



Broomfield **TIMES**

Issue 77 | Summer 2024

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Broomfield TIMES

Welcome to the Summer edition of Broomfield Times

Lots of interesting articles have come my way again for this edition – thank you to all who have contributed and sorry to those I could not fit in!

We have been addicted to watching our resident blue tits who have nested in our nest box on the Village Hall wall. Their activities are displayed on the monitor inside the Village Hall foyer - fascinating viewing. By the time this edition is published I am sure they will have fledged successfully – fingers crossed.

We have had new electric car charging points installed in the car park - full details of how you can charge your cars are on **page 14** with a discount to Broomfield parishioners too.

Please bring any photos or articles to Broomfield Village Hall during the week (we can copy & return any photos) or email: **editor@broomfield-pc.gov.uk**

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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. The new e-newsletter will contain local news, information on Council meetings and initiatives and lots more...



Karen Hurrell – Editor

Next copy date is 27/08/2024

Thank you to Steve Barrett for providing a photo of a scene near Broomfield Mill. Please send any images you may have taken to editor@broomfield-pc.gov.uk.

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Chairman's news – Annual Review

Thank goodness that summer has arrived. We have had a long, damp winter. I am glad that the sun has come out at last.

Finance: The Parish Council lost a proportion of its residents to contribute towards its budget last year due to the Garden Community Parish Council being formed over at Beaulieu and Channels Estates. This means that we lose income and capital funding but we are pleased to say that we have balanced our books, but we have smaller reserves in our budget now.

Broomfield Events: We have held a very successful Summer Fair including the Civil War Enactment Society and many other displays; we look forward to an even bigger and better Fair this summer (Sunday 21st July). We have continued to provide many community events; Play and Stay on Monday mornings for under 5s; the Wednesday Coffee Mornings; Lunch Clubs on Thursdays which have been very successful with between 50-70 people attending; Art Classes; Bingo; Fun in the Park; Men's Shed; Community Litter Picks. We continue to seek funding and are expanding to run more groups.

Village Hall: The Hall continues to thrive, and is often fully booked. We have recently put parking bays for people with disabilities in a more helpful place and have designated a drop off bay at the front of the hall. We have carried out an accessibility audit and will act on the results as soon as we can fund the necessary changes. We are also improving the kitchen to provide better facilities for hirers.

You will have noticed that we grubbed the old dead hedge out at the front and have replanted. Our solar panels on the Village Hall are working well, both saving money and now helping to pay some of the cost of running the Hall. Two electric vehicle charging points are now installed in the car park - these will soon be available to residents and visitors.

You will have noticed that there are a lot of flowers around the Village Hall which looks wonderful. It is most welcoming now. Last year we did a survey and you responded by changing the car park - 99% of the time it is working very well now. We are soon installing signage in the park. This is being designed by two local artists and Stuart, our Premises Manager. Watch this space.



Environment: We have planted many trees on the David Smith Field and Parsonage Green. All to support the slowdown of climate change and improve our environment.



We have also started to leave some grass long, to encourage insects and wildflowers. I love this small crop of daisies on David Smith Field. The Community Garden is being enlarged thanks to

the Royal British Legion. It is good to work in partnership with them, as we do many other organisations in the village. The Community Garden provides us with a peaceful place to sit, surrounded by birds and flowers.

Planning and Neighbourhood Plan:

We have spent a lot of energy on sharing with you news of the 50m pylons due to be installed behind the Hospital, Church and Chelmer Valley High School. I hope that you were all able to respond to the recent National Grid Consultation.

Our Planning Committee continues to be busy, both in responding to all planning applications in the Village and responding to the National Grid Consultation and also the Local Plan, put forward by Chelmsford City Council.

Continued >

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The Broomfield Neighbourhood Plan is also being consulted on and a referendum will take place over the next few months. It is available at www.broomfieldnp.org.uk/HOME_37952.aspx for you to see.

Parish Council: We have had an exhibition of photographs of Broomfield in the past, some from our own collection and many donated –notably from Peter Marriage, thank you Peter. Some of those photographs are permanently on display in the foyer along with some comfortable seating which we recently added.

In order to deliver all of the things we have done we need our staff. They have worked hard and often been very flexible in delivering all of the projects, working on days off and doing unusual jobs. Thank you all very much.

I also want to thank the other 12 Councillors - all give up their time to serve you and they work hard to find solutions to issues around the village. We have to have a majority vote before we can take on projects and consequently, we often have lively debates as Councillors take their roles very seriously and want to understand the issues thoroughly. It is unusual to have a full complement of Councillors and we have for a while now. - we are proud of that and happy that Broomfield people want to take part.

In particular, I would like to thank Cllr Angie Faulds. She is a very modest person who does not like a fuss. However, for the last three years she has volunteered to run Play and Stay, that means putting the equipment out on Sunday evening and running the group the next morning. On Wednesday she will be making coffee and washing up, often making cakes as well. Then on Thursdays she will be cooking lunch for up to 50 people. She works on those projects with Donna Hance, the Events and Fundraising Manager. In

addition, she has planted many trees, puts out bird food and also waters trees and flowers.



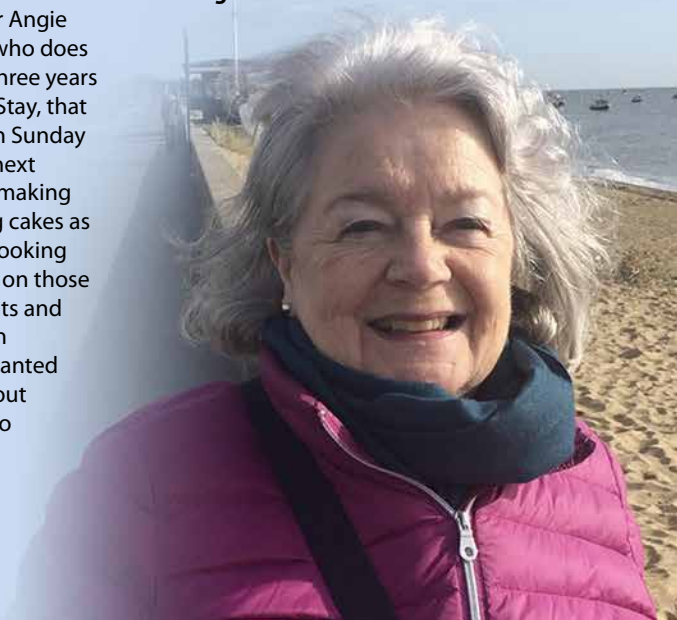
There are not many days when she isn't taking care of the park and our village environment. Thank you, Angie, for your great contribution. Mike Steel as District and County Councillor reports to every meeting in great detail. We appreciate his support in getting a School Crossing Patrol and soon wigwags in School Lane to alert drivers to the school crossing.

We work very closely with Woollard's Charity, the two local churches, Cheerful Chai, Broomfield Football Club, the Cottage Gardeners Society and both schools. We try to work with the Hospital, which employs 5,000 people but we do not have the contacts we did. Hospital traffic is intense morning and evening, and we are working on easing that situation.

We also have a large squad of people who volunteer to support us. Some are on the School Lane Group, working to make our roads safer (Community Speed Watch Team – more volunteers needed!), some wash up at Lunch Club and many more - they are all our Broomfield Buddies.

Thank you very much to all of you who make the Village Hall and Broomfield Park great places and the Village a great place to live. I am very proud of you all, workers and volunteers.

Cllr Margaret Bleet





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Environment Committee report

The Environment Committee and several of our Broomfield Buddies have been busy working hard to improve our surroundings in the village.

The new fence around the allotment site and accompanying hedge are now three quarters in place. The Woodland Trust hedge comprises hawthorn, hazel, goat willow, crab apple and downy birch, all native species which will not only provide a good boundary but a super wildlife habitat. Steve, our Village Attendant also planted the same hedge, with the addition of holly, on Angel Lane at the entrance to the Village Hall.

Thanks to Stuart and Donna who worked hard to provide our wonderful nest box camera coverage of our blue tit with babies. Thanks also to Jed who has laboured hard on several improvements to Centenary Wood. We will be shortly seeking to form a working party to improve the pond in the wood, please let us know if you would be interested.



Due to the generosity of Councillor John Blake, we have several new trees in the park and on Parsonage Green (we hope they will stop people driving across in future). Thanks to Fitz, and again to Steve, for their planting efforts.

The Community Garden and the wall baskets on the hall have been stocked up for summer and we hope they will bring pleasure to you all.

We are continuing to allow patches of long grass on the field and on the greens, informed by the report from the Government in March on insect loss and the threat to food security. These will be mown in late summer/autumn.

Cllr Angie Faulds

News from Centenary Wood...

This year, Centenary Wood at the bottom of the David Smith Field, celebrates 30 years since it was first planted.

It is a young wood in comparison to some but still has a lovely charm about it. Blackcap males singing in the trees and resident Robins that frequent the Community Garden along with the Speckled Wood and Brimstone Butterflies which visit the brambles on the entrance into the Wood, on warmer days.

The Watermint has made a fabulous carpet within the water from the spring and is quite an impressive sight and the yellow Irises will soon be in flower again too.

Snakes-head Fritillarias and Cowslips accompany the Native Bluebells, with their arched single sided clusters of dainty dark blue bells that are sprinkled throughout the back of the Wood. It is a popular little Wood with many in the community visiting and let's hope it thrives in the following years ahead with the help of Community Lottery Grant which has



Speckled Wood Butterfly



Watermint



Funghi



Wood Yellow Iris

been awarded - we all await to hear how this will help in the coming year.

Cllr Sharon Boreham

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Publicly accessible Electric Vehicle charging has arrived in Broomfield!

As a commitment to both improving the infrastructure for residents of Broomfield within the village and contributing towards the switch away from fossil fuels, Broomfield Parish Council has installed two 22KW Electric Vehicle charging points in the Village Hall car park.



The charging points are available 24/7 to anyone wishing to charge their electric vehicle. Access to the charging points is set up with a simple account opened via the Tap Electric app.

The standard cost for charging is 59p per KWh, but for residents of Broomfield Parish there is a discounted rate of 39p per KWh. To obtain access to the discounted rate, residents will need to produce proof of residence and provide an email address, by contacting the Parish Council Clerk, Mark Hembury, on **441660** or via email to **Clerk@broomfield-pc.gov.uk**.

Alternatively, call into the office in person, within the Village Hall. Acceptable proof of address will include a recent Council Tax bill, photographic driving licence and vehicle registration document. Our thanks to Mick Tinsley of MT Electrical Contractors, the installer of the system, who will be the point of contact for on-going support...

The charging points went live on 29th May.



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Volunteers... A BIG thank you

We want to send out a massive thank you to all of our volunteers who have come along and supported the Village Hall with its many projects over the year, at our Environment Day we shared our thanks to many of our volunteers with a certificate of thanks.

There are many chances to volunteer with the Village Hall - our Lunch Club is one of those, we now have many people who work on a rota to share the demands of the washing up and there is a lot of it! Cllr Shirley Perera-Morris has been supporting the lunch club by welcoming everyone when they arrive.



Cllr Angie Faulds has been volunteering on many projects over the last year, she now runs the Stay and Play Group on a Monday morning, Coffee morning on a Wednesday and cooks for 50 every Thursday alongside me, you will often find Angie watering the community garden or planting new plants in the hanging baskets, not forgetting planting trees for our new babies born in the Village.



Cllr Jo Bowman volunteers her time at our fortnightly Community Art Class, the students have enjoyed a range of topics and their progression is amazing.



Over the course of last year we have been working on the Community Garden and the woodland area, Jed has kindly volunteered his time to build a dead heading for our new forest school sessions, he has also been advising us on our stream and pond.



Cllr Sharon Boreham has been working hard keeping our beautiful garden de-headed and weeded, there are plenty of opportunities over the coming months to help with watering.

Cllr David Howell has been very busy litter picking within Broomfield keeping our beautiful village tidy. We often have litter picks to help support our own volunteers.



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Bonging away in Westminster by Brian Reid

Inspired by Jamie Hawkes and his friends scaling Scafell Pike in March, three of our vision impaired members and a volunteer, who all attend the Broomfield Hall Coffee group, decided they might like to climb up the slightly less taxing height needed to visit the Big Ben belfry and raise some Quirky 30 funds to mark the charity's 30th anniversary.

They contacted the UK Parliament saying that they'd like to try the 334 steps and whether there were any adjustments needed for vision impaired visitors. The reply was a disdainful statement that it was not suitable because there are 334 steps it was noisy in the belfry and that the belfry was open to all weathers. Bemused as to why step numbers, noise and weather conditions should affect vision impaired people more than sighted visitors they determined to override these 'unsuitabilities' book their places immediately!

So, in April the four set off to the top of the Elizabeth Tower, which is a massive 97 metres in height, and ascended the 334 steps of the spiral staircase. This gruelling climb involved a trip to the room where the clock itself sat tick tocking away in its lofty solitude, where they sat in awe as it reached the three-quarter hour mark and whirled into action with cables actuating the bells in their chiming, other cable drums whizzing around as the weights below shot downwards.

After this display they ascended to the draughty belfry itself with views across London and stood within touching distance of the bells as the trip's crescendo ended with the hour of 5pm being struck with 21 mellifluous bongs involving 25 hammer strikes. After this spectacle was over, they had an extra treat when they were led through a narrow corridor around the tower behind the four faces of the clock. From here there was a slow but knee jarring descent of the many steps to ground level.



At 97 metres the Elizabeth Tower does not soar to the lofty 987 metres of Scafell Pike, but nonetheless our congratulations and thanks go to Yvonne "Big Hand" Taylor, Suzi "Little Hand"

Clarke, Jenny "Chimes" Clark and Brian "Big Bells" Reid, for overcoming personal as well as institutional challenges to raise an amazing £1,363.91 For Support 4 Sight's Quirky 30.



Support 4 Sight hold coffee mornings at Broomfield Village Hall on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 10:30am-1:45pm, if you would like to join as a member or you would like to volunteer, please come along or call us on **01245 933572** or email at info@support4sight.org.uk for more information.

Broomfield Village

A principle Care Home

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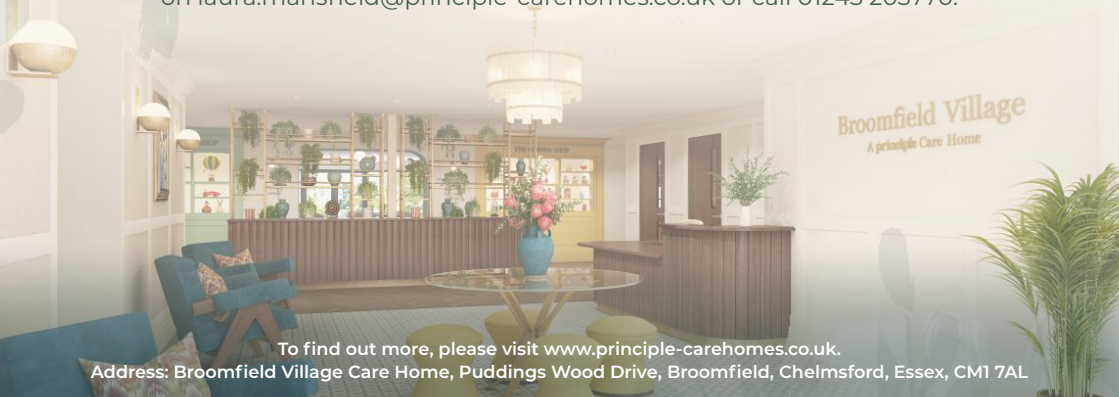
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Broomfield Cottage Gardeners' Society

The summer programme of activities for Broomfield Cottage Gardeners' Society is well underway.

Around 20 of us visited Nick Smith's plant nursery on 12th May where we enjoyed an afternoon of plant retail therapy and tea and cake! There will be lots more open gardens to visit through the summer so if you are interested in joining us and would like to become a member please contact Selina on bcgsshowsecretary@gmail.com

Despite fierce competition from other local events we had excellent support for our charity plant sale on 19th May and raised over £500 for the Men's Shed (our chosen charity for this financial year).

Thanks to all those who either provided plants or came along to purchase – we couldn't do it without you!

Our summer flower and produce show will be held on 21st July as part of Broomfield Village Summer Fayre. Entry is free so come along and see the exhibits. There is something for everyone with classes for flowers, fruit, vegetables, crafts, cookery and photographs as well as separate children's classes.



Broomfield Cottage Gardeners' Society



FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW

Sunday 21st July 2024

AS PART OF THE VILLAGE FAYRE

Broomfield Village Hall

rear of The Angel, Main Road, Broomfield, CM1 7AH



2.00pm to 4.00pm

Plant Stall and Raffle

Cookery, Preserves, Craft, Photography and Children's Classes

For Schedule & Entry Form please phone Show Secretary on 01245 355505 or 01245 443108 or email bcgsshowsecretary@gmail.com

EVERYONE WELCOME

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www.broomfieldcottagegardenersociety.co.uk

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Orchard Springs Women's Institute

Our WI has been a part of Broomfield village since 1961 and we still meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm at Broomfield Village Hall.

We have 40 members of various ages, but all come together for our meetings with enjoyable speakers, some thought-provoking and some demonstrations.

Some of the members enjoy a variety of sub groups, including a busy craft group, a darts team and a luncheon group. We like to participate in village activities including the St Mary's Church Flower Show and to participate with a stall at the village Summer Fayre in July.

New members are always welcome for fun and friendship and for more information please contact me Sheena Ager (President) on email: sheena.ager55@hotmail.co.uk

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money has been held dear for a number of years. In addition since starting the business in 2005, Cloudy2Clear have committed to supporting the local community by providing a service that saves the public both time and money.

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Knit and Natter

Knit and Natter continues to draw ladies from all corners of Broomfield and beyond.

The April meeting had over 40 ladies come along. Our next couple of dates are June 26th and July 24th. Why not phone and book your place (**01245 512997** Jan Spiller) – just £3 and that includes tea/coffee and biscuits from 1:30pm to 4pm... it's always a great afternoon, making and meeting friends that share the same interests.

The recently held Broomfield Traitors (organised and run by Broomfield Coach Trips) was a tremendous success with 24 players and over 70 people in the audience – eventually (just like the television version) we were down to four players – two of which were traitors and they walked away with £250 each. It is hoped that another night for 'Broomfield Traitors' can be held on October 19th.

We continue to support Broomfield Village Hall by giving a monthly donation towards their funds for their permission to allow our passengers to park for free when going on coach trips. The same can be said for The Angel in Broomfield who also allow our passengers to park for free – we recently held a social lunch at The Angel and forty of us assembled

for a first-class lunch which was thoroughly enjoyed.

Broomfield Coach Trips have been inundated with requests for more holidays – and currently we have eight booked: Newcastle, Wales, Scotland, Weymouth, three at Warners venues and Isle of Man. We are already looking at one or two more for 2025.

In May 2024 Broomfield Coach Trips celebrated their second birthday – in those two years have arranged and organised 166 coach excursions and more and more new ideas for coach trips continue to flow in!

You can now book a Coach Trip or holiday online using our website:

www.broomfield-coach-trips.com simply fill the form online. You can also send emails to rayspiller@broomfield-coach-trips.com

or phone Ray Spiller On

01245 512997 and he will be happy to send

you a full list of coach excursions

for Broomfield Coach Trips

– organised and run by local residents.



Community Care Group

Did you volunteer during COVID?

If so, could you help with the revival of a Community Care Group in Broomfield.

There are 10 local Groups within Chelmsford City. We provide local residents with help to shop, getting to doctor's / dentist's surgeries and hospitals.

Volunteers, supported by a co-ordinator, fulfil the requirements of requests for assistance.

VOLUNTEER



Volunteers are contacted with details of the specific 'job' and, if they are available, agree to fulfil the request. Commitment rarely exceeds one hour per week. The service is free to users, though donations are accepted. Costs incurred by drivers are reimbursed as requested.

I am looking to revive the Broomfield Group and if you are interested in helping others in your community, please contact Tony Liversedge on (**01245**) **442382** Secretary of the Chelmsford Association of Voluntary Care Groups.



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Fri: 15:00 - 23:30 | Sat: 12:00 - 23:30

Sun: 12:00 - 22:30

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News from Broomfield Library

There is so much to look forward to at Broomfield Library this coming season.

If your child is starting school this September then they may like to take up the Ready, Steady, Go To School Challenge. Complete seven challenges and win a certificate.

On the same theme, on Saturday 10 August the library is hosting another in the series of Big School Meet Ups, which is your chance to meet other parents of children starting school in September.

And then from Saturday 13th July, it's the big one! Yes, the start of the always popular Summer Reading Challenge, which begins this year with a special "Early Joiners" Day.

To ensure the smooth running of the event over the summer holidays we enlist the help of our Summer Read volunteers.



So if you have a child over 14 who would like to volunteer then please direct them to the Essex Libraries website before 23rd June.

In the meantime we have started to welcome back classes from Broomfield Primary who come to the library every Monday and Wednesday to read books that the staff request for them on a variety of topics.

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Celebrating our restored church spire

The bells rang out and the weathervane sparkled in the sunlight on the afternoon of Sunday 24th March when the new area Bishop and the Archdeacon visited St Mary with St Leonard's, Broomfield Parish Church, for a celebratory service.



The building works part of Project Rutherford are complete as every villager will have seen when the scaffolding was removed. The spire is re roofed, this time with robust oak shakes (riven not sawn) backed by stainless steel plates to challenge any

woodpecker. The tower has been repointed with lime mortar that breathes, rather than hard Portland cement that just holds in the moisture. And, to top it all, the weathervane that has been absent for many years has been re-gilded and once again stands tall above the village.

It was a community event with representatives of the Parish Council, grant making bodies both local and county wide, many local people as well as regular worshippers.

The Bishop extolled the Rutherford fresco in the tower that was the focus of the major grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. They do not give money to mend churches, but they funded the preservation of this unique wartime artwork, making it the centrepiece of the heritage project for learning, conservation and wellbeing.



After viewing the fresco in the newly refurbished tower that now forms a place for quiet reflection, together with the exhibition at the back of the church that celebrates the life and works of Rosemary Rutherford, the artist daughter of the

wartime vicar, those who came enjoyed a glass of bubbly and lots of cake.

Do come and visit the church to see for yourself the fresco and the exhibition as well as experiencing the stillness and peace of our ancient church. It is open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings 10.30am – 12.30pm, after services on Sundays, by arrangement and also for talks and concerts. See the church website for more history of the project and the church itself.

www.stmarybroomfield.org

Friends

at Broomfield Hospital

News from Broomfield Hospital



Maternity department: - Sara Steady: the Friends' donation of £930 has funded a Sara Steady standing aid for our Maternity department. Members of the Friends met with Matron Harriet, Midwives Hope & Su, Therapy Assistant, Alex and MCA Emma... seen here demonstrating how to use the equipment. They explained that many ladies... both pre and post childbirth will benefit from being able to use the standing aid – which enables a dignified patient transfer between bed and chair, bed to bathroom etc. where sometimes ladies have mobility issues or post-surgery weakness. It was a pleasure to visit the department and see the Sara Steady in action!

Manual Handling team: - Hoverjacks: we are pleased to have donated £13,800 to the Manual Handling team which has funded 2 Hoverjacks. It was exciting for members of the Friends to meet with Manual Handling Advisors Bernadette & Scott and Falls Improvement Specialist Practitioner, Carrie for a demonstration! The Hoverjack, they explained, is used to retrieve a patient from a fall... by easily sliding the fabric 'bag' beneath the patient. Once in place (and with staff reassuring the patient) warm air gently inflates the 'bag' and comfortably elevates the patient from the ground... distributing their weight



accordingly and providing the correct spinal support. Staff are in control of how much inflation is required etc. The 'bag' which has now become a type of mattress... sits on 4 inflated chambers of air which then raises the 'mattress' to bed/trolley height... allowing comfortable transfer from Hoverjack to bed/trolley. Carrie said: "the Hoverjack acts just like a Hovercraft and can be used in all sorts of situations." They are lightweight and portable, and we can see why they are so pleased with them!

Book sale & tombola



Our Easter Book Sale & Tombola was held in the main atrium at Broomfield Hospital. Here are a group of our 'Friends' ready to start their ticket sales and find some Easter winners on the tombola! The 2 day event was a great success... many books were sold, many tombola tickets were purchased... and we raised over £900 for Broomfield Hospital. As always, our grateful thanks to everyone that donates books to our shops throughout the year... and to our fabulous volunteers for making it such an enjoyable and successful event!



CHURCH MAY FAYRE

**On Saturday 20th
May St Mary's
Church was very**

**pleased to be able to finally run the annual
Church May Fayre on the Church Green.**

We haven't been able to run this since before COVID. We were very pleased that the sun shone bright and many people came along to enjoy the festivities. It was lovely to see so many faces and families enjoying themselves.

We had stalls including an amazing Raffle with a TOP PRIZE of a free holiday caravan, children's games, toys, cakes, plants, ECO, fairtrade, Scouts, crafts, wine & water, refreshments, a bar, candyfloss, slush, popcorn and lots more!

We had classic cars, blood bike, bell ringing, our Rutherford display was on view in the church. We had entertainment including a 'Matilda' display from Chelmer Valley High School, a karate display from Shinjitsu Martial Arts and Line Dancing from the local Broomfield group.



All in all it was a lovely occasion and it was lovely 'TO BE BACK'. We had fun and raised funds for our church and grounds. If anyone would like to get involved with any future events including next years MayFayre please get in touch.

07464 321616

**www.stmarybroomfield.org
stmarybroomfield@gmail.com**

Thank you to those who came along to support and help on the day and to those who helped plan the event.

God Bless.

Can you spot the vicar?





**Farleigh
hospice**

News from Farleigh Hospice

Farleigh launches 2025 Art Trail

Chelmsford will be buzzing next summer when 40 colourful bee sculptures land in the city centre, raising money for Farleigh Hospice. The bees will be decorated by local artists and installed outside places of interest, forming 'Buzz in the City' – Chelmsford's first sculpture art trail.

Organisers at Farleigh are working with Chelmsford For You - the city's Business Improvement District - to create this exciting event with support from Chelmsford City Council. Companies and organisations can be part of Buzz in the City by sponsoring a bee sculpture.

There will also be a learning and education sponsorship programme for schools, youth organisations and community groups who can take part in workshops to design and paint their own 'mini bee' sculpture.

www.farleighhospice.org/arttrail



Forget-me-not service and appeal

Remember your loved ones at Farleigh's 'Forget-me-not reflection and celebration of life' service on Saturday 22nd June at 3pm in the gardens of its hospice building in North Court Road, Broomfield. This relaxed and informal event is free to attend and open to anyone who would like to remember and honour the life of a loved one. For more information, to pre-book tickets and to donate to the Forget-me-not appeal, go to

www.farleighhospice.org/forget-me-not

Open Gardens

Take a wander through beautiful gardens in Little Waltham including a classic car show on 23rd June, Springfield on 30th June and Althorne on 1st September. For more information and tickets, go to

www.farleighhospice.org/gardens

Cycle for Life

Farleigh's popular cycle ride returns on Sunday 8th September! There are three routes of 20, 50 and 100 kilometres for you to choose from, all starting and finishing at Farleigh's hospice building in Broomfield. Bookings open in June at www.farleighhospice.org/cycle





RELAXED EVENTS

AT ALL SCHOOLS IN ENGLAND



Inclusive Survey

As local parents of a child with Special Educational Needs there are a lot of worries you have and big decisions you have to make.

There is a shortage of special educational provisions nationwide. We made a choice to send our non-verbal autistic child to a Mainstream School in our local area. Both coming from a caring background, at Broomfield's local family run Care Agency CiviCare East, we know the importance of inclusion and equality which is second nature to us. It came as a big shock then to us joining the PTA at the School we had chosen to find no events or activities were inclusive. After making many suggestions such as relaxed hours at the beginning of events, lights turned up and music down at discos, separate SEN events, visual aids and prompts and equipment provision such as ear defenders, which have all been dismissed, we decided to begin the petition for relaxed events at all schools in England.

The reason, we believe, is all down to a lack of understanding. A little change can make a big difference. Now is the time to act as children are growing up believing they are not welcome at Social Events. This has a detrimental effect throughout their lives.

Giving all children the opportunity to attend school events will make them feel included,

help to build their confidence, and develop social skills enabling them to reach their full potential in life. Individuals with Learning Difficulties, Autism, ADHD, Hearing Loss, Sight Loss, Communication needs, Physical needs, PTSD, Dementia, or anyone who would benefit from a more relaxed environment could then have a quieter and calmer experience and feel welcome, a part of the community. This may be the pupil or the parent or caregiver.

Fortunately, we have found a great supportive network in CiviCare East, Essex Family Forum and the multi-Schools Council. We would like to thank everyone who has supported us and signed the petition.

We found a very fitting quote the other day "Allowing a student with a hidden disability to struggle academically or socially when all that is needed for success are appropriate accommodations is no different than providing a ramp for a person in a wheelchair."



PLEASE SIGN & SHARE this petition in person or use the QR code for your own material:

<https://chnng.it/Nkrshtc4Ky>



Little Waltham & Great Notley Surgery - Summer Update

Welcome to the latest news from the Surgery.

Firstly, due to high demand at 8am and to make it fair for all patients the decision has been made by the GP Partners, that from 13th of May between the hours of 8am and 9am we will no longer accept walk-ins to make appointments. You will need to call or use the online consultation.

To evaluate the accessibility and ease of the online booking system we will be running a short survey available for completion when attending the surgery.

Secondly, if you receive a text message saying you are due your Spring Covid booster, please be advised that they are not available at the surgery. To book your booster please go to www.nhs.uk/conditions/covid-19/covid-19-vaccination and click on 'Getting a Covid 19 Vaccine'.

We are sure many of you are as concerned as we have high levels of housing development in our

area alongside the lack of provision of healthcare facilities. To this end we have held a meeting with the Integrated Care Board to help clarify the situation and are now planning to hold a workshop with the ICB and representatives from healthcare providers and Parish Councils to see how we can work together to address the situation. If you are interested in attending the workshop, then please check the surgery website under the PPG tab where the date of the workshop will be made available.

One further note, we are experiencing delays with finalising the design of the new website but hope to have it up and running shortly.

For any concerns, questions or suggestions on issues relating to the running of the surgeries then please contact the PPG on lw.gn.ppg@hotmail.com and we will get back to you.

Are you ready for the end of analogue landlines?

Essex County Council's Digital Essex team wants to make residents in Broomfield aware that changes are coming to analogue landlines.

By 2025, traditional phone lines will be replaced by a digital landline service. This means that calls will be made over a broadband line.

For most residents, this change will be straightforward – you'll also get to keep your phone number. Your telephone provider will contact you before anything changes. It is important to respond and discuss what you need to do to ensure your service won't be affected.

The switch to digital landline services could affect some residents. If any of the following apply to you, or someone you know, make sure you contact your telephone provider:

- You don't have broadband
- You rely solely on a landline

- You use a personal alarm or healthcare device
- You live in an area with poor mobile signal
- You have additional needs

If you're confused, worried, unsure, or have any questions, call your telephone provider.

Visit us at an event near you! Digital Essex will be attending events across Essex this Spring and Summer, where we'll be sharing the latest information about changes to phone lines.

We are planning to attend the Chelmsford VolFest on 6th June.

This is subject to change so please see the full list of events at www.superfastessex.org/landline-switch-events

If you'd like to read more about the switch to digital landlines, visit Essex County Council's website: www.essex.gov.uk/landline-switch



BROOMFIELD FOOTBALL CLUB

A charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charities Commission

Thank you and goodbye...



The trustees, committee members, players and parents at Broomfield Football Club would like to say a huge thank you to Lee Sterland for his invaluable contribution over the last 10 years.



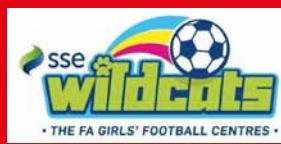
When one of Lee's neighbours asked him to help coach his youth team at Broomfield 10 years ago, Lee couldn't refuse. We are talking about a football man through and through who at the time had about 40 years experience of playing

competitive grassroots football and coaching youngsters at Chelmsford City. Lee played for many clubs including Park Avenue, Chelmsford City, Stanway Rovers, Melbourne United and Writtle FC and collected many league titles and cup winner's medals along the way.



A year or so later, the club needed to appoint a Head Coach / Football Development Officer and the committee realised that there was one outstanding candidate for the job. Lee took some gentle persuading but agreed to take on this position to help drive the club forward. At this time Broomfield had 17 teams comprising 13 boy's teams and 4 men's teams. With the help of Lee's many contacts in the football community we quickly had an Over 45 Veterans team up and running (with Lee marshalling the defence!) and a group of young girls training at the club.

Within a couple of years, Lee had Broomfield set up as a Wildcats Centre for Girls Football - a national FA initiative to drive growth in the female game. The boy's side of the club also continued to grow strongly, and team numbers doubled over the next five years.



As female football at the club became more established, Lee brought in Paul

Goss as Head of Girls Football, and he also played an integral role in developing this side of the club. Thanks to Paul's and Lee's efforts, Broomfield now has 11 girl's teams and a ladies' team. We also have an Over 35s team and a pan-disabled Soccability group training on a Friday evening.

Lee also organised several Macmillan coffee mornings at the football club and helped raise thousands of pounds for the cancer charity. He continued to train the Wildcats and was an active Broomfield committee member until the end of April when he finally decided to step aside to allow more time for family, work and, of course, football commitments - Lee's playing days are not over as he now plays walking football - and very successfully, having recently been selected for the England Over 50's walking football team!



CHARTER STANDARD
CLUB

Saturdays & Sundays are training & matches - food is served from 9am and bar opens from midday. Come on down - join and watch the football

Lee, everyone at the club is hugely grateful for all you have done in helping to drive the club forward and for getting girls and women's football firmly established in Broomfield. It wouldn't have happened without you. Don't be a stranger and we all wish you the best of luck with your England career.

SOCCABILITY SESSIONS

Broomfield FC

Catering for boys and girls aged 5-11 with a disability or additional needs

Friday Evenings 6-7pm
Starting from 8th September

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Chelmer Valley High School
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Andy Sears: 07468 49369
Paul O'Meara: 07841 262731
Nick Emery: 07725 621252

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SCAN ME



We launched the RESPECT MARSHALL initiative on Saturday 11th May and had attendance from the EFA who came and supported the event.

Boys & Girls Football funday weekends coming up...

Come down and join us for football, BBQ, barmusic, slushies, popcorn, ice creams and lots more!

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www.facebook.com/broomfield.girlsfootball
www.broomfield.fc.com

Essex FA Affiliation number: ZL00344

BROOMFIELD F.C. EM 1905

ACCREDITED CLUB ***

Broomfield FC - Boys & Mens 5 aside Funday tournament

Sat 8th June 24 - U7, U12 - U14 and U16s.
Sun 9th June 24 - U8 - U11 and Over 35 Vets. We will also have a Mens tournament but this is invitation only

BBQ, bar, music and refreshments.
Fun for all the family!

Click on the banner at www.broomfieldfc.com to book and pay. Sorry, no academy, JPL or EJA teams!

Mill Lane, Broomfield, CM17BQ

One of the longest running and most popular Essex tournaments. Don't delay, we fill up fast! £45 per team with £40 for second team in same age group.

Weekly with Facebook Match.com

BROOMFIELD WOMEN & GIRLS FC ANNUAL FUNDAY

FIVE-A-SIDE
MAX. 8 PLAYERS PER SQUAD
ENTRY FEE £40, £30 FOR SECOND TEAM IN SAME AGE GROUP

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17TH JUNE	18TH JUNE
U7,U8,U9	U11,U12
U10,U15,U16	U13,U14
WOMEN	

ESSEX COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

MILL LANE, BROOMFIELD, CHELMSFORD, CM1 7ER
CONTACT: BROOMFIELDGIRLSFC@BTINTERNET.COM
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Scouts

1st Broomfield Wednesday Beavers

During the Spring term beavers earned their Emergency Aid 1 badge learning how to call for help, put someone in the recovery position and how to treat minor injuries. We celebrated Chinese New Year and St David's Day (a lot of Welsh cakes were made and eaten that night!) and entered the District Craft Competition. The two highlights of the term were our visit to the Council Chambers and CCTV control and our trip to Skreens park to find the Easter Bunnies – the eggs were well earned that night! Charlotte, Amy, John and Jayne

1st Broomfield Kantankye Cub Pack

(Wednesday) January 2024 saw us back at Belchamps for a return of our popular Egyptian themed Camp. Hieroglyphics, wide games in the dark, making canopic jars, navigating through the pyramid (the caving simulator), and the assault course. Pyramid pioneering and wrapping up Cubs in toilet roll! Campfire and the Leaders' favourite activity, the mummification challenge. Leaders had been very busy and creative to set this up for the Cubs, who responded with great enthusiasm, and a few screams. A great camp as ever, and we all picked up some Ancient Egyptian facts along the way.

Back at the HQ, pack nights continued to be busy, Cubs started completing some of the Essex Challenge activities including a giant marble run, we had a visit from firefighters who brought search and rescue drones, this was a

great evening! Thanks to John D. and Simon from LFB.

We also had a visit from Essex Police who brought uniforms to try on and a squad car to look around, another really interesting meeting. The Cubs also got to take their own fingerprints! Many thanks to PCSOs Pamela and Molly.



Cubs entered the District Handicraft Competition with a number of winners and places, well done Cubs! They made tiny pancakes, cooked over a night light – delicious! Cubs practised putting up tents and had a go on the bouldering wall, John ran a money skills evening for them, and they also prepared routes and hiked around Broomfield. Many of our Cub parents helped out delivering book sale flyers, and also with the book sale set up, sale weekend, providing cakes and the clear up, thanks to all those involved.

We were able to enter two teams into the District Swimming Gala this year, with great success. Our Cubs won the Cub Cup and as this year there was a Scout team when our massive points total was added to the their's this meant 1st Broomfield won the overall trophy, amazing swimming Cubs, they were also brilliant the way they supported and encouraged each other.



We've had another great year with the Cubs, loads of achievements, fun, skills learned, and confidence built. Over 120 badges earned, including 4 Chief Scout's Silver Awards, well done to Ralph, Theo, Freya and Harriet for achieving the highest award in Cubs. Steff, Andrea, Cerian, Maya and Megan

1st Broomfield Beavers 2nd Colony (Thursdays)

2024 kicked off with Civic Week- Learning about democracy and local government. This included the Beavers quizzing several local councillors, testing out the Mayor's chair and meeting bell, before getting a sneak peek at the City's CCTV Hub!

We took one giant leap into February with Space Week! A fun evening spotting the International Space Station flying over Chelmsford, learning about the ISS & Mars Perseverance Rover, before exploring



some famous constellations via pasta & marshmallows obviously!

February also saw our 3rd overnight of the year with a Beavers Around the World themed camp! After going through passport control, the Beavers had a great time taking part in a range of activities (abseiling, low ropes, wobbly ladder, and a nature walk). With the beavers all suitably tired from their various around the world exploits, we finished off with a nice in-flight meal & in-flight movie!



As we approached the start of Spring the Beavers Get Busy competition was upon us! As the reigning holders of the trophy 2nd Colony didn't want to give up the title without a fight! The Beavers submitted entries including edible campfires and teddy sleeping bags. Our entry was capped off with a 3D camp diorama that included a treehouse made almost entirely out of lolly sticks! With competition fierce this year, the 2nd Colony were this years Runners Up, which was a fantastic achievement!



To end the term & welcome in the spring the Beavers headed over to Skreens Activity Centre for a very VERY windy and pretty wet Easter themed hike! But despite the tough conditions the Easter Egg treat to finish saw smiles all round!



As we've entered the spring months the Beavers have continued to keep busy with Earth Day Celebrations, St George's Day Parade & Games Week!



We're all now looking forward to the summer months, where we have lots of other fun filled activities planned!

Also, a big thanks for all our parent helpers who have supported along the way!

Paul (Heron), Sarah (Otter) & Ruth (Kingfisher)

1st Broomfield Beavers 2nd Colony - Section Leaders 1st Broomfield Dinizulu Cub Pack (Thursdays)

In January we went to the City Council Chambers and met some of the local Councillors who told us about what they did, and asked us for what we wanted for the City, we also went down into the basement of the building and saw the CCTV room – so many screens! And we spotted another Scout group going through the city centre.

The District ran it's Cub Handicraft Competition in March so several weeks saw Cubs making pine cone animals, potato print wrapping paper, more sun catchers, bird feeders, paper flowers and edible snowmen. It was the first time we'd entered this and it was really interesting to see what all the other Packs had done, a great effort Cubs. We also had a couple of nights learning about Money Skills with John, this was really good, and then just as Cubs thought they had sussed it, they had to budget for a camp meal and it needed to be healthy, this was quite challenging!

Scouts

We also had our Camps, at Thriftwood where we had the Beavers join us for a day and they had a sleepover whilst we camped, it was a very busy camp! Cubs did science, lots of activities, we had a super campfire with the Beavers. Then we had another camp at Hockley and went to Belchamps for some activities, built some great shelters, made light sabres, Mandalorian Magnets, and our own Death Star, we made star constellations with spaghetti and marshmallows, we had lots of parents join us at different times over this camp which was fantastic help – thank you!

Our last camp was at Riffhams, oh it was a wet one!! but not enough to stop Cubs! We had a lovely campfire with singing led by the Cubs, and marshmallows and smores, we did pioneering ballista's with varying degrees of success!

We hiked out to Danbury fortunately at that point it had stopped raining and the sun appeared, Cubs voted on what to have for tea one night, they built more shelters – these were getting quite technical and played wide games in the woods. We watched the Jungle Book film one night which the Cubs enjoyed.

Thanks to Siobhan and the parents who all pitched in at different points to help! It took 2 days when we got home for the tents to dry out! Ruth, Leo and Sarah

Our thanks to everyone who has helped 1st Broomfield out over the year, if anyone would like to join in with the fun we are always happy to welcome new members to the Leader Team. We'd also really like to have some Young Leaders aged 13 – 18, just drop us an email on broomfieldcubs@live.co.uk



Local Hero Julie

**Our Broomfield HERO
In 1996 Julie gave birth
to a beautiful baby boy
named Jospeh**

At just a few hours old Joseph sadly passed away, Julie managed to get through the difficult time after loosing Jospeh with the support of her

family and friends, but not everyone is so well supported, Julie wanted to be able to share her experience and support other parents through a difficult time. With this at the forefront of Julies mind she set up a phone line to support parents but when she realised there was much more support needed Julie founded a group called Broomfield 3B's alongside Dianne, over the years Julie and Dianne have supported many parents through their support groups and special events.

Some of these parents who Julie has supported decided they would like to

nominate Julie for the One Big Thank You on the BBC's One Show, The film crew came to the Village Hall on a secret mission to film some of the brave mums and Julies family and friends. – it was an emotional afternoon for all involved. The next day Julie was invited along to a Ben Fogle show where she was surprised with her One Big Thank You!

Julies dedication to the 3Bs and to all of the parents and their families and especially to the babies who are no longer here with us is nothing but incredible. Without Julie and Dianne so many parents would be alone in such a difficult time. From all of us at the Parish Council we also want to say a massive thank you.

If you have been affected by the loss of a baby and would like support, please do contact Julie at: broomfieldbabybereavement.com.


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Baby Bereavement**

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