

# **GREAT HORKESLEY VILLAGE NEWS**



**Summer/Autumn Issue 145  
Aug 2025 - Oct 2025**



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# From the Editor

Recently, the warm weather has arrived, but Rusty and I aren't fans (although I had plenty of fans trying to cool us down!). Due to the hot weather, Rusty's walks have been reduced, so I've concentrated on providing him with sufficient mental engagement. Despite the hot weather meaning the Summer Fayre's dog show was cancelled, my hastily arranged dog-themed tombola managed to raise money. I appreciate those who visited, purchased tickets, or enjoyed the shade under the gazebo. Also a big thank you to Allan, my partner, who I roped in to help me.

This edition is packed with great articles, kids colouring, recipes, useful contacts, club information, and details on upcoming events. If you would like to get involved in the magazine, perhaps contributing an article, then please get in touch. All magazines are funded by local business adverts so please support them as best you can. The magazine is for the village, from the village!

*Aspiring photographers, please step forward!*

For a chance to grace the cover of our upcoming magazine, submit your best colour photo. Given its November to January timeframe, an Autumn/Winter theme would be wonderful.

Front cover photo courtesy of:

Sara Canham

"A view down Brick Kiln Lane"

This magazine is available in full colour on the Great Horkesley Parish Council website.

*Questions or feedback?*

Contact me via email:

**[horkesleyvillagenews@gmail.com](mailto:horkesleyvillagenews@gmail.com)**

*Best wishes Caroline*



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# Great Horkesley Parish Council

[www.greathorkesley-pc.gov.uk](http://www.greathorkesley-pc.gov.uk)

[clerk@greathorkesley-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@greathorkesley-pc.gov.uk)

Most of my time in recent weeks has been spent preparing the Parish Council's accounts for audit. The internal audit has now been completed, and the auditor was very positive, so now everything has been sent to the external auditor. The notice for the period of public rights has begun and hopefully the annual audit process for 2024-25 will be completed in early August.

The Council have been making good progress with taking on ownership of the Jubilee Green and are aiming for a handover date of 1st December. Solicitors have been engaged and are starting to work on the copious amounts of admin entailed. This should mean that come next year, the Parish Council will hopefully be in control of more regular grass cutting, improvements to the play area and facilities on the green, and also hire charges for the open space; the summer fayre organised by a group of volunteer residents currently have to pay hundreds of pounds to the City Council to hire the green for the free community event, and this is something that councillors wish to address.

Councillors are also continuing to push for the speed limit change on the A134. It is incredibly frustrating that this was agreed circa 18 months ago, yet still the action has not been taken to change it. Cllr Lewis Barber is helping with this, and we really hope for a positive update soon.

I have received complaints from both parish councillors and residents regarding the EV bikes that are left carelessly around the village, and particularly along the A134 as a few near misses have occurred when people (especially schoolchildren) swerve into the road to avoid them. I have put in a complaint with those responsible for the bikes, but it would help enormously if everyone could please leave the bikes sensibly and safely once they have been used.

As yet, we have no update on a decision on the outline planning application for the land north of Coach Road (Planning Application 250545), although this may have changed by the time this edition of the Village News reaches you. The next actions of the Parish Council very much depend on the outcome of the application, so we wait to hear whether it is approved or rejected.

Village Hall bookings are starting to pick up over the summer months, and we have recently taken on three new regular hirers during the week - please take a look at the updated list of regular hirers elsewhere in this magazine.

Someone has recently taken the water bowl that was left by the drinking fountain for dogs to use - please could you return it as soon as possible as this is used regularly by local dog walkers. We do have CCTV covering the area.

There are a few improvements planned for the hall. In July, the three external doors in the main hall are being replaced, as they are not fit for purpose. The Village Hall Committee are also looking into increasing the number of solar panels on the hall roof, and installing air conditioning, as they know the temperature in the hall rises rapidly in the summer months.

Residents are always welcome to attend council meetings to raise any matters regarding the Village, but please respect those who give up their own time and energy for free to listen to your concerns and fulfil their role of councillor. We had an instance recently where derogatory remarks were made by a resident as they left the meeting, and this will not be tolerated.

It is much quicker if you contact the City Council or Essex Highways directly for complaints or reports of potholes, missed bin collections, fly tipping and graffiti - contact details can be found on page 70. If you need to contact the Parish Clerk about any other matters then please email me in the first instance as this will receive the quickest response, thank you. Councils tend to take a step back over the summer months, and we don't have an August meeting, so I will also be taking some annual leave and therefore please be aware that I will not be able to reply immediately over the next six weeks. Wishing everyone a fantastic summer break!

Teri Duckworth, Parish Clerk, Great Horkesley Parish Council





# Regular Activities

## On Sundays

10.30am - 12noon

Eagle Ministries Freedom Church

Tel: 07754088078 Paul & Karen Carr

2pm - 4pm Tea Dance

*(selected Sundays only)*

Email: thedancesteps@gmail.com

## On Mondays *(term time only)*

10am - 11.15am Yoga Class

Tel: 07981022621 – Meg Lyon

4pm - 7pm Impressario Dance School

Tel: 07793140504 - Amy Rackliff

7.30pm - 9.30pm Explorer Scouts

Email: liz.welch@cnds.org.uk

## On Tuesdays

9.30am - 10.30am Bounce Class

Tel: 07738432165 - Natasha King

2pm - 4pm Craft Club (Braeburn Room)

*(2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month only)*

Tel: 01206 271713 - Margaret Williams

7pm - 9pm W.I.

*2nd Tuesday of the month only*

Tel: 07763488774 – Marilyn Hurst

7pm - 9pm Masonic Lodge

*(1st, 4th and 5th Tuesday of the month only)*

suffolkfreemason.org.uk

## On Wednesdays

9.45am-10.45am The Messy Den

*(term time only)*

Email: info@themessyden.co.uk

2pm - 4pm Afternoon Tea

*(2nd Wednesday of the month only)*

Tel: 01206 271713 - Margaret Williams

5pm - 7pm AA Meeting

help@aamail.org / 0800 917 7650

7.30pm – 8.30pm Clubbercise

Tel: 07814404760 - Toni Wilson

## On Thursdays

10am-11am More Than The Mat

*(Pilates)*

Tel: 07977900661 - Alanna

1pm-2pm Glow Bambino

*(Sensory Class)*

Tel: 07730677596 - Emily

7pm-9pm Tai Chi *(term time only)*

## On Fridays

9.30am - 10.30am Bounce Class

Tel: 07738432165 - Natasha King

2pm - 4pm Tea Dance

*(selected Fridays only)*

Email: thedancesteps@gmail.com

7.00pm - 8.45pm

Youth Club (School Year 6 Upwards)

*(fortnightly term time only)*

Tel: 07505132664 - Karen Carr

**For enquiries and bookings please contact 07827911934**

**or email hallbookings@greathorkesley-pc.gov.uk**

	<p><b>Cllr. Lewis Barber CC</b> County Councillor for Constable Division ☎ 07876 237137 ✉ lewisbarber2707@icloud.com</p>		<p><b>Cllr. TOM ROWE</b> City Councillor for Rural North Ward ☎ 07375 238749 ✉ thomas.rowe83@googlemail.com</p>
	<p><b>Cllr. DARIUS LAWS</b> City Councillor for Rural North Ward ☎ 07756 007560 ✉ dariusglaws@gmail.com</p>		<p><b>Cllr. WILLIAM SUNNUCKS</b> City Councillor for Rural North Ward ☎ 07771 940763 ✉ william@sunnucks.co.uk</p>

**New Signage for Coach Road/Nayland Road/London Road Junction:** County Cllr Lewis Barber has persuaded the Local Highways Panel to fund better signage at this junction to hopefully reduce accidents. Will this be enough to reduce incidents at this spot or would other measures be useful, please do let us know?

**Speeding on the A134 (Chesterwell – Great Horkesley):** The team recently met with Essex Highways to demand progress on lowering the speed limit on the A134 between Great Horkesley and Chesterwell. Despite public support for a reduction in the 60 mph speed limit, and a positive indication from Essex County Council's Cabinet Member for Highways, formal progress had stalled for far too long. County Councillor Lewis Barber said, "Highways Officers expressed a surprising concern that reducing the speed limit might encourage higher speeds, an argument we challenged robustly. We made clear the urgent need for this change, particularly given the increased number of pedestrians, including children walking to school". Following our intervention, Highways have now accepted the case and agreed to move forward with the formal decision.

**Housing in Great Horkesley:** Colchester's plan for development drastically increases the council's high housing targets. Colchester City Council (CCC) released information on locations for thousands of new homes within the next 15 years. Colchester's draft Local Plan sharply increases the council's high house-building target, implementing the Labour government's strategy of moving housing from cities to the countryside. The impact of these proposals on the local countryside and some villages will be significant - with 413 new homes allocated to Great Horkesley alone (ref. PP34 & PP35), Cllr. William Sunnucks, has conducted a "deep dive" into planning at Colchester Council and is pressing for an infrastructure first approach to development. Cllr. William Sunnucks said, "There is still no proper infrastructure planning in Colchester Council's Local Plan. The new plan allocates land for a 26% increase in the housing stock, and thus a 26% increase in population. But there is no planning for a proportionate investment in roads, public transport, GP surgeries, sewage systems or hospitals". Following pressure from Conservative Councillors and residents, at a meeting in May, Colchester Council's Local Plan Committee voted to postpone the scheduled Local Plan consultation for a second time to allow more time for infrastructure concerns to be addressed. "Colchester is already one of the fastest growing areas in the country. We cannot support further house-building at the scale proposed unless expanded facilities are planned in proportion. If nothing is done, residents will suffer ongoing traffic congestion and won't be able to get a GP appointment. The hospital will be full, sewage will flood into the rivers and the supply of water will be short", added Cllr. Sunnucks.

**Fly-tipping:** Sadly we have seen a rise in the number of fly-tipping incidents. The City Council will do their best to keep on top of this but if you do spot any the quickest way of it being dealt with is by logging it via the [colchester.gov.uk](http://colchester.gov.uk) website. Please Provide dates, times, and exact locations of the fly tip inc any photographs or video footage.

 <p><b>Cllr. Lewis Barber CC</b> County Councillor for Constable Division ☎ 07876 237137 ✉ lewisbarber2707@icloud.com</p>	 <p><b>Cllr. TOM ROWE</b> City Councillor for Rural North Ward ☎ 07375 238749 ✉ thomas.rowe83@googlemail.com</p>
 <p><b>Cllr. DARIUS LAWS</b> City Councillor for Rural North Ward ☎ 07786 007560 ✉ dariusglaws@gmail.com</p>	 <p><b>Cllr. WILLIAM SUNNUCKS</b> City Councillor for Rural North Ward ☎ 07771 940763 ✉ william@sunnucks.co.uk</p>

**Flooding:** A resolution to the long running flooding issues on Old House Road is a step closer. Trial hole works will be conducted in July to determine the drainage arrangements and the work required to tackle the problem. This follows our successful work with stakeholders in reducing the flooding and road damage on London Road, near School Lane. Cllr. Lewis Barber said, “We will continue to work to resolve other flooding issues, including on London Road and under the A12 bridge, near Chesterwell. In the latter case, although works have taken place, additional action is needed to resolve the flooding issue permanently”. “We also attended an event hosted by Anglian Water, at which various organisations met to discuss and resolve issues that come under the responsibility of multiple agencies”, added Cllr. Barber. Please do get in touch if there are any flooding issues in your area that you would like us to investigate.

**Pylons (from Sir Bernard Jenkin MP):** Recently, I led a Westminster Hall debate on the delivery of National Grid Upgrades. As you are probably aware, National Grid is proposing to build a new line of electricity pylons, running 112 miles from Norwich to Tilbury, to transmit electricity from offshore windfarms to London. The electricity cables will be carried on 50-metre-high pylons and run close to villages including Langham, Great Horkelesley, Fordham and Great Tey and includes provision for a large sub-station located near Ardleigh. During the debate, I warned the Energy Minister that:

1. The Norwich to Tilbury [Pylons] project would be delayed by public opposition and legal challenges.
2. Underground High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) cables would therefore be cheaper and faster, because they carry public consent. Relying on new lines of pylons for the entire upgrade will delay decarbonising the national grid because they arouse such hostility and will end up costing more because of those delays. The National Energy System Operator’s (NESO) recently reported that Norwich to Tilbury will now be delayed at least one year, costing an extra £4bn for each year of delay. It is becoming increasingly clear that undergrounding HVDC is the way forward for the great national grid upgrade. Undergrounding will carry public consent and avoid delays - and will therefore be cheaper as well as better for the countryside.

Cllr. Darius Laws has issued a strong objection to the proposed pylons route, which runs close to Great Horkelesley and areas bordering the Dedham Vale National Landscape

**Local Government Reform:** Essex has been included in the Government’s priority programme for Local Government Reorganisation and Devolution. This will see all 15 principal councils in Essex abolished (including Essex County and Colchester City) and replaced by an expected 2-5 Unitary Authorities (Parish & Town Councils are not expected to be affected). Shadow elections for the new Unitary Authorities are expected to take place in May 2027. A new directly elected Mayor for Essex will also be introduced at an election due to take place in May 2026. The Mayor will have new powers from Government, which are expected to include public transport and strategic planning. The Essex County Council Elections scheduled to take place in May 2025 were postponed as part of the re-organisation process.



# Great Horkesley Parish Council

## Chairman's Report

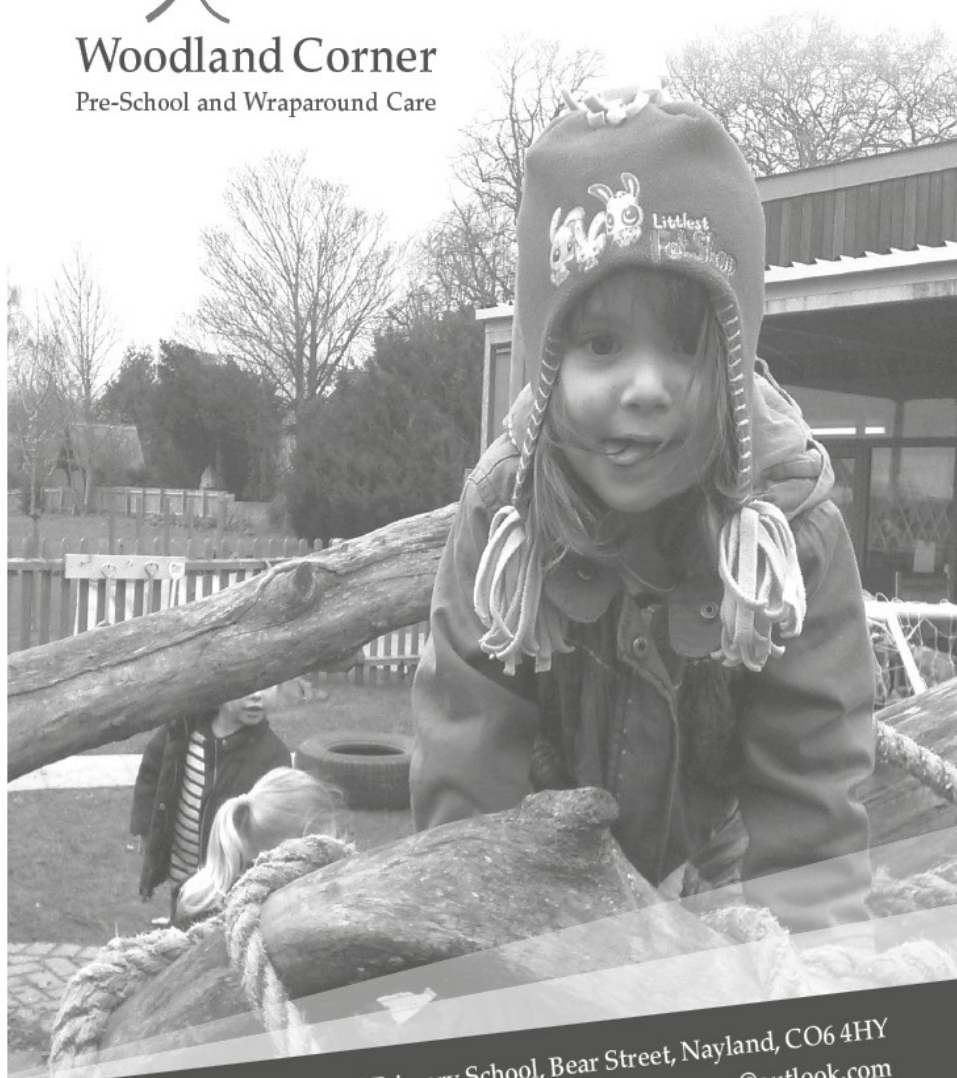
The Parish Council is currently blessed with a full slate of nine members, so we've been able to tackle more issues by setting up committees that can hold short, daytime meetings. My report this time is about some of those issues and what we're hoping to achieve for the village. "Our" village green has never been ours: it still belongs to Colchester Council because when the time came for Mersea Homes to hand it over as the Tile House Farm development neared completion, Colchester Council had just severely reduced the grant it paid to all parish councils. Faced with a loss of several thousand pounds from its annual budget, the parish council of the day decided it could not take on the running costs of the new village green, so by default Colchester Council took possession. Aware of dissatisfaction among residents about how the green is managed, the current parish council is now negotiating to take possession. We hope that local management will eventually mean speedier repairs to playground equipment, grass that gets cut when it needs cutting – especially where football training takes place – and grant-aided introduction of facilities on the green that residents have already told us would be welcome, such as outdoor gym equipment and a perimeter path that is wheelchair-friendly. This will come at a price. The increased annual cost to residents will be partly offset by more houses in the village (the Hopkins Homes development around the Manor does have a silver lining) and we've identified a potential saving on the village hall budget: we currently pay about £5k annually for electricity which we believe we could substantially reduce by increasing the number of solar panels and installing batteries. There should be grants to help with the capital cost of new equipment, a source of funds the GHPC village hall committee is hoping will also offset the cost of air-conditioning for the main hall. Tiresomely, the new doors agreed for the main hall won't be eligible grant – "wear-and-tear" never is – but our budget reserves will take the strain. On the subject of new homes, the parish council has resolved to take over the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan for Great Horkesley from the resident group that started it. We've met planners from Colchester Council who seem just as keen as we are to salvage the data collected in the Housing Needs survey, give it legitimacy as part of an adopted Plan and then use it as leverage to influence the housing mix offered by future developers. It should also help to identify what existing residents believe would make Great Horkesley "an even better place to live". What it won't do is identify alternatives to the 400-home Coach Road site that the planners are trying to get Colchester councillors to agree to: that sort of Plan would take far too long to complete and couldn't be ready before Colchester's new Local Plan comes into force. Look out for another Resident Survey, a crucial part of forming a Neighbourhood Plan, and do respond if you possibly can. 22% of village households took part in the Housing Needs survey: it was enough but the more people who respond, the more authoritative the finished Plan becomes. This is a classic case of "help us to help you", so please don't leave it to your neighbour because, chances are, they're leaving it to you. Finally, those perennial A134 issues, the speed limit and the surface water. That extraordinarily hard-working County Councillor Lewis Barber has reported that Essex Highways have finally agreed to start the legal process that should lead to a 40mph limit on the road between the village and Chesterwell, a mere 18 months after the responsible ECC Cabinet Members told them to do it. He has also learned that the excavations in the early spring have discovered the origin of the surface water – hence the irregular dashed white line on the northbound carriageway – and the remedial work has been put out to tender. I'm not holding my breath.

*Cllr Christopher Arnold, Chairman, Great Horkesley Parish Council  
cllr.arnold@greathorkesley-pc.gov.uk*



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Pilates  
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07887518031

# NEWS

*from the*

# School

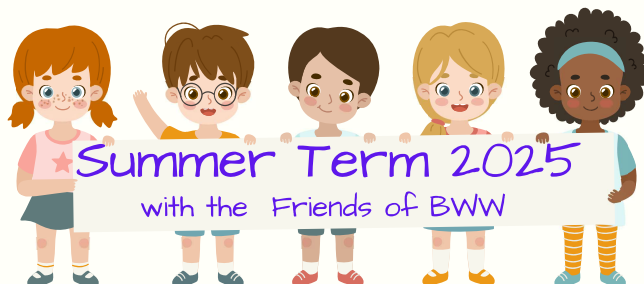


What a fabulous summer term we've had at Bishop William Ward! It is always a joyful time of year when we can be out and about in our lovely school grounds and off enjoying a variety of school trips. Sport has a high and ever-growing profile at our school. Our Sports' Day is the one event where the whole school gets together to celebrate the children's achievements. A carousel of events is followed by races, with children earning points for their team for collective and individual success. This year's competition was won by the Grey Team! It is an event that is extremely well attended and the staff deserve credit for putting on such a well organised afternoon. We were supported once again by students from St Helena, who represented their school well and provided essential support to the staff team. Another sporty event was our participation in the Colchester Primary Sports League (CPSL) Athletics competition. Our team got through to almost every final and came away with four medals! We have also been involved in the CPSL football leagues. Our mixed team came through strong in the last few games, including a 9-0 victory to finish 4th and the girls' team did incredibly well and, in their first year in the league, came second – losing out on the top spot by only one goal on goal difference! In addition to sport, we have a passion for develop children as musicians. Our summer music concert was a delight, with children performing everything from Twinkle Twinkle to Stairway to Heaven! Our Year 6 pupils are all given a wind or brass instrument to learn and they performed alongside the Abbeygate Concert Band earlier in the term. Our school choir is always busy and has enthusiastic support from our loyal parent audience; it was great to be able to be a part of the fabulous Great Horkesley Summer Fayre in June. We will be bringing the term to a spectacular close with our Key Stage 2 performance of Shrek: The Musical – costumes, lights, a live band and some very talented pupils will all make this one of the highlights of the year.

We are part of a group of schools that work closely together on a number of initiatives. Our partners are Braiswick, Heathlands and North primary schools. We review each other's schools to make sure everyone is doing the best they can do; hold joint teacher training and moderation; enable governors to share good practice and put on events for pupils. One such event this term was our joint poetry project around the theme of Community. This culminated in a Zoom assembly to connect all schools and then a poetry roadshow where pupils from each school performed in all schools. Our band of Foundation pupils and a Y4 pupil performed to over 1500 people in one day!

I'm sure that those of you familiar with the school will know what an amazing school association we have – The Friends of BWW. This is such an important part of our school community. I hope that many of you took part in our Scarecrow Trail over the half term break. This is always a lovely event that gets everyone out of the house and walking around the village. Events such as this enable the Friends to put on activities for the pupils at school and this term, we had an amazing time building a Kapla city. This STEM project saw pupils from Foundation to Year 6 building structures from small wooden blocks to create a joint project, with bridges, buildings and huge towers. The finished product took up the whole hall! Such a busy term! I haven't even written about the Fathers' Day Lunches, Public Speaking Competition, Talent Show, Transition Day, Geography Fieldwork Week, trips to castles and the zoo, the Life Tent and so much more. Before we know it, September will be here and it will be time to start all over again!

*Toby Bull, Headteacher, Bishop William Ward C of E (VA) Primary School*



*Thank You!*

## **PROFITS THIS YEAR SO FAR £10,286+**

<b>Christmas Events</b>	<b>£4,181</b>
<b>In-School Events</b>	<b>£653</b>
<b>Easter Egg Hunt</b>	<b>£305</b>
<b>Scarecrow Trail</b>	<b>£1,211</b>
<b>Tuck Shop Profits</b>	<b>£1,783+</b>
<b>Donations/Grants/Gift Aid</b>	<b>£2,153</b>

## *Summer Term Update*

This is already looking to be a record breaking year for the Friends of BWW's fundraising, and at time of writing we still have the end of year school discos to run! Christmas is always a big fundraising time for us but this year really exceeded expectations, and the tuck shop and preloved uniform teams work tirelessly during the school year to keep regular funds coming in.

Our scarecrow trail was very successful yet again - if you missed it, photos are in this magazine! For the first time ever we had a tie for first place - well done to Linda & Tracie (Lion King) and the Jarvis Family (Harry Potter) who won the public vote, and our youngest schoolchildren who won the school vote with their SpongeBob scarecrow.

This year we have spent money on renovating the Foundation Stage outdoor area, new lunchtime play equipment, Little City and STEAM workshops in school and a visit from superstar Gladiator 'Steel', as well as our regular annual expenditure including new reading books and subsidising school trips. Thank you for your support this year!





Cooking

# STAY & PLAY

at Tiddlywinks Preschool  
22a Coach Road  
Great Horkesley, CO6 4AT  
01206 272669



Music

## Activities for Under 5's

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Toys

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Crafts

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**Lunch Club 12.15 - 12.45**

**Afternoon Session 12.15 - 3.15**

**All Day Session 9.15 to 3.15**

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## ***Bespoke & traditional cakes & desserts***



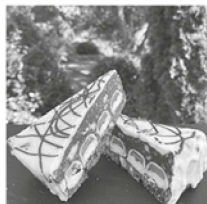
*We sell individual cakes and desserts  
all homemade in our purpose built kitchen.  
We also have gluten free & vegan options available.  
(Take-away option still available).*

*Made with  
the finest  
ingredients*

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**[agecare.uk.com](https://agecare.uk.com)** call **01206 263199**

email **[NaylandHouse@agecare.uk.com](mailto:NaylandHouse@agecare.uk.com)**





## ECC Mobile Library



Stops on  
Keelers Way, CO6 4HR  
every third Thursday  
**11:45am - 12:15pm**

Forthcoming Dates:

**21st August**

**11th September**

**2nd & 23rd October**

Please support this  
fantastic service in our  
community



## Monthly Afternoon Tea



Join us on the second  
Wednesday of each  
month **2pm - 4pm**

Great Horkesley  
Village Hall,  
CO6 4EA

**£2 per person**

Tea or coffee & slice  
of homemade cake

**Call Margaret**  
**01206 271713**



Surplus food items from Fareshare  
Bishop William Ward School, CO6 4AT  
Starts 3.30pm but be quick as items go fast!

**£3 for 10 items**

Open to everyone

Every Friday (term time only)

5th, 12th, 19th & 26th September

3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th October

Help the environment and bring along your re-useable bag

# Great and Little Horkesley WI



**The WI is everything you want it to be and more. All things to all women.**

*Did you know that.....*

*In 1918, WI members passed the first resolution, urging local authorities to take advantage of the government scheme for state-aided housing. The resolution called for a "sufficient supply of convenient and sanitary houses, being of vital importance to women in the country". The Women's Institute is democratic and member-led, and the Resolutions process is unique in putting members at the heart of decisions about campaign activities. Every issue that the WI campaign on stems directly from a resolution put forward by members and adopted at the Annual Meeting. A resolution is a call for change on a current issue in society. Past resolutions have included, Increase in women police, Equal pay, Keep Britain Tidy, Restriction of smoking in public place, Plastic Pollution, HIV and AIDs awareness and also Recruiting midwives.*

*It has been a busy few months for not only our WI and but for all WIs. June is the month when our National Federation Annual meeting is held and this year it was all very different.*

The NFWI Annual Meeting on 4th June was held online for all attendees. The meeting was streamed from the NFWI London HQ Office. Attendees joined from all over England, Wales, and the Islands in their homes or with other members at local watch parties.

Key items on the agenda were: Public Affairs Resolution, Treasurers Statement and Opening and closing remarks from the NFWI Chair.

The first speaker was Emma Bridgewater was the first guest speaker of the day and was interviewed by NFWI CEO, Melissa Green. The interview was played as a prerecorded video, but Emma joined live in person to participate in a question-and-answer session. Emma Bridgewater



spoke more about her journey and inspiration to create her well-known brand.

Angel Strawbridge was the second guest speaker on the agenda. Angel joined live from France and spoke about her love for vintage and her inspirational journey in business. Dick Strawbridge, Angel's husband also made an appearance. Angel was able to answer many questions from the audience.

One resolution, "By standers can be Lifesavers" was put forward for debate and voting. The resolution passed with a 97% majority of the votes cast, and a

campaign will now be launched by the Public Affairs Department.

Our Essex County Annual Meeting was also held in June at University of Essex Campus. It was a huge success made possible by some amazing speakers. First up was Diana Voynova representing the Essex Rebels Basketball/Volleyball teams telling us how our sponsorship helps them to take sport into deprived areas in Essex. Next, we heard from Jennifer Baitup from Community Dental who gave us some eye-opening statistics about the state of dental care in children and gave some tips about how we can help.



# Great and Little Horkesley WI

theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

Before lunch we welcomed ex bomb disposal Officer, Lucy Lewis whose stories about being a woman in the army were fascinating as well as humorous.



Lastly, Adam Frost the award-winning garden designer gave an entertaining talk about his life and his professional career. Our fund-raising Quiz in May was a huge success and enjoyed by all those who attended. We were treated to a delicious ploughmans supper and ended the evening with a raffle offering amazing prizes.

We were pleased to support the Great Horkesley Fayre by providing refreshments and a huge array of homemade cakes.



We are so proud of our Darts

Team who reached the semifinals of the Inter WI Darts Tournament. Our team, the Horkesley Hopefuls have played amazingly well and deserve our congratulations.

Our WI meeting is held monthly in Great Horkesley Village Hall every 2nd Tuesday evening at 7pm. We would be so pleased to welcome you to our meetings which are always interesting and thought provoking.

## **Future meetings:**

- 20th August: Outing to Tiptree, Wilkin & Sons Ltd, Fruit Farm.
- 9th September: Refugee, Asylum seeker and Migrant Action (RAMA)
- 14th October: Metal Detecting

*From the WI website <https://www.thewi.org.uk/>*

## **WI Campaign Report Highlights that the Dental Health Crisis Hits Women Hardest**

Our latest campaign report highlights that a lack of access to NHS dental care is hitting women the hardest and deepening a uniquely gendered health crisis. Research from our members is the first of its kind to highlight that a lack of NHS dental services is having devastating, but also gendered, consequences on society. Women are often the designated primary caregivers for their families and are therefore navigating the dental health service as carers, often sacrificing their own health in order to support their loved ones. Women also have unique oral health challenges compared to men, with their saliva being more acidic and more prone to dental decay, as well as hormonal changes such as pregnancy and menopause increasing women's susceptibility to gum disease. In support of the campaign and its report - which carries the lived experiences of hundreds of women - British Dental Association Chair, Eddie Crouch, added: "The crisis in NHS dentistry is having a unique impact on women up and down the country. From pregnancy to menopause, as parents and as carers, access problems often hit women hardest. This service can have a future, but only if ministers are willing to pick up the pace and keep their promises. Until then, patients — especially women — will continue to pay the price." The full report can be accessed on the WI website.

# **MOTTS**

## **Body Repair Ltd.**

**LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES  
CARS AND MOTORCYCLES**

- \* Repairs from small dents to large insurance accidents
- \* Welding work
- \* Air conditioning service and repair
- \* Interior and leather repairs
- \* Wheel refurbish and tyres
- \* Restoration work and resprays
- \* End of lease and fleet repairs
- \* Courtesy cars available on request
- \* Friendly service
- \* All work guaranteed
- \* Different levels of service carried out to the highest standards possible



**Thrift Farm, Horkesley Hill, Nayland,  
Colchester, CO6 4JP**

**Tel: 01206 264111**

*[www.mottsbodysrepair.co.uk](http://www.mottsbodysrepair.co.uk)*



# Great Horkesley Garage



## MOT Centre

**Class 4  
Petrol & Diesel**

**Collection & Delivery  
within a 6 mile  
radius**

**Ask in shop to book  
your MOT & Service**

**NOW**

**Or Call:  
01206 271895**

## Service Centre

**Servicing & Repairs  
on all  
makes & models  
of cars or light goods  
vehicles**

- × Tyres (supplied & fitted)
- × Wheel balancing
- × Batteries
- × Exhausts
- × Aircon repairs and servicing
- × Diagnostics

**Courtesy Cars  
Available**



**Find Us :**

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[www.greathorkesleygarage.co.uk](http://www.greathorkesleygarage.co.uk)





## COMPASSIONATE, AFFORDABLE HOME CARE RUN BY HORKESLEY LOCALS

Ashwood care was founded by Horkesley residents with decades of experience as carers with a purpose to provide a quality, trusted and **affordable** home care service within our local community. We're on a mission to drive down the cost of home care and keep loved ones safe, comfortable and living independently in their own homes.


Call or e-mail us to book your  
**FREE** home care visit.

**020 3375 9403**

[info@ashwoodcare.net](mailto:info@ashwoodcare.net)

Regulated by



 [www.ashwoodcare.net](http://www.ashwoodcare.net)

 [info@ashwoodcare.net](mailto:info@ashwoodcare.net)

### SERVICES

- Personal Care
- Cooking & Meal Preparation
- Household Duties
- Visiting Care
- Live-in Care
- Shopping
- Housekeeping
- Palliative Care
- Continence Care
- Companionship Care



### Head Office Location

Door 4 , First Floor East, Nags Corner, Wiston Rd, Nayland, CO6 4LT

# CARING APP FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS

Our mobile app is able to provide real-time notifications to loved ones or even GPs with information on care visits, administering prescribed medication and more.

This provides peace of mind and transparency into the care provided to their loved ones. You can even view care notes, scheduled visits and care plans.



## GET STARTED IN 4 SIMPLE STEPS

1

### CALL OR E-MAIL TO BOOK YOUR FREE HOME CARE VISIT

Call us on **020 3375 9403** or email us at **[info@ashwoodcare.net](mailto:info@ashwoodcare.net)** to schedule a completely free, no-obligation home care visit from our registered manager and care team.

2

### WE CREATE A BESPOKE CARE PLAN TO MEET YOUR REQUIREMENTS

Our team will get to know you & your loved ones, understand the care requirements and create a personalised care plan that meets your preferences. This visit is completely **FREE**, with **NO OBLIGATION** to continue.

3

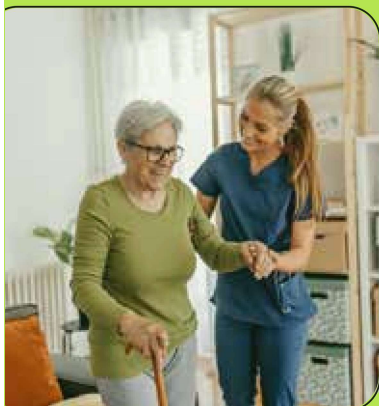
### ASSIST WITH FUNDING OPTIONS

Our team will help you understand the funding options available such as partial and full funding from local authorities. **Since you receive care in your own home, your house is not included as an asset when it comes to the means test assessment** for funding, which can save you even more money.

4

### BEGIN THE CARE

If you and your loved ones are happy with the care plan, we begin providing care according to your planned schedule. If authorised by the care receiver, we will also onboard friends, families & your GP to the **Caring App for Family & Friends** to provide transparent care, giving peace of mind for friends & family.



**DO YOU KNOW A FRIEND OR FAMILY MEMBER WHO IS IN NEED OF AFFORDABLE HOME CARE?**

**GIVE US A CHANCE TO MAKE THEIR LIVES BETTER AND RECEIVE...**

**£350**



**020 3375 9403**



**[www.ashwoodcare.net](http://www.ashwoodcare.net)**



**[info@ashwoodcare.net](mailto:info@ashwoodcare.net)**

# Church News

**August - October 2025**



**All Saints' with St. John's,**  
**Great Horkesley, CO6 4EF**  
***Growing and sharing God's love to***  
***reach out and give hope.***

***Rev. Heather Wilcox writes:***

## **The Taste of Summer!**

Popping into the supermarkets at this time of the year, we are often met by signs which say something along the lines of 'The taste of summer', which have all been hung strategically in aisles full of foods suitable for picnics on the beach and BBQs in our gardens, outdoor, social gatherings with friends and family.

So, what is the taste of summer? I guess it's fresh salads, ice cream, BBQ with the hint of charcoal as an added extra, all washed down with our favourite ice-cold drinks. These are the foods that the supermarkets hope will evoke the image of long hot summer days. I'm picking vegetables from my garden; you can't get any fresher than that. The cucumbers, courgettes and raspberries have been joined by peas, runner beans, tomatoes, sweetcorn, chillies and, eventually in the autumn, pumpkins. That is the taste of summer to me, fresh produce straight from the garden and onto our plates.

In psalm 34.8 the psalmist invites us to 'Taste and see that the Lord is good', inviting us to experience God's goodness personally. To taste involves testing or sampling; to see involves understanding or perceiving. The phrase 'Taste and see', then means 'try and experience'. The writer is urging God's people to discover the goodness of the Lord by personal trial and experience it for themselves. He doesn't want readers to merely take his word for it that the Lord is good; he wants them to actively experience and know for themselves that the Lord is good.

So, as we experience the 'Taste of summer' may we also 'Taste and see that the Lord is good'. May we make time to try and experience that goodness that God, that Jesus offers us, this summertime and always.

*May God bless you and all your senses!*  
*Reverend Heather*



## Forthcoming Events

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> August - FREE Summer Fun Morning** at St. John's Church, 10.00am – 11.30am.

Lots of activities for toddlers and primary school age children. **All children must be accompanied by an adult.**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September – Barn Dance 7pm-10.30pm** at the Village Hall  
In aid of ~~All Saints' Alive~~, fundraising for improvements to All Saints' Church.  
*See page 29 for details.*

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October, 7pm start, QUIZ NIGHT** at the Village Hall  
In aid of our work in the village and supporting Colchester Foodbank.  
*See page 28 for details.*

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October, 11.00am Harvest Festival** at All Saints' Church  
Celebrating God's goodness and receiving donations of groceries for Colchester Foodbank and cash for St. Andrew's College, Kenya.

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October, 9.30am-12noon, Churchyard Clear-up at All Saints'**  
Bring your own tools and muscle power, refreshments provided.

### Regular events at St. John's

**Take a Break Café at St. John's is open every Thursday from 10.00am to 11.30am. *A warm welcome awaits you!***

Come and meet old friends and make new ones. Fresh filter coffee, cappuccino, tea, hot chocolate, toasted tea cakes. Drinks, snacks and toys for children. Give and take library. ***All ages welcome!***

This is where you can collect recycling items ordered through Colchester City Council <https://www.colchester.gov.uk/recycling/>

### ***"Fun4Families"***

Third Sunday of the month, 11.00am at St. John's Church

*A fun and informal time together for people of all ages, with songs, a Bible story and craft activities. Refreshments and cake available!*

### **From the Registers at All Saints':**

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May – Wedding**

Andrew Olley married Leah Marcel Conner

*We wish them God's blessing and much joy in their future life together.*



## Who are we?

**Website:** <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6695/>

**Facebook:** All Saints' with St John's Churches, Great Horkesley



We are part of The Church of England - Diocese of Chelmsford and you can find out more at: <https://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/>

## Our Church Buildings

**All Saints' Church, CO6 4AJ**



**St. John's Church, CO6 4FE**



Directions to both churches can be found on our website.  
There is a service at one or both churches almost every Sunday.  
*The detailed diary of services can be found on the next page.*

## Who to contact.....

**Priest-in-Charge: Rev. Heather Wilcox**

**Tel:** 01206 240906 **Email:** [RevHWilcox@outlook.com](mailto:RevHWilcox@outlook.com)

Heather has responsibility for the six parishes of West Bergholt, Great Horkesley, Langham with Boxted, Little Horkesley, Wormingford & Mount Bures.

She is assisted by:

**Curate: Rev. Emma Barr, Tel:** 07801659345, **Email:** [revemmabarr@gmail.com](mailto:revemmabarr@gmail.com)

**Church Administrator (the first point of contact for enquiries about baptisms, weddings and funerals):** Jo Russell & Donna Luxton share this job and can be contacted at the Church Office at St. Mary's Church, New Church Road, West Bergholt.

**Tel:** 01206 243683 **Email:** [6parishescolchester@gmail.com](mailto:6parishescolchester@gmail.com)

Usual opening hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 10am-12pm



**Please note** that enquiries relating to Baptisms and Weddings will be dealt with during office hours, but if you are arranging a funeral and need to contact someone out of office hours, please contact Heather direct on 01206 240906.

**Reader & PCC Secretary: Sandra Baker**

**Tel:** 01206 271760 **Email:** [spbaker18@gmail.com](mailto:spbaker18@gmail.com)

**Treasurer: John Mehen**

**Tel:** 01206 271653 **Email:** [john.mehen@gmail.com](mailto:john.mehen@gmail.com)

## Services: August - October 2025

There is a service of Holy Communion on Sundays in at least one of the eight churches in the six parishes under the leadership of Rev. Heather.

**For more information - please refer to our website or the Church Office.**

<b><u>August</u></b>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. John's
	10 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	All Saints'
		11.00am	Morning Worship	All Saints'
	17 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Fun4Families	St. John's
	24 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	31 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	United Service	<i>St. John the Baptist, Mount Bures</i>

<b><u>September</u></b>	7 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. John's
	14 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	All Saints'
		11.00am	Morning Worship	All Saints'
	21 <sup>st</sup>	11.00am	Fun4Families	St. John's
	28 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion	All Saints'

<b><u>October</u></b>	5 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. John's
	12 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	All Saints'
		11.00am	<b>Harvest Festival</b>	All Saints'

***Collecting gifts for Colchester Foodbank, please bring a bag of groceries!!***

	19 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Fun4Families	St. John's
	26 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion	All Saints'

- We have a weekly notice sheet called **“Looking Forward”**, which gives details of everything happening across the six parishes. Printed versions are available at our services and to have a copy by email send a request to the office: 6parishescolchester@gmail.com

- **Say one for me.....**

If you would like prayers to be said for you or for anyone you know, please let us know by contacting any of the Church Officers. Prayers are said at all our services and we have regular prayer meetings.



- **Could you help us with a gift?** Use the QR code or web link <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/gt-horkesley-all-sts-w-st-john-colchester/> or contact our treasurer (see page 26 for contact details).



*We are very much aware that many readers of Village News do not have access to the internet and may be missing out on what's happening. If you're in that category, do please call the church office or any of the people listed on page 26.*

# Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October

7pm prompt start

at the New Village Hall

Tile House Lane, Great Horkesley



- Teams of up to 6 people
- Entry Fee £6 per person
- Optional Fish or Sausage & Chip Supper (vegetarian options available on request) £6 per person (must be pre-ordered)
- Bring your own drinks and nibbles



*Please encourage your family, neighbours, friends and colleagues to come along!*

To enter a team (with a team name and choice of food):

Call or email: Lesley on 01206 271576 / [lesleyrchrdsn@gmail.com](mailto:lesleyrchrdsn@gmail.com)

or John on 07719 948378 / [john.mehen@gmail.com](mailto:john.mehen@gmail.com)

**By 4<sup>th</sup> October please!**

*Sponsored by All Saints' with St John's Churches,  
Great Horkesley raising money to help fund our work in the village.*

***Also supporting Colchester Foodbank as part of our  
Harvest appeal – PLEASE BRING A BAG OF GROCERIES!***





All Saints' Alive

The fundraising charity for All Saints', Great Horkesley

# BARN DANCE

**Saturday 20th September**

**7.00 - 10.30pm**

**Great Horkesley Village Hall**

Live Music with the  
***'Caledonian Reelers'***



Ploughman's Supper & Soft Drinks included  
(Bring your own bottles)

Tickets £15 (*Children under 12 £7.50*)

For tickets or more information:

6parishescolchester@gmail.com or Lesley Richardson 01206 271576

All Saints' Alive (ASA) is registered with the charity commission under reference no: 1118977

# Horkesley Manor

Join Our Caring Community – Make a Difference in Colchester!



**Horkesley Manor, part of the Stow Healthcare Group, offers exceptional residential and nursing care in a stunning setting, guided by strong family values.**

We're looking for compassionate volunteers, willing to donate your time and bring joy to our residents by sharing stories, playing games, or simply having a chat. Whether you can spare an hour a week or occasionally, your presence can brighten someone's day.

We're also offering our two front rooms as free meeting spaces for local groups and organisations. These rooms are perfect for coffee mornings, book clubs, or village events.

If you're interested in volunteering or using our meeting rooms, please get in touch. Together, we can build a stronger, more connected community.



**Horkesley Manor Care Home**  
Nayland Road, Great Horkesley, CO6 4ET  
01206 271394  
[enquiries@horkesleymanor.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@horkesleymanor.co.uk)

# Summer/Autumn Word Search

S E P T E M B E R E P V C O N K E R S U  
 D C D C D U Z R H F A E H A R V E S T W  
 B Y A K R W K T B H C G H F E E K Y B L  
 E M D Q U F J N N F G X O J O P S B N P  
 M R P Z J V A P N E O C L O T P X O C R  
 A U G U S T B U D P U L I X N T H N F O  
 Y O O B A E O M X W R A D H B A S F C F  
 J V I Y N L C P K E D A A E M J U I E Y  
 J A D Y M C T K O G W E Y F Y B M R G Q  
 K B W C O K O I N C F S Q A A V M E O P  
 S F V H W K B N O M G D T Z Y D E P L Q  
 J I H H K L E D B I E R U A O L R N V G  
 Y R Q U S O R R F Z T X W N X A E K W I  
 N E X T U W H A L L O W E E N G U Z N U  
 X W A Y N K F V X J H M O D P J J E R V  
 Z O U F S G C K L D M J N X A K F U D P  
 V R T S H M U V T J W Y Q F U R E K B D  
 H K U S I C H E S T N U T S G A S X H V  
 G S M N N H L R O A H Z E Q U I N O X X  
 G E N G E B O I F T J J L X T W Y C W W

Find these words:

August  
 Autumn  
 Bonfire  
 Chestnuts  
 Conkers  
 Equinox  
 Fireworks  
 Gourd  
 Halloween  
 Harvest  
 Holiday  
 October  
 Pumpkin  
 September  
 Summer  
 Sunshine

Answers on page 51

# Kids Colouring Corner





## Help to Keep Great Horkesley a Welcoming, Safe and Tranquill Community

Visit our website: [www.colchesternhw.org.uk](http://www.colchesternhw.org.uk)

### When you are a member of Neighbourhood Watch:

- Membership is free and you don't need to attend meetings
- You will receive information about crime happening where you live and in places you visit. Such knowledge makes you street wise and adopt safer behaviours
- You will pay less for House Contents Insurance
- Our free window stickers are a deterrent to burglars and thieves
- We encourage members to report crime and suspicious behaviour, to the Police or anonymously through CRIMESTOPPERS
- Out of all crime committed in Colchester City Centre 73% of victims are visitors, often from safe communities like ours!

Please just send an email to: [aldercarwoodnw@gmail.com](mailto:aldercarwoodnw@gmail.com) asking to join

We need your name(s), home address and a contact telephone number. That number would only be used in exceptional circumstances. Your details will never be shared with any other organisation.

## Parking in Great Horkesley

**Please be courteous when parking in Great Horkesley**

**Here are some do's and don't's:**

### DO NOT PARK....

- near a school entrance (especially on road markings)
- where you prevent or hinder emergency services access
- on/near/opposite a bus stop
- opposite or within 10m (32ft) of a junction
- on a bend/brow of a hill
- in front of an entrance to a property
- opposite another parked vehicle
- fully or partially on the pavement

*ALL OF THE ABOVE IS HAPPENING IN OUR VILLAGE!*

### PARKING ON THE PAVEMENT HINDERS:

- Our elderly residents taking a walk or going to the bus etc
- Parents with children/pushchair walking to school/playschool
- The disabled (sight impaired/wheelchair etc)

### DO PARK....

- on your drive (encourage visitors to do the same)

IF YOU MUST PARK ON THE ROAD PLEASE DO SO RESPONSIBLY, THANK YOU



# Tree Surgeon



Blake Tree Care 

*Providing excellence in:*

- Tree Felling
- Canopy Reduction
- Hedge Cutting
- Garden Clearance
- Tree Shaping and Pruning
- Stump Grinding
- Pollarding
- Emergency Tree Work

*Free Consultation for Small and Large Jobs*

*Public Liability Insurance*

**M: 07515288736**

**O: 01787 228341**

**info@blaketreecare.co.uk**

**www.blaketreecare.co.uk**



*"A very competitive price and a VERY tidy job" ★★★★★*



## *Patterson's Parlour* Dog Grooming

Mobile Dog Grooming

Colchester Based/Surrounding Area

Fully Insured/Level 2 City & Guilds

Fully Equipped Vehicle

No Cage Drying

Prices on Request

**Tel: 07709281068 (Summer) / 07970291112 (Lisa)**

Email: [PattersonsParlour@gmail.com](mailto:PattersonsParlour@gmail.com)



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Facebook

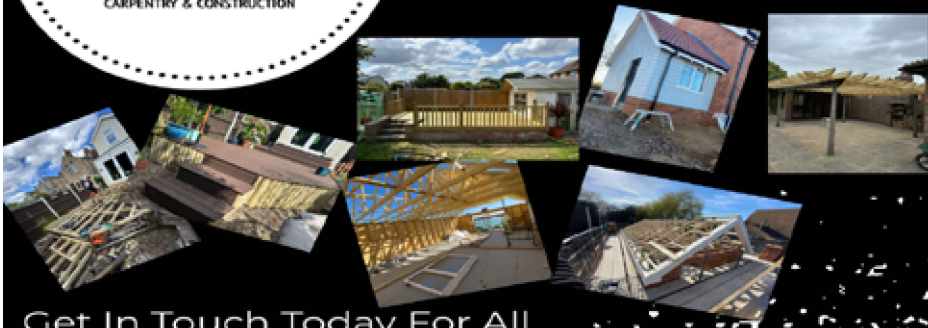


Follow us  
on  
Instagram



## Why Choose Us?

- Competitive Pricing.
- Local To The Area
- Reliable, Trustworthy & Friendly Service.
- Pride Ourselves in Maintaining 100% Customer & Job Satisfaction.
- Fast Response & Highly Communicative.
- Over a Decade of Experience in the Industry.



**Get In Touch Today For All  
Of Your Carpentry Needs!**

 - 07710593393

 - [cws.carpentry@yahoo.com](mailto:cws.carpentry@yahoo.com)

Special Edition

# BREAKING NEWS



## GIVE US YOUR IRONING

Do you wish you could open up your wardrobe and have ALL of your clothes perfectly ironed and ready to wear? There's nothing worse than getting ready to go out and having to get the ironing board out.

With our daily lives getting busier, it's time to put yourself first. Give yourself time to take the kids out, go on a date night, hit the gym or just chill in the garden with a good book and glass of wine.....

**How do you find the time?** Simply give that time-consuming job that you dread to us - Crease Busters in Great Horkesley will pick up your ironing and deliver back to you perfectly crease-free!

*"Claire offers an excellent service. Pickup and drop-off are always convenient. Communication is excellent and our clothes are always immaculate. Very reasonable and highly recommended"*

- DW Bosted

CREASE BUSTERS  
IN  
GREAT HORKESLEY  
WANTS YOUR  
IRONING



*"Claire irons my partners work trousers and shirts every week and does an amazing job! 10000% recommend! Very happy"*

-JS Gt Horkesley

**Fast turn-arounds  
Reliable  
Efficient  
Great prices**

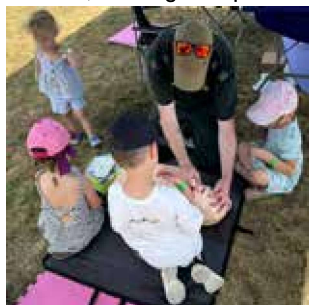
Whatsapp or call to  
arrange collection  
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# Great Horkesley Summer Fayre 2025

As I sit writing this, it is a few days after the Summer Fayre, and I am again reflecting on what a wonderful event it was. We were blessed with another beautiful summer's day, if a little blustery for keeping hold of raffle tickets! It has been fantastic to hear feedback from more than one person that they enjoyed bumping into people they hadn't seen for a while. For us, this is the very essence of 'community' and why we do it - to bring you all together, to create an opportunity for you to spend quality time with your family and friends, and to make brilliant memories in the place you call home. We had feedback last year on parking and also on the length of the queues for food and activities. Being our first year, it was hard to predict how many people would attend, but we hope you feel we managed both of those better this year. It certainly felt more manageable to us, with parking stewards (thank you to those volunteers!) and many more food and activities on offer, making the queues shorter.



We will use the next few weeks to reflect some more, and to consider what we will do again, and what will be different, at next year's Summer Fayre.

If you have any feedback, or ideas for next year's Summer Fayre, please email them to us at [ghcommunityevents@gmail.com](mailto:ghcommunityevents@gmail.com) and we will do our best to take them on board. It will be on the last Saturday in June again (27th).

The team can't rest too much, as we will shortly move on to planning the Christmas event - Carols around the Christmas Tree at the Village Hall. This year it will take place on Sunday 30th November and we look forward to seeing you there.

*(Photo above: Community First Responders showing children how to give CPR)*

I want to finish by thanking all of the people who gave their time or money to help with this year's Summer Fayre. Our main sponsor, Gemstone Mortgages, once again pulled it out of the bag with a dazzling array of activities and energy on the day, which comes on top of Gemma's financial and moral support, so a huge thank you to her. Her dad, Ian, also provides fantastic commentary on the microphone. We were supported by countless other local businesses, as well as receiving generous donations and grants from the local authority, Great Horkesley Parish Council and Cllr Darius Laws.

Finally, I want to thank the Great Horkesley Community Events team. They have full-time jobs, they are parents, they are busy people. Many of them have other roles on the Parish Council or with this magazine. But they are also passionate about making a difference in our community, and they were the ones who stepped forward when I asked. They have consistently shown up to meetings, emailed suppliers and done a million tiny jobs you wouldn't even think of. And they're not bad at putting up gazebos now either! So, thank you - Katie, Kate, Megan, Caroline, Fay, Faye, Rachel, Gina and Jack.

Sam Jarvis



# Gt Horkesley Scarecrow Trail 2025



Thank you to everyone who took part!



## Public Scarecrows:

- Joint 1<sup>st</sup>: Lion King by Linda & Tracie  
& Harry Potter by The Jarvis Family
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Inside Out by 1<sup>st</sup> Gt Horkesley Scouts

## School Scarecrows:

- 1<sup>st</sup>: Spongebob Squarepants by FS Flamingos
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: Shrek by Year 5 Eagles
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Despicable Me by Year 2 Penguins





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Summer is always a particularly fun time for Scouting when we can get out and about much more easily. In particular, our Group Camp and AGM took place at the end of June, and saw almost 50 young people take part in a weekend of fun activities at Hallowtree campsite in Nacton. It always brings joy to our hearts and a smile to our faces when we see our very youngest Squirrels and our oldest Scouts engaging together and supporting each other through various adventures, and is possibly the highlight of our calendar.



*1st Great Horkesley Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts work together on a tyre ravine challenge at Group Camp.*

Every section also came together to create our entry for the Scarecrow Trail - always such a fun event - where characters from the movie Inside Out 2 were made and installed in their very own brain console. We hope you enjoyed the display, and thank you to everyone who voted for us. (See page 35)

This term our Squirrel Drey celebrated its first anniversary, have learnt where food comes from, and been out in the wild building dens and having a silly sports day among other fun and games. Meanwhile our Beaver Colony has been gardening, hiking, and practicing skills for life such as brushing their teeth, tying shoe laces and lighting candles.

It's been all about the money for our Cub Pack this term as they have been doing their money skills badge, learning how to spot fraud, create their own currency and even budget for construction projects as they built bridges for model cars. Alongside this they have learnt how to make a cup of tea, and experimented to find the best biscuit to dunk, and much more besides. Our Scout troop has been busy helping to clear a woodland to help boost biodiversity; getting their eye in with air rifle shooting and archery; and practicing putting up various types of tents in readiness for Summer Camp in Norfolk. Each section has also come away with their own rubber duck taking on a Taskmaster-style challenge, run by our very own Panda (Beaver leader) - getting stuck in with all sorts of activities from making fruit look like humans, and balancing ducks on Lego towers...fans of the TV show can imagine the chaos (and endless fun) that ensued! Away from delivering Scouting, we have also stepped up our work on a new hut for the group. We are pleased that plans for the Horkesley Manor development - which include a new facility for Scouting and Guiding - are back progressing at pace, and we have had positive engagement with the developer Hopkins Homes. There is still much work to be done though, and our thanks go to all in the wider community who have stepped up to help us and the GirlGuiding movement to shape this exciting project.

*As always we are looking for new volunteers to help run our Group, whether it be behind the scenes with admin or as a young people-facing leader - and, currently, supporting us with our new hut project too. Please do get in touch if you can help.*





# Great Horkesley Rainbows, Brownies & Guides

Great Horkesley Old Village Hall, CO6 4BH

If anybody in the village is interested in joining us as a leader or young member visit the Join Us page on the Girlguiding website or contact any of the leaders listed on the Useful Contacts (see page 70).



## Great Horkesley Rainbows

We have eighteen girls in the unit with a very long waiting list – three new girls have joined after others moved to Brownies. We have had a busy Summer term completing Stage 1 Network Skills Builder which encourages the girls to work in teams and find out what working together can do. We made robots, found out about family 'teams', made shelters, worked on a mini play with accompanied singing and made musical shakers to accompany a version of Jingle Bells. We are having a visit from Snakey Sue and her reptile collection in July. Two of the Rainbows have completed their Bronze Award and will be moving to Brownies in September. We will be finishing the term with a joint Tropical Beach Party with the Brownies. We are also very happy to welcome back Jessica who was a Rainbow Brownie and Gude in the village and has now volunteered to help at meetings (University studies permitting).



## Great Horkesley Brownies

We have a full unit of twenty-four at Brownies this term with just one girl joining us at half term after one moved away from the village. We also have Mash with us doing her Duke of Edinburgh's award service module. We have been working on the Feel Good Skills Builder part of the Be Well Theme Award so started the term with the Mindfulness Interest badge, Dorothy leading the session. We had our Pack Holiday at Thorrington in the May half term at which eighteen Brownies and three younger guides enjoyed go karts pond dipping crafts and plenty of outside games all based on a theme of Under the Sea. We too have a visit from Snakey Sue and the tropical Beach Party to round off the term. At the enrolment evening we presented Gold Awards to three Brownies plus six Silver and two Bronze Awards. Our four Sixers are all moving on to Guides in September.



## Great Horkesley Guides

The Guides are growing in numbers but there are still spaces for new members to join. Summer term has seen them working on the Guiding traditions badge for a week or two and also trying out different methods of cooking – open fires, baking, gas, and army portable stoves too. The Guides ran a stall at the Horkesley Village Fayre selling cold drinks and a Guess the weight of the cake made by Ann their leader. One of the Guides, Ava, is a Brownie helper with Brownies on Mondays and is invaluable as a link between the leaders and Brownies.

Find out more about Girlguiding on the website: <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/>

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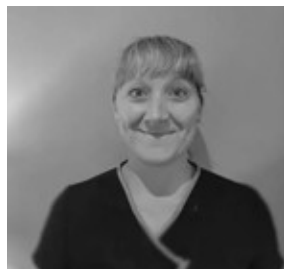
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Maisy Berridge (MCFHP MAFHP)

## Apple & Rhubarb Crumble

### Ingredients (Filling):

- 600g/1lb 5oz Eating/Cooking Apples (chopped)
- 400g/14oz Rhubarb (chopped)
- 1tbsp Lemon Juice
- Caster Sugar (see method for amount)

### Ingredients (Topping):

- 175g/6oz Plain Flour
- 1/2 tsp Cinnamon
- 100g/3oz Butter (room temp & diced)
- 125g/4oz Caster Sugar or Light Soft Brown Sugar



### To make the filling:

1. Put the apples in a large saucepan with the lemon juice and 4 tbsp of water. Stir in the caster sugar (using 75g/2¾oz for eating apples or 95g/3¼oz for cooking apples).
2. Cover with a lid, cook for 5 minutes on medium heat, stirring occasionally, until syrupy and softening. Take off the heat, stir in the rhubarb and tip the mixture into a wide 2 litre/3½ pint baking dish.
3. Preheat the oven to 190C/170C Fan/Gas 5.

### To make the topping:

1. Place the flour, cinnamon, butter and sugar in a large bowl. Rub together with your fingertips until rough & crumbly. Scatter over the top of the fruit, then sprinkle with 1 tbsp of sugar.

Bake the crumble for 35–40 minutes until the top is golden and crisp and the fruit underneath is bubbling. Leave to cool for 10 minutes before serving.

## Butternut Squash Soup

### Ingredients:

- 2 tpsps Sunflower Oil
- 2 Chopped Onions
- 2 Chopped Celery Sticks
- 1 - 2 Crushed Garlic Cloves (optional)
- 2 tpsps Ground Corriander
- 2 tpsps Ground Ginger
- 850ml / 1.5pts Vegetable Stock (150ml / 1/4 pt optional)
- Groud Black Pepper (to taste)
- 450g Butternut Squash Diced (peeled & seeded)



### Method:

1. Heat oil in a large, non-stick saucepan. Add onions, celery and garlic (if using); cook over a medium-low heat for 5 minutes or until softened, stirring occasionally. Add ground spices; cook gently for 1 minute, stirring.
2. Stir in squash, stock and black pepper. Bring to the boil; reduce heat, cover and simmer for about 25 minutes or until vegetables are tender, stirring occasionally.
3. Remove from heat; cool slightly. Puree in a blender or food processor until smooth; return soup to rinsed-out pan. Add up to 150ml (1/4 pint) of extra stock if you prefer a thinner soup. Re-heat gently until hot, stirring occasionally.

Serve in warmed soup bowls with crusty bread.

To freeze: Allow to cool completely; transfer to a rigid, freezer-proof container. Cover, seal and label. Freeze for up to 3 months.



# GHYC

## *Great Horkesley Youth Club*

### **Looking back....**

What a summer term it's been! The dry light evenings have meant we could all be outside! Here's some happy memories to finish the term with:

We have enjoyed hide & seek (which they organised themselves), games of football (and being refreshed by half an orange at half time) and time spent on the park.

### **Bug Night**

We had the opportunity to make bugs from all sorts of craft material. Some great creations! But being outside meant we had no time for the quiz!



### **Football Fever**

Because of football qualifying games, Patrick came in to lead training & a game of football which was immense fun. One young man asked if he could come the following week to lead games....and he did.

### **Summer BBQ**

Our final club evening was spent playing

games outside. As Wimbledon was in full flow, we didn't practice tennis racquets but had a great time with a game of football! Of course we celebrated the end of term tucking into hotdogs, and strawberries & cream!



**Term Dates:** 5th Sept, 19th Sept, 3rd Oct, 17th Oct, 7th Nov, 21st Nov & 5th Dec (Christmas party!)

Each evening:

- Starts at 7pm and finishes at 8.45pm
- The team are all volunteers who come from the parish church and Freedom church and the village.
- We have a list of rules for everyone's benefit.
- We have a tuck shop where they young people can buy sweets and drinks.
- We often enjoy food treats!
- There are craft activities and console games and table tennis and pool and board games out each week as well as our theme activities for the week.
- We always have a short film clip or talk and prayer of blessing to close.
- For students in Year 6 and above including friends from outside the village

For more information or to enrol, please contact

**Karen Carr on 07505132664 or email [info@freedom-church.co.uk](mailto:info@freedom-church.co.uk)**

Finally, may you enjoy your summer and we look forward to seeing you in the Autumn term!

Karen and all the team at Great Horkesley Youth Club (GHYC)



# Through The Garden Gate



It's the 1st of July as I write, and the hottest day of the year so far. Nonetheless, it's been a very good year for roses. I have quite a few good climbing roses. Some of them have flowered prolifically this year. We did have a few days with strong gusts of wind



though, which brought a couple adrift from their wires. I have a shallow well here in the back garden. It's just about 15ft. deep. I've always used the water on my many containerised plants. Some years back it would never run out of water, but in the last 3 years, it's been out of water by August. This year it's already run dry in June! I'm not sure what this says about the water table.

A worrying prospect for farmers I'd have thought. I like growing flowering plants in pots, but each year it's getting more of a struggle as the little containers turn into little ovens. Hydrangeas are especially vulnerable, and perhaps it's more practical to plant them directly into the ground. The problem with that for me is, I can't control the colour of the flowers. I have a few I like to keep flowering blue. It's rare in hard water areas to have acid soil, which facilitates the blueing process with the aluminium. Fascinating plants in that their flower colours depend on the minerals in the soil. They flower pink when lime present, as lime blocks any blueing of the flowers. I'm only speaking of the Mophead and Lacecap varieties here. The white flowering ones are unaffected by this of course, but might show a little pink as the flower ages. Sometimes pink and blue flowers appear on same shrub, as the roots reach different areas of the soil. A complicated bit of science going on. I'll sign off now, hoping for cooler weather tomorrow. Jill Plane



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**Answers for Word Search  
on Page 27**

We have recently returned from spending a week at an international gathering of Christian missionaries. These young people came from India, USA, Hungary, Germany, Wales, Ukraine as well as England. It was a remarkable time, being amongst such eager followers of Jesus. They all live by faith. They reach out to the lost, the lonely, the hungry as well as supporting and encouraging Christians in their lives. We spent time looking after the children some mornings whilst their parents went to teachings to build them up and inspire them wherever they live. We taught a workshop on marriage, parenting and ministry having lived this life for over 30 years. We were able to share some insights into what we had learnt, the mistakes we had made so that they can avoid them! One of the teachings was about humility and faith. It was brilliant. Humility says I will not take the credit or glory for any success. I will not boast. Even to myself. I give the glory to God who graciously allows me to be a part of what he's doing! Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. 1 Peter 5:6



And faith, looking to God knowing that He has done so much and will do so much in my life and through me if I dare to trust him.

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. Hebrews 11: 1

A life of humility and faith is a powerful life. As we humble ourselves, admitting our need for forgiveness before mighty God, we receive forgiveness, the grace to change what's wrong in our lives and yet, on our knees we can reach for the stars. The posture of humility and faith opens up endless opportunities to serve Jesus and be involved in his work which is so fulfilling and rewarding. He can do immeasurably more than we can do or ask in our lives. We heard the most amazing stories of lives changed by Jesus from around the world. We heard of relationships being reconciled which seemed impossible and people having their hearts healed from broken relationships.

*This is the love of Jesus at work.*

Sunday morning is a time for us as the family of God to come together. It's a time we all look forward to. It's a time to worship God, talk with him about the things that concern us and a time to learn from him. It's amazing how often someone says 'I really needed to hear that!' as the message spoke to them and the situation they face and they are encouraged and built up as they go home.





We have the opportunity to meet together in the week which is a great place for honest, open friendships and encouragement as we walk through life together with God and each other. We can't do it alone. Relationships are the bedrock of our faith. Our relationship with God and those in our church family and we happily welcome newcomers to join us.

**Every Sunday 10am Coffee Great Horkesley Village Hall, CO6 4EA**

Start your week with us at Great Horkesley Village Hall. Our vibrant services (starting at 10:30am) feature worship, fellowship, and inspiring teaching, leaving you recharged and ready for the week ahead. Stick around afterward for coffee, cakes, and meaningful conversations.

We have groups for Kingdom Explorers children and youth.

Please contact us if you are interested to know more or if you would like us to pray for a situation in your life, please email us and we will be honoured to pray.

Here's a prayer for you if you'd like to receive it....

Heavenly Father,

Thank you that you made me and you don't make mistakes

Thank you that you are a God of love who came down to earth to show me the way to the father

Thank you that through humility and faith I will discover more of you and experience your goodness

Please guide me

I ask in Jesus's name

Amen

**Paul & Karen Carr**

**Freedom Church**

**Mob: 07754088078**

**email - [info@freedom-church.co.uk](mailto:info@freedom-church.co.uk)**

**Website - <https://freedom-church.co.uk>**



Partnering with the local Anglican church, we run the Gt Horkesley Youth Club, providing a welcoming space for young people to connect and have fun!  
See page 48.

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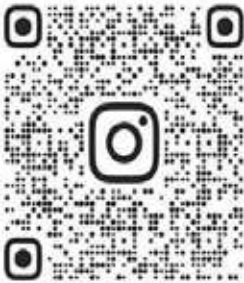
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# BOXTED METHODIST SILVER BAND

**Did you know that we have a Silver Band in the next village?**

Boxted Methodist Silver Band has been in existence for over one hundred and twenty-five years and plays in and around the Colchester area at concerts, fetes, shows and church services. It was originally formed as a wind band at the Methodist Chapel to play 'To the glory of God' and to that extent we still do as we have a commitment to play for special services at other churches by request even though Boxted Chapel is closed. The Band has had a busy summer starting with the VE Day event at Weeley, a special celebration service at All Saints Shrub End church and Boxted Fun Run, playing as the runners left the school. A dozen of us were able to play at Chelmsford City Hall at the investiture of the British Empire Medals to nine members of the public who were nominated for their service in the community including our own John Polley. We played on Colchester Park bandstand as well as by the river in Rowhedge at the Regatta to a very enthusiastic crowd. Our final concert of the summer will be at Gt Bentley Methodist church to round off their flower festival. With the theme of Famous Duos, we have had a very wide range of music for our Conductor to choose from!! We plan to have an open air Band service at St Peters Boxted on 6th September at 3pm but this needs confirming – the Village Hall is our usual venue but that is booked. We have an all-day rehearsal/social booked in September to prepare for the coming months including Remembrance service and concert at St Botolphs church, and a Celebration concert at Holland on Sea Methodist Church and many Christmas services and events already booked too including a Christmas concert at Nayland Village Hall on 13th December and the Advent tree lighting in Boxted on 6th December. We play a wide range of music from traditional brass band repertoire, through jazz and film music, shows and orchestral arrangements so there is something to suit everyone. If you are interested in either joining the Band – we rehearse on Wednesday evenings at St Peters School, Boxted, CO4 5YN - or just listening to the Band, **contact Liz Petter for details (07803935688) or view more details on our website.** We have had several new players join us recently, but there is always room for more, especially Bb bass player, so if you used to play and have been thinking about taking it up again come and see us.



**Are you keen to get involved with the Great Horkesley Village News?**

**Would you consider submitting an article to be published?**

I am looking for articles about:

The villagers' perspective of Great Horkesley

History of the village

Book reviews

Recipes

Pets

Local walks

**Submit your article, including photos where relevant, to [horkesleyvillagenews@gmail.com](mailto:horkesleyvillagenews@gmail.com) by 5th September.**



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# Great Horkesley Carpet Bowls Club



The club's annual meal and trophy presentation took place at The Cricketers, Fordham Heath on Thursday 27th March. The club AGM was held in the Old Village Hall on Thursday 3rd April.

Would anyone be interested in playing on either a Wednesday or Friday afternoon? This would be in addition to our normal Thursday evening meetings. A minimum of 6 players would be required in order to meet the cost of hiring the hall. Some of the current members could be available to help make up the numbers. All equipment is provided. This could run for part of the year as currently happens with the Boxted club which meets from September to April, as many of the members play outdoors during the summer months.

## Interested in trying carpet bowls?

**We meet every Thursday evening from 7pm at Great Horkesley Old Village Hall, CO6 4BH (on the A134 between The Yew Tree and the Post Office). Please contact our chairperson Dott Simkin on tel 01206 271249 or text 07508731251 for further information.**

*Mike Hubbard, Great Horkesley Club Secretary*



Aimed at beginners and social players.

All ages welcome.  
Equipment is provided.

**Every Monday 2 - 4pm  
Nayland Village Hall  
CO6 4JH**

Contact: **Jane 01206 263619**

## Great Horkesley Table Tennis Club



No previous experience is required and bats will be available.

**Fridays from 7.30 - 9.00pm  
£3 per session.**

**Great Horkesley  
Old Village Hall, CO6 4BH  
(on A134 between the Yew Tree and Post Office)**

If you would like to come along and try or take it up again, please contact:

**Steve Holland 07785384676  
Janet Faiers 07899951482  
Andy Ayton 07871502945**

Come and give us a look

# From the Waiting Room

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**Autumn at the Surgery:** As the weather is still very warm in the Autumn months, please remember to keep cool, covered and wear sunscreen. Anti-Histamines should now be bought over the counter and not prescribed. The surgery will be holding Flu Clinics in October. We will invite those eligible to attend in due course. Once invited please support your local surgery by coming to us for your flu vaccination rather than your local pharmacy, the surgery purchases the vaccinations in advance for our patients and do not want them going to waste.

**New Appointment System:** Our new Digital Appointment system has been in place since early March and reports from our patients are very good. We are now up and running on the NHS app, so if you wish to see a GP just click on the App, go into services and click on "Contact your GP about a health problem." OR you can go online on the Creffield Medical Group website and click on "Contact us Online" OR if you are unable to complete the form you can telephone us and one of our receptionists will fill in the form for you or support you to complete this yourself. The request is then triaged by one of our Lead GP's and the most appropriate appointment will then be offered to you.

**New GP:** We are pleased to announce our replacement GP - Dr Alice Parr. Dr Parr has been part of CMG for over 8 years and has been based at our West Bergholt Surgery. We welcome her here at our lovely surgery and hope she settles in well.

## Horkesley Care Network

The Care Network is a registered charity which exists to offer help to those in our local community who are without transport. Should you need to get to a doctors or hospital appointment, collect a prescription, attend social activities around the villages, etc. we have a pool of volunteer drivers available to help you.

**Phone Lesley 01206 271576 or Fiona 01206 271387/07826265464** and we will make the necessary arrangements

If you have a little free time and are able to help occasionally as a driver please phone for further details.

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**Contact gill\_shrimpton@hotmail.com**





Litter Warriors is a Colchester City Council initiative to support and enable local communities to help maintain a clean and green Colchester by litter picking an area of open space or street that's important to you. This may be the street you live in, your favourite park or open space.

We will provide you with: a high vis vest, a litter picker and some bags.

Litter Warriors is a great way to bring families, friends and neighbours together and maintain pride in our local neighbourhood.

To sign up to Litter Warriors, email:  
[community.volunteers@colchester.gov.uk](mailto:community.volunteers@colchester.gov.uk)



Re-Cycle (Bikes to Africa) accepts unwanted second-hand bikes and ships them to Africa.

Our partners distribute the bikes and teach repair and maintenance skills to keep them roadworthy. Since 1998 over 100,000 have been shipped to over 13 African countries.

### **Can you help?**

If you have a bike in your shed or garage that you no longer want please don't dump it take it to:

**Unit 8 The Grove Estate, Colchester Road, Wormingford, CO6 3AJ**

Opening hours Mon-Fri 8.30am - 4.30pm

Contact us on **01206 617865**

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## **Great Horkesley & Boxted Community Group**

Join our online community

- Latest village news
- Local events
- Ask questions

**Scan the QR code below to join the Facebook group:**



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# UPCOMING EVENTS

12/08/2025	Horkesley Craft Group, GH Village Hall 2-4pm (p64)
13/08/2025	Summer Fun Morning, St John's Church 10-11.30am (p25)
20/08/2025	WI Meeting, Great Horkesley Village Hall 7-9pm (p18/19)
21/08/2025	Mobile Library, Keelers Way 11:45am-12:15pm (p17)
25/08/2025	Summer Bank Holiday
26/08/2025	Horkesley Craft Group, GH Village Hall 2-4pm (p64)
05/09/2025	Food Pantry, BWW School 3.30pm (p17)
05/09/2025	GHYC, Great Horkesley Village Hall 7-8.30pm (p48)
09/09/2025	Horkesley Craft Group, GH Village Hall 2-4pm (p64)
09/09/2025	WI Meeting, Great Horkesley Village Hall 7-9pm (p18/19)
12/09/2025	Food Pantry, BWW School 3.30pm (p17)
11/09/2025	Mobile Library, Keelers Way 11:45am-12:15pm (p17)
19/09/2025	Food Pantry, BWW School 3.30pm (p17)
19/09/2025	GHYC, Great Horkesley Village Hall 7-8.30pm (p48)
20/09/2025	Barn Dance, Great Horkesley Village Hall 7-10.30pm (p29)
26/09/2025	Horkesley Craft Group, GH Village Hall 2-4pm (p64)
26/09/2025	Food Pantry, BWW School 3.30pm (p17)
02/10/2025	Mobile Library, Keelers Way 11:45am-12:15pm (p17)
03/10/2025	Food Pantry, BWW School 3.30pm (p17)
03/10/2025	GHYC, Great Horkesley Village Hall 7-8.30pm (p48)
05/10/2025	Last date for submissions for next Village News
10/10/2025	Food Pantry, BWW School 3.30pm (p17)
11/10/2025	Church Quiz Night, Great Horkesley Village Hall 7pm (p28)
14/10/2025	Horkesley Craft Group, GH Village Hall 2-4pm (p64)
14/10/2025	WI Meeting, Great Horkesley Village Hall 7-9pm (p18/19)
17/10/2025	Food Pantry, BWW School 3.30pm (p17)
17/10/2025	GHYC, Great Horkesley Village Hall 7-8.30pm (p48)
23/10/2025	Mobile Library, Keelers Way 11:45am-12:15pm (p17)
24/10/2025	Food Pantry, BWW School 3.30pm (p17)
25/10/2025	Churchyard Clear-up, All Saints Church 9.30am-12noon (p25)
28/10/2025	Horkesley Craft Group, GH Village Hall 2-4pm (p64)

For details of Church Services see page 27

## Useful Contacts

### Councils

Chairman Great Horkesley Parish Council..Christopher Arnold.....	07703168125
E-mail: <a href="mailto:cllr.arnold@greathorkesley-pc.gov.uk">cllr.arnold@greathorkesley-pc.gov.uk</a>	
Parish Clerk.....Teri Duckworth .....	07375095486
E-mail: <a href="mailto:parish-clerk@greathorkesley-pc.gov.uk">parish-clerk@greathorkesley-pc.gov.uk</a>	
City Councillor.....William Sunnucks .....	07771940763
City Councillor .....	Darius Laws .....07786007560
City Councillor.....Tom Rowe.....	07375238749
County Councillor .....	Lewis Barber.....07876237137

### Village Groups

Great Horkesley Community Events .....	ghcommunityevents@gmail.com	
Gt. & Lt. Horkesley WI President.....	Marilyn Hurst .....	07763488774
Rainbow Leader .....	Liz Petter .....	01206 271511
Guide Leader.....	Ann Dyer.....	01206 273071
Brownie Leader .....	Liz Petter .....	01206 271511
Scout Co-Group Lead Volunteer .....	Will Lodge.....	07729803515
Youth Club.....	Karen Carr .....	07505132664
Horkesley Care Network.....	Lesley Richardson.....	01206 271576
Freedom Church.....	Paul/Karen Carr.....	07754088078

### Great Horkesley Village News

Editor .....	Caroline Evans .....	07747751063
E-mail: <a href="mailto:horkesleyvillagenews@gmail.com">horkesleyvillagenews@gmail.com</a>		

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