

Broomfield's Mr Cricket receives lifetime achievement award

JOHN LATHAM is a well known figure in Broomfield. For well over 70 years he has lived, run his own business and worked in the village. Everybody knows him! His great passion has been, and still is, the game of cricket. He has just completed a remarkable 65 seasons with Broomfield Cricket Club as player, administrator and officer. He first joined the Club in 1949, as a Colt, became a 2nd X1 player in around 1953 and a 1st X1 player in about 1958. He was Captain from 1965 to 1972, and later Hon Secretary, Chairman and now President. He began his cricketing life as an off spinner and remembers bowling 25 overs one day (no limitations then!) and taking 7 wickets for 36 runs. Later he turned to swing bowling and grinned with pride as he recalled scoring one century in 65 years' service!

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to village cricket and to the community, this year Essex Cricket Club presented him with a Lifetime Achievement Award (also known as a Nat West OSCA (Outstanding Services to Cricket Award)). As part of his award he was invited for a day at Lord's with award recipients from other Counties. He was given a tour of the facilities, including the changing rooms, museum and Long Room. This was followed with a superb dinner and drinks, interspersed with Jonathan Agnew interviewing ex England Captains Michael Vaughan and Mike Gatting, and England spin bowler Graham Swan. All in all, a marvellous and fitting day for John at the "home of cricket", and one which he will always remember.

John is still as passionate about cricket as he ever was. Go to Broomfield's cricket ground in Mill Lane on any Friday or Saturday during the season and you will almost certainly find John there, having a drink, discussing the finer points of the game and encouraging youngsters, whom he sees as vital to the continuation of cricket in Broomfield at a time when cricket in the UK has so much competition from other sports.

John, quite rightly, is proud and grateful for his award but he was keen to emphasise to me that there are other long service contributors at the Club who do an enormous amount of unseen "hard graft" behind the scenes, particularly with regard to the upkeep and maintenance of the "the square" and ground. He particularly mentioned Dennis Boreham and Ian Grant

Congratulations, John, on your well deserved award and long may you remain a stalwart of Broomfield Cricket Club.

Geof Garwood



PENSIONERS' LUNCH 2015

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Tim Tranquada (Civic Amenities)
Les Steed
Angela Thomson
Jean Wrenn
Gerry Cockram
(Finance & General Purposes)
Peter Carter
Ray Mullender
Wendy Daden

Clerk
Karen Hurrell
**Parish Office, 158 Main
Road, Broomfield, CM1 7AH**
Telephone: 441660
E-mail:
clerk@broomfieldpc.org.uk
**Parish Councillors can be
contacted through
the Parish Office.**

Office Hours:
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
10.30am - 12.30pm
(answer machine available
out of office hours)

City Councillors

Brian Patient Alexander Mews, Sandon, CM2 7TT
Tel: 01245 478465
Sandra Pontin 3 Mandeville Way, Broomfield, CM1 7HN
Tel: 07930 105745
Graham Pooley c/o Civic Centre, Duke Street, CM1 1JE
graham.pooley@chelmsford.gov.uk
Tel: 07940 576825

County Councillor

John Aldridge 33 East View, Writtle, CM1 3NN
Tel: 421524

MP (Saffron Walden Constituency)

Sir Alan Haselhurst MP The Old Armoury, Saffron Walden,
Essex CB10 1JN Tel: 01799 506349

MONTHLY SURGERIES

9th January 2015

BOREHAM Village Hall 5.15 - 6.00 pm
GREAT DUNMOW Town Council Offices 6.30 - 7.15 pm

13th February 2015

STANSTED Parish Council Office 5.45 - 6.30 pm
SAFFRON WALDEN The Old Armoury, 3 Museum Street
7.00 - 7.45 pm

6th March 2015

BROOMFIELD Village Hall 5.15 - 6.00 pm
GREAT DUNMOW Town Council Offices 6.30 - 7.15 pm

No appointment necessary but if you require any assistance
please ring 01799 506349

If you would like to receive Sir Alan Haselhurst's
e-newsletter then please e-mail

office@saffronwaldenconservatives.org.uk
for the attention of Katrina Robinson.

COMMUNITY POLICING IN BROOMFIELD

Report Forms for the confidential reporting of an incident or
problem available from the Parish Office.

Broomfield Community Police Officers:

PC Laura Williams 74932

Laura.Williams@essex.pnn.police.uk

PCSO Karen Calleja 71853

Karen.Calleja@essex.pnn.police.uk

Contact number for PCSOs: 07817 454525

Non-emergency number: 101

or via website: www.essex.police.uk



From the Editor – Your contributions

CONTRIBUTIONS to future editions are welcome: Clearly hand
written, typed/word processed. E-mail to the Editor:

selina.matthews@tiscali.co.uk or send hard copy to the Editor:

c/o **The Parish Office, 158 Main Road, Broomfield, CM1 7AH**
– Tel: 01245 441660 clerk@broomfieldpc.org.uk

Articles accompanied by photographs are particularly welcome.
Please send either professional prints or e-mail digital images as jpeg
or tiff files with maximum image resolution for clearest reproduction.

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IN COUNCIL



PARISH Council meetings take place every third Wednesday at 7.30 p.m. in Broomfield Village Hall – members of the public are welcome to attend and there is a 10 minute Public Question Time at the start of the meeting for any questions to be put forward to the Parish Council for consideration. Two meetings have taken place since the last edition of the Broomfield Times and a summary of the main topics discussed can be found below:

Parish Councillors: We still have one vacancy - please contact the Clerk, Karen Hurrell (01245 441660) at the Parish Office for further details - you can make a worthwhile contribution to all aspects of activities/facilities/planning etc in your Village.

Police Matters: A change in policing in the Village means we do not have a visit from our Local Neighbourhood Policing Team to our Parish Council Meetings. However, local 'street meetings' are taking place weekly - please see http://www.essex.police.uk/my_neighbourhood/chelmsford_district/broomfield/broomfield-3.aspx

For details of when these meetings are in Broomfield.

Planning: Councillors from the Property & Planning Committee have met with Chignal Parish Council and Newland Springs Residents Association. A Statement of Common Ground' has been submitted to Chelmsford City Council highlighting concerns regarding the two new developments in the Hollow Lane area. The recent flooding issue which has affected residents in Coombe Rise, Hearsall Avenue and Gutters Lane is being pursued with Anglian Water and Essex County Council.

Civic Amenities Matters: Our dedicated bunch of volunteers have been very busy clearing vegetation away from footpaths in various locations around the Village and working in Centenary Wood (bottom of Angel Lane). Unfortunately funding was not secured for the Centenary Wood benches but thanks to all who voted. Clearance of Parsonage Green ditch is planned for early December and on behalf of the whole Village a big thank you to the dedicated team of volunteers who regularly help and give up their free time - please feel free to join in!



Broomfield Village Hall Charity: The new outdoor fitness equipment has been installed and is free to use - save on your gym membership! A Bingo Night was recently held and was a great success.

Highways: Many problems with street lighting had been reported to Highways and faulty lights are being chased by the Parish Council and Councillor Aldridge. The design of the new Village 'gateways' are still being discussed with Chelmsford City Council.

Finance: Next year's precept has been agreed with just under a 2% increase on last year's Precept. The cost to an average Band D property has decreased by 7% due to the increase in houses being built in the Village.

Please follow us on Facebook and also watch out for our new Website which will be launched in the New Year!



Season's Greetings to all our readers



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Broomfield Community Speed Watch

ARE YOU concerned about speeding motorists in Broomfield? If so, why not make a difference and join the Broomfield Speed Watch team?

We currently have 7 trained members in the team who actively take part in speed watching activities, but we could always do with more! So why not consider joining us to enable us to carry out more operations?

All that is required is a short training session with our local police (lasting less than 2 hours) and then you can join one of our trained team members on a speed watch session, which takes place outside Broomfield Place on Main Road, usually lasts about 1/2 an hour and can be carried out any time during daylight hours. Our presence generally tends to encourage drivers to keep within the 30mph limit on Main Road when they see us, which is obviously what we want in Broomfield. If the speed gun "clocks" anyone exceeding the speed limit, we pass details of the offending vehicle to Essex Police, who take appropriate action if necessary.

If you would like to speak to a member of the team about the activity, please call Margaret on 01245 442051 or Chris on 01245 441274; otherwise, please contact Broomfield Parish Council office to register your interest for training.



BROOMFIELD Village Hall held their first Charity Bingo night on 1st November and it was a huge success. Those who attended enjoyed themselves, were hopeful for a repeat and some lucky winners took home a whopping £50 prize!!! Well done to all the winners and thanks to those who organised and of course those who supported the event. We are pleased to report that we will hold 2 or 3 next year so look out for these dates in your next edition of Broomfield Times (early 2015) where we will have a list of all the Village Hall Charity events.

This **New Years Eve** will be the first year that we will open the doors for a **fun family disco night**. The party will start at 7.30pm and you will be able to see the New Year in with family and friends before closing at 1am. We were delighted to hear that the street lights will remain on during New Years Eve/Day so you will not be left walking home in the dark. Tickets are on sale at the Village Hall Office and can be bought Mon, Wed and Friday from 10.30-12.30, Adult tickets £7.50 each and Children £5 each. Hurry, we have a limited amount of tickets left. If you cannot get to the office, please send an email to Broomfieldcc@live.com.

We would like to welcome our **new hirers**, Kazen Kai Karate, Notley Puppy & Dog Training School and Ruggerballs. **Kazen Kai** will hold Karate lessons on Monday at 4.45pm for children aged 6+ and Kickboxing lessons on Monday 5.30pm for Children aged 8+. For more information, please telephone 08001 830383 or email admin@kazenkai.com.

Notley Puppy & Dog Training school hire the hall on a Monday night at 7pm. Please contact Gary Notley for more information on 01245 233190 or email notleypts@yahoo.co.uk.

Ruggerbugs hold a pre-school development programme based around non contact rugby for children from 18months to 6 years on a Sunday morning from 9am. For more information contact the group by telephone 08456 432462 or email info@ruggerbugs.co.uk.



Don't forget the **Charity** run their weekly **Stay N Play** group for parents, carers and children under 5 each Monday from 9.15-11.15am and monthly **Coffee morning** that takes place on the 1st Wednesday of the Month from 10.45am-12.30pm. We hope to see you there :).

We do have **many regular groups** that hire the hall covering a whole host of activities for all ages so please do look at our website and notice boards for more information, we're hopeful that one of our groups will be right for you.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Broomfield Village Hall Charity

City Councillor

Dear Residents,
FOR ME as your City Councillor, concerns continue to be dominated by planning matters, by the state of our roads and by the congestion that continues to worsen.

Residents will recall that Broomfield had no real choice but to accept that the Council's North Area Action Plan would bring significant new development here. There were some carrots - a GP surgery was expected, a new and enlarged primary school, highways and transport improvements that would see our roads able to cope.



There has been good news, finally. After extraordinary dithering the County's education department has decided there will be a new school. The delays have meant those plans are still far from close to delivery, but at least now the City Council can get on with negotiations with the intended developer of the central Broomfield earmarked site that includes Broomfield Place.

On the other planned locations, North of Hospital Approach, and North of Copperfield Road, there have been disappointments and frustrations. The fears for increased traffic without roads to cope still look very real. Hospital traffic is already an issue and we hoped a spin-off from the development would see that addressed through additional and better access. This will not now be happening. Despite the best efforts of the Parish Council, the current plans in my opinion feel like sticking plasters not solutions.

I'm also told that there is little prospect of a spur off the Park and Ride to the Hospital, no prospect of a GP surgery and that school children from the new development are to go to Little Waltham!

The worry for us is that traffic will be sucked though Broomfield, with Main Road taking considerably more traffic than it can reasonably cope with. There is also no apparent focus on the under capacity of the main arteries like Essex Regiment Way where delays can already be considerable.

Not to mention potholes, pavements and kerb-stones!

Invitations have now been issued to put forward more sites for possible development in the next Plan period! We must learn from this experience and insist even more strongly that the necessary infrastructure is guaranteed and in place if more local housing is to be built.

Meanwhile other aspects of Councillor life are perhaps easier. It's always a delight to work with the Parish Council, and especially to hear directly from residents, and help where I can.

With thanks for your encouragement, and very best wishes for the Festive Season.

Graham Pooley

Liberal Democrat City Councillor, Broomfield and the Walthams
07940 576825; graham.pooley@chelmsford.gov.uk

Snow Patrol Volunteers Needed!

Broomfield Parish Council participate in the Essex County Council Winter Salt Bag scheme. Feedback from residents in previous years indicates that they were very grateful for the clearing and salting of the pavements which considerably eased walking around the village. We had our specially made shovels to clear the snow and salt provided by ECC but the whole operation depends on volunteers. We need you to help others. The reduced state of the Parish Council means that we certainly do not have the capacity to carry out a significant operation on our own.

To volunteer to clear the pavement along your road or the nearest main thoroughfare, please contact the Parish Office 01245 441660 or email clerk@broomfieldpc.org.uk. We can then organise the distribution of shovels and bags of salt to convenient locations and once again the village will be safely negotiable during winter snow.



Little Waltham and Great Notley surgeries Patient Participation Group

MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PATIENT PARTICIPATION (NAPP)

The Patient Participation Group (PPG) for your local surgeries has been re-formed with a new steering committee.

With the growing pressures on the NHS generally and on your local medical practice in particular we feel it is important that an identifiable system is in place to act as a two-way information channel between you, the patients, and the service provider, the Practice. The PPG can and is willing to perform this function.

What the PPG can do:

- Listen to you
- Provide constructive feedback from you to the practice
- Give feedback in local and national consultations
- Keep you informed about changes in the practice
- Host an annual Patient meeting

What the PPG can't do:

- Assist with individual patient complaints
- Become involved in clinical issues

How you can contact us:

- Email: lw.gnpatientgroup@gmail.com
- By post c/o the surgeries

Stay updated via:

- Patient Participation page at www.littlewalthamsurgery.co.uk
- Dedicated noticeboards in the surgeries (coming soon)
- Text or email (complete a form online or in surgery with your details)

Join us: We would welcome one or two additional committee members, particularly younger patients or those representing minority groups.

Broomfield slimmer's record 2014

JANUARY is a time when lots of people decide to get in shape and anyone thinking about slimming down this New Year will find incredible inspiration in Broomfield. The local Slimming World group in 2014 lost an incredible 305 stone. To put that in perspective, the average weight of a fully grown Hippo.

One of many successful stories is that of Broomfield resident Fi Lipscomb, who has lost 4 stone 7lbs and is now a target member. Like many people she had tried to lose weight before but struggled as she'd been left feeling hungry and deprived and without the support needed to motivate her through the tough times. Slimming World's Food Optimising plan allowed Fi to fill up on loads of everyday foods without weighing and measuring, as well as enjoying her favourite treats in moderation. But the key to successful weight loss isn't just what you eat, it is receiving the right support and motivation. This is where attending a group really comes into its own.

To join the group simply pop along on Tuesdays at 5pm or 7pm and from 6th January at 3.30pm, at the Village Hall or call Victoria on 07823 441198 more information.



Fi Lipscombe before and after losing 4½ stone.



Civic Amenities Report

CENTENARY WOOD

Here is a Google Earth picture from 2009 - can you find Centenary Wood?

The Wood has displayed some very attractive autumn colours, especially on the guelder rose and cornus shrubs. The working group continues to maintain the wood - if you wish to join us you will find the dates of the working sessions on the Parish web page. We were unsuccessful in our bid for funding to purchase some more tree trunk benches.

Parish Pathways Partnership (P3)

The P3 group, as well as enjoying the walks along the parish footpaths, has cut back brambles along the footpath from the Church to Chelmer Valley High School, between Galton Road and Main Road and over the footbridge in the field by the Church.

The group had the opportunity to talk with the County Highways Officer, who is looking after the P3 groups in the county, on issues concerned with keeping our public footpaths open and easily passable.

5 GREENS

Two members of the working group (Tim and Margaret Tranquada) have cleared the ditch by Parsonage Green, which runs from Parsonage Close up to the Pond. This should help with the drainage and will also allow an uninterrupted view of the daffodils expected in the spring. The other ditch, which runs at the side of Parsonage Green by Elm Close, will be cleared on December 2nd.

St Mary w. St Leonard's Gift Appeal

Dear Parishioners,

Many thanks to all of you who contributed to the Gift Appeal in the last edition of the Broomfield Times.

In total we raised £5235 which will help considerably with maintaining the fabric of the church and the upkeep of the churchyard for all those living in the parish today and those who will live here in the future.

The church is always available for those who live in the parish, and of course, those who are just passing through. Please do not hesitate to contact us or come along to any of our acts of worship or social events.

God bless,

Revd. Carolyn Tibbott and **Revd. Anne Harvey**
Vicar of Broomfield Assistant Curate



Les Stead and Tim Tranquada cut back vegetation and pushed back the encroaching soil from the pavement and hedge by Felsted field. There should now be more space for people to pass safely along this section by the busy road.

Angela Thompson, Andrew Lilley, Tim and Margaret Tranquada weeded around the BT box on Scots Green and planted some more forget-me-nots in the small flower bed.

PLAY-AREA

We have yet to hear about the outcome of our bid for funds to purchase a roundabout for the children's play-area.

We are also investigating a means to improve the surface.

ALLOTMENTS

If you wish to put your name down on the waiting list for a half plot on the allotment site then please contact the Parish office.

Tim Tranquada

Neighbour Action Panel

REGRETTABLY, the meetings of the Broomfield Neighbourhood Action Panel have had to be suspended. Essex Police have informed us that they are no longer able to support this activity and, without the two-way exchanges between ourselves and the police that the NAP facilitated, there is no point in the meetings.

Essex Police are now publishing the crime figures on their web site and will be at particular locations around the villages if you wish to discuss anything. Information about both these items can be found at http://www.essex.police.uk/my_neighbourhood/chelmsford_district/broomfield/broomfield-3.aspx

For the crime statistics click on the "Crime Information" tab and then "View crime statistics for this neighbourhood". To find where and when the police will be available click on "Events".

The Parish Council has taken up the loss of the NAP with the Police and Crime Commissioner and, at the time of writing, a reply is awaited.

Chris Gardiner




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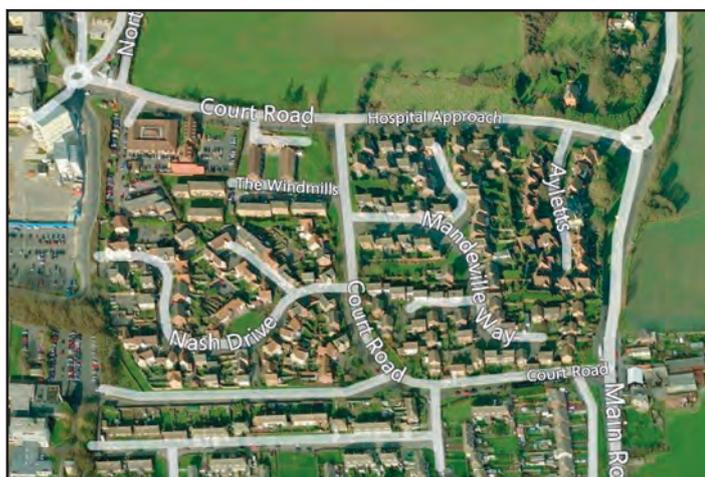
Broomfield – a popular place to live since the Bronze Age

A Late Bronze Age enclosure excavated at Windmill Field

AERIAL photographs taken in the 1970s revealed intriguing crop marks in the field adjacent to the access road to Chelmer Valley High School, known as Windmill Field. The weather at that time had been extremely dry and many such marks were seen across the countryside including a complete Roman villa at Chignal St James. The cropmarks at Windmill Field were interpreted as being of a trackway and an enclosure with an entrance in its eastern side. On aerial photographs and on the cropmark plot a second trackway was also seen, with other features including part of a circular enclosure.



Map showing the location of the excavation prior to development.



Aerial view of subsequent housing.

The area was earmarked for housing development and is now covered by Nash Drive and Constance Close. Excavation of the enclosure was prompted by the proposed development and funded by the developer, Bellway Homes.

The site commands extensive views over the terraces and flood plain of the River Chelmer and is located on sands and gravels deposited during the Ice Age. Other linear cropmarks **Map showing the location of the excavation prior to development.**

have been identified to the east of the site, extending beyond Hospital Approach. An Iron Age settlement was excavated at Ashtree Corner, Little Waltham in 1971 prior to the building of the bypass.

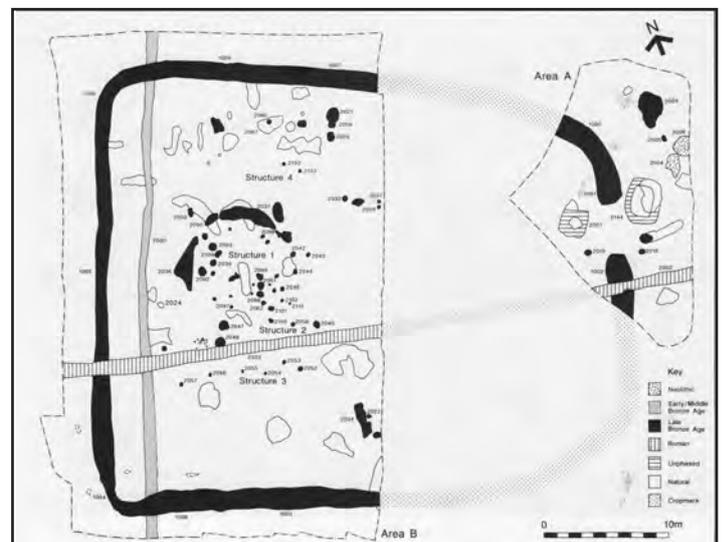
Two areas of the site were excavated, omitting the area under what would be the gardens of the new houses with an agreement to preserve it for the future. The main area was about half the enclosure outline and a second area was around the entrance to the enclosure.



Aerial views during excavations in December 1991 and January 1992.

Each area was cleared of ploughed layers, revealing features cutting into the sand and gravel deposits below. All revealed features were sampled and analysed. The recorded details of the finds are in a paper published in the Transactions of the Essex Society for Archaeology and History vol 26 1995 on which this article is based.

In two pits to the east of the entrance in area A, Grooved Ware pottery and a good example of a flint knife were found, dating the pits to Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age. A linear feature on the west side of the site is cut by other features and is therefore earlier, but no diagnostic material was found to establish its date.



The enclosure itself is marked by a ditch which probably had a bank on its inner rim made from material thrown up when the ditch was dug. No sign of the rampart wall or bank was found but there is a gap between the ditch and other features that could represent the location of the bank. At the entrance two post holes were seen and investigated indicating that there was a gate here.

The ditch was excavated in segments along its length to obtain a representative sample. The details show that the ditch was re-cut several times as it was filled in by dumped material and soil that slipped in from the banks. A large amount of pottery and some black charcoal was found amongst the pebbly ditch fill.

Within the enclosure a circular pattern of fifteen postholes was found which, taken together with three gullies and an area of disturbed ground, has been interpreted as a hut circle. It may have looked similar to the reconstruction at Hadleigh Country Park shown in the picture.

Fragments of pottery, burnt stone, worked flint and daub were found together with large fragments of saddle querns made from

Broomfield 'des res'?



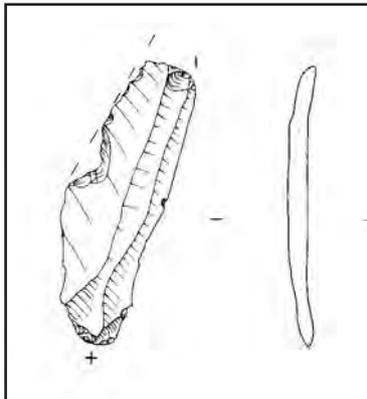
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Reconstructed Roundhouse at Hadleigh Country Park, based on an excavation at Little Waltham, Essex.

erratic boulders. These were used to grind corn. Some of the finds are shown here in pictures from the report. The dating of them gives a Late Bronze Age. Other post holes found are interpreted as fence lines and possibly a drying rack facing inward towards the hut. Fences may have divided the enclosure into areas for different uses or pens for livestock.

A linear feature, running east-west, cut the enclosure ditch in both excavation areas. It was found to be a steep-sided ditch with a flat bottom and may be a later field boundary of Roman date. This indicates that the settlement did not persist into Roman times.

Taking all the evidence into account, experts think that the Broomfield enclosure was a relatively short-lived small farmstead the occupants of which herded cattle and grew subsistence crops



Good example of a flint knife 2 1/2" long, found outside enclosure entrance, dated as Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age.

BRUMFELDA presents

BROOMFIELD'S LOST PRINCE AND HIS WORLD

Wednesday 11th February 2015, 7.30pm in Broomfield Village Hall. An illustrated talk by Stephen Pollington.

For more information and to pre-book tickets, e-mail: brumfelda@gmail.com £8, £5 for members

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Once again Christmas is nearly upon us and the Church here on the Green in Broomfield is as excited as ever as the festival approaches. There is so much going on here and we offer a warm invitation to everybody to come along and join in with the excitement.

Carol Singing at The Kings Arms

Tuesday 16th December 7.30pm

Edward Bear Christmas Party with Nativity

For all parents or carers with pre-school children.

Tuesday 16th December 10am in St. Leonard's Hall (Contact Louise: 443295 for more details)

Carer's Group Mince Pies and Mulled Wine

Open to all those who are caring for a loved one, friend or neighbour.

Wednesday 17th December 10am in St. Leonard's Hall (Contact Sue: 441390 for more details)

OUR CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

Village Carol Service

Broomfield Methodist Church

Sunday 14th December 6.30pm. **All are welcome.**

Carol Service with Royal British Legion

St. Mary's Broomfield

Sunday 21st December 6.30pm. **All are welcome.**

Crib Service, St. Mary's Church, Broomfield

Christmas Eve, 3pm. For families with young children.

Come along dressed as characters from the Christmas story and be part of our Crib Scene. **All are welcome.**

Calypso Carols by Candle Light Service

St. Mary's Church, Broomfield – Christmas Eve 5pm

A real family service, for all ages. Hear the Christmas story and see our Nativity play. **All are welcome.**

Midnight Mass, St. Mary's Church, Broomfield

Christmas Eve 11.30pm. The first Eucharist of Christmas.

All are welcome.

Family Eucharist and Gift Service, Christmas Morning 10.30am

St. Mary's Church, Broomfield. If Santa visited your house last night bring a present to show everyone. **All are welcome.**

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SHARING OUR CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS WITH YOU ALL.

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Broomfield Library

THE LIBRARY hosted the eagerly awaited return of our Fabulous Puppet Show at half term; this time we went time travelling into the world of dinosaurs who liked sticky buns. Intrigued? Come and find out what happens to our puppets at our next event. Details from the library.

We are planning to start two new groups - if you like to Knit and Natter, meet new friends and learn/improve your knitting skills you'd be welcome to join us. Mums who would like a bit of adult conversation over a book are invited to Mum's the Word.

Broomfield and District U3A

THE BROOMFIELD and District U3A will be 3 years old in June 2015 with membership increasing month by month. This organisation is for people no longer in full time employment and provides educational, creative and leisure pursuits in a friendly environment.

We have an informative Speaker each month. In September we had a very enjoyable talk by Sylvia King showing slides of her coach trip to Iceland travelling from Reykjavik around the country. In October Debbie Hart of Writtle College explained the different types of willow and their various uses.

In October we had a splendid Magical Evening which consisted of 8 Magicians in all 6 of which were close up Magicians performing at your table a truly amazing night.

Broomfield and District U3A have 18 activity groups including Canasta, Book Club, Geology, Gardening, History, Lace Making, Luncheon Group, Swimming and Walking. Our meetings are held every second Wednesday of each month (except August) from 1.30 to 3.30pm in Broomfield Village Hall. New members are always made welcome. Full details of activities can be found on our website at: www.u3asites.org.uk.broomfield.

Muriel Hubble

1st Broomfield Scout Group

THIS term all sections have been out and about, the Scouts have been litter picking around the village, a number of Cubs went to Halfords to brush up on their cycle maintenance, whilst the rest learnt about road safety. The Beavers have been learning about astronomy. The younger sections have been on camp. Beavers had a Star Wars Sleepover at Belchamps in Hockley and Cubs went to Danbury (aka Australia!) for "I'm a Cub, get me outta here!" and they all did!

Our District arranged an overseas trip for Cubs, Scouts and Explorers to Euro Disney over half term, and we had a small contingent of brave Cubs and Scouts attend. We travelled to France by coach on the Saturday, and stayed at a French campsite, Jambville, which has a very impressive chateau, huge wooded parkland and several smaller buildings which we slept in.. Think Hylands House and grounds and you're nearly there - this place has its own church on site complete with bell. We spent two exciting days exploring and trying as many rides around Disney as we could fit in, and then slept most of the way home on the Tuesday! Broomfield Scouts and Cubs were exemplary in everything whilst we were away and were a real credit to us all. We received many complements on their behaviour from other leaders - so it's not just us as leaders being biased. Well done all of you - you were a pleasure to take abroad! Thank you!



The Scout section were recently looking their best at our village Remembrance Service. All sections have visited the Village War Memorial as we have been learning a little about the WW1. The Scout Association has been raising money, with a special Badge, to have a Memorial built at the National Arboretum as there is currently no memorial there for Scouts who lost their lives in the war.

In the photo with the Scouts is Bill Shearing who was one of the first Broomfield Scouts. Bill joined the Merchant Navy and served on HMS Brilliance in WWII. Bill's brother John Shearing is one of the names read out at the Remembrance Service (?), He lost his life whilst serving in the Military Police in Burma in WWII.



We will be having our Annual Book sale next year, on the 21st-22nd February 2015, please do donate your unwanted books to us, and come along and support our young people in their fundraising, there are usually some real treasures amongst the books we receive, that book you've been looking for? - we may just have and for only 50p it can be yours!

Look forwards to seeing you there.

Ruth Reed

GSL 1st Broomfield Scout Group

Broomfield Village Hall evening



Friday 6th March 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

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Broomfield Cottage Gardeners' Society



THE AUTUMN Show took place on 28th September in the Village Hall and provided a great opportunity for all exhibitors and visitors to view the displays of flowers, plants, vegetables, fruit, cookery and photography. The fine weather helped to encourage many people to visit the Show and the delicious home-made cakes were in great demand to accompany a cup of tea or coffee.

Trophies were presented by Mr John Cullen, Vice Chairman of the Essex Dahlia Society, to Mr Peter Bousfield - the Walter Harris Challenge Cup for the highest aggregate in Section One (Flowers) excluding Dahlias and the Harry Jones Memorial Trophy for the winner of Class 117 (a single spray of Chrysanthemums grown from a cutting provided), to Mr Malcolm Deacon - the RW Petch Cup for the competitor gaining the highest points in Dahlias, the National Dahlia Society Silver Medal for the best vase in Dahlias, the Nick Turner Cup for the winner of Class 101 (one single Dahlia bloom grown from a cutting provided), the Society Master Gardener's Trophy for the winner of Class 301 (Master Gardeners) and the Ken Searles Cup for member gaining the highest aggregate in Show, to Mr Hugh Walker - the Bill Hayden Challenge Cup for the highest aggregate in Section Two (Fruit & Vegetables) and the Trading Centre Cup for the highest aggregate in Section Five (Cookery & Preserves), to Mrs Terry Bousfield - the Society Challenge Cup for the best floral/ vegetable arrangement and to Mr Philip Richards - the Chairman's Challenge Trophy for the highest aggregate in Section Six (Photography). Prior to the presentations, the Chairman congratulated all who had exhibited and then thanked the many people involved in helping make the Show a success.



Visits to members' gardens has now ended for this year and will start again in June 2015. On 6th September there was a coach trip to Lullingstone Roman Villa/ Castle & The World Gardens in Kent. This was well attended by 36 members who enjoyed the day looking over the Roman Villa, walking through the historic manor house and gardens of the Castle and then exploring the World Gardens

Our Trading Centre continues to open on Fridays and Sundays for garden consumables for the benefit of the Society's members (contact Margaret, our Membership Secretary on 01245 442051 for more information about the Society).

BRUMFELDA - Broomfield Local History Group

IT IS hoped, before the year is out, that the magnetometrist will have used his magnetometer to 'measure the magnetisation of the magnetic material' (thanks Wikipedia; I enjoyed writing that!) beneath the surface of what is 'likely to be' Broomfield's own Roman Villa. Initial predictions, as to size, estimate an area in the region of 15 metres square. There is excitement, not just amongst members, but, following a visit to the site, it is reported that experts from Essex Museum were 'surprised and impressed'.

Thanks to the kindness of its owner, Brumfeldans and friends spent a series of weekends in between the harvesting of rapeseed and the planting of wheat, combing and teasing a ground area of at least 30 plots, each 10 metres square. Finds included samian ware, (from the island of Samos in the Aegean Sea!), shaped grey ware, tiling, hypocaust (underfloor heating tiles) as well as a number of coins.

If you see villagers bent in two, who usually walk upright, they are probably recovering Brumfeldans!

Robin Marchal



How can this Brumfeldan friend, with his newly discovered piece of samian ware from square E9, keep his finger nails so clean?

Broomfield Royal British Legion

THE AUTUMN signals a busy time at Broomfield Royal British Legion. Despite a slightly disappointing turnout at our recent AGM Branch membership remains strong. Our Branch Welfare Officer post is currently vacant and if anyone is interested in this important job full training will be given. The Branch Standard Bearer is also looking to retire and would appreciate an apprentice to learn the ropes (or sheets if you are the Senior Service). Speak to a committee member and it could be you.

Over 77 members and guests enjoyed an evening in the RBL HQ at Saxon Way to celebrate the launch of this year's Poppy Appeal. An enjoyable evening was had by all. The highlight was the ceremonial parade of the Branch Standard to appropriate stirring music by the Standard Bearer, Mr David Parry.

On Remembrance Sunday the Standards of the Broomfield Branch Royal British Legion, the Royal Army Service Corps and the Broomfield Scouts led a march from the village green to the Parish church of St Mary with St Leonard. Along with Legion members and Scouts, a contingent of soldiers from 16 AAB Colchester joined the parade. A packed Church showed the number of parishioners wishing to take part in the Remembrance Service. A two minute silence was observed and then hymns and prayers sang and read. A collection for the Poppy Appeal was taken. Following the Service the congregation moved to the peace of the grave yard for a short service of prayer and respectful silence, followed by the wreath laying and time to reflect on the debt we owe these comrades in arms. The RBL HQ in Saxon Way then provided the congregation with refreshments and musical entertainment.

Remember you do not have to be Ex-Service to join the RBL. Come and meet us, we'd like to meet you.

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From the County Council

Shire Hall repairs due to be completed

Repairs being carried out on the historic Grade 2 listed Shire Hall have now finished and the scaffolding on the front has been removed, with final scaffolding on the west side being taken down by mid-November. This essential maintenance work, to address the deterioration of its outer fabric, is virtually complete and on schedule. The County Council has used the best contractors and craftsmen to make sure the work is of the highest quality to preserve and enhance the character of this wonderful building. Priority has been given to conservation stone repairs, cleaning stone surfaces, and overhauling of the metal and timber windows.



-oOOo-

Essex pupils learn about the importance of democracy

Last month with colleagues from all parties, I hosted 140 pupils and teachers from 15 Essex Primary Schools in the Council Chamber. They all gave special presentations about the best way to spend £250 at their schools. This challenge was part of Local Democracy Week aimed at helping young people understand and learn more about the importance of democracy and how local government works. The pupils came up with a range of ideas for the money, from vegetable gardens to a trampoline and refurbishing an old double-decker bus. The winning school was Grove Wood Primary School, Rayleigh, which was presented with a cheque for £250 for its plan to create a music centre from recycled materials. All the students came up with some really good and innovative ideas for us Councillors to consider, which made it very difficult to decide the winning school but I am confident that all the children found the exercise useful. The young people of Essex are our future so it is important we, as Councillors, take the time to talk to them to hear their views and aspirations and that they understand how we work.

-oOOo-

Winter Service from Essex Highways

Winter officially began on 27th October for Essex Highways. The County Council salt/grit over 2000 miles the most important routes in Essex, so that we can keep traffic moving. We have 62 gritting lorries with snow ploughs plus two mini gritters using a total of 116 drivers who are deployed according to weather conditions. We use accurate weather forecasts, dedicated weather stations and roadside sensors to help us decide when to salt/grit, and how much to spread. You can track the gritting lorries and get other winter weather tips online using:
<http://www.essexhighways.org/Transport-and-Roads/Roads-and-Pavements/Winter-travel/Track-the-gritting-lorries.aspx>. And remember, contrary to popular belief, there is no law stopping you from clearing your local pavements and pathways, providing you take a careful and common sense approach. You can check the "Snow Code" online using the Met Office website:
<http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/get-ready-for-winter/out-and-about/the-snow-code> or ring 08457 430430

-oOOo-

If you have any problems concerning County Council matters please let me know on **01245 421524** or email cllr.john.aldridge@essex.gov.uk

John Aldridge CC - November 2014

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Latest from the Cricket Club

ANOTHER season over but hopefully one to remember for a group of the Club's under 11's (pictured) which saw them take part in a Mini Matchplay Festival at the Essex County Ground on the 20th August. A thrilling tournament saw them take part in 3 Kwik Cricket matches at the home of the Essex Eagles where they acquitted themselves very well against some strong Clubs from around the County. Playing under floodlights as the day went on was something very different for them but something to make the experience even more memorable.

Friday September 12th saw the Club hold it's annual end of season Presentation evening for the Juniors. A packed Clubhouse saw Club President, John Latham, present the prizes to the Under 9's, Under 11's and Under 15's in front of many Club Members and parents. The winners were:-

George Watkins - U15 Players Player of the year.

Rhys Williams - U15 Manager's Player of the year.

Ryan Baker - 2014 special achievement award.

In addition, all U9's and U11's received a trophy to recognise their achievement throughout the season.

Indoor Junior winter training will start in January 2015 and any new players will be welcome. Please contact me at tony.cowell1@btinternet.com for details.

The Senior Saturday teams fared less well after a promising start with the 1st XI being relegated from the T Rippon Mid Essex League Division 3 and the 2nd XI finishing mid table in Division 9. The 1st XI did however pick up the sponsor's Sportsmanship prize for Division 3 and a welcome £100 cheque for Club funds.

Senior players for next season are also welcome and much needed - again please contact me at the address above.



• VILLAGE DIARY • VILLAGE DIARY •

Various activities including Karate, Bingo, Bridge Club, Aerobics, Women's Institute, Carpet Bowls, slimming clubs and children's activities take place in the Broomfield Village Hall on a weekly basis - please telephone the Village Hall 01245 443902, email Broomfieldcc@live.com or have a look on the website <http://www.essexinfo.net/broomfield/broomfield-village-hall-inform/> for more information.

JANUARY

- 7th **BROOMFIELD VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING**, 10.45 to 12.30
- 14th **U3A MONTHLY MEETING**. 1.30 p.m. Broomfield Village Hall. Ian Currie - "Weather"
- 14th **BRUMFELDA: Members AGM**. Display of Finds from the 2014 'walks'. Feedback as to the situation so far. Broomfield Village Hall, 7.00 p.m.
- 21st **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** 7.30 p.m. Broomfield Village Hall
Public Question Time at the beginning of the meeting
- 26th **BROOMFIELD METHODIST MESSY CHURCH AFTERNOON**
- 28th **BROOMFIELD COTTAGE GARDENERS' SOCIETY TALK**, Broomfield Village Hall, 7.15 for 7.30pm start Bill George "The Geology of the Essex Coast"

FEBRUARY

- 4th **BROOMFIELD VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING**, 10.45 to 12.30
- 8th **BROOMFIELD METHODIST CHURCH, CHILDREN'S FUN AFTERNOON** (details nearer the time)
- 11th **BRUMFELDA**: Steve Pollington. 'Following the Anglo Saxons' with a particular focus on Broomfield's own Saxon site. Broomfield Village Hall, 7.00 p.m.
- 11th **U3A MONTHLY MEETING**. 1.30 p.m. Broomfield Village Hall. John Taylor - "Bumble Bees - Unsung Heroes of the Countryside"
- 18th **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** 7.30 p.m. Broomfield Village Hall
Public Question Time at the beginning of the meeting
- 21-22nd **BROOMFIELD SCOUT GROUP ANNUAL BOOK SALE** (details to be posted around Village nearer the time) Scout HQ off School Lane
- 25th **BROOMFIELD COTTAGE GARDENERS' SOCIETY TALK**, Broomfield Village Hall, 7.15 for 7.30pm and following the AGM Peter Morris "What a Judge is Looking For"

MARCH

- 4th **BROOMFIELD VILLAGE HALL COFFEE MORNING**, 10.45 to 12.30
- 6th **BINGO EVENING**, Broomfield Village Hall, 7.00 for 7.30 p.m.
- 11th **BRUMFELDA**: tba Broomfield Village Hall, 7.00 p.m.
- 11th **U3A MONTHLY MEETING** 1.30 p.m. Broomfield Village Hall Malcolm Taylor - "Te Araroa"
- 18th **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** 7.30 p.m. Broomfield Village Hall
Public Question Time at the beginning of the meeting
- 23rd **BROOMFIELD METHODIST CHURCH, EASTER MESSY CHURCH**
- 25th **BROOMFIELD COTTAGE GARDENERS' SOCIETY TALK**, Broomfield Village Hall, 7.15 for 7.30pm start Dudley Chignall "The Lake District of Beatrix Potter"

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OBITUARY

Robert ('Jim') Stuart Ford – 1944 - 2014

The players and members of Broomfield Football and Social Club are in mourning after one of its influential elder statesmen passed away peacefully after a short illness, on 12th November. Robert Ford, "Jim" to all those that knew him, was the President of the Junior Section of Broomfield Football Club, a position bestowed on him several years ago to recognise the huge contribution that he made since starting the junior side of the club in the late 1970's. It all began with a soccer school on Saturday mornings for under 10's which rapidly expanded - within weeks Jim and Brian Marles were training about 120 boys. Training soon expanded to include other age groups and before long, Broomfield were running 18 junior teams from Under 8 to Under 18. There are hundreds of families in the Broomfield area that owe Jim a huge debt of gratitude not only for providing football for their children but for indirectly forging many firm friendships. The third generation of several families are now benefiting from Jim's footballing dedication. His love affair with the club's junior sides never wavered. One of the newer managers at the club recently remarked that Jim always seemed to be at his home matches chatting to parents and offering an encouraging word for the lads. All 11 junior managers would probably say the same, such was Jim's passion.

Jim was a builder before he retired several years ago. He spent many years working on his own property in Ridley Road to extend and create a large family home for his wife Pam and 3 children, Martin, Leam and Julie. Jim had time for anyone and gave plenty of it to do various building jobs for local friends and acquaintances. Jim had two great loves - his family and Broomfield



Football Club. Pam knew that if he wasn't at home she could always find him across the road at "his club" working on the tractor or mower, cutting grass, watching football, talking about football and dispensing advice and encouragement - all generally accompanied by either a cup of tea or a pint of Carlsberg !

The Broomfield clubhouse is an ex-hospital billet hut from Colchester barracks. For a few years it was known as "the hut" but this was never enough for Jim who, together with Mick Maynard (another Broomfield stalwart gone too soon), set about extending, repairing and painting to transform "hut" to "clubhouse". Jim poured blood, sweat and tears into the clubhouse and no-one was more upset when it was put out of commission following an arson attack earlier this year. Without his pride and joy, Jim turned his attention to the pitches and "his tractor". Suffice to say that Broomfield FC's pitches never looked in better condition than for the start of the current season. The amount of work Jim put in ahead of the club's annual fun day each and every year was beyond compare. Jim was selfless. He also made the club's Royal Wedding Party an unqualified success and was instrumental in making it such a great day. He was as enthusiastic as the youngsters and as mischievous as a child in the games he helped to set up.

Jim never actually played football for Broomfield but spent some time as a tough tackling left back for Boreham in the 1960's. Alan Browning, Broomfield FC's current President, played right wing for Broomfield in those days and reportedly still bears the scars from his battles with Jim. This will come as no surprise to those that knew Jim - even if they never saw him play !

Jim was a natural youth coach of the highest standard and one of the most successful the club has ever had, winning a number of both League and Cup trophies. He was the only manager in the club's history to win the prestigious County Cup. His players from back then remember that his philosophy was to allow a group of mates to play together while having an uncanny knack of being able to get his tactical points across to the team and each individual at the same time. In the 1990's, Jim was responsible for encouraging Ann Oliver (who later became club secretary) to help on Saturday mornings and go on to manage a team at a time when there were very few female coaches around. With his advice and encouragement



Ann's team entered the Colchester League straight from the Saturday morning football school. They won the Colchester Open Cup in their first season! Jim was a hugely influential presence who was respected by every player that he coached. He has been variously described by his players as being like a second Dad and having the managerial skills of Sir Alex Ferguson and the tactical nous of Field Marshal Montgomery of Alamein. That's some combination.

Jim's other great love was for his many friends in Germany and his passion for Broomfield FC's annual German exchange with SV Sparta Wertle knew no bounds. The exchange started 35 years ago and how Jim embraced his time with his German family! He made many trips and worked tirelessly on the club's renovation throughout the weeks leading up to the last exchange, purely for everyone's enjoyment. He also took a leading role in the exchange's organisation to ensure all arrangements were in place.

Jim was a dedicated and proud man - proud of his family and his football club. So proud that when one of the committee members turned up to officiate at the last Funday weekend wearing something other than an official "committee" branded club Funday T-shirt, he produced his spare official shirt and "advised" the individual to change - and fast! Jim made friends easily and had strong opinions on all subjects, especially when holding court in the club, but always respectful when women and children were around.

A great many people have played a part at Broomfield FC over the last 35 years or so and moved on for various reasons. But not Jim - he was permanent - a figurehead and talisman. Jim will be officially honoured by his football family in due course but his memory will live on regardless. He leaves a big hole in the hearts of his family while the touchlines at Broomfield and in a small town in Germany are already missing a loyal friend.