titles arriving frequently. And remember that if you can't find the book you want, then it may be available to order in from Essex Libraries' extensive catalogue.

One of autumn's highlights is another in the series of Love Your Library days. On Saturday 8th October the theme is the environment. Do come along and join in the fun!

Common Readers is one of five currently active book groups affiliated with Broomfield Library. This group meets once a month on a



Saturday morning in the cosy, private confines of the library's meeting room. Here the group chats about the latest book it has chosen. And Common Readers is a friendly and democratic bunch. Each member takes a turn to select the month's book from whatever genre they choose. Then the staff at the library order the book ready for the next month's meeting.

Common Readers is on the lookout for new members; so, if you enjoy reading and talking about books with like-minded people, then please pop by the library and speak to the staff in the first instance.

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News from Broomfield Parish Church - The Rutherford Project Update

The renovation of the Spire took a setback towards the end of July.



Having stripped off the old shingles it was discovered that some of the timber structure was in a very poor condition and would need a lot of extra work to be brought up to a safe and stable condition sufficient to last another generation or two.

There were two problems. Some of the wood itself was in a poor state but there were also indications of poor structural integrity. The accompanying photographs show just a few examples of these issues. A firm of engineers has examined the structure and provided their findings to Bakers of Danbury, the company chosen by the PCC to carry out the renovation.



Bakers will then provide a costing for the extra work which will now be needed to remedy the situation.

One possibility is that the repairs following the bomb damage in 1943 were less than perfect

in terms of the timber used and the work on the structure of the spire. That does not explain, however, why some of these problems were not remedied when re-shingling took place in 1973.



Some extra work was always going to be a possibility given the age of the spire but it was only when the outer layer of shingles was removed that these problems were revealed in their entirety. A contingency amount was built in to the original budget, but early indications are that that amount will simply not be enough to meet the extra cost. In the meantime, Trudy Stevens is working hard in trying to obtain some extra emergency funding from various grant making bodies. We need to raise a further £65,000 and the work is estimated to take eight weeks longer than originally planned.

Running parallel with the building work is the work on the display area which will be used to showcase Rosemary Rutherford's artistic achievements including the fresco, her stained glass window work and her painting. In addition, her work is painstakingly being researched and ways of bringing this knowledge to our local community is being explored. Work on conserving the fresco is due to start early next year although this will be conditional on the ongoing tower and spire repairs.

You are welcome to come into Church on Tuesday or Thursday mornings, where there will be people available to show you around and discuss the work that is being undertaken. We would also welcome financial contributions to the further work required on the Spire and Tower. This is your church, at the heart of the village and the work we are undertaking on it now will ensure that it is fit for the future

Alun Powell



www.broomfieldessex.co.uk

Broomfield Cricket Club End of Season Update

Well, doesn't time fly when you're having fun? It only feels like yesterday when we last updated but somehow a whole cricket season has passed by.

Our 1st team secured promotion as Division 3 Champions, captain Luke Farrow masterminding a 12-match winning streak in the process. The 2s finished third place in Div. 7, just missing out on going up, but with lots of younger players blooded we're already looking forward to next year as they return bigger and stronger, ready to lead the promotion charge. Speaking of younger players, the U9s, 11s and 13s all performed well, culminating in our U15s winning their division, the first time for nearly 10 years that a Broomfield Colt team have achieved that, so congratulations to skipper Jamie Tweed and all the boys.

Away from the field, ambitious plans to upgrade the club's facilities continue to be developed as we look to build new outdoor nets. Colt participation numbers have never been higher so it's only right that we invest in their future and all funding opportunities are being pursued. Please contact the club if you would like to help with this project.

Cricket may now be going into hibernation, but the warm glow of a successful summer will keep us going through the cold months ahead. If you would like to get involved and join in, come down to the winter nets where sessions for Colts and adults start early next year, details will be published on the website.

All that's left to do now is prepare for the Colt presentation evening on 11th September where the stars of tomorrow will be recognised for their achievements today. Then, of course, the end of season socials for the adult teams where wickets and runs are replaced by the number of poppadums that can be consumed – a competition taken just as seriously!

The England Test team may be struggling but cricket at Broomfield is on the up as we continue to play our part in the village community. We of course hope to report our successes on the field as the season progresses, but even when things don't work out it's difficult to get too down while sitting in the sun with a glass of something cold surrounded by friends and neighbours; come down and join the fun, new players and members are always welcome.

Robin Baker

U15 Colt Manager and 2s Captain





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