

The Braxted Bulletin

FEBRUARY 2019



VILLAGE INFORMATION

Clerks to the Parish Councils:

Great Braxted Sarah Mann Tel 01621 892821

Little Braxted Gordon Musset Tel 01376 520103

Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator:

Great and Little Braxted Mandy Chapman Email:
thebraxtedsneighbourhoodwatch@yahoo.com

Non-urgent contact for Police: 101 or 0300 333 4444

Non-urgent contact for medical concerns: 111

Water 0345 7820999, **Electricity** 0800 0294285

Responsibility for Essex Highways:

Essex County Council 0845 603 7631

Library Information:

Wickham Bishops Library

School Road, Wickham Bishops, Witham CM8 3NU Tel
0333 013 2706

Opening times

Monday 14.00 – 18.00

Wednesday 14.00 - 18.00

Saturday 09.00 – 13.00

Next Parish Councils

Great Braxted The next meeting of the Gt Braxted PC is on March 14th 2019. Changed from 7th March 8.00 p.m. – in the Pavilion
Email: parishcouncil@greatbraxted.com

Little Braxted All are held at the Braxted Bakery, and start at 7.00 p.m.

The next dates are:-

26th March, 23rd April, 14th May

All members of the public are welcome to attend

**ST NICHOLAS' LITTLE BRAXTED
CHURCH NEWS
February 2019**

SUNDAY Services on the third Sunday of the month will resume in March 2019

For children's and family activities and other services see

<http://www.churchinwickhambishops.org.uk/>

or refer to Facebook for St Bartholomew's Church or Edward Bears or Messy Church

Notices

Contacts:	Priest-in-Charge	Revd. Hilary Le Sève	01621 892867
	Churchwardens	Barry Cousins	01621 891355
		Graham Wingrove	01621 891844

Little Braxted Parish Council Meeting

So far this year the Parish Council have started investigations into providing a small social housing scheme, and much-enhanced broadband for parts of the Parish outside the scope of the Essex Faster Broadband scheme.

(please see village information page for future council meeting dates as residents are encouraged to attend).



ALL SAINTS GREAT BRAXTED

CHURCH NEWS FEBRUARY 2019

We celebrated Epiphany on 6th January and the service was well attended and the “Three Kings” are now in the crib which will remain until Candlemas

Church services revert to the usual pattern now please see details below. Easter is late this year so we will not be in Lent until March .

Some sad news in that two ex-stalwarts of the church passed away just before Christmas.

“Bill” Watson was in the past a member of the parish council and also a Church Warden who oversaw the extension of the vestry and toilets and a kitchenette in the church, including obtaining the funding for the works. He and Ann emigrated to Australia some time ago. His funeral was in the Cathedral in Ballarat , Victoria on 27th December.

Betty Frost passed away on 22nd December two days before her 89th birthday and her funeral was at All Saints on 17th January. She was our Organist for many years. Rest in Peace.

A couple of future dates to note: Shrove Tuesday is on March 5th; Ash Wednesday is 6th March; Mothering Sunday is 31st March and Easter Sunday is on 21st April

The church services for this month are as follows:

SUNDAY	3rd February	Family Service at 11.15 am
SUNDAY	10th February	Communion 1 at 11.15 am
SUNDAY	17th February	Matins (Morning Service) at 11.15 am
SUNDAY	24th February	Communion 1 at 11.15 am

Contacts: Rector	Rev. Anne-Marie Renshaw	01621 815260
Churchwardens	Mike Puttick	01621 816830
	Toni Curson	01621 819149
Admin. Assistant	Christine Hall [office hours]	01621 819557

WELCOME TO THE SHORTEST MONTH OF THE YEAR

The birthstone for February is amethyst. The birth flower is the violet or iris.

Maybe the 14th will be the most romantic day of the year for some, but in Old English, February was called Solmonath (Mud month) or Kale-monath (Kale or cabbage month), and I am not sure romance and boiled cabbages go well together!

WELCOME TO BRAXTED

Welcome to ...

If you have new neighbours that you would like to add to this article next month, please let me know.

The Braxted Bulletin is published to help everyone feel part of the community, recognizing people's achievements, the value of community activity, and to encourage support of local businesses. Please contribute by sending us your good news, suggestions and details of any events

Copy for February Bulletin – cut-off date February 20th

Lee.kane01@hotmail.com

BRAXTED RESIDENTS FACEBOOK GROUPS

Those interested, in local updates, including stories found in the Braxted bulletin and other local issues reported by your neighbours, please feel free to join the following private Facebook groups, by either searching for 'Great Braxted Residents' (current members total 63), or using the below link for Great Braxted and requesting access, or requesting to join 'Little Braxted' group (current members total 49) via Facebook message to Ali Aldi.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1637978482902828/>

POP-UP PUB

Lisa Stanton will reopen the pop up again in April. The reason for this is the very low numbers of people attending during January and March. If anybody else wishes to keep it going in these months, then great; dates will need to be booked direct with Yvonne

NB *The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the editor, nor can the editor guarantee the credentials or performance of any of the advertisers within this publication.*

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Full page £30 Half page £15 Quarter page £10

Advert enquiries email: Maria.armstrong2@btinternet.com

PET OF THE MONTH

If you believe your pet is the most adorable, one of a kind, or even unusual pet, please forward your favourite picture, and a few descriptive words to the editor Lee.kane01@hotmail.com, and the best will be done to include this in The Bulletin in the months to come.

If you use the Wickham Bishops library, please fill out the survey.
The survey will be open from 29 November 2018 to 20 February 2019.

WICKHAM BISHOPS PARISH COUNCIL



LIBRARY CLOSURE CONSULTATION

Have you completed the survey yet?

Under Essex County Council's proposals, 44 of the 74 libraries in Essex are to close, including your Wickham Bishops library. Some may be replaced by a community & volunteer-led service.

HAVE YOUR SAY

It is really important that you fill out the survey. It is the best way of influencing the outcome. You can complete the survey:

- Online: <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/libraries-consultation>
- By post: ask in the library for a postal survey
- By telephone: 0345 603 7639

Crowds turn out in January as town celebrates Plough Monday

Plough Monday is the traditional start of the English agricultural year. While local practices may vary, Plough Monday is generally the first Monday after Twelfth Day (Epiphany), 6 January. References to Plough Monday date back to the late 15th century.

The day traditionally saw the resumption of work after the Christmas period in some areas, particularly in northern England and East England. The customs observed on Plough Monday varied by region, but a common feature to a lesser or greater extent was for a plough to be hauled from house to house in a procession, collecting money. They were often accompanied by musicians.

Plough Monday customs declined in the 19th century but were revived in some towns in the 20th. They are now mainly associated with Molly dancing and a good example can be seen each year at Maldon in Essex

Plough Monday, which was revived in Maldon in 1995 - sees a group of molly dancers travel up through Maldon performing their classic style of morris dance.



The story goes that if the plough came around and you were a farmer that didn't donate anything for the parish, you would have your field cross ploughed so that you wouldn't be able to grow anything on it that year.

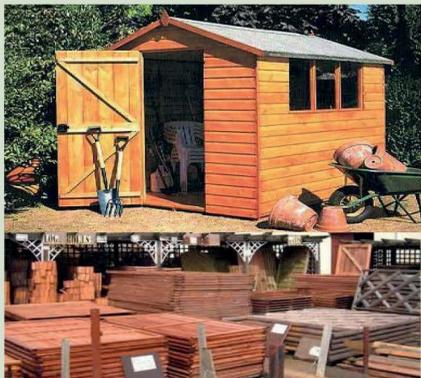
As a disguise, the villagers would use the soil from the earth to rub on their faces and add to the whole experience.

The type of face colouring depends where you are in the country.

In Maldon, the soil is earthy and black but if you go to Oxfordshire, their face colourings are reddish brown.

Up in the Midlands, they were brave and didn't put on any soil and if you go down to the south east, their faces are white because the soil there is chalky.

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Essex Police dog Baloo finds 'forever home'

A police dog who had her leg amputated after being injured on duty has been re-homed by a dog loving couple in our local community, they were chosen by the force, after having received 670 offers to take her.

The Belgian Malinois was retired from duty after being hit by a car. She broke her pelvis and leg, and the leg had to be amputated. Baloo had been responding to an incident with her handler PC Ross Ashcroft in October. PC Ashcroft, who will continue to visit Baloo, said he was delighted his former work partner had found a good home.

Baloo will be taken to Essex Retired Police Dogs Fund events in the future to raise awareness about the charity.



Swim 4 RPD Baloo #TriPaw

Essex Police Dog Baloo's career was cut short when she was struck by a suspect's car fleeing a crime scene in October. Unfortunately her injuries were so severe her front right leg had to be amputated and she had metal plates screwed into her pelvis. She is undergoing hydrotherapy and physiotherapy as part of a treatment programme at Writtle College. Her rehabilitation will be lifelong.

Money is being raised for Essex Retired Police Dogs Fund and any donation will help Baloo and other retired Police Dogs. Baloo's new carers are planning an outdoor swim 6 miles up the Mawddach estuary at the base of Snowdonia on 28th September 2019 in an event called The Hurly Burly!

You can find out how to donate to this worthy cause, by going to the following website <https://www.gofundme.com> and searching for Swim 4 RPD Baloo #TriPaw

A stylized logo consisting of the letters 'S' and 'H' intertwined in a blue, cursive font.

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Supporting independent living for people over 65. How can a Community Agent help?

- **Community Agents** are a free service provided by a voluntary sector partnership funded by Essex County Council
- **Healthy living and Wellbeing** – information and advice on meals services and falls prevention.
- **Understanding the Care System, and Carers Support** - for people contemplating assistance or care in the home or people who are in a caring role - helping them to access practical support, information, advice and peer support
- **Individual resilience** - by providing advice and support that ensures correct entitlement to benefits such as **Blue Badge**; **Attendance Allowance** and **Pension Credit**.

• To request a home visit please call 08009775858 or 01376574341

www.essexrcc.org.uk/Our_work_with_Communities/Community_Agents_Essex.aspx



Colchester Zoo: Essex Christmas tree recycling goes wild

story courtesy of BBC News

Christmas tree recycling has created a "novel" post-festive delight for the residents of Colchester zoo.

About 200 trees, donated by local businesses, have been introduced as part of an enrichment programme at Colchester Zoo for many species including elephants, meerkats and chimpanzees.

"The animals really enjoy the Christmas trees," zoo spokeswoman Laura Lamb said. Food is hidden in the trees to encourage foraging and play.





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This year Maria Armstrong is there as a breed expert for Weimaraners at the Discover Dogs stand together with her puppy Topper.

Also Belinda Spensley will be there with a display of Stunt Dogs and Animals for Arden Grange dog food with little Gizmo, who played the Footstool in the latest Disney production of Beauty and the Beast. *see gizmo in action in the picture below*



The Dog show dates are:

- Thursday 7th March Gundogs
- Friday 8th March Working and Pastoral
- Saturday 9th March Terrier and Hound
- Sunday 10th March Toy and Utility

To be held at the **NEC Birmingham**

You can get tickets on the door, or if you want to see any of the special classes like Best in Show or Agility Finals, you need to order the tickets up front from the Kennel Club website.

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If you FIND a dog . . .

- Look around the area and see if there is anyone obviously looking for their lost pet.
- Report to the local council (dog warden); it is the law and they may already have had the dog reported as missing. You can find details of your local dog warden on-line here: www.gov.uk/report-stray-dog
- If you can, take the dog to a local vets for them to scan for a chip. In most cases they will then be able to call the owner if dog is chipped, or call the local dog warden to collect if not.
- In Scotland you should also report to the police.
- Also check in the 'Lost' section of the DogLost website to see if this dog has been reported as missing. www.doglost.co.uk/dog-search.php?status=Lost
- Many of our volunteers in the area do have scanners so may be able to come out and scan the dog for you. You can ask on local DogLost pages if anyone can help or call our head office for more information.
- Register the dog on the DogLost website: www.doglost.co.uk and share on Social Media such as Facebook / Twitter, local DogLost pages and groups.
- You can also print posters from this dog's page using the **View Poster** button and put up around the area that he / she was found. Don't forget to laminate in case it rains.
- If you can, put Posters in local shops, pubs, garages, supermarkets; everywhere that there are a lot of people. Spread the word to try to find the owners . . .

Thank you for caring!!!



*Stolen & Missing
Pets Alliance*

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VILLAGE ACTIVITIES IN BRAXTED PAVILION

Lettings Officer & Key Holder: Yvonne Hunter 892034

- Monday** **Maldon Art Group** 9am-4pm, every second Monday of the Month.
Gill Cameron 01621 857602
- Monday** **Metafit [keep fit]** 7pm – 9pm. *Lisa Brand 01621 893720*
- Tuesday** **Whist Club**, 7pm every 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month from October to April. *Roy Copsey 01621 892697*
- Tuesday** **Choir**, every last Tuesday of the month. *Emma Jackson 07852988502*
- Wednesday** **Pilates Class** 4:30pm. *Maureen Barnes 07718741362*
- Thurs& Sat** **Dog Club** Thursday 11:30am-1:30pm, 1st Saturday of the month (Excl Jan), from 10am. *Diane Sawford 01621 893664*
- Friday** **Braxted Art Club** 12pm-5pm. *David Joyce 01621 891241*
- Friday** **Pop-Up Pub**, bring drinks & nibbles, all welcome, £1 a head, *every second Friday evening of the month from April-December*
- Misc** **Parish Council and Pavilion Committee** Meetings (details in Bulletin)
Home school intermittently some weekday Wednesday's

