



Broomfield **TIMES**

Issue 81 | Summer 2025

News & events from your Parish Council





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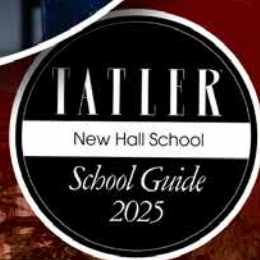
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Broomfield TIMES

WELCOME TO THE 81st EDITION OF BROOMFIELD TIMES!

This month we will say goodbye to Councillor John Blake with whom I have worked with over the last 22 years or so (!) Thank you John for your support, sense of humour, attention to detail, etc... but I must admit I will not miss the last minute deadlines – you will be missed and the Parish Council won't be the same without you!

Also, we say goodbye to Councillor Jo Bowman, who was recently Vice Chair of the Parish Council - whom I personally have enjoyed working with on the Planning Committee – I am sure you will soon find many activities to fill the time Jo.

Thank you to all contributors to our lovely village magazine without whom this would be a very uninteresting edition... Please let me have anything you would like to share with Broomfield – good or bad for our next edition in September! Please email editor@broomfield-pc.org.uk or drop into the Parish Office (inside Broomfield Village Hall. Thanks again to all our volunteers who venture out every quarter to make sure a copy is delivered through every door in the village.

Thank you to Ros Smith for her lovely front cover photo of hedge parsley and hedge cranesbill on the verge outside Broomfield Place, Main Road.

The next copy date is **20th August 2025**

Karen Hurrell – Editor

To view our T&C's, please visit our website
www.communityad.co.uk

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Broomfield Contacts



Broomfield Parish Council - 158 Main Road Broomfield CM1 7AH Telephone **(01245) 441660**

Website: www.Broomfield-pc.gov.uk

Clerk:	Mark Hembury	clerk@broomfield-pc.gov.uk
Clerk's Assistant:	Karen Hurrell Planning/Neighbourhood Plan: Editor Broomfield Times:	planning@broomfield-pc.gov.uk editor@broomfield-pc.gov.uk
Community Events and Grant Funding Officer:	Donna Hance	eventsandFunding@broomfield-pc.gov.uk
Village Attendant:	Steve Earley	broomfield.attendant@broomfield-pc.gov.uk
Broomfield Parish Councillors:	Chair: Margaret Bleet Vice Chair: Shirley Perera- Morris Planning Chair: Peter Travis Finance & Personnel Chair: John Barnes Environment Chair: Angie Faulds Communications Chair: Margaret Bleet Village Hall Chair: Shirley Perera-Morris Councillors: Gloria Scott Angela Thomson, Peter Travis Carol Taylor, Sharon Boreham David Howell, Adewole Odelana	Contact via Clerk: clerk@broomfield-pc.gov.uk

Broomfield Village Hall - 158 Main Road Broomfield CM1 7AH. Telephone: **(01245) 443902**

Website: www.broomfieldvillagehall.com

Village Hall Premises Manager:	Stuart Jones	07365 107015 premises.Manager@broomfield-pc.gov.uk
Administration Officer:	Donna Hance	07365 107042 bookings@broomfield-pc.gov.uk
Caretakers:	Fitzroy Grant Amy Hance	07365 110649 caretaker@broomfield-pc.gov.uk 07365 0110876 eventssupport@broomfield-pc.gov.uk

Other useful contacts:

Chelmsford City Councillors:	Mike Steel Nicola Bugbee Philip Wilson	Mike.steel@chelmsford.gov.uk Nicola.BUGBEE@chelmsford.gov.uk Phillip.WILSON@chelmsford.gov.uk
Essex County Councillors:	Mike Steel	cllr.mike.steel@essex.gov.uk
Member of Parliament:	Kemi Badenoch	Kemi.badenoch@mp@parliament.uk 020 7219 1943
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Guide Dogs for the Blind Glynis & Brian Worboys - 5 Butlers Close Broomfield

- Used stamps
- Foreign Currency
- Small home printer cartridges

Please leave on front door in a sealed bag tied up (no need to knock). Or leave at Broomfield Village Hall for onward transmission

Broomfield Village Hall

- Small batteries/Glasses/Pens/stamps
- Clothes (charity bin outside)
- Pill blister packs

Paper & Cardboard Sacks are available from Broomfield Village Hall

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LOCAL SUPERMARKETS:

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- Flexible plastics
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- Water Filters
- Batteries
- Electrical goods (check with store)

Aldi:

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Morrisons:

- Bread bags; carrier bags; batteries

Argos:

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

Boots High Chelmer:

- Pill blister packs

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

Dunelm: (bin by exit):

- Tea Towels, towels, sheets & pillowcases
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Glass, it's better when it's clear!





Chairman's News

What have we achieved as a Parish Council this year?

NUMBER ONE: is that we have installed wayfinding signs in the park. The main sign near the entrance was made by Jo Bowman,

Barry Renwick and Stuart Jones. The signs will have contributed to our application for a Green Flag Award for the park. The Green Flag Award® scheme recognises and rewards well managed green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for the management of recreational outdoor spaces across the United Kingdom and around the world.

The signs have also contributed to the 'make space for girls project'. Girls from Chelmer Valley High School have worked with the project to design our park to be more welcoming to them. They specifically requested better signage so are very pleased to see the new wayfinding signs. The girls also requested more seating and better lighting. The seating is on its way and some lighting has already been installed. The young women also requested more colourful surroundings; we are pleased to be working with the City Council Public Protection Team to deliver their designs.

NUMBER TWO: we have spent a lot of time trying to discourage deer from eating the crops at the allotments. This seems an intractable problem, but a fence would cost around £60,000 which is not possible at the moment, and we are looking at various solutions.

NUMBER THREE: we produced the Neighbourhood Plan for Broomfield. It has taken many years. It is now in place, and we look forward to bringing the aspirations in it to fruition.

Many thanks to the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party led by John Blake and including many parish councillors and residents; thank you also to Chelmsford City Council for their support throughout the process. This is the website for the Broomfield Neighbourhood Plan: www.broomfieldnp.org.uk

NUMBER FOUR: meanwhile the daily work of the council goes on: the Village Attendant cleans the bus stops, cuts overgrown grass and bushes and plants new trees. He also waters the plants and trees, and other work as needed. He carries out regular safety inspections of the play equipment and the MUGA. We also have external inspections, annually. Sadly, this is even more important than usual as someone has been damaging the play equipment.

NUMBER FIVE: much of the time of the two office staff is spent on paying bills and carefully accounting for the £200,000 budget we have every year. The Council also has a statutory planning function which is very important and often quite time consuming. Broomfield Times is also printed every quarter and distributed to all houses and businesses to keep parishioners informed of events, news, activities etc. The Parish Council are also the sole trustee of the Village Hall Charity and as such we continue to take care of the hall via the hard work of the four staff.

So overall we have six full and part time members of staff.

We are constantly updating and researching to keep the hall in tiptop condition for our hirers. We are pleased to say it is very full and thriving.

NUMBER SIX: throughout the year we regularly provide community events such as Coffee morning, Lunch Club, Forest School, Stay and Play details can be found on the Village Hall website: broomfieldvillagehall.com. During the year we have large events in the summer and at Christmas.

NUMBER SEVEN: we are grateful to our staff without whom none of this would happen and to the 13 Parish councillors who make the difficult decisions about priorities and many of them work very hard to deliver some of our services.

Continued >



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NUMBER EIGHT: Centenary Wood has been thinned so that the understorey can grow - blue bells, primroses etc. We started this work with an assessment on all of our property by Essex Wildlife Trust and have taken all of their advice. We are thrilled that we had a nightingale in the wood in May and many types of butterflies.

NUMBER 9: the School Lane traffic group have worked with a Highways Engineer to try to make School Lane safer. Many thanks to all of the many volunteers, known as Broomfield Buddies, who work so hard on your behalf.

NUMBER 10: in terms of making our Village safer, we are now running regular sessions of the Community Speed Watch. Too many people are driving at 40mph through our mainly 30mph Village. We are also working very hard to get 20mph in School Lane but for the last four years we have not had any joy.... which is very frustrating.

NUMBER 11: last but not least we look after many trees in the Village. They are surveyed every year and we also have a routine of managing trees. This is expensive, but we take pride in keeping them healthy and beautiful and we take our responsibility for your safety very seriously.

IN THE FUTURE: When our parish was shaped differently, 2 years ago, we lost a lot of income when we lost Beaulieu. However, when the Bloor home development, off Blasford Hill, is built, in about five years' time, income will go up as the developers give us money for each house built and then we'll have a larger regular income from the community charge each year. That is when many of our aspirations in the Neighbourhood Plan will come into fruition.

WE ARE ASKING YOU A QUESTION TODAY

Should we change our name?
From "Broomfield Parish Council" to
"Broomfield Village Parish Council"?

Please email clerk@broomfield-pc.org.uk
with your answer



The village is very important to us. I haven't lived here long but I realise what a cohesive community we have here and there is very little change in people living here so personally I would recommend that we are called Broomfield Village Parish Council in future because the Village really means a lot to us all.

Cllr Margaret Bleet

We will miss them!

We are sad that two of our Parish Councillors are leaving this month.



Cllr Jo Bowman has had many roles in her time at Broomfield Parish Council. She has been a supportive Vice Chair, and I will miss her. She will continue teaching the Art Class in the Village Hall.



Cllr John Blake joined the Parish Council 22 years ago when he started working on the Parish Plan and then went on to produce the Village Design Statement alongside volunteers and councillors.

He has been Chair of the Planning Committee for most of this time (as well as chairing the full Parish Council for a short time too).

His main achievement is to bring Broomfield's Neighbourhood Plan to adoption to form part of the Statutory Development Plan which has taken many years to finalise.

He has also worked in liaison with neighbouring parish councils on the recent Pylon proposals, among other threats to our Parish.

We thank both of them for their commitment and industry and will miss them.

Cllr Margaret Bleet

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Victory in Europe Day

Many people feel sober about this day we have joined together at church, Village Hall, home and street party and had fun to replicate the fun of the day in 1945 but we are also solemn.

In the King's speech to the people, he hoped that war would never happen again he thought we would have everlasting peace. He said:

'There is great comfort in the thought that the years of darkness and danger in which the children of our country have grown up are over and, please God, for ever. We shall have failed, and the blood of our dearest will have flowed in vain, if the victory which they died to win does not lead to a lasting peace, founded on justice and good will.'

My generation, born just after the war have had comfortable lives, the welfare state provided us with excellent healthcare housing and education. Somehow, we've not ensured the same for current and future generations. Were we too comfortable? How did we let it slip away?

Personally, I've taken this hard. We failed in our mission since 1945.

In this country and across the rest of the world, most people could not imagine that war in Europe would ever be allowed to happen again.

I believe in justice and I've been disillusioned with national and international politics So I joined the Parish Council to try to make our small corner of the world better. Your Parish Councillors, volunteers and staff work very hard to make our village pleasant, provide good facilities, look after our trees and land and fight for a safer village. Most of us don't want conflict and try to keep the peace. Sadly, there are still people who are only happy when they're disrupting our lives. My hope is in our little village we can continue to take care of each other and have a good life as possible by joining together and sharing good times. Please join us in some of our activities. The summer fair, for instance. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Cllr Margaret Bleet



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Environment Committee Report

I am very pleased to report that our wildflower patch is coming up nicely with ox eye daisy, red and white campion, bird's foot trefoil, lesser knapweed, the delightfully named Yorkshire fog and salad burnett making an appearance by the time of writing.

Our staff and volunteers have undertaken some improvements to the spring and stream in Centenary Wood, with the help of a local contractor. The stream and pond had already been dredged of many years of leaves and rubbish. We have reconstructed the woodpile, and a nice observation platform has been added, with a safety fence and an improved bridge.

Next, our volunteers worked on encouraging wildlife to come, by introducing a number of British native pond plants into the pond- we have planted marsh marigold, watercress, water forget-me-not, water plantain, lesser spearwort, flowering rush, hornwort, water mint, purple and yellow loosestrife and flag iris.

These are very small, and therefore vulnerable, starter plants. Please help us by keeping out of the water and also keep out dogs and other thrown items.

Thank you for your consideration.

In the surrounding area we have seeded for various wetland plants, including the wonderfully named devils bit scabious, sneezewort, tufted vetch, ragged robin and vipers bugloss, as well as many more. We have also planted wood anemones and self-heal.

We are now appealing to you to help us as we strive to make this a really beautiful place. We hope this will be successful and this will be a really lovely area for us all to enjoy, and for the children who visit for Woodland Warriors sessions to see some frogs and toads or maybe some great crested newts, which we know live in Broomfield!

Finally, the Merlin bird call app run by Cornell University reported the presence in Centenary Wood of a nightingale in early May, which caused much excitement, alongside our regular blackcap, chiffchaff, great, blue and long-tailed tits, blackbird and robin! Watch our display boards for updates on sightings!

Cllr Angie Faulds

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Report from City & County Cllr Mike Steel

Visit of MP Kemi Badenoch to Broomfield.

On 9th May I accompanied our MP, Kemi Badenoch, to a number of places in Broomfield. We first went to Broomfield British Legion, in Saxon Way, to talk to veterans and committee during VE week. I am a member of the BL, in my own village, so I know about the wonderful work the BL do. The Broomfield branch has recently re-opened. Please do support them.



Then we went to Chelmer Valley High School (CVHS) where she received a showcase of their STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematical) programme. The school put on some great displays of their GCSE courses, and other clubs – astronomy, electric car racing.



Our last visit was to Farleigh Hospice who told us about their 70 in-patients, but also about their 170 people they help in their own homes. They do an amazing job and most of their funds come from donations and fundraising – they have to raise £7.4M a year by these means which has not been helped by the employer NI increases which have added £250,000 to their costs!



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Tree for life Scheme

There is still room for a few more on the field!

If your baby was born in 2024 or 2025 and is living in Broomfield and you would like a tree in their name on David Smith Field, or if you would like a small fruit tree for your garden to celebrate their arrival, please contact me at the Village hall:

cllrangice.faulds@broomfield-pc.gov.uk

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Continued from page 16

HIGHWAYS



Even though County Council spends two thirds of the budget on Adult Social Care, Children's Services, and Education, my inbox is dominated by highway issues! Fortunately, we have something called the Members Highways Initiative (MHI) where each County Cllr gets an allowance for priority defect fixes. In 24/25 this fixed more than 8,000 additional carriageway defects and 6,000 footway defects across Essex. on top of the standard work schedules. Basically, I get an extra allowance for defects raised by residents or Parish Councils. I have made extensive use of this over the last year, and I am pleased to say it will continue into this year.

A new allowance starts this year – so If there is a serious concern with a defect, please email cllr.mike.steel@essex.gov.uk.

In order to use MHI, I need:

1. The issue should already be reported on Highways Track-It <https://www.essexhighways.org/track-it> I need the reference number
2. If it is not already on Track it, please add it www.essexhighways.org/tell-us and you will get a reference number
3. A photo would be helpful, if safe to take
4. Description of the location, or what3words. If it is several defects over a short distance, please give more details of locations.

This can cover roads, pavements, kerbs, unlit signs. I will do my best to get the defects fixed if raised with me.

WEDS 21ST MAY

I have been out with SERP (Safer Essex Roads Partnership- saferessexroads.org) and the traffic police this morning, who are doing an all-day operation at Broomfield.



As well as the SERP team, we were joined by around 20 police officers who carried out speed checks, and pulled in any drivers not wearing seat belts, using mobile phones etc – and also checked their documentation. Some of the officers also went out to other areas in Chelmsford with their mobile speed cameras. Lots of tickets issued, and some vehicles seized including an illegal eScooter.

What I like about SERP and especially their Vision Zero initiative., is that it applies an analytical approach to road safety looking at the root causes of fatalities and serious injuries and addressing such causes. It focuses on evidence and fact, rather than just perception.

We will never stop all collisions, but by better design, education on individual responsibility, we try to add layers of protection that raises the probability of walking away from a collision.

Today was part of that education! And thanks to the Village Hall (Donna and Les) for supplying tea and coffee for all of us.



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Broomfield Events

It's been a busy few weeks here at the Village Hall, we hosted an easter disco and egg hunt, 45 children danced the morning away winning prizes for their best moves, those that didn't want to dance could take part in craft activities, we all then went outside to find 300 eggs that had been hidden! We had a great time.



Broomfield Men's shed has been busy making plot numbers for the allotment site, many bird boxes and bug hotels, look out for them at the summer fayre in July.



VE day, although a difficult day for some, we spent the day remembering all of the brave soldiers who put their lives on the line for us. We listened to stories, sang songs and shed a few tears when the last post was played, but most of all we joined together for a celebration. We danced, ate war time foods and we rationed the wine! – a great time was had by all.



A massive thank you goes out to the three Knitters who made over 100 soldiers heads for everyone to take home

Alongside these events we still run our usual groups, stay and play, forest school, coffee

morning, book club, lunch club, carers group, arts and crafts and art class, all whilst watering the gardens and the baby trees! No wonder we were all in need of a bank holiday weekend!

Sitting back and just looking around at the friendships that have been made, the smiles, the laughter and sometimes the tears make being tired so worth it!

Donna Hance

Broomfield Village Hall
Summer
FAYRE
and Produce Show

SUNDAY 20TH JULY
12-4PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL
EVENTSANDFUNDING@BROOMFIELD-PC.GOV.UK

COTTAGE GARDENERS PRODUCE SHOW 2-4pm

Broomfield Village Hall Timetable

MONDAY

Stay and Play (L)	9am - 11am
Arts and Crafts (S)	10am - 12pm
Carpet Bowls (C)	1:15pm - 4:15pm
Kazen Kai (L)	4:30pm - 6:45pm
Puppy Training (S)	5:30pm - 9:30pm
Zumba (L)	7pm - 8pm

TUESDAY

Pilates (L)	9:30am - 10:30pm
Rhythm time (S)	10am - 12pm
Carers First (S)	First week of month 2pm - 4pm
Slimming World (L)	4:45pm - 8:30pm
Bingo (S)	7pm - 9pm

WEDNESDAY

Coffee Morning (L)	10am - 12pm
Support 4 sight (S)	First & Third week of month 10:30am - 2pm
Orchard Springs WI (L)	First week of month 7pm - 10pm
Book Club (S)	First week of Month 7pm - 8:30pm
U3A (L)	Second week of the month 1pm - 4pm
Broomfield Birds (L)	Second week of month 7:30pm - 10pm
Full Parish Council Meeting (S)	Second week of month 7:30pm - 9pm
Knit and Natter (L)	Third week of month 1:30pm - 4pm

THURSDAY

Tappy Toes (L)	9.00 - 10:30pm
Seated Exercise (S)	10am - 11:15am 11:15am - 12:30pm
Lunch Club (L)	12pm - 3pm
Mixed Martial arts (L)	6:30 - 9pm
Yoga with Kiera (S)	7pm - 8pm

FRIDAY

Pilates (L)	6:15am - 7:15am
Essex Dementia (L)	10am - 4:30pm
Carers Group (S)	10am - 12pm
Happy Chorus Choir (S)	12:45pm - 2pm
Act First (C)	4:45pm - 7:45pm

SATURDAY

Token Kai Karate (L)	9:45am - 10:45am
Heartfulness Meditation (S)	8:45am - 10am
Engineering for kids (S)	2pm - 3:30pm

SUNDAY

Art Class (S)	First and Third week of month (S) 2:30pm - 4:30pm
----------------------	--

**Fish & chips at Broomfield
Village hall. Every Wednesday and
Thursday. 4pm - 8pm.**

Please come along and support our new Fish
& Chip Van!

Fun @ Broomfield
Under 12's

Summer 2025 dates

4th August - Disco in the park
11th August - Bouncy castle fun
18th August - Forest Fun

To book a space please email eventsandfunding@broomfield-pc.gov.uk

Organised by Broomfield Parish Council

Essex Dementia

Local dementia activity centre welcomes student volunteers from thriftwood college.



Recently the Essex Dementia Care 'Every Day Counts' dementia activity group at Broomfield Village Hall, have been visited by students from Thriftwood College. The students have moderate learning disabilities, including multiple and complex needs such as autism, speech, language and social communication difficulties. The College strongly believes in creating a culture of achievement and recognition and they strive to work together to help pupils reach their full potential.



The students are exposed to volunteering as another angle to secure future employment for those less likely to be employed in regular jobs. In spite of their complex needs, they are still very able. Currently there are only 5.1% of adults with learning disabilities that are in work, and Thriftwood aims to give their students every possible advantage to beat the trend.

Sarah Dickens, Class Teacher from Thriftwood College told Essex Dementia Care "It's been wonderful to see how our students have grown in confidence.



From being quite shy in the first week to now fully engaging with the group, helping with lunch duties, clearing up, and even leading games and participating in Movement to Music sessions. They've shared that they feel like part of your group and love coming to see you all. Thank you for encouraging them to be active helpers and volunteers, this experience is invaluable for them."

Kelly Bleasdale, Senior Manager for Essex Dementia Care says "We would like to thank the students for being part of our group and making a difference to us, our lovely clients so enjoy their company. It's amazing to see how two groups of people who face completely different challenges can come together and enjoy each other's company and all the different activities we offer in the group. We look forward to many more visits in the future"

To find out more about how Essex Dementia Care can help people in the community with activity-based dementia care, please call **01245 363789** or visit the website: essexdementiacare.org.uk.

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Karate-Do Shotokai (KDS)

I am pleased to announce that the Karate-Do Shotokai (KDS) now has a club in Broomfield, Chelmsford.



Karate-Do Shotokai UK has clubs throughout England and Wales. There are also KDS clubs across the globe, including in France, Belgium, Gibraltar, USA and Finland. This means that our members have the opportunity

to travel the country and the world to share practice, learn from one another, meet wonderful people and see beautiful and interesting places.

Our Karate-Do Shotokai clubs practise a traditional form of karate following the teaching and method of our Sensei, Mitsusuke Harada. As a young man, Harada Sensei practised with Gichin Funakoshi. Gichin Funakoshi, as some of you may know, was one of the men who introduced karate from the island of Okinawa to the Japanese mainland, and subsequently therefore to the world. Harada Sensei was awarded the level of 5th Dan Black Belt by Funakoshi himself. The 5th Dan Black-Belt is the highest level awarded by our association because it was the highest level ever awarded by Funakoshi. We follow this tradition.

To be awarded 5th Dan means that one has reached an exceptionally high level of understanding and execution of karate, and also that one has the ability to continue karate's development.

Traditional karate is a martial art. It is martial because its focus is on dealing with an aggressive physical attack. It does so without weapons. It is art because it requires an ever-deepening understanding and control of one's own body and that of the aggressor in order to protect oneself and others. It is for this reason that a smaller person is able to defend successfully against a much larger individual.

Now, let me introduce myself. I am a Broomfield resident and also a Broomfield Parish Councillor. My career has been in secondary school teaching, including the position of head teacher. I first started practice in my late teens at the University of Southampton and the City club. When I began my professional life and started a family, I took a break from the formal club practice of karate – although I continued to practise individually – until joining the Harlow KDS Club some 7 years ago when I re-immersed myself in club practice. I was pleased to have been awarded my 4th Dan in January 2023.

One of the many great qualities of the KDS organisation and its instructors is that we are non-profit making. We do not personally make money through the practice of karate and any monies raised are for the benefit of our members and the promotion of our karate. We practice karate not to make money, but to understand and develop this martial art and enjoy the many benefits that it brings to our lives.

Our new Broomfield club, which practises from 6:30 pm to 8pm on Thursdays at Broomfield Village Hall is open to all from the age of 16 to 90 plus. Complete beginners and experienced practitioners of all methods are welcome to come and try what we have to offer.

If you are looking for self-defence, physical fitness, good mental health and exploring what is truly a traditional martial art, as well as meeting wonderful individuals of all ages, we would be delighted to see you.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions - either via our email or social media platforms:

Email

chelmsfordkaratedoshotokai@gmail.com

Instagram - @chelmsfordkaratedoshotokai

Facebook - Chelmsford Karate-Do Shotokai

Next Door - Chelmsford Karate-Do Shotokai

Please see our posters for further details.

Fees are as follows:

- The first practice is £5. This enables newcomers to see if it is for them.
- The second practice is £25, which gives you your first year of KDS membership with insurance, access to courses, gradings and many other benefits.
- The third week and onwards is £5 per week which enables us to pay for the hire of the hall.

We hope you are able to join us and we look forward to seeing you.

Peter Travis



Broomfield & District u3a

If you are newly retired and wondering what to do with that newly free-up time, you might well find that joining your local u3a offers great opportunities to pursue interests you didn't have time for, or maybe to share skills and knowledge with others in a friendly social context.



u3a could also be for you if you are someone who stepped away from work a while ago or no longer has full-time caring responsibilities and are looking for the chance to meet new people with common interests.

U3a is one of the largest member organisations in the UK, and we are your local branch.

Membership (£15.00pa) gives you access to a range of interest groups and activities run by members, and the opportunity to attend monthly branch meetings where you can hear talks from expert speakers on a wide range of topics.

As a member, you can also join activities and groups provided by neighbouring u3a's at half the membership rate, as an 'affiliate member', widening the scope of groups and activities available to you.

To find out more about the groups and activities on offer locally, please visit our website, <https://broomfield.u3asite.uk>.

Choosing the Perfect Care Home

Choosing the right care home for your loved one is a big decision, and it's important to take the time to find the best fit.

After all, this will be their new home, where they should feel comfortable, cared for, and happy. There are a few key things to consider that can help make the process smoother and ensure you make the best choice.

INDIVIDUAL NEEDS OF YOUR LOVED ONE

Every individual has unique needs, and ensuring these are met should be the top priority. Some may require specialist dementia care, while others may need help with mobility or medical conditions. It's essential to assess what level of care is needed and check whether a particular care home can provide it. Take note of staff training, daily routines, and any additional support services offered. Speaking with the care home manager and staff can give you a sense of how well they can cater to your loved one's specific requirements.

SEEKING ADVICE

There's no need to go through this process alone. Seeking advice from professionals, such as social workers or GPs, can help clarify what type of care is necessary. Additionally, friends or family members who have been through a similar experience can offer valuable insights. You can also look at reviews and ratings from organisations like the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to gauge the standard of care provided. Don't hesitate to ask questions when visiting care homes—after all, you want peace of mind knowing your loved one is in good hands.

UNDERSTANDING THE COSTS

Care homes can vary significantly in cost, depending on the level of care required, location, and facilities available.

It's important to have a clear understanding of the fees involved, including any potential additional charges. Some people may be eligible for financial support from their local council or the NHS, so it's worth exploring these options. Planning ahead and discussing finances openly with family members can help prevent unexpected financial strain.

LOCATION

The location of the care home plays a crucial role in ensuring your loved one remains connected with family and friends. Choosing a home that in a convenient location will make it easier for regular visits, which can be incredibly reassuring for yourself and your loved one. Additionally, consider the surroundings—some may prefer a quiet countryside setting, while others may enjoy being closer to a town with accessible amenities.

Taking the time to carefully choose a care home will help ensure your loved one receives the best possible care in a welcoming and supportive environment. By considering their specific needs, seeking advice, understanding the costs, and thinking about location, you can make an informed decision that offers comfort and security for both you and your loved one.





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From the archives

ALAN STACEY (1933-1960) Broomfield.



Alan Stacey was born at Partridge Farm, Broomfield and attended King Edward VI Grammar School and rode motorbikes which unfortunately led to a serious motorbike accident at the east end of Mill Lane near Hill House.

Tragically he lost his right leg above the knee. However, he was undaunted and with remarkable tenacity bought his first car and entered the local motor club racing.

His success and talent were noticed, and he joined Lotus based in North London and soon joined their Formula 1 Team racing in Argentina, Monaco, Holland and Belgium. He sadly died in 1960 at the age of 26 when a bird struck his helmet (the car was travelling at 140 mph) causing him to lose control and for the Lotus to strike an embankment. He died instantly. He was buried in St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Broomfield.





Broomfield British Legion

The Broomfield Royal British Legion, recently reopened through determined community spirit, it wrenched the club back from the brink and reopened its doors.

Thursday, VE Day, felt different; the air pulsed with a unique energy. The VE 80th anniversary celebrations had been a resounding success.

The hall, usually a space for quiet camaraderie, had rocked with the rhythm of wartime songs, the local singer's voice echoing through the room. Poignant and joyous memories had been shared, and the spirit of remembrance had filled every corner.

However, no one knew that on Friday we had an appointment to meet a very special visitor. Kemi Badenoch, Leader of the Conservative Party, had asked to visit. Was she aware of our recent turmoil? I don't know, we never asked.

With her official entourage, she arrived. She wasn't the imposing figure some had imagined, but actually a warm and engaging lady.

After initial introductions and handshakes, we sat down. Coffee and biscuits were delivered to the table, which Kemi passed around. Conversation flowed easily, and after introductions, she listened intently, asking questions.

She showed a genuine interest in the club's history, its struggles, and its triumphant reopening. She also showed a keen interest in the club's displays of remembrance and commented on the strength and plans with the community.

Finally, the moment arrived for the photo opportunity. Although the photographer had been clicking away, we all moved outside to our mural where the group photo was taken and will hopefully take pride of place on our wall.

The visit was a moment of immense pride for the Royal British Legion committee, both branch and social.



News from Broomfield Parish Church

As many of you will have heard, I have now retired as Vicar of Broomfield.



After a significant period of ill health, I made the decision to step back. I have been the Incumbent of the parish for 14 years and there have been significant changes to the Church during that time, not least the replacement of the heating system, the re-ordering of the Lady Chapel, repair of the Lychgate and restoration of the tower, spire and windvane.



So, what happens next in the Parish Church? Well, on my retirement the Ecclesial Parish entered a period of Vacancy, our Church Wardens will be the first point of contact for anyone requesting ministry or make bookings for Life Events. The Archdeacon of Chelmsford will be working closely with the Church Wardens and Church Council to put together a parish profile after which an advert for the post will be circulated amongst the clergy before a full round of interviews are held and an appointment made. The process can take approximately 9 months to a year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for welcoming me into your village and giving me the opportunity of being your Vicar for so long... we have had some wonderful opportunities to minister amongst you, to open up the church building and encourage everyone to feel welcome to share the beautiful church building with you. It has been a privilege to preside at so many weddings, baptism and funerals. I have come to know many of you as friends.

I will continue to pray for you all and be very grateful for my time as the Vicar of Broomfield with every blessing.

Rev'd. Carolyn, Retired Vicar of Broomfield

THE VE MAY FAYRE – TOOK PLACE SAT 10TH MAY 2025



THANK YOU to all the people who came to support our annual VE May Fayre. After much organising and planning this was a success! It was lovely to see so many people from the village attend with their families and friends. Thank you to those who entertained us, (Chelmer Valley High School, Social Singers and Broomfield Line Dancers), the singing and dancing really gave the feel of the VE celebrations back in 1945. Thank you to the Kings Arms for providing the BBQ and bar and TABLES! Thank you to all those that ran stalls and donated their funds to the church. Thank you to all the helpers who set up and took



down and helped on the day – this was most appreciated. Lastly Thank You to all those who took part in the bunting challenge, this was very special and amazing to see how people pulled together (like they did back in the War days) to make something so special that has heartfelt meaning behind it.

As well as providing a fun 'Community Event' we raised monies for our lovely church THANK YOU. - Watch this Space for the Christmas Fayre!

COMING UP

After a VERY successful 'Broomfield at War' talk which was held on Sat 17th May there will be a People & Stone Talk "Churchyard Stories" on 19th July, poster attached.

Also see attached a picture of "Broomfield in World War Two" booklet, sold at the 'Broomfield at war' talk. Copies can be purchased from the church or email rosalindmercer0309@gmail.com.

We shall be participating in the Heritage Week on Saturday 13th September with the Church Open Day and Ride & Stride, plus a talk on Church Walls featuring Broomfield church by Ian Mercer on Monday 15th September as part of Heritage Week at Patch, Gray's Yard, Chelmsford. Cathy Pearson is giving a talk about Rosemary Rutherford at the Museum of Chelmsford on 21st June as part of the Essex Book Festival.

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH – YOUR SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED

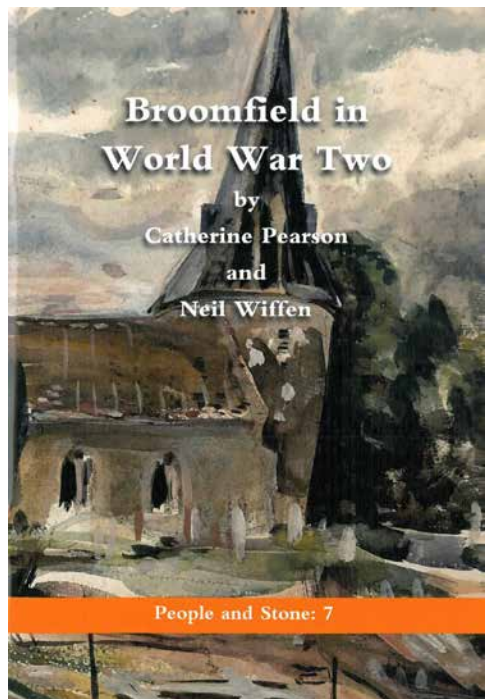
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THANK YOU & GOD BLESS X

www.stmarybroomfield.org



Broomfield Parish Church
PEOPLE & STONE
 A Project Rutherford Talk
Churchyard Stories
 Karen Paxton & Malcolm Taylor
Saturday 19th July
2pm Tickets £5
 email Ros.rosalindmercer0309@gmail.com
 or pay on the door
Raffle & Refreshments
 Heritage Fund



Friends of Broomfield Hospital

Friends 
at Broomfield Hospital

RHEUMATOLOGY: STAFF ROOM EQUIPMENT



One of our Friends', Penny, met 3 of the Clinical Specialist Nurses; Emerald Sekaran, Daniela Boteanu and Maria Franky and

Admin Support; Jgo Naga Akumela from the Rheumatology team. The Friends' were delighted to present some much needed items for the Rheumatology staff room, a kettle, toaster and a sandwich maker.



These funds were donated via Penny from a gentleman named Richard, who is only too aware of the amazing support given to patients by the NHS Rheumatology team. Penny and her husband surprised Richard (for his 75th birthday) with a ride in their 1957 Austin Healey... a very nostalgic treat for Richard, who owned a similar model in his teenage years! Luckily it was a lovely sunny day, perfect weather for spinning round the country lanes with the 'top down'... and thoroughly enjoyed by all!

It's a pleasure to be able to support the staff... in recognition of all their help to our patients... and enable them to benefit from a much needed 'cuppa' and a toasted sandwich!

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 £870 for Broomfield Hospital.



Also pictured are the LUCKY WINNERS of our 'day 1' and 'day 2' star prize... the Chocolate Chickens!! 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!



WE ARE LOOKING FOR TROLLEY VOLUNTEERS

If you like to keep fit and would you like to increase your daily 'step count' read on!

Do you like meeting people? Come and work on our Mobile Trolley Shop. We are looking for willing volunteers! Two volunteers man the trolley for a couple of hours each weekday morning, to sell confectionery and drinks to patients, visitors and staff. This is a welcome sight for those patients who are unable to get to our shops... and for staff who need a mid-morning snack! You need to be physically fit and be confident in dealing with both cash and credit card transactions. Full training will be provided.

If you are interested to find out more, please ring us on **01245 443285** and leave your name and telephone number with one of our volunteers or email **friends.fabh@gmail.com**. We can then arrange for one of our committee members to contact you.



Farleigh Hospice

News from Farleigh Hospice

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

FARLEIGH'S NEW INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Michelle Kabia has recently been appointed as Interim Chief Executive at Farleigh Hospice while Sarah Green, the charity's Chief Executive, is on compassionate leave. Michelle has over 30 years' experience in the health, social care and charity sectors. Her focus is to deliver short-term objectives and continue the development of the charity's longer-term strategy.

'HAVE YOUR SAY' ON FARLEIGH'S PRIORITIES

Farleigh is developing its Strategic Plan for 2026–2029 and is keen to hear local people's thoughts about hospice care. Whether you've used Farleigh's services, supported the charity, or simply care about local hospice care, your voice matters. To take part, fill in the short questionnaire at www.farleighhospice.org/haveyoursay or request a paper copy by calling **01245 457351**.

FORGET-ME-NOT SERVICE AND APPEAL: 28th JUNE

Farleigh's Forget-me-not reflection and celebration service is on Saturday 28th June at 3pm in the gardens of the hospice.

This informal event is open to anyone who would like to remember and honour the life of a loved one. Book your free place at www.farleighhospice.org/forgetmenot or call **01245 457351**. You can also give a donation to the charity's Forget-me-not appeal at www.farleighhospice.org/donate-forgetmenot.

BUZZ IN THE CITY: 5th JULY – 9th SEPTEMBER

Join Farleigh Hospice in Chelmsford High Street on Saturday 5 July for the launch of Buzz in the City – Chelmsford's first sculpture art trail!

30 colourful giant bee sculptures and swarms of mini bees will be on display at places of interest in the city centre throughout the summer. Follow the free, family-friendly trail and see how many you can find! You can also bid for a giant bee at the art trail auction on 17th September. www.buzzinthecity.co.uk

CYCLE FOR LIFE – 7th SEPTEMBER

Cycle 20km, 50km or 100km on Farleigh's popular cycle ride through the beautiful Essex countryside. This event appeals to cyclists of all ages and abilities.

www.farleighhospice.org/events/cycle-for-life-2025

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News from Broomfield Library

The annual Summer Reading Challenge (SRC) is almost upon us.

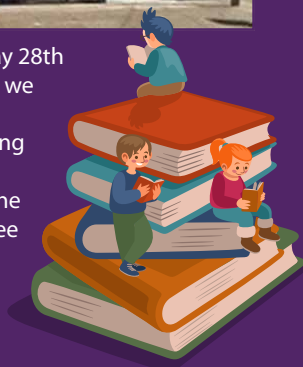
The fun begins with an early joiners' day on Saturday 12 July, with the official start a week later. The challenge, as usual, is for children from ages 0-11 to read six books over the summer holidays, come in to the library to discuss them, and collect stickers for each book read. The theme this year is The Story Garden.

To make SRC the success it always is requires volunteers. So if you are 14 or over, then why not apply? Application is online; details are on the Essex Libraries website. The closing date is 22 June.

If board games are more your thing, then we have relaunched our Board Games afternoon on the first Monday of each month; it's free to join in.



Also, in June – Saturday 28th at 3pm to be precise – we will be welcoming the Neighbourhood Policing team for the first of a series of visits across the summer. Please feel free to call in for a chat.



Anti-Knife Crime Awareness Workshop with Quinton Green

We would welcome attendance from local children aged 9 to 13 years old and their parents/guardians. Hot & Cold Refreshments shall be served from 9.30am and free hot dogs for the children when the workshop has finished.

Broomfield FC are pleased to be hosting an event open to our local community. This event has been arranged by Julie Taylor, grandmother to Liam Taylor (aka Fish) who was lost to murder by knife crime in January 2020. Julie established the Liam Taylor Legacy and raises funds to buy and install Emergency Bleed Kits in public places and Broomfield FC is very pleased to receive one of these kits from the project for our Clubhouse.

As a community football club with a membership of both boys and girls, we were happy to support with hosting this event at Broomfield FC.

For more information on the Liam Taylor Legacy please see www.theliamtaylorlegacy.org.uk

Saturday 28th June at BFC Clubhouse, Mill Lane from 10am – 12:30pm.

Quinton Green - knife crime public speaker



News from Helen Rollason Cancer Charity

Helen Rollason
Cancer Charity

A VINTAGE SUMMER OUTING

Whether you love a vintage day out or you are a classic car enthusiast, a lover of handmade crafts or simply seeking a fun day out, our two vintage events are not to be missed.



There will be lots of stalls, live entertainment, music, dancing, children's entertainment, vintage cars and a range of food and drink caterers. We are at Cressing Temple Barns on Sunday 13th July and at Layer Marney Tower on

Sunday 24th August. Come along with your family or friends for a fun nostalgic day out, and dogs are welcome too. Details and tickets for all our events are on our website www.helenrollason.org.uk/events.

Supporting the charity and tasting beer
We are delighted to be one of the chosen charities for the 2025 Chelmsford Beer Festival taking place in July. If you are planning to attend the festival, please visit our stall which will be manned by some of our hardworking volunteers.

WELL DONE CYCLISTS!

Thank you to all the riders in our ride For Helen cycle event in May. The sun shone and around 700 cyclists enjoyed pedalling through the



Essex countryside while raising valuable funds for the charity. Thank you to the volunteers that made the event a huge success – those that helped in the run up to the event, those at the event hub and those marshalling the routes. Finally, a big thank you to the local businesses that sponsored the event or donated refreshments.

OUR SUPPORT

We offer a range of care and support using complementary therapies as well as counselling, mindfulness, yoga and more. We're here for anyone with any type of cancer at all stages – newly diagnosed, throughout treatment and during recovery. Call us on **01245 382888** for information.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Saturday 19th July – Donation Days at our centre on The Street, Hatfield Peverel. Bring along your good quality pre-loved items. Parking is available to drop off your items.
Sunday 13th July – Vintage and Makers Day at Cressing Temple Barns.
Sunday 24th August – Marvellous Vintage at Layer Marney Tower.
Sunday 30th November – Christmas Gift and Food Market at Chelmsford City Racecourse.
Friday 19th December – Father Christmas Experience at Layer Marney Tower.

REPORT FROM 1ST BROOMFIELD SCOUT GROUP

MONDAY SCOUTS

March saw our Scouts rise to the challenge of County Backpack 2025, and they didn't just participate – they triumphed! We're proud to say our team placed 1st in the Novice category, a huge achievement and testament to their teamwork, determination, and navigation skills. A massive well done to all Scouts involved – you did 1st Broomfield proud! Also in March, let's not forget our success at the Swimming Gala 2025, where our incredible teams brought home not one but two trophies: Overall Scout Winners and Over Unit Winners! Their determination and team spirit shone through, and we couldn't be prouder of their efforts both in and out of the pool. In April, we ran our Survival Camp, where Scouts embraced the wild and learned vital outdoor skills. From building shelters and chopping wood to mastering axe techniques, fire cooking, whittling, tracking, signalling, and even launching catapults, our Scouts truly got to grips with survival skills in the great outdoors. All in all, it's been a year to remember! packed with fun, growth, and unforgettable moments. A huge thank you to all the leaders, volunteers, parents, and most importantly, our amazing Scouts. We can't wait to see what next year has in store

Scout Leaders, Adam, Kirstie, Paddy, Shirin

JÖTNAR (TUESDAY SCOUTS)



At the beginning of the Summer Term we had our first meeting of our new Scout Troop. We have 14 young people attending and already invested. The first week we played some

games and enjoyed marshmallows over our campfire that we managed to light. We have also had a cooking challenge. Groups were given a bag of food and asked to come up with a main meal. We enjoyed pasta Bolognese, vegetable noodles, sausage and chips and Tofu Tomato Rice. Everyone enjoyed their dishes and we are looking forward to testing our skills at our first camp in September.

WEDNESDAY BEAVERS



The Spring term started with us learning about being a scout. This was followed by a Burns Night special, including neeps and tatties and the star of the show the haggis. Most tried it, not all enjoyed it!!!! We managed to enjoy some time around the campfire toasting marshmallows and singing some campfire songs. We earned our builder badge by designing and building miniature gardens. We spent a couple of weeks crafting, working hard to make competition entries for the district craft competition. We had some successes and came second in the colony challenge. We also have earned our Earth Tribe Award; this is a new badge that encourages us to think about how we can make a difference in our community. We spent time thinking about the rubbish that we see and the problems it causes to wildlife. We then went and spent a session litter picking at Angel Meadow collecting several bags of waste.

We have joined with Thursday Beavers to enjoy two camps. The first was at Thriftwood where we enjoyed many of the activities that the scout centre has to offer including cresta run and mini peddlerz. We also had a sleepover at the museum in Braintree learning about the local naturalist John Ray.

We have two new volunteers who have come forward. Millie and Fiona joined us last term and are now fully fledged team members! I would like to thank them for stepping up and helping Wednesday beavers to continue running. I would also like to thank Isla, our young leader. She is a great example to the beavers and is always happy and cheerful, lending help wherever it is needed.

KANTANKYE (WEDNESDAY CUBS)



When I wrote the report for the last issue we had just returned from camp, and guess what, we have again just returned from camp! Yes, we do like our camps.... We had a really excellent Spring Camp at Thriftwood Scout Activity Centre, no theme for this one but we aimed to complete all the requirements of the outdoor challenge badge and the backwoods cooking badge. Plus some of the adventure and skills challenge badges, pioneering, fire safety, entertainer, chef, and naturalist. A very busy camp.... Cubs of course, rose to the challenge, they lit a fire and cooked over it, put up and took down tents, made a den, and explored the site – following a map to solve a quiz. They had a go on the zip wire and in the water roller, attended the big site campfire and then carried on singing when they got back to our small one. There was time for a bit of free time and games, the weather was very kind to us. Cubs showed they could keep their tent and kit tidy and secure, and they could look after themselves and be safe at camp – really helping to build independence and self-reliance. It was a lovely weekend with a great group of young people.

At our evening meetings, Cubs did some more map work, they showed a surprising amount of enthusiasm for six figure grid references! They clearly enjoyed representing contours with jam sandwiches and then eating them... Cubs completed their digital maker badge, producing some excellent stop frame animations.

Lots of our Cubs and parents helped out at the book sale, helping to make it such a successful event, thanks to all who gave their time!

We had a fun swimming evening, thanks to Andy at Asgard for organising this for us. This set us up nicely for the District Swimming Gala, once again we brought home the Cub trophy!



Well done to all who competed!

We worked towards the Chef's badge, learning all about food hygiene and then making some tasty food on a couple of evenings. The Easter hike was a lot of fun, in preparation Cubs had to find locations (yes those six figure grid references again) plot them on a map and then plan a route. They then set out and were rewarded with Easter goodies at each stop.

We began the Summer Term with a great team building evening, some camp preparation, and an air activities evening.

Plans for the rest of the term include high ropes and paddleboarding at Skreens, gaining the athletics, environmental conservation and air activities badges and some pioneering. And naturally, another camp! We are attending the big County Camp – Mega Camp – at the beginning of June – we can't wait!

The Kantankye Cub Leader Team

RIVERSIDE BEAVERS (THURSDAY BEAVERS):

We have also been out and about exploring our local area with last terms litter pick around Andrews Park, Cricket with Simon down at the Broomfield Cricket Club and we also visited St Andrews Church and had some of their ministers help the Beavers explore the different areas of the Church and even try on some of the robes that they use throughout the year (this also meant that most of the Beavers were able to achieve their Faith badges) We went to Gilwell Park, the home of Scouting for Funday with Wednesday Beavers and Dinizulu Cubs – it was as blast! So much to do...

We entered the District 'Beavers Get Busy' competition, we gained 3rd place for our Colony challenge and several of our Beavers walked away with 1st, 2nd or 3rd places in some of the categories.

We also entered a team into the District Swimming Gala and our super swimmers came 1st overall and collected the Beaver Swimming Trophy. We had a few joint sleepovers with the Wednesday Colony.

Riverside Beaver Colony Otter, Heron and Kingfisher

DINIZULU (THURSDAY CUBS)

Our Cubs enjoyed our Spring 'Around the UK in 42 Hours' down in Benfleet which saw the Cubs take on many different national activities and foods, including our own unique take on the Highland Games with 'Haggis racing' that proved most entertaining!

The Cubs even got to go swimming so we could see who would make our team for the District Swimming Gala.

We have worked hard on our map reading skills, our knots and on Road Safety over the year. Like the Thursday Beavers we also visited St Andrews Church and got to explore the Christian faith. We welcomed Diane for a fun night of science experiments, how hot air raises and how our pulse/heart rate changes following exercise. We also had a visit from Rick and Valiant and tried to think how much more complicated our lives would be if we had a physical disability to deal with.

We took part in the Great British Bird Count week for the RSPB. We took time out to work on some calming activities and exercises to enable us to be mindful and aware of how some actions can affect our mental health and wellbeing alongside 'Children's Mental Health Week,' this has led to the discovery of a new "favourite" game for many of the Cubs aptly named the 'Quiet Game' it has also proved very popular with us adults! The Cubs have done lots of cooking, from pancakes for 'Pancake Day', to stir fry for Chinese New Year and bread on 'Homemade Bread Day'. As well as lots of cooking at camp. Well done, Cubs, we hope you've all had loads of fun? With lots of extra parent support from Rosie, Julie, Megan, Siobhan, Martin & Hasad – Thank you! Dinizulu Leader Team -Bagheera, Mowgli, Ikki, and Young Leaders - Libby, Ewan & Finn.

Paddy Passfield one of our Scout Leaders was awarded the Chief Scout Commendation – congratulations to Paddy.

If you fancy joining in the fun with the Group, we would very much welcome new volunteers to our team, adults and also Young Leaders aged 14 to 18, email broomfieldcubs@live.co.uk for further information. No special skills needed, just a sense of adventure.



BROOMFIELD FOOTBALL CLUB

A charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charities Commission

Sport & Outdoor Pursuits



CHARTERED STANDARD CLUB



Broomfield FC is feeling super proud as we've had confirmation today of not one but two award winners for the Essex County FA Grassroots Football Awards 2025.

⚽ County Winners for 'Grounds Team of the Year' for **Steve Burton, Dave Judd** and **Keith Knight**.

⚽ County Winner for the 'Positive Behaviour Award' for **Jo Sears**, Welfare Officer for implementing the Respect Marshalls campaign this season.

⚽ Huge congratulations to all our winners and we wish you a wonderful evening of celebration at the awards ceremony in June where we know you will represent BFC with pride!

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WHAT'S STILL TO COME AT BFC...

5th & 6th July – Presentation Days including Bar, BBQ,

13th July – Jack Petchey Event, Bar & BBQ

26th July – Sarcoma Charity Event, Bar & BBQ

27th September – Quiz Night, Bring your own food / Nibbles!

9th November – Remembrance, joining forces with the British Legion.

Saturday

Food
is served from
9am and bar
opens from
midday.

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on down - join
and watch the
football !



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