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Issue 72 | Spring 2023

News & events from your Parish Council





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Broomfield TIMES

Welcome to the Spring edition of Broomfield Times.

There has been plenty going on in the Village since the last edition of Broomfield Times and it is lovely to see Spring arrive in Broomfield! Donna has been very busy organising many events for the community – please read her articles under the ‘Broomfield Events’ section. The Parish Council have been busy with many projects and the Neighbourhood Plan consultation has now finished with approximately 80 questionnaires submitted.

Again, many thanks must go to the many Volunteers who help to deliver Broomfield Times to every house and business in Broomfield – they go out in all weathers and do a brilliant job! Look out for more volunteering opportunities in the Village – read on! Also thank you to Diane Herbert who helps me edit the articles.

Anyone who has an interesting article, photos, information relevant to Broomfield (articles are subject to editing) – please let me know either by email:

Editor@broomfield-pc.gov.uk or by letter.

Next copy date is 2nd June 2023.

Karen Hurrell, Editor

Whilst Broomfield Times is supported by the Parish Council, the views expressed within it are not necessarily those of the Council. Please note that the Council do not recommend or vet advertisers.

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Broomfield Contacts



Broomfield Parish Council - 158 Main Road Broomfield CM1 7AH. Telephone: [\(01245\) 441660](tel:01245441660)
Website: www.Broomfield-pc.gov.uk

Clerk:	Mark Hembury	clerk@broomfield-pc.gov.uk
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Clerk's Assistant:	Karen Hurrell Planning/Neighbourhood Plan: Editor Broomfield Times:	planning@broomfield-pc.gov.uk editor@broomfield-pc.gov.uk
Community Events and Grant Funding Officer:	Donna Hance	EventsandFunding@broomfield-pc.gov.uk
Village Attendant:	Steve Earley	Broomfield.attendant@broomfield-pc.gov.uk
Broomfield Parish Councillors:	Chair: Margaret Bleet Vice Chair: Ros Mercer Planning: John Blake Finance: John Barnes Village Amenities: Les Steed Village Hall: Angie Faulds Councillors: Wendy Daden; David Howell; Gloria Scott; Angela Thomson; Roy Perry; Jo Bowman; Ray Spiller	Contact via Clerk: clerk@broomfield-pc.gov.uk

Broomfield Village Hall - 158 Main Road Broomfield CM1 7AH. Telephone: [\(01245\) 443902](tel:01245443902)
Website: www.broomfieldvillagehall.com

Village Hall Premises Manager:	Stuart Jones	premisesmanager@broomfieldessex.co.uk
Administration Officer:	Steff Smith	bookings@broomfieldessex.co.uk
Caretaker:	Fitzroy Grant	07919 402862

Other useful contacts:

Chelmsford City Councillors:	Barry Knight Wendy Daden Mike Steel	Gbr.knight@chelmsford.gov.uk Wendy.daden@chelmsford.gov.uk Mike.steel@chelmsford.gov.uk
Essex County Councillors:	Mike Steel	cllr.mike.steel@essex.gov.uk
Member of Parliament:	Kemi Badenoch	Kemi.badenoch@mp@parliament.uk 020 7219 1943
Chelmsford City Council:	Customer Service Centre	01245 606606
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- 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:

- EMPTY Medication blister packs – place in blue bin

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:

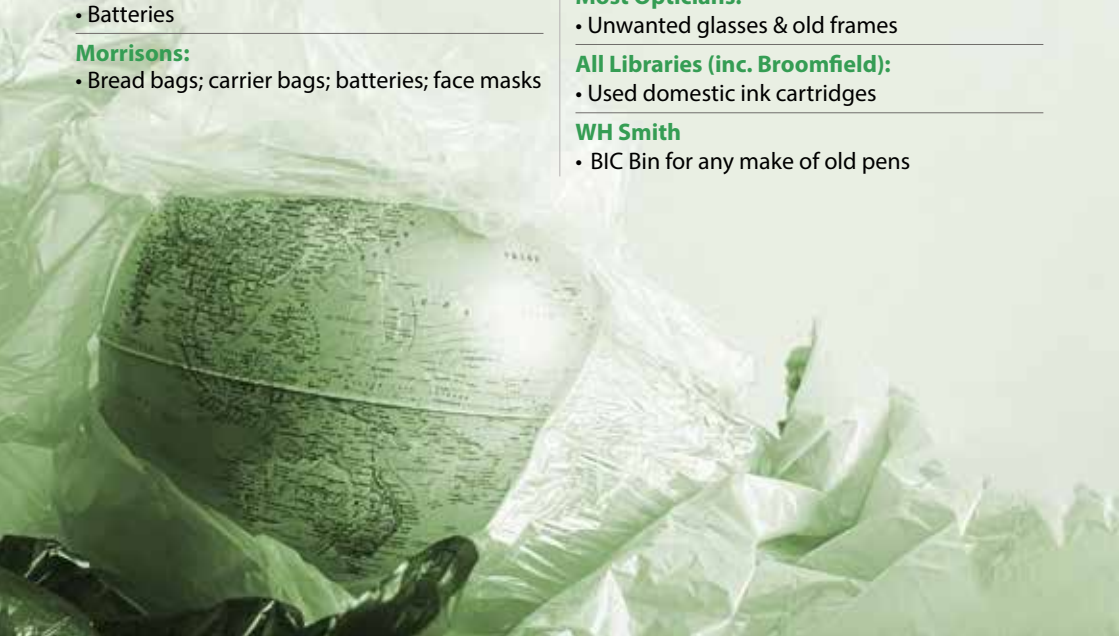
- Unwanted glasses & old frames

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Chairman's Chat

Hello there. At last Spring is showing its beautiful face - snowdrops, cyclamen and crocuses are coming.

The church wall has daffodils nestling next to it (please see front cover).

There is such a lot going on here now it is hard to know where to start. Rewilding will slowly be introduced to our green spaces. Over a hundred young trees are also being planted in the next month or so.

The Village Hall will have solar panels very soon. We will also have a Men's Shed in the near future. The Warm Hub on Thursdays is taking off. Hot meals are served in a very friendly atmosphere.

I have not lived in Broomfield all of my life as so many of you have. I recently heard a woman of my age saying that she had spent a lot of summers going to 'The Shallows' in the river.

Taking a picnic and staying all day, she lamented that children did not seem to do that anymore or climb trees as much as she did.

Would you like to tell us stories of your childhood in Broomfield? Or send us some photos? Enjoy springtime. Best wishes

Cllr Margaret Bleet



Salt Bag Partnership

Essex County Council supplies bags of salt to the Parish Council for use locally during spells of cold weather.

Volunteers are required who will help clear snow and spread salt on pavements and paths at identified locations around the parish.

If you would like to volunteer or need further information, please contact Broomfield Parish Council on **01245 441660**

More details can be found on the Essex County Council website at the following address:

www.essexhighways.org/roads-and-pavements/winter-travel/salt-bag-partnership





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Report from the Parish Council

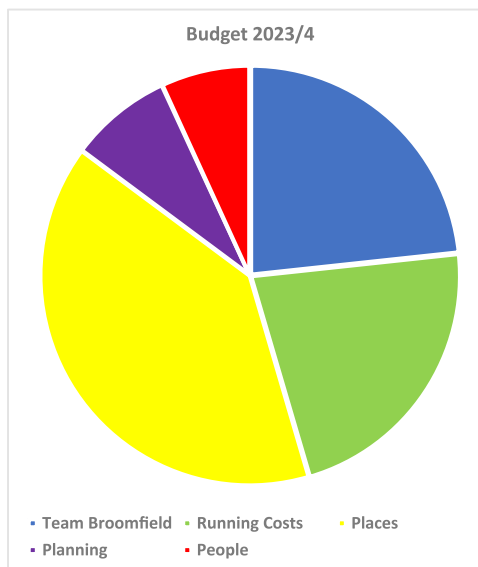


We have the very good news that Donna Hance, Events and Fundraising Manager at the Village Hall was voted Community Champion just before Christmas.

She then had the privilege of turning on the Christmas lights in Chelmsford City Centre. We are immensely proud of Donna and the team at the Village Hall who have increased footfall and introduced many new events. The Premises Manager and Caretaker ensure that the Hall is well looked after, and the Bookings Clerk has been working very hard to ensure a lot of new bookings.

News on the budget for Broomfield Parish Council

You will see from the chart below the main areas where the Parish Council budget is spent. It illustrates the good work that we are doing and our plans for next year.



As you can see in the red section, we have expanded what we provide for many people at the Village Hall. The Village Hall is continuously let out with very few small gaps. Providing a venue for many organisations who offer support to our community.

The innovations are successful, attracting 64 people to a recent weekly coffee morning, with six Parish Councillors talking with residents. The weekly Warm Hub has also been very popular with 30-40 people regularly attending. A hot meal is provided and those people who can, donate to support prolonging the scheme beyond Essex County Council funding.

The physical parish of Broomfield has been changed drastically, however. We will lose Beaulieu and Channels, a total of 534 houses in May - they will now have their own parish. We are sorry to lose them, but City Councillors voted unanimously to make this wide-reaching change.

The consequence of this is that we have a much smaller income than we have ever had. We have had the difficult task to decide to either cut a lot of services or raise some money through Council Tax. We have cut the precept (Council Tax for Parish) sum, in real terms, for several years before this.

Many of the services we provide are essential. The yellow slice above is about the Places/ Environment, some of that is about the safety of trees, maintaining bus stops, village greens or keeping the village tidy. The upkeep of the very successful playground is also included in this slice.

As you will be aware inflation has affected costs for all of us. As our income has drastically reduced costs are going up.

Rather than cut or reduce any of the very popular and necessary services we provide we have made the very difficult decision to ask you for a small amount more each week, 72p for the band D rate.

Not everyone pays full Council Tax. There are discounts and exemptions available:

www.chelmsford.gov.uk/council-tax/problems-paying-your-council-tax/discounts-and-exemptions/

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For instance, single people get a 25% discount, full-time students are exempt.

Some households will not pay Council tax at all, in fact the number of households who are exempt has gone up this year which reduces our income further.

We can make some savings, for instance the Neighbourhood Plan - is now being finalised and so expenditure on that will cease. We have also taken more steps to save money, we are installing solar panels at the Village Hall.

The Village Hall is a charity but generating some of their own electricity will mean less reliance on Parish Council. They are becoming more independent as they have successfully applied for grants for many projects - in the current year almost £20,000.

Despite all of this hard work we still need more money to carry on in a similar way.

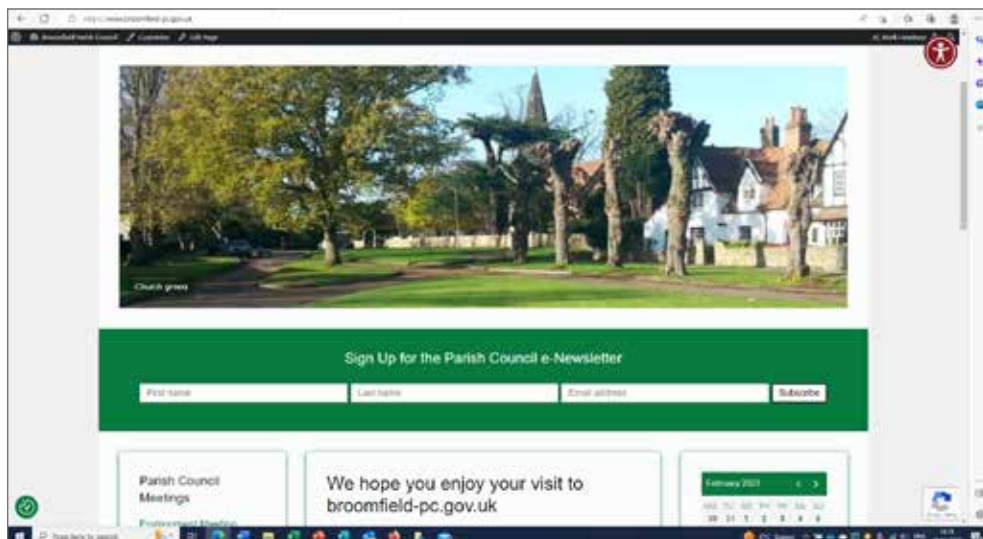
The Council Tax demand will arrive on your doorsteps very soon. The Parish Council portion is very small and we hope that you will understand why we took this very difficult decision.

Cllr Margaret Bleet, Chair

Sign up to Broomfield Parish Council's e-newsletter!

To receive our new e-newsletter simply go to the parish council website at www.broomfield-pc.gov.uk and complete the sign up on the front page – shown below or scan the QR code.

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Report from the Environment Committee

Speed watch

Recently Staff, Councillors and Volunteers had a very informative training session in class and by the roadside courtesy of our Safer Essex Roads Partnership. So, you can expect to see some of the volunteers out and about in various locations in our Village checking on our driving skills and reminding us all to drive safely.

Please be kind and courteous to our team of volunteers they are doing this for all our benefit.



Tree for life

The trees have been ordered and should be arriving shortly for all the babies that have been born in the village during 2022. If you haven't applied for a form yet you still have time, please email Nicola or feel free to pop into the Parish Office (situated inside Broomfield Village Hall)

Essex Wildlife Trust

We recently met with Essex Wildlife Trust to come and advise us how to help with wildlife and how to get the most from these delightful areas – namely Centenary Wood and the pond on Parsonage Green. Essex Wildlife Trust will be back in the spring to survey the areas when things are starting to grow and what can be identified, and to see what wildlife we currently have.



Litter pick

Thank you to all who turned out for this very worthy cause, it was lovely to see so many children amongst the group and witness their enthusiasm. A very successful morning was had - finished off with enjoyable refreshments and delicious cakes. We look forward to seeing some old and new faces on the next litter pick – the more the merrier.

**NEXT LITTER PICK SATURDAY
25th MARCH 2023**

Nicola Goulter, Deputy Clerk

Email: deputy.clerk@broomfield-pc.org.uk
or ring **01245 441660**

Litter Picking Cati

Not to be outdone by her little brother Jack (last edition of BT) Cati has been busy with her Dad picking up litter between the Church and Chelmer Valley High School!

These 2 bags were filled - well done Cati!

Contact Nicola for further details.



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ON BROOMFIELD'S FUTURE



Thank you for having your say on the Neighbourhood Plan!

We've started to work through your responses to the recent consultation. Your comments will be really helpful in showing us if/where changes may be needed. We'll keep you posted.

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Celebrating 10 years since the refurbishment of Broomfield Village Hall

Our lovely Village Hall is now ten years old in its current form (see the extract from the Broomfield Times of in 2014). It was a brave venture to embark on at the time of the banking crisis of 2008/9, and proved a great achievement, creating a lovely building we still enjoy today.



Nowadays we are working hard to keep it a thriving centre serving the community as well as an ideal venue to hire. The addition of gym equipment, MUGA and cycleway has added to its appeal.

Please pop into the hall to view our display of the Community Centre/Village Hall through the decades.



As we look ahead, we continue to modernise with the addition of solar panels with battery storage later this year. The Committee remain as aspirational as their forbears with hopes for EV charging points, and an extension, to meet the future needs of our residents.

It will be an exciting journey that we hope you will share with us!



1971 The opening of Broomfield Community Centre

Defibrillator and Bleed kit - Location Broomfield Village Hall

Our Defib was installed back in 2018 funded by the Parish Council. It is here to provide vital medical assistance when needed.

The unit can be accessed 24/7 when you dial **999** - they will locate the Defib and they will instruct you how to use it. The unit is checked every month within our safety Checks.



Bleed Kit



Our bleed kit was donated by Julie Taylor and the Liam Taylor Legacy, the Village Hall have purchased a box for the Kit to be kept in.

The bleed kit is accessed in the same way as the Defib via **999**. This is life saving equipment for a catastrophic bleed from a stab wound.

Although we hope that the units are not needed and everyone stays safe it's comforting to know they are there if required.



Great Waltham Village Choir

Would you like to be happy in 2023? What a silly question.

Well, we don't sing because we are happy – we are happy because we sing.

Singing gives a sense of togetherness, teamwork and achievement.



It can improve confidence and boost memory.

Singing in a choir supports your mental health and overall wellbeing. It can lower stress levels, improve lung capacity, release endorphins and activate parts of the brain related to emotion.

Why not give it a try with your own Village Choir in 2023?

7.00 pm Great Waltham Primary School, every Thursday. First evening free, £7 per session thereafter.

Broomfield & District U3A

Broomfield u3a is part of a nationwide network of locally run groups with over 430,000 members nationally, that provide a wide range of opportunities to come together to learn, share knowledge and skills, participate in activities and have fun in the process.

We offer a range of special interest and activity groups all run by members, as well as monthly gatherings which include entertaining and informative talks from a diverse selection of guest speakers.

Membership costs only £15.00 per year and is open to everyone who's not working full time.

To find out more about our range of activities, or to make contact, just go to:

www.u3asites.org.uk/broomfield/welcome
or alternatively, why not come along to one of our meetings and check us out?

(Second Wednesday in the month from 1.30 at Broomfield Village Hall)



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Broomfield Cottage Gardeners' Society

The Society has met monthly during the winter months for a series of evening talks covering a range of topics including garden design, growing and using herbs and growing orchids.

The AGM took place in February where we presented a cheque for £1046.68 to Dementia Adventure, our chosen charity for last year.

We are now looking ahead to our summer programme starting with our charity plant sale on 14th May. There will also be a coach trip to Chelsworth Open Gardens on the 25th June and a programme of open garden evenings through the summer for our members. You can find details of all our activities on our website www.broomfieldcottagegardenersociety.co.uk and Facebook pages.

If you have an interest in gardening and would like to join the society please contact Selina at bcgsshowsecretary@gmail.com



Dick Chapman presenting a cheque on behalf of Broomfield Cottage Gardeners' Society to Lee Anderson from Dementia Adventure

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 where you can purchase discounted seeds, compost and other gardening sundries.



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Knit n Natter at Broomfield Village Hall

The first Knit and Natter of 2023 was held on February 15 and over 40 ladies attended!

The next get-together is on March 15th the doors will open earlier (1.30pm to 4pm) allowing an extra 30 minutes for everyone to settle down. We are always happy to see new faces so why not come along and meet and make new friends that share the same interests - knitting, crocheting and all the various handcrafts.

We can promise you will have a good time and it's only £3 and that includes your free tea/ coffee/biscuit. If you want to come along on March 15th then please let Jan Spiller know by phoning **01245 512997** or emailing her on knitandatterbroomfield@aol.com

BROOMFIELD COACH TRIPS

It does seem that local people cannot get enough of the coach trips! Our first trip came in May 2022, and we were hoping to run 2-3 by the end of the year, but local demand for 'more and more' had seen us run no less than 27 coach trips (and all from Broomfield Village Hall) and of those 27 no less than 21 of those trips were completely FULL!

And so, to 2023... already over SIXTY coach trips are booked – and such is the demand we have two coaches going to Hampton Court, two to Buckingham Palace, two to Thursford, two to Kew Gardens, two to Abba Voyage and two to The Royal Albert Hall at Christmas!



But that's not all...we have given in to the demand and arranged two coach holidays – and both have been well received and places booked – September 4th to Warner's 'Cricket St Thomas' for five days and at Christmas 2023 to the four-star Mercure Hotel, Haydock Park (December 23rd for four nights).

If you would like a full list of all the trips or/ and details of the coach holidays simply email rayspiller@aol.com or phone **01245 512997** and he will be happy to drop a list through your letterbox!

Please remember Broomfield Coach Trips are organised and run by local residents Ray and Jan Spiller and they offer just the ONE pick at Broomfield Village Hall and the ONE drop off at the end when you return back to Broomfield.

CAN YOU HELP?

**I have a manual typewriter that needs a small repair and servicing.
Can anyone assist me and give my lovely old typewriter some TLC?**

If so, please contact the Office at the Village Hall on **01245 441660**



Broomfield Events



We have been busy working with other community groups within the village and are pleased to say we are now a Warm Welcome Hub - we are offering a hot lunch every Thursday between 12.30 and 3pm. The groups are here to reduce social isolation and keep warm over the colder months; we have a range of games, puzzles, and books to keep us busy and plenty of chatter to go round.

The Community Larder (situated inside Broomfield Village Hall foyer) is now being used regularly by members of the public; it has been a big help to some of our residents who cannot make the big trip to the supermarket. If you know of anyone who may need these, please do let them know.



It seems such a long time ago that we celebrated Christmas with our Fayre and Tree celebrations, we had great fun, lots of children visited Santa and lots of lovely gifts were purchased.

Our tree festival saw 12 community groups come together to share their personalized trees dedicated to their community group. This year was quite low key, next year we will go bigger!

Puzzle Club is now up and running, 6 people joined us for cake and a cuppa whilst sharing a puzzle, it was a lovely relaxing afternoon, with some great conversation.

January arrived and we were busy celebrating our Environmental Groups around the Village

- our Eco Day took place on 29th January when we shared information on recycling, community gardening, composting and being self-sustainable, we chatted to lots of our community and all shared ideas, lots of free gifts were handed out to our guests.



Eyes down for BINGO in February saw 44 people come along and support our fundraiser, we had a great night and raised £309 for the Village Hall and £118 for the Men's Shed project.



If you are a regular visitor to the David Smith field you may have seen some clearing and digging work happening near Centenary Wood, this is the designated space for our new Community Garden. I am working alongside RHS Hyde Hall to develop a relaxing space, with a garden that will ignite your senses and be visually pleasing. If you would like to help with the garden, then please do let me know.

A Seniors Lunch Easter Buffet will be held on 5th April 2023 Tickets will be on sale at the Village Coffee Morning on 15th March 9.30 till 11.30 tickets will be £10 per person.

Donna Hance, Events & Fundraising



BINGO NIGHT

Saturday 1st
April

7.00 for 7.30
start

Broomfield Village Hall

**CASH PRIZES!
FLYER ROUNDS
AND RAFFLE**

£10 per
person

Includes Bingo book

Contact Donna 07729239613 to book



MAY FAYRE

**Sunday 7th May
Broomfield
Village Hall**

JOIN US FOR A GREAT FAMILY DAY OUT!

- BBQ •
 - Arena Events •
 - Cake & Food Stalls •
- AND LOTS MORE**

12-4pm

**CRAFT
FAYRE**

**FREE
ENTRY**

**BOUNCY
CASTLES**

UPCOMING EVENTS

at the Village Hall

25th March

Quiz Night

7pm

£3 per person

1st April

Bingo

7pm

£10 per person

5th April

Seniors Easter

Buffet Lunch

12pm

£10 per person

TICKET ONLY

30th April

Car Boot Sale

£7.50 Per Car

9 -12

7th May

May Fayre

12-4

**Stalls, craft and
displays**

27th May

Community Litter

Pick

10.30-12.30

27th May

Bingo

7pm

£10 per person

28th May

**Cycle Event
Bike Stamping,
Cycle Scheme
Launch,
bike-a-thon**

12-4

18th June

Car Boot Sale

£7.50 per car

9-12



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Warrior Series by Chantelle (Trainee Yoga teacher at The Wellness Place, Broomfield Village Hall)

In the past few weeks, we have covered poses from the warrior series. The poses derive from an ancient mythical story.

We begin with a grieving husband who tries to summon a powerful warrior as he wants to seek revenge against those that he thought were responsible for his wife's death. However, he was soon consumed with feelings of remorse and his anger turned to compassion.

The story ends with the wife being reborn and finding love with her husband again.

This short story is intended to serve as a reminder that violence or revenge are never a way to reduce our pain. Although it can be difficult at times, we are encouraged to try and replace our anger, pain or insecurity with strength, power, courage and devotion. The poses in this series are strong and powerful and whilst holding them we are encouraged to embody the spirit of a warrior.

Why don't you come along and try out these poses (and many more) at weekly hatha classes for beginners - Broomfield Village Hall on Thursdays between 6.15 - 7.15pm

Booking link: <https://bookinghawk.com/events-overview/the-wellness-place/784>

For further information contact Chantelle via email: info@the-wellnessplace.com





CAN YOU HELP KEEP BROOMFIELD TIDY

Our next litter picks are

25th March

27th May

29th July

10.30 - 12.00

Refreshments provided on return

Sing and Sign

helping babies communicate before speech

Sing and Sign has made a fabulous start to Spring Term at Broomfield Village Hall, welcoming babies and toddlers, new and old to classes. Thank you for all your ongoing enthusiasm and support.

Sing and Sign is the ORIGINAL BABY SIGNING programme recommended by speech and language experts which uses the magic of MUSIC to make learning fun and easy. To sign to and have your baby sign back to you, whether that be to communicate a "basic" need (such as milk, finished, hungry etc) or even a "FUNctional" sign to let you know what they have seen or heard (bird, plane, tree) is an incredible journey from start to finish.

We have three different level of classes running for Babes (0-6mths), Stage 1 (6-18mths) and Stage 2 (15mths+) and it is

never too late to start enjoying communication with your little one.

We welcome all to trial a session for FREE, simply get in touch.

SPACE IS LIMITED however, to keep classes comfy and personable. To book your place, go to www.sasessex.co.uk and select your level.

You will find full details of all classes, locations and availabilities. If you have any questions, please do get in touch and you can find us on Facebook too for all updates and offers.

We also run regular sessions in local NURSERIES and offer birthday PARTIES too!

Email:

martinebrockman@singandsign.co.uk



let's
Puzzle
and have a cuppa
Broomfield Village Hall
2.30-4.30
Sunday 2nd April
Sunday 14th May
Sunday 11th June
Sunday 9th July
Sunday 13th August
Sunday 10th September
Sunday 8th October
Sunday 12th November
Sunday 10th December
£5 per session.
Refreshments included
Puzzle swap shop

Broomfield Allotment Association
Main Road Broomfield

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or call 07729239613



From the City Council

Over the recent years, the government slashed funding to the City Council from £10Million to £3.4million despite

population growth and inflation. The £5 rise in Council tax will only amass £350,000.

- £1.5m spend to increase City Councils' workers' pay with inflation, or we risk losing valued workers (such as refuse collectors) to the private sector.
- £0.5m of inflation caused mostly by fuel price increases.

In 2021/22, CCC recorded 866 new dwelling completions for the financial year. This exceeds the annual housing target set by government by 61.

However, the standard method is now The Governments preferred test and produces a local housing need of 946 new homes per year, which is above the Objectively Assessed Housing Need of 805 homes per year a point of focus in the latest Local Plan review.

I am part of a group to scrutinise the theatre refurbishment and value for money.

The majority of residents in Mill Lane and White Mead supported double yellow lines just on the corners, consequently these applications are progressing. The process takes approximately 18 months to facilitate action. Put the kettle on.

Numerous residents have requested more dog bins. CCC is reluctant to supply more due to the cost of servicing them and operating on limited funds. On the new developments this will depend on open space.

The Park and Ride consultation is underway to expand Chelmer Valley by 500 spaces. The City Council are reviewing how to connect the P&R via walking and cycling, along the A130 with a focus to Broomfield Hospital.

The Hospital cycle path has been a huge success to prevent flooding outside the school. The safety concerns regarding the horse field (Night Pasture) retaining the existing right of way over the cycle path, this is not something that could ever be removed. Steps have been taken to offer more attractive access but priorities are different from both sides. This is still a trial surface and if you have any comments about it, I would be interested in your feedback.

The most compliments I receive is regarding public places team. They respond effectively to your requests, to prune hedges, even planting a tree! They efficiently addressed the dangerous growth entering Broomhall Road within hours.

Chelmsford maintains much of the open space on behalf of Essex County Council with £90k ECC budget provided to employ Highway Rangers. Next year The County Council intends withdrawing this funding and this WILL impact your surroundings.

They cover some of the following in relation to the adopted highway:

- Vegetation clearance along paths both from private residences or general hedging that has overgrown to an extent that it is causing problems for pedestrians to pass.
- Cutting back of foot ways where verge has seriously encroached
- Cleaning of Bus Stops and road signs to ensure that they are always looking their best and not covered in algae/graffiti
- Installation of, and maintenance of road signs (i.e. where they have slipped on the poles and look unsightly)
- General litter clearance
- Repainting of various street furniture or Village Gates when required.

Please direct concerns to the County Council we can only hope they reconsider this saving. We are a result of the surroundings we endure.

For more information on any topic, please contact me.

Councillor Wendy Daden



Essex County Council

Parish and City Council Elections 4th May 2023

This May, local elections are happening to elect

councillors to all wards across Chelmsford City Council, as well as some parishes, including Broomfield. Everything you need to know about the elections can be found at www.chelmsford.gov.uk/elections including how to register to vote, Voter ID (a new requirement – passport, photo driving licence, bus pass, blue badges), how to use a postal or proxy vote. I am particularly keen to get people to join their Parish Council – you can find out more at:

www.chelmsford.gov.uk/voting-and-elections/stand-for-election/

I started 20 years ago and initially combined it with full time work in a demanding job, through retirement, and becoming a City Cllr 4 years ago, and a County Cllr 2 years ago. Being a Parish Cllr can mean as little as just attending one meeting a month or being much more actively involved. It is important to have a full range of experiences and ages.

TRAFFIC ISSUES:

I have been working closely with Broomfield PC and the primary school to see what we can do to improve the safety around the school. I managed to get the zebra crossing repainted and also to get sanction for a School Crossing Patrol (SCP) there. I am pleased to advise that we have at last got an applicant for the role, subject to satisfactory checks. I have had the site audited and the signage is satisfactory,



but I have also requested additional safety measure to include wigwags at school entrance/departure times.

I deal with many issues via my email inbox, and most are to do with carriageway and pavement defects. We have just come to the end of a "Member Led Pothole" scheme where each County Cllr was given an allowance of 36 potholes. I contacted all my 10 PCs to nominate their worst holes. It seems some County Cllrs did not use all, or any, of their allowance, so I kept submitting them.

I have submitted over 80 holes, which are progressively being done (should be all done by April). It does mean I have been getting more complaints about roadworks. I have thanked the Highways Cabinet Member for running the scheme and suggested that an equivalent pavement scheme be set up, and he is doing exactly that. With a new member Led scheme of £4M to address more potholes and pavement defects. I will consult with my Parish Councils to select the worst!

HOLLOWGATE UPDATE

Following repeated cutting of the emergency services lock and also removal of the gate to make Hollow Lane a no-through-road, I have arranged for the lane to have a permanent block. Emergency services are okay with this, and a permanent blockage has been put in place.

2023 RIDELONDON-ESSEX

RideLondon will return Sunday 28th May along the same route as last year. This route goes through 3 of the Parish's in my division, but also effects all the others. Because of the issues last year, I insisted on being on the Steering Group and particularly wanted to make sure that the businesses that were badly affected last year, do not suffer the same issues. More info at

www.ridelondon.co.uk/community-info

including info on how local access will operate. There will be two Public Meeting/ Consultations in my division:

- 13th March at Writtle College
- TBD in Great Waltham

RECYCLING CENTRES BOOKING SYSTEM



ECC have decided to implement a booking system for the Recycling Centres from Monday 13th March. This was a Cabinet decision and I have to admit that I am not fully on board with it! I understand this is to help manage waiting times, reduce congestion, and improve the customer experience.

The booking process has already been trialled using the Rayleigh Recycling Centre. I am a member of the Scrutiny Committee that reviews this decision, and I will ensure that the decision is well scrutinised - in terms of benefits and drawbacks (e.g. impact on fly tipping). Some sites do suffer queues, sometimes backing onto major roads. I am told that just applying the booking system to these, could result in residents travelling to other sites and creating queues there. There is no restriction on the number of bookings you can make as long as the waste you are disposing of is household waste. I understand that same day booking will be introduced. More info at

www.essex.gov.uk/news/booking-system-planned-for-essex-recycling-centres

Broomfield Royal British Legion

We would like to thank all our members, supporters and the local community in helping us raise £17,500 towards the national Poppy Appeal total, which was a staggering amount for our branch.

The stand at Morrison's in Newland Springs is our main source of income, this is manned totally by volunteers who gave up their time, to help us achieve this goal.

Our monthly coffee mornings, held in our club continue to be a success, contributing a large donation to the poppy appeal, again

this is done by volunteers who bake the cakes and organise the morning. (See our upcoming dates in the Coffee Morning advert)



In May we look forward to celebrating the coronation of King Charles III. We welcome our new sovereign and wish him well in his role as Patron of the Royal British Legion.

We are also on the lookout for a new Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary to help run the Branch. Any enquiries please contact Dave Judd **07594 664754**



News from Broomfield Hospital

Young patient and fantastic fundraiser, Finley recently donated £1,075 to the Phoenix ward at Broomfield Hospital.

In total, Finley and his family have raised almost £10,000 to benefit the children's ward at Broomfield. His latest donation was courtesy of his nan's brilliant efforts in organising a Christmas experience at The Party Kingdom in 2022. Thank you to Finley and your lovely family.



The Friends at Broomfield Hospital recently funded the following items for Broomfield Hospital. Pictured below are hospital staff with ladies from the Friends who visited the departments to see how this equipment is helping patients:

Friends at Broomfield Hospital

Two 'patient bedwarmers' for Burns ITU (intensive care unit): Funding of £4,200 has provided the Unit with 2 new patient warming devices. Staff from the department kindly explained how the sealed 'mattress pads' sit on top of a mattress (between the mattress

and the patient) and the pads are plugged in and heated to the required temperature to help raise and maintain a patients' body temperature.... particularly critical for patients who have experienced burns ... as where skin is lost it is difficult to maintain body temperature.



Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Sue Boasman for St Andrew's Burns Service, said "We are

extremely grateful to the Friends of Broomfield for so kindly donating the warming devices to benefit our burn patients. These warming devices will ensure patients are kept safe and comfortable during their complex burn treatment".

And also a Phacon Throat Assist for Therapy Services: this is a 'model head' which is used in conjunction with the scope (camera) for staff training. Where patients have difficulty swallowing using this technique therapists can determine many things ... a patients' saliva level, how food and liquid travels down the throat, if there are pockets in the throat where food is collecting and when things 'go down the wrong way'. When the scope is inserted into the nose and down the throat, the inside of the 'model head' replicates a human form. The level of detail is incredible ... as a practical step of the therapists' training, this 'model head' enables staff to perfect their skills before performing patient procedures.



Project Rutherford Update

You may have noticed that the scaffolding surrounding the Tower of St Mary's Church has been partly taken down and yet little work has been undertaken on the roof repairs.

Life is full of complications and so are scaffolding designs apparently. The initial design had not been adhered to and, although deemed safe, did not fulfil the contractor's insurance requirements. A new design has been agreed but this has involved the partial deconstruction of the original scaffolding once temporary bracing of the spire was in situ. Scaffolding to the new design is then to be erected, allowing Bakers to resume the timber repairs and fitting the new firrings, prior to the shakes being fitted. This part of the project was due to be completed in October, so the topping out ceremony will prove an extremely joyous event whenever it does finally occur!

The financing of the extra work on the timbers remains tenuous as currently only half has been raised; we continue to submit funding applications and pray for further financial support.

Inside the church, the space for the exhibition has now been cleared, a ramp installed, and a temporary presentation about the project is displayed. This can be viewed on Tuesday or Thursday mornings when the Church is specially opened. Work on the exhibition design hardware and material to be displayed is now well underway.

The permanent exhibition will be formally opened on Saturday, 25th March when Rosemary Rutherford's great-niece, Naomi Courtney-Luck, will be giving a presentation on the artist's Life and Work. The event starts at 2pm and all are warmly welcomed. Tickets are £5 available from Church, Ros Mercer, or at the door.

Whilst there is too much information to include it all in the display, much will be used to inform both the publications and the internet links that accompany the exhibition. We do hope you will support and enjoy the events we are planning.

So, there is a sense of stasis in some areas whilst great strides forward in others. The project continues to develop, and we appreciate all your prayers of support.

Trudy Stevens,

Co-Lead Project Rutherford St Mary's Church

HOLY WEEK AT BROOMFIELD PARISH CHURCH

Palm Sunday 9.30am

Procession of the Palms

Meet in St. Leonard's Hall

After the procession the Palm Sunday Service will take place in Church.

Maunder Thursday Eucharist 7pm

in Church with Washing of Feet

**Good Friday Reflections at the Cross
2pm in Church**

Sunday 9th April

6.30am - Sunrise Eucharist in Churchyard

9.30am - Easter Celebration with Baptism in Church. All are welcome

1st Broomfield Scout Group

Christmas played a central part in activities at the end of last year.

Whilst the inclement weather meant that Christmas parties for the Thursday Beavers and Dinizulu Pack had to be cancelled - the Kantankye Pack managed to hold a Christmas themed sleepover – which appeared to involve party games and chocolate!

Chocolate re-appeared when Dinizulu Cubs were looking at means of keeping their bodies healthy; I am pleased to report that the emphasis was on healthy eating – fruit, vegetables, protein & carbohydrates and the healthiest cooking methods...

The new term saw some new members joining Kantankye Cub Pack, possibly just in time to be “immortalised” in their own Top Trumps. Both Beaver Colonies and Kantankye undertook a range of construction activities utilising Lego (bridges), K'nex (towers) and junk models (space themes) – with Beavers gaining their builder badges.



In January Burns Night took centre stage for all sections with the young people learning about Scotland, it's flag and the Loch Ness monster – with varied views on haggis (not sure about

the game of “toss the haggis” though, but I'm assured no ‘animals’ were hurt during the game).

Christingle was celebrated by the Dinizulu Pack & Wednesday Beavers learning of its significance in the Christian tradition and decorating their own oranges (to make Christingles).



Always active Kantankye Pack had a Nintendo camp! Mario and Luigi (Cub teams) were tasked with completing Mario themed activities to earn coins and even stars, all whilst looking after Yoshi's eggs. Hiding, cunning, caving, Mario kart races and assault courses were tackled as Wario and Waluigi looked to steal back the eggs over the weekend. A helpful hand came in Toad's trading stall where the teams could spend their hard-earned coins for stars and even their eggs! After many a pioneering structure, squishy biscuits and Luigi games, the cubs managed to keep all the eggs safe.

Meanwhile the Dinizulu Pack will be brushing up their knotting and tent erection skills in anticipation of a pre-Easter sleepover. The Pack have drawn up the menu for a two-course meal which they themselves cook and eat.

They will also learn the importance of keeping the kitchen clean and clearing up after themselves. Good news for all!



Activities may appear to have centred on the land, but the Thursday Beavers have been making paper planes and testing them for distance – several tried to go further than the wall, with one trying to escape from the window! Other aeronautical activities include making world spheres (very messy with paper mâché & balloons!). Kantankye Cubs have been learning about the solar system and how to identify the stars and constellations at night.

District events are also looming on the horizon with the 'Beaver get Busy' craft competition in March and both cub packs entered the District Swimming Gala in February.

We held our annual book sale in mid-February.

As usual a varied selection of books, covering a wide range of fiction & non-fiction were available to all who came. An enormous vote of thanks must go to the core Book Sale Team of Steff, Roger, Sue, John & Linda and their team of helpers who gave up hours during the preceding week to sort and catagorise the books. Once again, the event was a great success raising in excess of £4,000; that is one heck of a lot of books – "this is the highlight of my year" said one visitor.

It is as a consequence of the additional funds that the book sale gives us that we are able to provide a wealth of exciting activities to our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts – but this is not possible without the support of our Beaver, Cub & Scout Teams and others. If you feel able to assist us in any way, please contact me (1stbroomfieldchairman@gmail.com) so that we can see what suits you best.

Malcolm Taylor, Group Chair

Gary K. Steggall



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BROOMFIELD FOOTBALL CLUB

A charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charities Commission



CHARTERED STANDARD CLUB

Jack Petchey Award

Broomfield FC are excited to be awarded gold schemes for both their male and female sides of the club.

The Jack Petchey foundation is looking to reward young people from 11-25 years old who have been proposed by their peers in their group. The award winners will receive a lapel pin, medal and a cash amount to then spend on their team. Both the male and female side of the club are enrolled in the top level of the Jack Petchey Foundation Award Scheme. The scheme was set up to inspire and motivate young people across London and Essex by providing awards to recognise hard work, achievements and positive impact in their community. There are two main award categories – Achievement Awards (11-25 age group only) and Leadership Awards.

This is an amazing opportunity for our players to be recognised for all the hard work they put into the club and be able to raise fund for their teams. The fund will also sponsor educational trips for the teams with visits to England Women at Wembley and the Women's FA Cup planned for our women and girls section. Twice a year we get a Leader's award which highlights a volunteer who has been outstanding in their work with children at the club. Lee Sterland and Matt Newton were the winners for 2022. Lee for his work with the girls section and Matt for above other things his goalie school.

We look forward to working with Jack Petchey foundation in the future and seeing all members of the club rewarded for their incredible work.

For more info please look at

www.jackpetcheyfoundation.org.uk

Individuals awarded this season so far are...

Boys: Alfie Jones, Max Town and Teddy Stone

Girls: Millie Barret, Vegas Berry and Ellie Gosling

FUTURE EVENTS AT BFC

March

Bingo night with band, Date TBC (keep eye on website)

7th May

Kings Coronation BAR/BBQ/BAND/DJ

27th May

Boys mud race away but then back at BFC for BBQ/BAR

3rd June

Girls mud race away but then back at BFC for BBQ/BAR

10th/11th June

Boys tournament funday wknd - stalls, BBQ, BAR, inflatables, DJ

17th/18th June

Girls tournament funday wknd - stalls, BBQ, BAR, inflatables, DJ

1st July

Boys End of season presentation - BBQ/BAR

2nd July

Girls End of season presentation - BBQ/BAR

28th Oct

Fright Night Halloween Disco

31st Dec

New Years Eve Party DJ Disco

Check out our website and FB page for any changes to future events and to contact us for any queries regarding event Hire etc. Boot Store is open 2 Saturdays a month for any purchases.

www.broomfield.fc.com

www.facebook.com/broomfield.girlsfootball

www.facebook.com/fcbroomfield

Broomfield Cricket Club Winter update

We start 2023 with the sad news that our much-loved President, John Latham, passed away recently.

John joined the Club in his youth and has been devoted to it ever since as a Player, Captain, Officer and latterly President. For many of us he was an ever-present figure who will be very much missed. John was well known, and hugely respected, in Broomfield and beyond.



happens it's all good prep for the outdoor season which will be upon us before we know it.

Colt nets have been going on for some time and the adult nets are due to start at the end of February, which always serve as a rude reminder for those of us that perhaps didn't make it all the way to the end of dry January, or embark on that new year fitness regime, naively promised as the fireworks went off. Nevermind, at least the nets offer a chance of redemption for all.

As the days start to get a bit longer another cricketing ritual comes into view, preparing the square. Our playing surface has been in fallow over the Winter and now we need to get it ready for the new season, so look out for the army of volunteers trudging down Mill Lane ready to rake, roll and mow the ground back to life. It's all part of the work behind the scenes that goes towards making a successful Club, a club that people like John Latham dedicate their life to, thus ensuring that others can enjoy what he did for so many years. Broomfield cricket club exists solely for the community, feel free to join us and add to the rich history, new members always welcome.

Robin Baker, U15 Coach and 2nd Team Captain



He was in Broomfield Hospital and left us from there so had his wish to pass in the Village, a Village that he loved.

John has left our Club in a good place with a thriving colt section and successful adult teams. Our indoor team still have a chance of promotion which is quite an achievement given that the backbone of the squad is made up of U15s, who in fairness often play better than the more senior members; whatever

