



Broomfield **TIMES**

Issue 79 | Winter 2024

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Broomfield TIMES

Welcome to the Winter edition of Broomfield Times

Happy Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year!



Well, another year is nearly over – how time flies! And Christmas is practically upon us – it is lovely to see the lights and decorations in and around the Village Hall – brightens up a dull day!

You will notice in the 'Now & Then' photos of Mill Lane – I remember driving down the lane to access Broomfield just after I passed my driving test ... hard to imagine that now as it is such a quiet haven for walkers & cyclists between Main Road Broomfield & Essex Regiment Way. If you have any memories of living, travelling or working in Broomfield – please share with us.

Again, thank you to all who have contributed articles, reports and information to be shared with all our Broomfield residents, businesses, shops, hospitals, clubs and all in our community and beyond. Please bring any photos or articles for inclusion in the next issue to Parish Office (inside Broomfield Village Hall - we can copy & return any photos) or email: editor@broomfield-pc.gov.uk.

The next copy date is 28/02/2025

Thank you to Steve Barrett who took the beautiful frost photo on the cover – looking towards Chelmer Valley.

Karen Hurrell – Editor

To view our T&C's, please visit our website
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Broomfield Village Hall

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- Frozen food bags
- Multi-pack wrappers
- Old make-up

Sainsbury's also takes:

- Water filter cartridges; portable batteries

Aldi:

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Morrisons:

- Bread bags; carrier bags; batteries

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

Dunelm: (bin by exit):

- Tea Towels, towels, sheets & pillowcases
- Fabric aprons
- Curtains
- Throws, blankets, duvets & cushion covers
- Fabric tablecloths; runners & placements

B & Q (box by exit):

- Small electrical items
- Light bulbs
- Portable Batteries

Chelmer Village Opticians & Boots High Street Chelmer:

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Most Opticians:

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Chairman's News

**Post Lockdown life;
I joined the Parish
Council when we were in
lockdown.**

Meetings happened online. The Village Hall was closed and quiet. That was a difficult time for everyone.

This week I walked into the Village Hall only to bump into a huge crowd. Lunch Club was opening, the Premises Manager (Stuart) and the Village Attendant (Steve) were busy organising Christmas lights, the Caretaker (Fitz) was putting the tables out and the Events and Fund-Raising Manager (Donna) was organising and cooking lunch with her team of willing volunteers. We have between 50-70 people each attend each week for lunch now. The place was in full swing, and it was wonderful to see. Village Halls have been described as 'triumphant halls of hope and community, of honouring, of social cohesion, practicality, action and play.' Ours is certainly that, it brings joy to many people.

On that day we had extra volunteers, staff from Broomfield Village Care Home, who have been volunteering with us in many ways for a few weeks. Their help is appreciated very much. We look forward to seeing them again, very soon, with their residents, at our coffee mornings.

It is a relief to be out of lockdown. We love that we can come together again. Do you want to tell your COVID story? Go to:

www.everystorymatters.co.uk. It is important that your story is known and remembered.

NAME-CHANGE?

As a Parish Council we are considering changing our name from Broomfield Parish Council to Broomfield Village Council. We have been a parish since 1894 when civil parish councils were formed in England, which allowed us to take over local oversight of civic duties in rural towns and villages.



For the history buffs among you, the act created two new types of local authority, parish councils and district councils, to rationalise the large number of bodies which existed for a variety of activities such as public health, secular burials, water supply and drainage. It also finally removed secular duties from the local church committees and gave them to the new parish councils. So, a long history.

In 1972 an Act was passed which states that we can be named Broomfield Village Council, if we wish to do so.

The word Parish relates to the Church. The 1894 Act made a division between councils and the church. The main reason that we are considering a change is that we are very proud of our village, it is a vibrant and friendly village and unique in many ways. We want to accentuate the delightful nature of our village and what we do.

Please do let us know what you think now but we will also be asking you again next summer when we do our annual survey.

20MPH?

One of our main aims for many years has been to make Broomfield safer for everyone. For many years we have engaged with Essex County Council and residents to make this happen, for example we have regular Community Speed Watch sessions in the

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village and have campaigned successfully, alongside County Councillor Mike Steel for a School Crossing Patrol.

We think an important way to do this is to have a village wide speed limit of 20mph. We know that this is not simple and easy to do and can be controversial. We are also aware that Essex County Council has a Vision Zero ambition to eliminate deaths and serious injuries on the County's roads by 2040. Because even one road death or serious injury is one too many.

One of the ways to achieve this is a 20mph speed limit but this is not yet Essex County Council policy for existing villages. Therefore, we continue to work with Essex County Council to achieve our aim of having a safer village for everyone.

We were very sad to hear that Geof Garwood had passed away recently. He had been Chairman of the Parish Council and made a great contribution to village life. I only met him a few times, he was kind and told great stories. We send condolences to Susan and his friends and family.

Cllr Margaret Bleet

Obituary to ex-Councillor Geof Garwood

Geof was a Broomfield Parish Councillor for around 15 years - he was the Chair of the Finance Committee – diligently overseeing the Parishes finances; Personnel Committee ensuring our staff were happy and also was the Chair of the Parish Council for a while too.

He was a lovely man to work with, always had a smile and a great sense of humour. He was often seen helping in the community too from painting the telephone box, play equipment and helping with many projects being undertaken inside or out. He was also the Sports Editor for Broomfield Times. Here he is receiving the Parish Council's Quality Status Award from the Mayor of Chelmsford in 2012. His funeral took place on Tuesday 2nd December at St Mary's Church and was very well attended.

Karen Hurrell - Editor





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Neighbourhood Plan Referendum

Early next year, you'll get a chance to vote on the Broomfield Neighbourhood Plan.



The Neighbourhood Plan (NP) has been in the making since 2016. Soon (probably in February), the years of blood sweat and tears will be over. A polling card will land on your doormat telling you when and where you can vote - just like for an

election. But instead of choosing an MP or local councillor, it will ask you to say 'yes' or 'no' to a question: So, what is a neighbourhood plan? And what's been going on in Broomfield?

Do you want Chelmsford City Council to use the neighbourhood plan for Broomfield to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?

What is a neighbourhood plan?

It's a plan by the local community for its own future. Government guidance says:

'Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to shape the development and growth of their local area. They are able to choose where they want new homes, shops and offices to be built, have their say on what those new buildings should look like and what infrastructure should be provided.'

Without an NP, planning is decided at a Chelmsford district level or higher up. The Parish Council wanted our local Broomfield community to have a bigger say.

Consultation Since 2016, there has been masses of consultation – open days, questionnaires, surveys, research, etc – to help decide what the Plan should say. You may remember coming to the Open Days or filling in comment forms 2 years ago, as part of our formal Parish Council consultation.

The City Council also did another formal consultation earlier this year. In summary, this is **what you told us:**

You like or love:

- The countryside around Broomfield
- In particular, the tranquillity, openness, opportunity for recreation, natural break between settlements, wildlife and views
- Living in a village close to Chelmsford but feels separate, with its own sense of identity
- Broomfield's historic buildings and sense of heritage
- The existing community facilities, though nearly half of you would like to see more – particularly a GP surgery.



But you don't like or hate:

- The level of traffic and its impact on village life
- The lack of affordable housing
- 'Modernist' building styles, blocks of flats etc.



So, the NP is based on these views. It contains **planning policies**, which if agreed will be legally binding. Chelmsford planners will use them to decide if planning applications in Broomfield should be approved and, if so, under what conditions. It also contains **community actions and aspirations**. These are not part of the legally binding plan, but the Parish Council will seek to achieve them as opportunities and resources allow. Both the policies and the community actions are the result of what residents have said they want to see.

Conserving the Landscape around Broomfield

Because the countryside is clearly so important to residents, Broomfield's NP is deliberately a 'landscape-led plan'. It pays a lot of detailed attention to identifying what is so special about our countryside and to conserving and enhancing it. If the NP is voted down at the referendum, this focus would be lost. The Chelmsford Local Plan would continue to cover Broomfield and it also seeks to protect the countryside from inappropriate development. But as it covers the whole of Chelmsford District, it has to be more general

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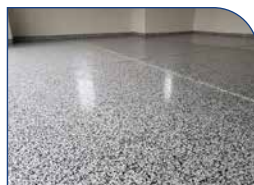
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and doesn't have the specific Broomfield focus which underpins our NP.

If passed at the Referendum, the Neighbourhood Plan will:

Protect the Best:

- The Settlement Gap between Broomfield village and the Chelmsford urban area, keeping the village separate and distinct
- Valued Landscapes, landscape character and important views
- Special pieces of land in and around the village. 15 places are to be protected as 'Local Green Spaces', which means they will be treated like Green Belt and are very unlikely to be developed. They range in size from the small green at Scot's Green up to the fields between Church Green and the Primary School.
- High quality agricultural land (most of the farmland around Broomfield)
- Street scene, with new guidelines and policy to ensure that new buildings blend in well with existing settings and styles
- Three historic parts of the village, which will become Special Character Areas
- Existing woodland, hedgerows and public rights of way.

Improve the Rest. The Plan proposes:



- New green spaces with public access: 1½ hectares south of Broomfield Place and 4 hectares east of Saxon Way (with access to the Anglo-Saxon Burial site)
- New cycle paths and footpaths to the east and the west of the village, so that you can cycle safely into the City Centre
- Traffic reduction measures along Main Road and on smaller roads

- New community facilities as needed, including if possible, a GP surgery
- New hedgerows and woodland belts, especially around the City Council's big new development north of the Hospital
- A strategy to boost use of sustainable green energy
- A Community Land Trust to provide some **genuinely** affordable housing for existing Broomfield residents, in perpetuity. A small site is allocated for this and a GP surgery (if we can get agreement from the NHS).

Passing 'the Examination' Before they can be voted on, neighbourhood plans have to be 'examined' by an independent planning inspector to make sure they are in line with national policy and the City's Local Plan. Fortunately, all the policies in the Broomfield's NP got through – the only modifications required were about the wording of some policies to make them more clear and easier to apply.

To find out more:

Go to www.broomfieldnp.org.uk. You can read the Plan and a lot more supporting information.

Open Day: We are planning to hold one or more Open Days in January. There will be displays showing the key features of the Plan; and people to ask if you have questions. Watch out for the dates. Once the referendum is called, there should be printed copies of the Plan at Broomfield Library and the Parish Council Office in the Village Hall.

Questions: You can email any questions to planning@broomfield-pc.gov.uk or leave a note for us at the Parish Office. We'll be glad to come back to you and clarify any puzzling bits.

Whatever your views, please remember to turn out and vote. The City Council will publish the date of the referendum in due course. Finally, thank you to all the residents and stakeholders who have filled in questionnaires, attended information events and read lots of 'stuff' over the last 8 years. We hope you like the final product!

Cllr John Blake,
Chair of the Neighbourhood Steering Group

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An Update from your County Cllr, and City Cllr, Mike Steel:

Most of my time is spent on dealing with traffic and Highway 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 did get sanction and budget for a School Crossing Patrol (SCP) and we eventually found someone to do it, but they moved on to other things, so we had to recruit again. I am pleased to advise that we appointed a new SCP and also that we are going to get some extra safety signs.

Traffic levels are a problem everywhere. At the ECC Meeting 15th Oct, I proposed a motion to ask Govt to better fund infrastructure especially as they are targeting an additional 1.5M homes throughout the UK with Chelmsford being targeted to increase its already high build rate by 54% to 1,406 pa.

If we have to have more houses, we would like the infrastructure to go with it – roads, surgeries, schools, etc. The motion was passed and ECC will be writing to, and lobbying the Secretary of State, the Housing Minister, all Essex MPs.



We know that Broomfield is already overwhelmed with traffic and it will get worse with the approved planning application for 512 dwellings.

I am pleased to say that the Chelmsford North East Bypass (CNEB) moved a step closer with a contract awarded by ECC. Works are scheduled to begin early 2025 and finish in 2026. The benefit to Broomfield residents should be that the CNEB becomes the main access to Chelmsford, from the north, and with a new station reducing the need to get to central Chelmsford, the B1008 Main Road Broomfield, becomes the last resort (after Essex Regiment Way)! Of course there will still be traffic to the Hospital.

To help with that, ECC have relaunched the Park & Ride shuttle service which runs every half-hour from 6:30am to 8pm, Monday to Friday.

I know this isn't a popular move with staff, but Broomfield Hospital has reintroduced staff parking charges service in order to manage the over-demand and encourage more use of public transport, or P&R. Providing free parking led to a significant increase in the number of staff driving into work, meaning they had unsafe numbers of cars parking on site. Lower-paid staff who are eligible for permits – working at bands 2 and 3 – will not be charged to park. Broomfield Hospital are one of the last hospitals to start issuing parking permits to staff after Covid!

But if we want more people to use public transport, we need to improve the services. ECC aren't in charge of the bus franchises, but they supplement services where bus companies don't serve, usually because the number of passengers make it unviable.

ECC try to fill these gaps, and DigiGo has been very successful as an on demand service. Many people use the on-line app, but for those that are not able to do so, they can phone up.

The phone lines have now been extended and are available from 9am - 5pm, Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays).



Our new phone line number is:
0345 603 7633. www.digigo.co.uk

In terms of infrastructure, one of the areas I have been looking at is Primary Care (Drs surgeries). I am working with LW/Notley Patient Participation Group (PPG) and the surgery partners to see how we can address the real concerns of too many patients and not enough Drs!

I have to say that I have learnt a lot about how primary care is provisioned and that it is the Integrated Care Board (ICB) that manages the process and that the systems are a bit antiquated and not strategic in outlook.



Whilst developers can be asked to fund buildings (such as a surgery), the surgery itself is run as a stand-alone business and the ICB has to go out to tender for bids. The approach hasn't changed in decades! I am trying to help improve this approach and also help the ICB to get more funds from the developers.

ECC & CCC Cllr Mike Steel

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Broomfield Community Speedwatch

More than half of motorists admit to speeding. It is not simply anti-social behaviour.

It endangers lives. Every year in Essex dozens of people are killed in traffic collisions and hundreds injured. Speeding is a major contributory factor.

Traffic in Broomfield has increased massively with the growth of housing estates, expansion of the hospital and through traffic to Braintree and Stansted Airport. The police have limited resources to monitor and catch speeding motorists. And this is where local communities here and across the country have stepped in to lend much-needed support.

Community Speedwatch is a national initiative where local people such as you, using approved detection devices, team up with the police to record details of speeding vehicles.

We have had a Community Speedwatch team active in the village for several years but a lack of volunteers has limited the frequency with which we can monitor traffic. So now is your opportunity to make our local roads safer for your children and others by offering to help. It does not involve a huge commitment timewise. The more people volunteering means we can build up a rota that fits in with everyone's normal activities.

Every step is taken to ensure the safety of volunteers, including the choice of speed-check locations and use of Hi-Viz jackets. Proper training will be given.

Details of offending motorists are simply passed on to Essex Police, which can request

drivers to respect local speed limits. Repeat offenders may be visited by their local police, irrespective of where they live, and, based on collated evidence, further enforcement steps possibly taken.

Both Essex Police and the Safer Essex Roads Partnership support Community Speedwatch, which is seen primarily as a means to educate motorists and prevent traffic accidents. Essex Police alone in 2002 dealt with 152,530 excess speed cases across the county, which highlights the scale of the problem.

Broomfield Community Speedwatch has been co-ordinated in recent times by Parish Council Chair, Councillor Margaret Bleet, but I have agreed to take on that role with the recent approval of the Parish Council - so please give serious thought to joining me and the other volunteers in growing Community Speedwatch locally and in so doing make Broomfield a safer and more enjoyable village in which to live.

Please contact Broomfield Parish Council deputy clerk Nicola Goulter (deputy.clerk@broomfield-pc.gov.uk) with your name and details which will be passed on to me.

Community Speedwatch volunteer and Co-ordinator Geoff Garfield

Now & then.....Mill Lane, Broomfield



Tree for life



This will be the last year that we will be able to accommodate trees on David Smith field for babies born to parents living in Broomfield in 2024.

Of course, there is always the option for the Parish Council to give you a small fruit tree for your garden, and this option will continue in future years. If you would like to apply for one of these options, please contact the parish council on the following email address:

Deputy.Clerk@broomfield-pc.gov.uk



This is Marilyn. She had an operation and has used our outdoor gym to help her recovery. She created her own programme and tries to pop in most days to do it. Be like Marilyn!

Broomfield Methodist Church

**Christmas tree festival @ Village Hall Sunday
Dec. 15th 2pm-5pm**

**Carol Service - Rev Mark Pengelly - Sunday
Dec. 22nd @ 1030am**

**Christmas Eve communion Dec 24th
@ 11.30pm**

Christmas Day Family Service @ 10.30am



Broomfield Events

Christmas is in full swing at the Village Hall, we started the celebrations with our Xmas Fayre, 27 stall holders, 80 mince pies and many cups of tea were drunk, the community purchased gifts and we had jolly good fun!



Events and fundraising chatter

It wasn't long before our next large event and that was the Seniors Christmas lunch, this welcomed people from the Village and surrounding areas and was cooked by the lunch club team so no external caterers, this kept the costs to a minimum, but everyone still had a delicious 2 course lunch and an afternoon of dancing. Our staff at the Village Hall do love a little dance and sing along.



Along side our larger events, we have had busy Coffee Mornings, Stay and Play, Forest Stay and Play, Lunch Clubs, Book Club, Community Art Classes and our new Carers Group which has opened on a Friday Morning.

As you are reading this, we will be celebrating our Tree Festival, running in the Reindeer Fun Run and preparing for the children's Christmas Disco - so much has been planned for our wonderful community.

The Village Hall is a thriving hub for our community, we love welcoming you all in to join us and our hirers at our groups and events, we are looking forward to another fun packed year ahead. If there is something you would like to see happening at the Village Hall please

pop in and see us and share your ideas, if we think it will work, we will make it happen.

Carers Group In September our new Carers Group launched, we have been working on positivity and finding time for us. Being an unpaid carer is exhausting, often we forget about taking time out to look after our own mental health and wellbeing, our Group supports with this by offering a space for unpaid carers to meet, have a cuppa and relax, we often have a massage therapist here to give a head and shoulder massage or some reflexology, we have art activities for people to get involved in or just to have some time out and meet new people or a chat. We know some of our unpaid carers cannot leave their loved ones, so we take a care package out to them, just a little something for them to enjoy. Looking after yourself whilst caring for others is vital and we are here to help support you. If you would like to join our group please do come along on a Friday between 10am and 12pm and see us.

Stay and Play Our Monday Stay and Play offers term time fun for your under 5's, it's a chance for your children to engage with children their own age and parents or carers to meet others, have a natter and get the children out of the house for a couple of hours. Meeting other mums and dads or grandparents can be a real lifeline when you have children, I know some of my longest friendships started at stay and play. The sessions are £3 per child or £5 per family, this includes a healthy snack and drinks.

Donna Hance

Find Balance with Gentle Yoga with Kierra: A Supportive Space for Women

Life can feel overwhelming, especially for women juggling responsibilities at home, work, and beyond. Add hormonal changes like menstruation, perimenopause or menopause to the mix, and stress can become a constant companion.



If you're looking for a way to reset, recharge, and reclaim your calm, Gentle Yoga with Kierra is here to help.

The Benefits of Yoga Yoga is a time-tested practice that brings harmony to the body and mind. Its benefits go far beyond physical fitness—yoga can improve flexibility, reduce stress, and enhance mental clarity. For women experiencing hormonal changes, yoga also helps balance mood, ease symptoms like hot flashes, and support overall well-being. One of yoga's greatest gifts is mindfulness. Taking even an hour to slow down, breathe deeply, and focus on yourself can significantly improve your mood, energy levels, and perspective.

About Gentle Yoga with Kierra Gentle Yoga with Kierra is a fun, informal session designed specifically for women facing life's challenges and hormonal shifts. These 60-minute sessions combine gentle yoga flows, calming breathwork, and restorative relaxation, offering a space to unwind and reconnect with yourself. Perfect for all ages and fitness levels, Gentle Yoga with Kierra emphasises what feels good for your body and mind—not achieving perfect poses. The goal is to leave every session feeling refreshed, balanced, and supported.

A Community for Women What sets Gentle Yoga with Kierra apart is its focus on community. These sessions provide an opportunity to connect with other women who share similar experiences. It's not just about yoga—it's about creating a space to support one another, laugh together, and embrace life's journey with grace.

Join Us If you're ready to find some peace amidst the chaos, join us when Gentle Yoga with Kierra returns on the 9th January. Whether you're looking for relaxation, connection, or simply a little time for yourself, these sessions offer the perfect escape from life's stresses.

Sessions are held at Broomfield Village Hall, Thursday at 7pm. Visit the website to book your first session and take the first step toward feeling better, inside and out.

yogawithkierra@gmail.com
Tel: 07971349932
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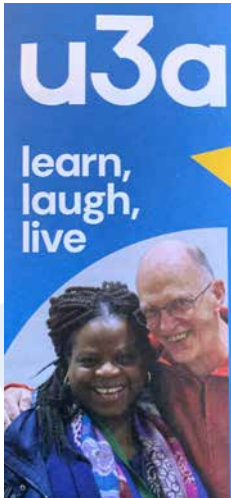
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Your local branch here at Broomfield currently has over 13 different interest /activity groups running - all led by member volunteers.

These include activities and subjects as diverse as; geology, natural history, photography, walking, tai chi and ten-pin bowling.

For a better idea of what membership offers, visit our website:

www.u3asites.org.uk/broomfield/welcome

or come along with no obligation, to one of our monthly gatherings which are held on 2nd Wednesday of the month -1:30pm-3:30ish, where you can chat to members and committee members, as well as enjoying a presentation by a visiting speaker.

We've just had an excellent talk on how to avoid cyber scams by a member of the Police cyber-crime team, and up-coming talks include topics as diverse as 'the origins of English', and 'life as a television continuity announcer.'

Annual membership costs a mere £15 which most agree is money well spent.

NEW Community Care Group in Broomfield

From January 1st, 2025, a NEW Group will provide help to those in need.

The Group will assist with transport to doctors/ dentist surgeries, local hospitals or social events where other forms of transport are not available. Other requests, such as shopping, are considered.

With this The Broomfield Times is a leaflet explaining the full service. The new Group comes under the umbrella of the Chelmsford Association of Voluntary Care Groups (a registered charity) and will initially be organised and supported by the Melbourne Chignal and Newland Spring Group. We already have a group of keen helpers though more volunteers will be welcomed with open arms!

Volunteers, supported by a co-ordinator, fulfil the requests received wherever possible.



A volunteer's commitment is limited to the time one has available, but rarely exceeds one hour per week. When a client makes a request, the co-ordinator will contact a volunteer with the job details to ask if they are available and they are then free to either accept or decline the request. The service is free to users, though donations are accepted. Costs incurred by drivers are reimbursed as requested.

For full information, please contact Tony Liversedge, a co-ordinator, on **01245 442382** or Donna Hance on **01245 443902** at Broomfield Village Hall.

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When talking to the Manager of Cloudy2Clear Chris Miller it became evident that the value of saving their customers

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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News from Broomfield Library

For those children who enjoyed the Summer Reading Challenge this summer – and more than 200 of them did – good news!

The Winter Reading Challenge will be starting across Essex Libraries from 2 January 2025 and lasting until 22 February. This year's theme is The Dragons' Adventure, so we hope to see all our avid young readers in the new year.

In the meantime, of course, Broomfield continues to offer its weekly Rhymetimes for pre-schoolers on Wednesdays at 10am.

For slightly older children then don't forget the Block Builders Construction Club every Saturday from 10am.

We haven't forgotten the adults. If you enjoy reading and would like to join a friendly reading group, then why not give our Common Readers group a try.



They meet in the library once a month to discuss books chosen by a particular group member. The date of the meeting varies – so if you'd like to know more then pop into Broomfield Library and ask a staff member for more information.



Little Waltham & Great Notley Surgery Patient Participation Group - Winter Update

As a PPG we have become increasingly concerned about the rate of housing development in the area supported by appropriate levels of healthcare.

We have been fortunate enough to have presentations from the Integrated Care Board (ICB) and senior planners from which it appears that there are two major problems facing us all. Firstly, Health is not a statutory consultee for planning purposes unlike Highways and Education so has no input into the planning aspects of new developments. Secondly, pressure is being placed on existing surgeries by the requirement to complete a development before any new provision can be put in place. Bearing in mind the current government's determination to proceed with new housing developments, we are engaging with the National Association of Patient Participation Groups to see if collectively we

can put pressure on ministers to bring about change in the procedure.

On another note, the surgery's new website is now up and running which we hope everyone is finding more accessible
www.littlewalthamsurgery.co.uk.

We wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year!



Gary K. Steggall



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(road beside Apple petrol station)

10:00am-12:30pm

Tuesday 17th Dec 2024

**Broomfield Primary School Choir
singing Christmas Carols**

Christmas
Raffle



All proceed go towards

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
POPPY APPEAL

COFFEE MORNING

With homemade cakes
EVERYONE WELCOME



Broomfield British Legion

Saxon Way, Broomfield. CM1 7YA
(road beside Apple petrol station)

Serving between 10am-11:30pm

Tuesday 17th Dec 2024

Tuesday 21st Jan 2025

Tuesday 18th Feb 2025

All proceeds go to:-

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
POPPY APPEAL

Friends at Broomfield Hospital



This year the Friends celebrate 75 wonderful years supporting Broomfield Hospital.

Things have moved on significantly in that time and we have gone from strength to strength... from the days of having a trestle table and a Tupperware box to running two busy shops with electronic tills and point of sale card terminals! Here "acorns and oak trees come to mind!

We have a merry band of volunteers who continue to amaze us with their dedication and commitment. What a fantastic job they all do! With their hard work, their willingness to give up their spare time, and with the support of the Hospital, staff and patients, the Friends have been able to meet many of the donation requests for help received from the Hospital and we are proud to be able to donate more than £104,000 this year!

Please come and see our Christmas Stall:
Friday 6th December 2024... in the Hospital Atrium 'selling' all things Christmas... so please come in and see us if you can!!

Take a look at details below of our most recent donations...

MATERNITY DEPT - BILLIGUN JAUNDICE METER

The Friends' donation of £4,030 has funded a Billigun Jaundice Meter which is being used by the Community Midwifery Team. Jodie Cummings-Sorrell, Midwifery Team Lead told us "Using the Billigun out in the community has meant so many babies have been able to stay with their family at home, rather



than being brought into hospital for tests. Using the meter, we can identify jaundice babies in a timelier manner meaning they are less likely to become unwell! This has been an invaluable piece of kit for the Community Midwifery Team, and we are all very grateful to The Friends for donating this to us! Many thanks from the whole team."

INTENSIVE CARE UNIT - ACTIVITY TROLLIES



Jo Eves, Rehabilitation Lead (Intensive Care Unit) was able to take some time to meet with members of the Friends to demonstrate usage of the Activity Trolleys funded by our recent donation of £711. Rehabilitation is a huge part of the patient journey whilst they are in Intensive Care ... and the trolleys have enabled Jo and her colleagues to store various items, neatly and safely, for patient use.

BREAST UNIT - ADDITIONAL CHAIRS

Members of the Friends' met today with Jade, Moira and Jess (three of the Breast Clinical Nurse Specialists) to see how they have used our recent donations of £3,466 and £1,507 which were requested to fund two areas of additional seating within the unit.



On visiting we found that they have purchased some 'tub chairs' for two rooms where staff can meet and chat to patients privately in a non-clinical environment... thereby giving personal attention to their patient and possibly other family members in a calm and neutral setting.

On Jade's initiative, they have also created a separate 'Information Hub' which can be visited on the way through the unit.

Some of the additional seating has been used in this area, again, to enable patients or family members to sit quietly and take a look at the wide range of information available.

Jade has many more ideas... and we plan to help the Breast unit to achieve their ambition for the room upgrades and the Information Hub... so watch this space!

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Brumfelda News

Following a series of entertaining and informative meetings during 2024, our local history group, Brumfelda, has set meeting dates for 2025.

All meetings will take place at 7.30 p.m. in the church hall of St Mary with St Leonard, Church Green, Broomfield. Dates for your diary are:

- 23rd January
- 24th April
- 10th July
- 9th October

The January meeting will include our first AGM, when officers and other committee members will be elected, a constitution discussed and hopefully approved.

Membership subscriptions for the year will also be payable during January. Refreshments will be available, and if you have ever wondered what happens when archaeologists come across human and other bones in their work, our guest

speaker, landscape archaeologist Simon Coxall, will explain.

If you would like more information about Brumfelda, then please consider joining our mailing list. To do this, please get in touch with us by email to brumfeldahistory@gmail.com providing your full name and contact details.

We look forward to hearing from you!





Farleigh Hospice

News from Farleigh Hospice

Farleigh Hospice has many exciting events for you to enjoy over the next few months.

www.farleighhospice.org/events

HERE ARE SOME HIGHLIGHTS

Light Up A Life Appeal

You can remember a loved one and support your local hospice by donating to Farleigh's Light Up A Life Appeal. Their name can also be added to the charity's Book of Remembrance. Please visit www.farleighhospice.org/lightupalife or call **01245 457351**.

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING: 10TH-12TH JANUARY

A real Christmas tree looks beautiful in your home but what do you do with it in the New Year? Farleigh can collect and recycle your tree for you, which is great for the environment and saves you the bother of disposing of it. Register your tree at www.farleighhospice.org/trees.

REGIFTING: DONATE YOUR UNWANTED GIFTS

If you receive nice presents that you don't want, please donate them to Farleigh. The charity's fundraising team is looking for attractive items suitable for raffle prizes. They can also give you a Regifting Box for your staff room or reception so your colleagues can donate their unwanted gifts -

fundraising@farleighhospice.org or

01245 457411. If you have any other good-quality, saleable donations, please call your local Farleigh store at 257 Broomfield Road to book an appointment to drop them off - **01245 262035**.

BUZZ IN THE CITY 2025 ART TRAIL: SPONSORS AND ARTISTS NEEDED



Next summer, Farleigh is bringing the 'Buzz in the City' sculpture art trail to Chelmsford. 40 large, colourful bee sculptures will be installed outside places of interest around the city centre for 10 weeks and are expected to attract thousands of visitors.

The charity is looking for businesses to sponsor the bees and artists to design and decorate them. Schools, youth organisations, care homes and community groups can also have their own 'mini bee' sculpture to design, decorate and name. To find out more, please contact Farleigh now - email arttrail@farleighhospice.org or visit www.buzzinthecity.co.uk.





Broomfield Cottage Gardeners Society Open Gardens



**Are you new to gardening?
Would you like to be able to buy potting
compost, seeds and other garden sundries
locally?**



We run numerous events throughout the year including summer and autumn shows. We also have a Barn (aka Trading Hut) located on Broomfield Allotments (access between 149 & 151 Main Road, Broomfield), where you can



purchase a wide range of gardening sundries at competitive prices.

If you are interested in learning more please email: bcgsshowsecretary@gmail.com, or call in at the Barn, Sunday Mornings from 10am – 12pm. Find us on Facebook or at www.broomfieldcottagegardeners'society.co.uk.

Membership costs: October 2024 - October 2025 just £5 per year (£4 for 60+)

We look forward to meeting you and sharing our love of gardening.

Chelmer Valley High School

CVHS marked Remembrance Day with a mini service in school followed by the laying of wreaths at the War Memorial on Church Green.



Some of the students were in their uniform of the various organisations they are part of. The students all observed 2 minutes silence in memory of the fallen and students' work has decorated our corridor walls with tributes.

Seen in Ridley Road

This is the caterpillar of the Elephant Hawk Moth.



Its head is not usually that big compared to the rest of the body, but it expands so as the 'eye spots' are more prominent, making it look more menacing when feeling threatened.





WINTER WARMER!
1st Jan - 31 March 2025
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St Marys Church

We love to hear the bells ring in our beautiful village.

Please support your Church... We Need Your Help?!

As you are aware we offer Weddings, Christenings, Funerals in our Church, not to mention Family Services, Eucharist Services and Worship. We also offer Support groups such as 'Pastoral & Bereavement' to our community, along with History talks, and we have our Rutherford Exhibition on display for all to enjoy.

- It will cost us about £120,000 this year to run the church and look after the churchyard, about £10,000 a month.
- The only regular income that St Mary's Broomfield receives is from its congregation which gives money each week or each month.

We get nothing from public funds nor from the Church of England nationally. We totally rely on fundraising events (many of which you have attended, I'm sure), Wedding & Funeral fees and our regular Church givers.

Check out our website and Facebook page where you will see what is on offer...

www.stmarybroomfield.org

www.facebook.com/stmary.broomfield

Groups we offer for you to join in and enjoy are...

- Ladies Group
- Bible Groups
- Church Choir
- Bell Ringing Team
- Church Yard Working Party
- Friends With Faith
- Film and Lunch Club
- Beetle Drive

And for the younger folk...

Light Group age 10+

Little Lambs - under 5s

We run events throughout the year for all to enjoy. We also have an amazing Church Organ and a Fresco painting in our building to upkeep for our community to enjoy when they attend Church.

If you love and care for our Church and want to enjoy this beautiful building and place of worship - the soul of the village now in the future, please help!

Please (if you can) donate to your Church using this QR Code Your gift will be gratefully received.

Thank You & God Bless X



**St. Mary with
St. Leonard**
The Parish church
of Broomfield



CHRISTMAS AT ST MARY'S



Advent Light Family Service

9.30am 15th December

Village Carol Service

5.30pm 22nd December

Crib Services 3pm & 4pm

24th December

Midnight Communion

11.30pm 24th December

Christmas Celebration

with Communion

10.30am 25th December



BROOMFIELD PARISH CHURCH

**St Mary with St Leonard's Church
Broomfield Parish Church**



VILLAGE CAROL SERVICE

5.30pm

Sunday 22nd December

followed by mince pies & mulled wine

St Mary with St Leonard's Church, Broomfield

CHRISTINGLE

**Family
Service**

9.30am

Sunday 19th January

Proceeds to

**The
Children's
Society**

All welcome



**St Mary with St Leonard's Church
Broomfield Parish Church**



**CHRISTMAS EVE
CRIB SERVICES**

Come dressed as a character from the Nativity Story

3pm and 4pm

Tuesday 24th December

1ST BROOMFIELD BEAVERS, 2ND COLONY



This term has flown by so fast, our Beavers have covered a number of activities from fencing and bouldering, to visiting St Andrews Church on Melbourne Avenue and covering our faith badges with Reverends Simon and Mark.



We have celebrated National Apple Day by making individual apple pies, explored the Universe in Space Week and looked at how small good turns can help out both at home and within our community. We joined

up with the Wednesday Beaver Colony for a camp at Thriftwood in October, the weather was amazing that weekend, so Beavers had a blast on the peddlerz, water roller, cresta run, and catapult splat. With lots of other activities to do and enjoy too. We had a great time and lots of parents helping to make the camp fun. We just don't talk about tea... not everything works to plan all the time.

We have been able to award two Chief Scout Bronze Awards this term so far with several of the Beavers very close to this great achievement. The rest of the term we will be looking at all things Christmas, crafts, food and it wouldn't be complete without a party!

1ST BROOMFIELD (KANTANKYE) CUBS



We started the term with an Ancient Greece themed camp in the woods at Riffhams. Some Greek food, some mythical based activities - with a twist of course... the leaders have certainly learned a lot about the Labours of Hercules!

It was an awesome camp, it's so great to see how the Cubs throw themselves into all the activities, really increasing their independence, skills and confidence, and showing really good teamwork.



Even though the nights have been drawing in, Cubs have still been getting out and about this term on our regular pack nights. We delivered the previous

issue of the Broomfield Times (if you live in Longshots, you may have heard us!), Cubs brightened up an area behind the Railway Station by planning up some big pots, and we had an evening playing outside games in the dark. Back at the Scout HQ Cubs worked on getting the last few activities completed to earn the Essex Challenge badge, including creating some great recruitment posters, learning about Diwali, inventing some interesting new team games, growing cress and eating doughnuts without licking their lips! Cubs also competed in their Sixes in a "minute to win it" evening.

Lots to do for the remainder of the term; Cubs will be taking part in Parliament week, learning some practical skills, visiting the Railway Station again, delivering this issue of the Broomfield Times and having a Christmas campfire. We'll finish off with a Christmas sleepover and night hike.



We were very pleased to welcome two new leaders to the team this term, Jayne who moved up from Beavers and Sita who is completely new to Scouting, our thanks to them for giving up their time, we hope they are enjoying themselves too! We still need more adult volunteers though as not all our leaders are available every week, just drop us an email on broomfieldcubs@live.co.uk for more information on joining the team.

DINIZULU CUBS

The Cubs have been very busy this term, with lots of focus on our map skills and also knots, Bagheera turning us into human knot balls that we had to untie ourselves from.



Like the 2nd Beaver Colony we visited St Andrews Church and got to explore the church and learn about how the church is decorated during different seasons and celebrations, we even got to try on some of the Stoles.

We had a fun evening at Skreens playing wide games – we had lots of 'lost adults' they hid really well!! Then we finished with some campfire cooking, we need to remember to have a bigger fire next time to get everything cooked, by the time we finished it was really too nice to have to put out.

We have made Bread, investigated Space, created giant marble runs, and reflecting on Remembrance Day by making some poppies to show our respect.

Still to come this term, we have St Andrews Day and National Tree Week to celebrate as well as lots of Christmas fun and games.

1ST BROOMFIELD SCOUT SECTION

During the summer holiday the Scout Group went to the Essex International Jamboree. We were lucky with the weather and the Scouts got to experience lots of new things, including shooting, cycling, dodgem cars and team building exercises. This term as well as campfires we attended the Remembrance Sunday Parade and laid a wreath.

Come Easter we hope to have a second Scout section up and running. Two of the Beaver Leaders will be moving to this section, so we are in desperate need of replacing these leaders otherwise one of the Beaver sections will have to close. Even if you are not available every week we would love to hear from you, just drop us an email on broomfieldcubs@live.co.uk for more information on joining the team.



BIG THANK YOU

Specsavers in the High Street, have kindly donated 20 high viz jackets to our young people so they can be seen when they are out and about in the dark, so we'd like to thank them for that.

1ST BROOMFIELD BOOK SALE

A reminder our massive annual Book Sale will be on Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd February 2025 at the Scout HQ, please contact broomfieldcubs@live.co.uk for further information.



News from Broomfield Cricket Club

With the capricious weather long banishing any thoughts of outdoor cricket, we look instead to the indoor league where our senior team has won 2 from 3 as our bid for promotion continues.

Even the U9s are getting involved, with regular training and matches continuing over Winter, led by their dedicated coach, Dom Kempster.

Those of us who prefer to watch rather than play enjoyed the recent quiz night and bake off, hosted at the club. The culinary competition was as fierce as ever with the cricket bat in the collage below just edging out the others. The patrons did their best to empty the left-over bar stock but there may still be enough for a Christmas pint or two as the reindeers' circle, any excuse I suppose!

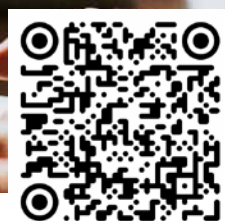
Our AGM will be held in December where we'll plan for the coming season as we look to

support our two Saturday teams, Sunday team, and colts from U9-15. While the wind and rain make it feel an age away, sunnier times will soon be upon us so feel free to contact the club and get involved, new members always welcome!





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BROOMFIELD FOOTBALL CLUB

A charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charities Commission

Sponsorship Welcome?

Our Club is always looking for Sponsorship? Are there any local businesses wanting to sponsor a team and have their business name and logo on the kit and/or sponsor the club as a whole and have their name and logo on the Club Pitch banner, merchandise etc. If interested, please get in touch via our Facebook page or website.



As always Remembrance Sunday is always beautifully marked by BFC, see pics of some of our squads proudly displaying the poppies on their shirts. U12 Lionesses, U8 Rangers, U8 Jaguars and the Women's team. Our U11 Tigers team represented the club at the church service and laid a wreath on behalf of Broomfield FC.

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www.facebook.com/broomfield.girlsfootball
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Saturdays & Sundays are training & matches - food is served from 9am and bar opens from midday.

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