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Issue 82 | Autumn 2025

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Broomfield TIMES

WELCOME TO THE 82nd EDITION OF BROOMFIELD TIMES!

I hope you have all been able to enjoy the lovely dry sunny weather we have had since our last edition & as I write this, we have another warm & hot sunny day!

Thank you to again to all our 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!

Please email editor@broomfield-pc.gov.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.

Our front cover photo is a 'romanticised and retro view of a local landmark of Angel Green' designed by Glynn Wadeson – thank you!

The next copy date is **20/11/2025**

Karen Hurrell – Editor



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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, Carol Taylor, Sharon Boreham, David Howell, Adewole Odelana, Geoff Garfield	Contact via Clerk: clerk@broomfield-pc.gov.uk

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Guide Dogs for the Blind Glynis & Brian Worboys - 5 Butlers Close Broomfield

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Broomfield Village Hall

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- Pill blister packs

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- Vapes
- Water Filters
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- Electrical goods (check with store)

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- Batteries

Morrisons:

- Bread bags; carrier bags; batteries

Argos:

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

Boots High Chelmer:

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John Lewis

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

Dunelm: (bin by exit):

- Tea Towels, towels, sheets & pillowcases
- Fabric aprons
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- Fabric tablecloths; runners & placements

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Chairman's News

Hello everyone, well, it's autumn already...

That is unbelievable. Where has the summer gone? Our many beautiful trees will soon be turning golden. We, as a Parish

Council, manage Church Green and Parsonage Green as well as our Park.

You may have heard that change is coming to our democracy from next year. In April we will be voting for a Mayor for Essex. The new Mayor will preside over many aspects of our lives. Including I hope managing the buses better which will be a big bonus. The other change is that Chelmsford City Council will cease to exist and will be joining with other authorities to make a brand-new authority, we don't know what shape that will be yet, but thinking is going on about how we will be governed. We have the opportunity as a Parish Council to look after more land. That could mean the couple of patches between the Church and the Chelmer Valley High School for instance. We would be responsible for caring for that land, perhaps planting more trees there. There is a possibility that the Parish Precept might go up a small amount to pay for that care, but we have a wonderful opportunity here to make Broomfield greener.

The more trees we have the cooler the climate is and the more shade we have, which have needed badly this summer, the more comfortable we will feel.

Unfortunately, the weather was not at its best for the Summer Fair but that didn't stop people from attending and for the first time we had a very successful dog show. There were many categories, all of them wonderful. It was especially good to see young people with their dogs controlling them, looking after them and having great fun so well done to the team that put the Fair on. Although it was damp many people had a really good time.

We will be saying goodbye to our clerk Mark Hembury in the autumn. He has worked hard to make sure that we have a steady ship here and that all of our transaction are very open and accessible. Thank you Mark for your very hard work above and beyond quite often and your humour which pops up when it's needed, we wish you a wonderful retirement with lots of golf. Thank you for what you've done for the last 4 1/2 years.

I wish you all a happy autumn.

Cllr Margaret Bleet

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:

cllrangie.faulds@broomfield-pc.gov.uk

Here is a lovely picture sent in of James with his rowan.



PLEASE NOTE EMAIL ADDRESS WAS INCORRECT IN THE LAST ISSUE OF BROOMFIELD TIMES

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Environment Committee Report

It has been an exciting Summer for our outside space.



Firstly, we were pleased to receive delivery of some beautiful signage for Angel Meadow, designed by two accomplished Broomfield artists,

Jo Bowman and Barry Renwick. Staff and Parish Councillors joined residents to welcome Jamie Cole, an Officer from Chelmsford City Council who had given advice on signage and who officially opened the sign. Thanks to our Chair of the Parish Council, Margaret Bleet, for steering this project through.

Later we were assessed for a Green Flag, and the sign received a special comment: "The welcome board was new and very attractive." They were also very pleased with the management plan, praising our litter control, maintenance plans, and solar power and environmental and biodiversity action, comprehensive risk assessments and procedures. They were excited, as we are, with the plans to develop an area designed by local schoolgirls to make the park more attractive for girls.

They considered us "very neat and tidy, with no litter or dog poo!" If only that was always true- we appeal to you all to make full use of our litter bins and dog poo bags and bins!



They praised our work going on at the pond and our provision of recycling inside and outside the hall. The inspectors liked that, "New trees and hedgerows have been planted. The woodland has been well managed with removal of the high canopy to create more light for ground plants to flourish. There are wildflower meadows and wildlife corridors and there are bird boxes and beetle banks on site. A great scheme of planting trees for babies during COVID.

Planters are also created for various groups and families. Forest schools are active on site. There is parking for camper vans. Activities include football, basketball, Muga (multi use games area) table tennis. There are regular volunteers who help manage the woodland, plant new trees and create new areas."

Finally, they praised the website and use of noticeboards and the work done by the Men's Shed for making things for us. They recorded bird song in the wood and noted an impressive range of species. We would really like to complete a bat survey, if anyone out there could help us with that we would be very grateful.



In conclusion we are very pleased to be now flying our Green Flag!

I would like to express great thanks to our volunteers who help on site and to our wonderful staff team who work so hard to keep everything in such good order, especially Steve, Fitz, Stuart and Donna who also did all the paperwork!

Cllr Angie Faulds

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Sprucing up Broomfield's Village road signs

Armed with buckets of water, scrubbing brush, tree loppers and step ladders, two Broomfield Councillors recently devoted a Saturday morning to improving road signs at the entrance to the village.

The signs at Parsonage Green, as vehicle enter Broomfield from the direction of Patching Hall Lane, were in serious need of some tender loving care.

They were covered in grime from years of passing traffic and, in the case of the main Broomfield/30 mph sign, were concealed from oncoming vehicles by overhanging branches.

The signs are especially important because they warn vehicles to give way to oncoming traffic at the road-narrowing chicane and reduce from the national speed limit to 30mph.

One of the 30 mph signs is so badly faded it needs replacing. The matter, along with photos, has been reported to Essex County Council and is being pursued by City and County Councillor Mike Steel.



For Parish Councillor David Howell, Saturday morning trimming the roadside trees was like any other day. His full-time job is as a gardener. But this time he had the able assistance of colleague Geoff Garfield.

Cllr Geoff Garfield

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Parish Council branches out with new water bowser

Caring for the environment in Broomfield has always been a priority of the Parish Council. And to assist in this vital task it is ordering a 500-litre water bowser.

Not only will it allow the efficient and regular watering of the many young trees planted by the council but also lighten the load—literally—of one dedicated Councillor Angie Faulds.

Angie spearheads much of the environmental work performed by the Parish Council, including spending between 8 and 10 hours each week in the summer pushing a wheelbarrow loaded with watering cans to ensure the newly planted trees survive and flourish.

Visitors to David Smith Field (next to the Village Hall) will be familiar with the numerous Trees for Life planted, with the names of babies born in the Parish. The scheme started five years ago and the field is now full with 47 trees, just four remaining without babies' names.

The most mature 15 young trees are now largely independent but needed watering during the very dry spell this year.

Says Angie: "The rest I like to keep topped up and give three watering cans once or twice a week."

Village Attendant Steve Earley assists when available by transporting water in large containers using the Parish Council van, waters the new hedge along the driveway to the village hall and deputises for Angie when she is away.

The new water bowser, for which a towbar will be fitted to the van, will be especially useful watering young trees being planted on Parsonage Green at the School Lane entrance to the village.

Angie is well known by many of you for her multi-tasking. She is involved with the toddler group—helping set up on Sunday evenings—shopping and cooking for the Thursday Lunch Club and until recently involved with the Wednesday Coffee mornings (now a reserve).

And if that isn't enough to keep her busy, Angie dedicates a lot of time, along with Parish Council staff and volunteers, to ongoing improvements to Centenary Wood. Phew!

Cllr Geoff Garfield





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Report from City & County Cllr Mike Steel

ECC Report.

HIGHWAYS

In August, I used my Members Highways initiative (MHI) for:

- Broomfield School Lane pavement
- Great Waltham South Street adjacent to Duffries Close and kerbs
- Edney Common broken signs
- Ford End pavements and sunken drains

Also escalated and got addressed:

- A130 potholes near Gt Leighs
- White lining on Angel Broomfield pedestrian crossing

As for the roadworks on Hospital Approach 21st July, I did warn highways 10 days before they started, that there would be a problem and asked for extra measures and for them to meet me on site on the first day. Of course, it was chaos, and they did add Traffic Lights to the Main Road/Court Road junction but agreed to remove the whole roadworks shortly afterwards. A new permit was granted which allowed the contractors to work on the pavement and a bit of the road, leaving enough space for 2 way traffic on Hospital Approach. There will have to be a short closure at some point, but I am pushing for this to be overnight.

PYLONS

I continue to use all democratic avenues to oppose the pylons that will go through 10 of my 11 parishes! I am also working with the Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk Pylons group (Rosie Pearson) to formulate and lobby for response from ECC, City Council, parish councils and our combined parish council group. NGET will be submitting the project to Planning Inspectorate 29th August.

One of the primary objections will be the adequacy of consultation according to Gunning Principles – a major principle is that all options should be presented for consultation.

However, I have to say that the election of the Labour govt last year, was a major set back for the case, who are pushing for reduced ability to object to Infrastructure planning. In terms of detailed recent route changes, my view is that the reduced height pylons proposed between GW and LW (and therefore an extra pylon) is a worse situation, with a pylon right next to Chelmsford Road. It is disappointing that the total feedback from the targeted consultations (on these changes) was a total of 740, (in 4.5M people across the 3 counties!) This gives us a dilemma – whilst fighting the bigger picture (underground), if we were to lose, we would want a step backwards to the higher height pylons but in the middle of the fields, and away from the road/house. I believe that we need to major on that position in the DCO response. I have been talking to the planning dept in City Council and they have requested that Great Waltham and Little Waltham is flagged to the Planning Inspectorate as a Potential Main Area for Examination. In September, I will be meeting with the Conservative MPs who have constituencies along the route - with a view to coordinating our opposition.

LOCAL GOVT REORGANISATION (LGR) UPDATE

It is very likely that the joint ECC/12 DCs/ Southend Unitary/Thurrock Unitary will make a single application but with 4 options – two 4 Unitaries, a 5 Unitary option and a 3 Unitary option. The favoured option from ECC is the 3 Unitary model of north, mid and south Essex. At the 18th Sept ECC Council meeting, ECC will confirm its 3 Unitary proposal (or not!) – in time for the formal submission to Central Govt 26th Sept 25. The Govt will then decide on whether to consult on these 4 options (or fewer) which will run from Nov 25th to Jan 26th.

BLOOR HOMES PLANNING APPLICATION:

On 31st July 2025 – planning permission was granted for the residential development of the allocated land to the North of Broomfield, promoted by Bloor Homes Ltd. Approval was granted in principle, some time ago, but the S106 agreement has only just been finalised.

Also granted was planning permission for the necessary alterations to Woodhouse Lane which were subject of a separate planning application. The development will provide up to 512 dwellings with a neighbourhood centre (health & community facility and an early year's facility).

The S106 secures, amongst other matters:

- 35% affordable housing in accordance with Local Plan policy requirements, including wheelchair user units
- 5% of the total units to be self/custom build

- Over £5million of highway/transport contributions (including the Alternative Transport Strategy, North East bypass contribution and Regiment Way bridge contribution)
- Provision of land for a healthcare/community facility
- Education and healthcare contributions

The development will also be CIL liable. The relevant planning permissions and S106 agreement are available on City Council Planning website: www.chelmsford.gov.uk.

Cllr Mike Steel

Chelmsford City Cllr & Great Waltham Parish Cllr & Essex County Cllr

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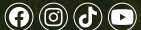
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SPEEDWATCH

Broomfield Community Speed Watch Needs You

Volunteers are still needed to join the small team that turns out regularly to monitor the speed of vehicles passing through Broomfield.



Our roads are busier than ever as Chelmsford continues to expand and with it the problem of speeding motorists.

Broomfield Parish Council organises a Community

Speed Watch (CSW) team, one of dozens operated purely by volunteers throughout Essex.

But to have a real impact in helping the police we require more people willing to devote an hour or so of their time to make our roads safer.

In July, the Broomfield CSW team participated in monitoring vehicles on Main Road as part of the first-ever National Day of Community Speed Watch Action in conjunction with Kent Police.

Prior to that we contributed in May to a Vision Zero Day—a commitment to eliminate all road deaths and serious injuries by 2040—focused on Broomfield and involving the Safer Essex Roads Partnership (SERP) and a 15 strong police enforcement team.

Speeding in Essex is not the only problem. Adam Pipe, Head of Essex Roads Policing Unit, says a “growing and deeply concerning issue” is drug driving.

“While speeding remains a visible threat, drug driving is a silent danger that is increasingly

contributing to road casualties across the UK,” says Adam.

Essex Police data shows a dramatic increase during the past eight years. In 2017, monthly drug driving arrests rarely exceeded 80 but by 2020, during the first UK national COVID-19 lockdown (March-June) arrests surged to over 300 per month. Arrest numbers since then have fluctuated but remain significantly higher than pre-2019.

“As Community Speed Watch volunteers, your presence and vigilance are vital,” says Adam. “While you may not directly detect drug drivers, your work deters all forms of dangerous driving and supports broader enforcement efforts.

“By raising awareness, reporting suspicious behaviour, and engaging with your communities, your help creates a culture of responsibility and safety.”

“Your Country Needs You,” said Lord Kitchener. Today, “Broomfield Needs You.” If you are interested in joining Community Speed Watch please contact Karen Hurrell at Broomfield Parish Council (**01245 441660**) or email **editor@broomfield-pc.gov.uk**.

Broomfield Community Speed Watch volunteers Les Steed and Geoff Garfield met local people at Broomfield’s Summer Fete to discuss the safer roads initiative.

Cllr Geoff Garfield



JOIN US FOR A SENIORS

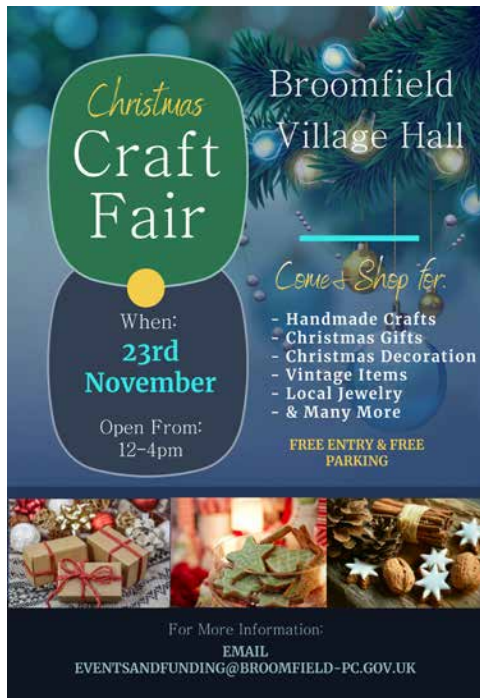
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November at 12 PM

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Broomfield Parish Church

PEOPLE & STONE

A Project Rutherford Talk

The Pity of War

Broomfield's Great War Roll of Honour
Continued

Alun Powell
Historian, Broomfield Church

Saturday 8th November

2pm

Tickets £5 from the Church or email Ros
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**Raffle &
Refreshments**

 **Heritage
Fund**

**Broomfield Cottage
Gardeners' Society**





FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW

Sunday 28th September 2025

Broomfield Village Hall

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

2.00pm to 4.00pm

Plant Stall Refreshments Raffle

Cookery, Preserves, Photography and Children's Classes

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

EVERYONE WELCOME FREE ADMISSION

www.broomfieldcottagegardenerssociety.co.uk

Broomfield Events

As Autumn approaches we reflect on all of our summer events, from discos in the park, Forest School, bouncy castles to senior lunches, Green Flag Awards and our Summer Fayre.



Here at the Parish Council, we never sit still, we are always looking for ways to provide for our community and I think our summer events just show how committed we are to making a difference here in the Village.

Our Summer Fayre, despite the weather, was a great success, over 48 community and craft stalls were in attendance, the garden show and the best part of all the mini dog show, thanks to We Love Pets Broomfield for sponsoring and Notley Puppy training school for organising the event.

Amongst all of the added events to the summer programme we have started a new Art and Craft Class on a Monday between 10am -12, our usual groups have also continued with a focus on our Wellbeing Group for unpaid carers has been running over a year, we have supported many carers with a safe space to relax, talk and make new friends.

The Community Gardens and Woodland area are thriving thanks to our wonderful Volunteers who water the gardens and care for the plants, we are always looking for new volunteers so if you find yourself with some spare time and would like to give back to the Village please do let us know.

Thank you to The Shrieking Shroom Photography for providing all the photos from the Village Fair above.

Donna Hance

EventsandFunding@broomfield-pc.gov.uk



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SOMEWHERE 2 SING®

Contemporary choir marks 10 years of song by opening new Chelmsford group.

Bursting with friendships, experiences, opportunities and moments to remember, the success of the Somewhere 2 Sing choir over the last decade is now spilling into Essex and choir director Duncan can't wait to bring the Somewhere 2 Sing experience to Chelmsford, with a new evening session.

Since starting with only a handful of attendees in 2016, the choir company is now one of the fastest growing singing groups in the region and the best thing about it is that anyone can join!

"It's heart-warming," says choir founder, Duncan Rutherford, "I never thought we'd be able to reach this many people through the power of music but we continue to grow, laugh and sing together, and provide a place for people to really belong. We're willing everyone who walks through that door for the first time to embrace it, smile, breathe and just enjoy the singing – if you do that, then the rewards will follow."

Laura Allen, a former stage and television actress (now singing teacher), will be kicking off the new group in September, bringing a roaring celebration of song and good vibes.

Laura says "We never stop creating, achieving and surprising our members, because we

never stop bringing genuine people together and making a real and positive difference in the community."

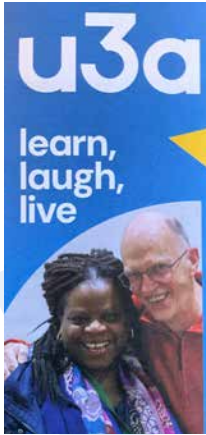
Somewhere 2 Sing always try to link with a charity or community organisation wherever they are and over the last year or so, have raised more than £10,000. The likes of Shelter, Garden House Hospice and Dementia UK have all been supported and work has already started linking with local charities in and around Chelmsford.

The choir prides itself on being able to offer incredible opportunities to everyone and give them a platform to take part in some really extraordinary experiences. Somewhere 2 Sing's highlights over the last few years include recording at the world-famous Abbey Road Studios in London, performing in Disneyland Paris, a concert tour to Cardiff and singing in front of the Christmas tree in Trafalgar Square. There are no auditions to join and no experience is needed; they will teach you everything you need to know.

If it sounds up your street and if you're interested in joining the choir, please check out their social media channels, visit their website www.somewhere2sing.co.uk or call **0330 043 6438**.

Broomfield & District u3a

u3a is for people who are no longer working and who want to keep mind and/or body active in friendly, sociable company. We are your local branch and are a charity, part of a national network, run entirely by volunteer members.



What's currently available at the branch?

Well, if you like the idea of stretching your legs and exploring the Essex countryside, there are regular guided walks, finished off with a tasty pub lunch! Not too keen on walking? There's a 'bus-pass' group making visits to places of interest across the county via public transport.

If you're interested in topics such as geology, photography, table tennis, board games, ten-pin bowling, art appreciation or tai chi, to name just a few, there are opportunities to take part in volunteer-led special interest groups covering all those.

To find out more about those groups and all the others currently on offer, just google-search our website

www.broomfield.u3asite.uk where you can also look at our regular newsletters, get contact details and obtain application forms. Along with the interest groups, we hold monthly meetings at Broomfield Village Hall (second Wednesday of the month 1:30pm-4pm) which provide an opportunity for members to come together to share information, socialise, and enjoy presentations by invited guest speakers on a very wide range of topics.

You're welcome to come along to one of these as a 'taster' where any member of committee will be happy to answer any questions you may have. Annual Membership is only £15.00

For information on u3a at a national level, go to u3a.org.uk.

Essex Dementia

Practitioners Sarah, Christine and Kerry braved the rainy weather to talk to people about their services at the Broomfield Village Hall Summer Fayre.

EDC run activity-based dementia care groups at Broomfield Village Hall every Friday from 11am until 4pm and if you are interested in finding out more, please call **01245 363789** or visit the website at www.essexdementiacare.org.uk.



Gentle Yoga for Women's Health & Menopause Support

Are you navigating the ups and downs of perimenopause or menopause? Or perhaps you're simply seeking a calm, supportive space to move, breathe and reconnect with yourself?

Join me for Gentle Yoga on Thursday evenings at 7pm in Broomfield Village Hall – a welcoming session designed especially with midlife women in mind (though all are welcome!).

This October, in honour of Menopause Awareness Month, our focus is on the power of mindful movement to support physical and emotional wellbeing during this important life phase. We explore themes like improving sleep, reducing stress, calming the nervous system and building strength – all through soft, accessible yoga and breathwork.

Yoga has been shown to ease common menopause symptoms such as anxiety, hot flushes, mood swings and fatigue. It can help regulate hormones, improve bone and joint health, and boost overall resilience. But most importantly, it offers a chance to slow down, rest, and reconnect with your body in a kind and empowering way.

Each session includes gentle yoga poses, breath awareness, simple relaxation techniques, and a short educational focus relevant to women's health. No previous yoga experience is needed – just come as you are. Please bring your own mat with you!

To ask questions or reserve a place, feel free to contact me, Kierra, at yogawithkierra@gmail.com or call **07971 34 99 32**.

£10 a session. First session free for new joiners – contact me to arrange. Let this autumn be a time to come back to yourself – calmly, kindly, and with breath.

Thursdays, 7pm–8pm Broomfield Village Hall.

By Kierra



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Tuesday 21st Oct 2025

Tuesday 18th Nov 2025

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BCGS report

Broomfield Cottage Gardeners' Society's Summer Show was held as part of the Broomfield Summer Fayre on 20th July.



Prize-winners at the BCGS 2025 Summer Show

Despite the lack of rain over the growing season there were a good number of entries with many members taking part. Our autumn show will be held on the 28th September.

Don't forget if you would like to buy garden supplies locally, members can access the Barn on the allotment site (between 149 & 151 Broomfield Road) on Sundays 10am - 12 noon.

If you would like further information on membership, are interested in joining our committee or anything else garden

related, please contact us either by email to bcgsshowsecretary@gmail.com or in person at the Barn.

Chelmsford Low Vision Exhibition 2025

Support 4 Sight is pleased to announce its Chelmsford 2025 Low Vision Exhibition and AGM is being held at 17 Cottage Place, Chelmsford, CM1 1NL at 10am-2pm on Wednesday 5th November.

If you have reduced vision, are blind or partially sighted, or are a carer or family member of someone that is, this is a great opportunity to sample a range of equipment designed to assist people with sight loss.

If you would like to contact Support 4 Sight regarding the exhibition or anything sight loss related, please contact **01245 933572** or info@support4sight.org.uk.



News from Helen Rollason Cancer Charity

Helen Rollason
Cancer Charity

IS IT TOO EARLY TO THINK ABOUT CHRISTMAS?

Apparently not! We are already taking bookings for our Christmas events.

On Sunday 30th November our popular Christmas market will return to Chelmsford City Racecourse. There will be craft and gift stalls, food and drink vendors and live entertainment to get you in a festive mood and help kick-start your shopping for treats, presents and decorations. Early bird tickets are now on sale.

On Friday 19th December we are holding a Father Christmas Experience at Layer Marney Tower. It was a huge success last year and was sold-out so early booking for this year is recommended.



Tickets include entrance to Layer Marney, a meeting with Father Christmas, a gift for each child, live festive entertainment, craft activities, storytelling, our donkeys, a ride on a London red bus, mince pies and mulled wine (for the grown-ups). There will be food and drink vendors too.

Details and tickets for all our events are on our www.helenrollason.org.uk/events.

Other dates for your diary:

- January 2026 – Christmas tree recycling
- Sunday 10th May 2026 – Ride For Helen cycle event

Little Waltham & Great Notley Surgery Patient Participation Group

We're excited to share a few important updates with you.

The new booking system, Anima is now up and running and is proving successful in making it easier for patients to get appointments or guidance with appropriate clinicians. The system is being closely monitored for any shortcomings or inconsistencies and adjustments are being made. As we are sure you are aware the Surgery is heavily subscribed and in need of more space, but every effort is being made to ensure that the patient experience at all levels is a positive one.

As you can see the PPG has set up a Facebook page that will be used to post news updates and basic information which we hope will help to keep patients better informed on services available etc.

It will not be used for sharing any personal information nor will patients be able to add comments.

Little Waltham Surgery has been redecorated throughout to make it more cheerful and welcoming and Great Notley will be following suit.

The PPG has been involved in discussions concerning the new NHS 10-year strategy, which looks promising. The next meeting of the PPG is on Wednesday 17th September, 7pm at Little Waltham Surgery and all are welcome.

If you have any queries or concerns, then please email us on lw.gn.ppg@hotmail.com.

Broomfield Village wishing tree

News from Broomfield Village Care Home.

When you wish upon a... tree! Excited Tommy Keenan is enjoying his summer break even more this year, after his dream of owning a brand-new bike came true.

The five-year-old, from Chelmsford, drew a picture to outline the one thing he was wishing for this summer when he visited the Broomfield Village Care Home stall at the Beaulieu Park School summer fayre.

Residents at the care home, which opened behind Broomfield Hospital earlier this year, took a look at all of the requests children had hung on the wishing tree before picking who would receive the surprise treat. The wishes ranged from never having to eat vegetables again to flying a plane.

Tommy visited the care home to collect the blue bike and received a goody bag from the inhouse sweet shop. Holly Claydon, customer relationship assistant at Broomfield Village, said: "We held a poll at our residents' meeting to decide who should be the lucky winner. They all spoke about their fond memories of riding their first bike when they were younger, so they were keen for this wish to come true.

"For us, this was another opportunity to give back to the community we are now a part of. Before the home opened, we were involved in volunteering in the community, and we are keen to maintain those relationships now we are open. We are always looking at ways we can be included in the community.



"Our vision is to create a world where everyone feels special. This not only extends to our residents and team, but also the wider community."

Broomfield Village is a 137-bedroom home with unique facilities unseen before in the area – including a beauty salon, a cinema room and sweet shop, an indoor gardening room, an inhouse pastry chef, and therapy pool.

The home caters for residents needing residential care, dementia care, nursing care and respite care, with a vision to make people feel special every day in their later years.

Visit www.principle-carehomes.co.uk/broomfield or email broomfieldvillage@principle-carehomes.co.uk for more information or to arrange a visit.



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Let's Champion Second-hand

I've always been fond of buying second-hand, but since having our first child (now 3 months old – doing well & looking adorable!) my feelings towards the second-hand market have only increased.

We all go on spending-sprees & sometimes go for things we don't use or wear, but when looking at the impacts of so called 'fast-fashion' they are quite shocking. The term refers to 'cheaply produced & priced garments' that get produced on-mass. I'm sticking to this industry, but consider disposable vapes, coffee cups, takeaway boxes & cheap toys which are all 'fast'.



The fashion industry is responsible for 8-10% of global emissions. A pair of jeans will take 1,000's of litres of water to make & moving to the UK on average we have 31 items in our wardrobes that haven't been worn for over a year! From all we buy, we throw out 72 items each, a year, that's 300,000 tonnes (an ocean supertanker) worth £140 million. This is where second-hand comes in.

The second-hand industry in the UK is worth £2.5 billion a year.

Vinted, eBay, Depop, Charity Shops, the variety is increasing & with that, so does the quality. With babies, now from experience, growing so quickly they only wear a sleepsuit once or twice, why do you need to buy it new? Our daughter, I'm quite confident doesn't care what she's wearing, so why should anyone else at that age.

I've saved well over £100 from buying second-hand baby clothes (& even more from sterilisers, prams, toys, books etc.). My own wardrobe is now increasingly made of re-loved items; I still have too much, but the impacts are far fewer. Does anybody point & notice anything has been worn by someone else? No, and there's been compliments instead. I've made a fair bit of pre-loved funds from selling my old items too & on apps the processes are easy to follow. There will be items that you need to buy new and that is ok. But before hitting that button or going to the till, have a look to see if someone is selling that same thing. It may surprise you about how much there is. What will be the next thing you buy?

Written by David Jackson, Sustainability Professional.

Follow my socials Insta & Tiktok for more
@david_ecolife.

A Day of Remembrance at St. Mary's and Leonard Church

St. Mary's and Leonard Church in Broomfield recently held a poignant service to commemorate VJ Day, marking the end of the Second World War.

Led by Canon John Brown and Reverend Andy Mussell, the service included a two-minute silence, wreath-laying, and heartfelt prayers.

It was a humbling and thought-provoking occasion, a time to reflect on the immense sacrifices made. VJ Day, or Victory over Japan Day, commemorates the surrender of Japan on August 15th, 1945, bringing six long years of conflict to a close. The day serves as a powerful reminder to honour all who served in the Far East and around the world.

As we stood together, we remembered them and the words of Laurence Binyon: "They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age



shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. We will remember them."

Gary Wildman on behalf of Royal British Legion, Broomfield.

Broomfield Community Care

Volunteers needed – no fixed commitment.

The new Broomfield Community Care Group is ACTIVE.

The Group has now been operational for 8 months and have helped Broomfield residents on 22 occasions. The Group assists with help to shop, getting to doctor's / dentist's surgeries and hospitals. We are looking for ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS who live in Broomfield.

Our 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.

Contact Tony Liversedge, Co-ordinator, on **01245 442382**.

Information is also available from Donna Hance on **01245 443902** at Broomfield Village Hall.



Help Make a New Local Play Area Happen

Many Broomfield residents will doubtless have visited the children's play area at Great Waltham Recreation Ground in South Street.

A project is underway to refurbish the equipment, but help is required to make sure all the funds needed are raised.



The overall net cost of replacing the old play items with exciting new ones will be £160,000. The refreshed play area will provide a range of colourful, inclusive, challenging and fun items for youngsters of all abilities, from toddlers up to children aged 12. They will be linked by all-weather paths giving all year-round access for children, parents and carers. There will be 25 new items of equipment which range in price from £237 for an interactive play panel for toddlers to £56,000 for the largest item, a forest themed multiplay suitable for 40+ children at a time that will arch over the grass mound.



Work to secure grants from institutional investors is in progress, but you can help too.

If you own a local business and would like to sponsor a particular play item, either in full or part, it will be either branded with your company's name or logo, or the name/logo will be added to a sponsors

recognition board at the entrance to the play area. If you are interested, please contact: gtwalthamplayground@gmail.com.

Alternatively, as an individual or family, you can make a contribution and leave a legacy for the future. You can donate by going to this website www.gofundme.com/f/great-waltham-playground-refresh-2025 or using the QR code shown here.



If you can contribute to this once in a generation project to provide a fun and safe environment for local children for many years to come, please donate to help turn the exciting plans into a reality.

A New Era at Broomfield British Legion Social Club

Come and see the new-look British Legion!
We've made some big changes and we're excited to welcome you.

We offer:

- Affordable drinks from our licensed bar.
- Monthly entertainment, with Smouldering Grill serving up delicious BBQ food.
- Two snooker tables and two dart boards.
- Live sports with Sky TV, showing two different games at once!

We are a private club, so membership is required.
Join online at:- Britishlegion.org.uk.



We also have great rates for businesses needing a daytime meeting space or for life's significant moments, from happy celebrations with family and friends, to sombre gatherings for a loved one's passing.

Come and be a part of our new community!

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WEEKLY WALKS

WEDNESDAYS 9.30AM MEETING AT CHEERFUL CHAI, BROOMFIELD

FRIDAYS 12 NOON MEETING AT BOOTMAKER BAR, CHELMSFORD

MONTHLY WALKS

THE LAST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH MEETING 9AM AT TURTLE BAY, CHELMSFORD

NEW WALKS ARE BEING ADDED TO THE SCHEDULE SOON KEEP UPDATE BY FOLLOWING US @WALKANDTALKCLUBCHELMSFORD ON SOCIAL MEDIA OR CHECKING THE WEBSITE

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News from Broomfield Library

It has been another successful summer at the library, with more than 150 children taking part in the annual Summer Reading Challenge.

They have enjoyed collecting stickers to fill their Story Garden folders and taking away certificates and medals to show their teachers upon school's return. Our three volunteers have been aiding us every step of the way – so a big thank you to them!

The summer has also seen the staging of the Big School Meet-Up: a chance for parents of those starting school this autumn to mingle and pick up tips and information.

We will have our final visit of the year (on Saturday 27th September at 3pm) of our local Neighbourhood Police PCSO, who has dropped in at the library on three Saturdays to listen to the concerns of local people.

But as summer turns to autumn there will be no let up in the regular events that the library holds. Every second Monday of the month we have a games afternoon for adults: board games are available to play. And every Wednesday at 10am we have our regular rhyme time for babies and toddlers.

Those who enjoy reading and discussing books across the genres might like to join our Common Readers reading group, which meets in the library once a month on a Saturday at 11am.



Essex County Council Libraries

This is a digital poster, please do not print

Baby and Toddler Rhymetime

Broomfield Library

Every Wednesday 10am to 10.30am

- Stories and rhymes for under 5's
- Free your child's imagination with songs and stories, give their early communication skills a boost and have fun together!
- No booking required



libraries.essex.gov.uk

The group is free to join – all books are provided by the library service – and the discussions are always lively.

Is it a moth or a butterfly?

I think it is a Tiger Moth – but stand corrected?

Seen in a garden in Ridley Road... how beautiful can nature be!



Santa Sleigh Dates and Destinations December 2025

Once more this Christmas, Chelmsford Mildmay Rotary Club has included our local routes in Santa's worldwide journey.

Santa will tour the following areas with his troupe of elves accompanying the Sleigh's jolly music and lights on its merry journey. They all hope to bring good cheer and the Christmas spirit to all the families and children along the way and ensure all money raised will be donated to local charities.

NOVEMBER:

29th Sat - Beaulieu Community Centre
Christmas Fayre 11:00am - 4pm

DECEMBER:

02nd Tues - Armistice Avenue - Wright Crescent - Ben Wilson Link

04th Thurs - Centenary Way - Linge Avenue - Walter Whybrow Crescent

11th Thurs - Boreham: Butterfield Road Shops (static) - Butterfield Road area including St Andrews Road and Fitzwalter Road - Orchard Way - Orchard Plaza (static)

12th Fri - Channels - Albatross Way - Lower Wimbish Road - Belfrey Crescent - St Andrews Drive - Channels Drive - Brassie Wood - Mashie Link - Fairway Drive

13th Sat - Sainsbury's Superstore White Hart Lane 8am - 7pm

14th Sun - Ford End

15th Mon - Little Waltham - Broads Green - Great Waltham - Howe Street

17th Wed - Centenary Way - Wilfred Waterman Way - Robert Finch Crescent - Minns Avenue

18th Thurs - Goldenacres - Stablecroft - Paddock Drive - Trenchard Crescent - Mountbatten Way - Daffodil Way - Hunters Way - Martingale

20th Sat - Morrisons Superstore, Regiment Business Park, Eagle Way 9am - 6pm

Routes may change depending on weather and other unforeseen circumstances and there may be stopping points on some routes - so please check our daily updates.



www.facebook.com/mildmayrotary

Track Santa during December at

www.glympse.com/!mildmaysleightracker.

St Mary with St Leonard
Broomfield Parish Church

**HARVEST
FESTIVAL**

Sunday 21st September

9.30am

Family Service

*Gifts of non-perishable foods for
distribution around the Parish and for
the Food Bank are welcome*

News from Broomfield Hospital

Friends
at Broomfield Hospital

YOUNG CANCER PATIENT AND SCHOOL FRIENDS DONATE £2,400 OF TOYS TO BROOMFIELD HOSPITAL'S CHILDREN'S WARD



A ten-year-old girl from Chelmsford has turned her cancer journey into an inspiring act of kindness, raising £2,400 with the

help of her school friends to donate toys to children's wards at Broomfield Hospital.

Amber Butcher, a pupil at The Beaulieu Park School, was diagnosed with Osteosarcoma – an aggressive bone cancer – at age nine. A lot of her care, due to illness linked with chemotherapy required her to stay in isolation at Broomfield Hospital, meaning she couldn't use the ward's playground. Thanks to the hospital's play team, Amber and her younger sister Lyla received brand-new toys to enjoy together during these difficult stays.

When Amber learned the toys were donated, she decided they wanted to give back. With support from their school, including Headteacher Mrs Koller, and the wider community, they organised a cake sale and online fundraiser, raising £2,400 to purchase toys for other young patients.

Amber's mum Victoria said: "The play team were incredible. They made sure Amber and Lyla could play together despite the isolation. We feel so lucky to have had such support from the hospital and our school community."

Clair Dade, Fundraising Coordinator at Mid and South Essex Hospitals Charity, said: "Amber's courage is truly inspirational. This donation will bring joy to many children, and we're so grateful to Amber, her friends and her school for their generosity."

Amber has now completed chemotherapy and continues to attend weekly physio and hydrotherapy sessions as part of her recovery.

FRIENDS AT BROOMFIELD SUPPORT VITAL NEW EQUIPMENT FOR BROOMFIELD'S NEONATAL UNIT

Broomfield Hospital's Neonatal Unit has received vital new equipment thanks to generous funding from the Friends at Broomfield Hospital. The charity has funded a new neonatal transport incubator, worth over £47,000. The additional incubator will play a crucial role in safely transferring some of the most vulnerable babies from the maternity unit to the neonatal ward. Designed specially to provide consistent, controlled ventilation for newborns, the incubator ensures their safety and stability during transfers. Being portable means that it also allows medical staff to deliver high-quality care even during movement between departments, reducing the risk of complications for premature or seriously ill babies. It may also be called upon when the Neonatal transport team is particularly busy with transfers to other hospitals, providing an essential back-up option during peak times.

This latest donation continues an outstanding partnership spanning more than 75 years. Since their formation in 1949, the volunteers from the Friends at Broomfield Hospital have worked tirelessly to support patients, staff, and services across Broomfield Hospital. Jackie Kane, Ward Manager of the Neonatal Unit, said: "We are extremely grateful for the support and funding received from the Friends at Broomfield to make this purchase possible. This new equipment will make a big difference to both patients and staff."

Alison Douglas, Chairperson of Friends at Broomfield, said: "We are delighted to have been able to donate this wonderful piece of equipment to the neonatal team, the volunteers work incredibly hard to raise the funds, and to see how pleased the staff are with it is extremely gratifying, we hope that this will help many new mums and their babies". Thanks to this donation, the Neonatal Unit is now even better equipped to care for the hospital's tiniest and most vulnerable patients, providing reassurance to families at a difficult time.



Farleigh Hospice

News from Farleigh Hospice

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

BUZZ IN THE CITY AUCTION: 17th SEPTEMBER



This is a unique opportunity to own one of the brilliant giant bee sculptures. The auction will be held at the Channels Estate, Chelmsford and hosted

by popular auctioneer and television antiques expert, James Lewis of Bamfords Auctioneers.

For more information go to

www.buzzinthecity.co.uk/auction or call 01245 457411.

FESTIVE GIFT FAYRE: 12th NOVEMBER



Join Farleigh for shopping, relaxation and fun from midday to 8pm at the Channels Estate in Chelmsford. There will be pop-up shops and mini pampering

sessions plus refreshments, lunches and snacks. Tickets are only £4 in advance from

www.farleighhospice.org/festivegiftfayre or £5 on the day and include entry into a prize draw to win a luxury hamper!

REINDEER RUN

Nurseries, schools and youth groups can hold a Reindeer Run to raise money for Farleigh. Children - can take part by walking, jogging, running or propelling themselves. You decide the date, distance and location and Farleigh will provide a free pack including reindeer antlers for every child plus an adult Santa suit -

www.farleighhospice.org/reindeer-run.

SANTA FUN RUN: 7th DECEMBER

Walk, jog or run around Central Park in Chelmsford in festive fancy dress! For the latest information on Farleigh's much-loved seasonal fun run, go to www.farleighhospice.org/events/santa-2025.

SPORTING CHALLENGES



Are you a walker, runner, cyclist or thrill seeker? Whatever your interest or level of fitness, Farleigh has a challenge to suit you at www.farleighhospice.org/challenges.

Broomfield Parish Church

PEOPLE & STONE

A Talk and Demonstration

Our Church Bells

David Marcus
& The Bell Ringers

Saturday 27th September

2pm Tickets £5

email Ros.rosalindmrcr0308@gmail.com
or pay on the door

Heritage Fund

Raffle & Refreshment

COMING UP at St Mary's Church....

21st September - Harvest Festival Family Service

27th September - People & Stone Talk 'Our Church Bells'

Sept/Oct - Quiz Night Date TBC

2nd November - Bereavement Service

8th November - People & Stone Talk: The Pity of War continued Broomfield Roll of Honour from WWI

9th November - Remembrance Service

11th November - Armistice Service on the Green

16th November - Shoeboxes Family Service

29th November - Christmas Fayre
Bell Ringing every Wednesday. Get in touch if you would like to join the team!!

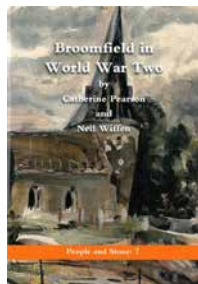
Everyone is welcome at St Mary's for Christian worship and prayer.

The main Sunday Services are always at 9:30am and are open to all.

Children enjoy Lego church on the first Sunday of the month and families are particularly welcome for our informal services on the third Sunday of the month. Prayers are said for 20 minutes at 9am every weekday morning in term time, so if you are looking for a time of peace after the school run, do join us.

UPDATE ON NEW VICAR

You may know that we are currently without a vicar now that Carolyn has retired. We are fortunate that Canon John Brown is covering most of our services and the PCC are busy putting together the parish profile to advertise for a new vicar to start in the new year. Maybe we will have news about this in the next issue of the Broomfield Times – Watch this Space!



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.

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH – YOUR SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED



Please (if you can) any donations to the QR Code attached would be greatly received.

THANK YOU & GOD BLESS X

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1ST BROOMFIELD SCOUT GROUP

Lots of fun has been had during the Summer by all groups:



Other news...

Thank you to Malcolm Taylor who has stepped down as Chair after being involved in Scouts since 1984 – we welcome Hasad Khan who has taken over the mantle.

To provide an exciting programme

Volunteers are always Needed!

Contact broomfieldcubs@live.co.uk for details how to get involved.



BROOMFIELD WOMEN AND GIRLS FC

JOIN OUR TEAM!

Looking for players with or without experience to join our First and Reserves teams.

Training – Wednesdays – 7pm on 3g. Games take place 2pm on Sundays.

Contact: Paul Goss – 07900 593103
Mill Lane, Broomfield, Chelmsford, CM1 7BQ



BROOMFIELD FOOTBALL CLUB
A Football Incorporated registered company limited by guarantee



QUIZ NIGHT

SAT 27th September 2025
@ Broomfield Football Club

BYO Snacks
Table Service for Drinks
Raffle

7pm REGISTRATION – 7.30pm KO
£30 ENTRY PER TEAM
MAX 6 PEOPLE PER TEAM
TROPHY/WINE FOR WINNING TEAM
FORFEITS FOR LOSING TEAM!

To Register and book your table contact
SARAH CLARK
TEL: 07920 815709
or e-mail
sezmay75@gmail.com
BFC, Mill Lane, Broomfield, Chelmsford, CM17BQ

Broomfield Cricket Club Summer Update

The sun's been shining, but our Saturday 1st and 2nd XIs have been stuck in the shade, struggling to notch up wins.

Yet, with regulars missing, our young guns have stepped up, grabbing their chance and becoming the backbone of both teams. Our Colts results this season are proof that Broomfield's pipeline is strong: the U9s have a winning record, U10s look set for 2nd in their league and made a cup semi-final, U11s bagged the Div 2 East crown and have a winner-takes-all clash for the West, U13 Invincibles won 8 of 8, and the U15s have cruised to a mid-table finish. So, if the adult teams do tumble down a division or two, rest assured, the comeback will be youth-fuelled, which we're all very excited about here at Broomfield CC.

As the season winds down and the nights draw in, we're keeping the energy up with quiz nights, bake-offs, and plenty of laughs. Pop down, you might end up playing on a Saturday next Summer or cheering on your little legend in the colts. New faces always welcome, no baking skills required!





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