

# A · B · C · U THAXTED COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

A photograph of a yellow combine harvester working in a cornfield. The harvester is moving from left to right, kicking up a cloud of dust. In the background, there is a large, traditional windmill on the left and a tall, pointed church spire on the right. The sky is a clear, pale blue with some light clouds. The overall scene is set during the harvest season.

**HARVEST 2024**

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**THAXTED COMMUNITY MAGAZINE  
ANGLICAN, BAPTIST, CATHOLIC AND UNITED  
REFORMED CHURCHES OF THAXTED**

**99TH EDITION?**

**WHO'S COUNTING?**

**NO FAKE NEWS HERE!**

The first edition of the ABC&U was the Harvest in 1991. That means that with three issues per year that adds up to this one being 100th. HOWEVER, there were only two editions in 2020, due to Covid, so hence this is only issue 99. The next edition being the 100th means we can plan to celebrate.

**WHAT WAS IN ISSUE ONE?**

We would like to know, but unfortunately so far we have not been able to find a copy. If you have a copy please contact us as we would like to feature some items in the 100th.

**BUT IS IT TIME PAPER GAVE WAY TO SCREEN?**

We do have a website from which you can download a pdf of the past three issues, so with the increasing use of screens rather than paper is it time we stopped printing 1550 copies and putting one through every home and business in the parish of Thaxted? Let us know your thoughts about this publication. Contact by email [editor@abc-u.co.uk](mailto:editor@abc-u.co.uk). Text 07779439807. Or letter left at the Thaxted Library.

My reason for posing the question is that as I get older (over 80) I realise I may reach a time when I will not be able to publish the next edition !! Shock horror!

Of course if there is someone who would join the very supportive committee; someone with the time and enthusiasm to gather, check and assemble the items submitted to the community magazine; then the future would be secure. Or just join the committee and see what is involved.

*Mike Collins*

**THANKS AGAIN TO LOWIE OF  
LOWREDPHOTO.COM FOR YET ANOTHER  
STUNNING COVER PHOTO**

## ***FR GERWYN LEAVES TO BECOME ARCHDEACON OF MONTGOMERY***

Having become in a very short time part of the life of Thaxted and the villages, Fr. Gerwyn has been “poached” to go back to Wales to become Archdeacon of Montgomery.

Fr. Gerwyn was born on the 9th of April 1965 and educated at Liverpool Polytechnic and St Stephen's House, Oxford and ordained in 2004.

Before ordination Gerwyn worked in the field of property development, a background that was recognised when he worked in the Church of England as an advisor for the Church Urban Fund and Liverpool's Diocesan Advisory Committee.

After a curacy at Saint Mary's Church, West Derby, Liverpool, he was Chaplain to the Archbishop of Wales from 2007 to 2009. He was priest in charge of Holy Trinity Bolton-le-Sands from 2009 to 2012 and again Archbishop's Chaplain from 2012 until his appointment as Dean of Llandaff Cathedral, where he was installed on the 28th of February 2014, holding that post until 2022.

On the 31st of January 1923, he was installed as the Rector of our Benefice of Thaxted, the Sampfords, Radwinter and

Hempstead by the Bishop of Chelmsford, the Right Reverend Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani. The special service was held in Thaxted Parish Church and featured music from the Sampford Singers and the Thaxted Church Choir. Members of the congregation of all the churches in the Benefice attended this service to welcome their new Priest.

During his all-too-short time with us, he has endeared himself to the local people with his Anglo-Catholic ways, his prayerful approach to all the services, his sense of fun and his explanatory sermons. These sermons became a hallmark of his ministry explaining not just the words of the Gospel but the text into which they fitted.

The search to find Fr Gerwyn was long and difficult and now the benefits is to start the process all over again. As Thaxted Churchwardens Paul Meader and Colin Harrison said, “*The Bishop of Saint Asaph is not our favourite person right now!*” However, all the PCC members and clergy across the benefice wish him well in his new post and said goodbye to him on August the 18th with a celebration of his ministry in Thaxted Church after Mass.

## ***GET ENERGY SMART AND SAVE!***

People often think more about their energy bills in winter when it's cold outside. But even though average annual energy bills fell by 7% on 1 July for those on standard price-capped tariffs, they remain about £400 higher than they were three years ago. From October it's predicted the Price Cap will rise by 10% and then remain at roughly this level until it's due to change again in January 2025.

So, now is a great time to think about ways to save energy; you'll be kinder to the environment and have more money in your pocket too! Thanks to funding from Cadent, UK Power Network and the Energy Redress Scheme, we have an experienced team of specialists who can help you with this - they may even be able to visit you in your own home. Our advice is always free, confidential and impartial, so why not give us a call today to find out more about:

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# ***PARISH COUNCIL NEWS***

*Andy Frater - Chairman*

Dear residents,

Welcome to the Harvest edition of our magazine and I'd like to begin by passing on some excellent news! You might remember in our last edition, I set out Thaxted's response to the emerging Uttlesford New Local Plan (Regulation 18) in which we described why c.500 houses in our town would be unsustainable. Our response was received very well by the District Council and by utilising 'The Power of One' speaking with One Voice, taking considerations and responses in consultation through an informal alliance of views which produced our One Voice submission. Political voices; District, County and Parish, combined with the Thaxted Society, ECO Thaxted, HOT and others all combined to suggest a single and professional One Voice.

The content of the revised and now adopted Local Plan (Regulation 19) is now hugely more favourable for Thaxted with no new housing proposed outside of that which has already been granted permission. Everything that helped make the changes is due to this **One Voice** and the hard research and professionalism which underpinned it.

You can keep up with the Local Plan progress by following this link: [The new Local Plan - Uttlesford District Council](#)

When we work together with one voice, others listen! Thank you to all who assisted in producing our response.

## ***2024 CHAIRMAN'S CUP.***

For her commitment to volunteering at Pam's Place, making cakes, serving tea to customers with a cheerful manner, the nomination for this year's Chairman's Cup came from the regular attendees to Pam's Place, who value her regular and youthful presence. I am delighted to announce that **Phoebe Hanley** received the cup, a congratulatory letter and £100 at our June Parish Council meeting, many congratulations Phoebe!





*Phoebe pictured receiving the cup from Vice Chair, Cllr Victoria Knight.*

### ***PARKING***

Much of the correspondence that comes into the Council from residents' concerns parking, whether on street, pavements or car parks. Councillors have discussed and deliberated over what might make parking better in our town since I joined the council and I am sure for years before. For a while, we have become increasingly concerned by the number of 'airport' parking incidents in Margaret St and Park St especially and over the last few months, we have been looking at potential solutions. We've begun seeking views and forming a proposal which will mean, we hope, better accessibility to parking for residents. We will produce a proper proposal for comment and discussion before implementing anything.

### ***GOODBYE***

Finally, it was with sadness that I took the resignation of Councillor Nick Weakley. Nick has been a great asset during his tenure as Councillor, most recently contributing hugely to the draft Local Plan response. On behalf of the Council, personally and the Clerk, thank you Nick!

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# Thaxted - NEWS - Society

## WHOSE TRAFFIC IS IT ANYWAY...

*A visitor to Thaxted in the 1950's and sixties could not have missed the thunder of traffic through Thaxted on the A130 now the B184. Before the opening of the M11 and as the combustion engine took the place of the horse and cart, traffic at Thaxted was both heavy and more important, seriously polluting. And there was an awful lot of it, thundering between Chelmsford and Cambridge.*

*The B184 is now considerably longer than it was originally by dint of its having taken*



*The line of the Roman road. A piece of the straight road remaining*

*over a sizeable chunk of the A130. Leaving Saffron Walden, the B184 continues across Essex countryside through Thaxted, and on to the edge of Great Dunmow.*

*Whilst the pollution has been reduced*

*over the years, the tranquillity brought by the opening of the motorway, M11, was short lived as satnavs suggested that the route through Thaxted was both quicker and cheaper for heavy freight.*

*So, even for traffic, there is little new under the sun and, whilst the Society has firm policy about the scourge of pavement parking, we have never had a broader policy concerning traffic and its effect on the conservation area and Thaxted wellbeing. Whether it was better or worse once should not affect the fundamental arguments for health and wellbeing.*

*To this end we intend to commission a study of both the history of the B184, in all its iterations, and a contemporary traffic study so that your Society may add to the discussion based upon facts and research. It is important to note that changes to road's designation can be yet another example of the political football, in that the A roads are the responsibility of Highways while B roads fall to the County Council. Thus, we must rely on ECC for any resolution.*

*At the end of the day we all contribute to traffic and what we dislike about it is the price we pay for driving convenience. We should not forget that as in all things, our own driving should reflect how we would wish others to drive. Traffic is us! The good and the bad.*

## UTTLESFORD LOCAL PLAN

*Harvest comes in many forms but for the Society this autumn is bountiful. The new proposed Local Plan for Uttlesford brings with it varied good news for Thaxted. Inevitably that good news, whilst welcome, may herald changes down the line and your Society will always remain vigilant in recognising that silver linings may have tarnished futures. If you want to understand more about the Local Plan, please contact us or attend one of our briefings later in the year.*

### WHAT SHOPS SAY

*Recently someone asked for details of the location of this shop.*

*It was of course the Bull Ring, once known as Pardoner's Place, but this shop and its contents tell us more by its disappearance than the picture alone. What this shop sold and the services it provided would be unthinkable, in the Thaxted of today,*



*especially since, there were other such shops. What it sold was both useful, and necessary. Hats, gloves, dresses, shoes, and all sorts of household goods. Round this time six pubs remained along with two butchers, two bakers, and even a cobbler.*

*This list is not exhaustive but what it illustrates is that there was a time when Thaxted was entirely self-reliant. No need to take the stagecoach, or indeed the intermittent train. Until we all had cars, Thaxted was indeed home and all you could want. That change, along with online shopping and delivery, has altered our lives and by affect Thaxted. It is important to recognise these changes in order to understand the future for our 'home.'*

### THAXTED HISTORY PROJECT

*Later in the year we will be publishing the 3rd volume of the THP. This is a long-term endeavour, to research and publish the important and contributory events in Thaxted's growth and History. In the third in the series, Richard Till, considers the rather tumultuous years of Thaxted as Borough and then not a Borough.*

*A time when it was considered acceptable to plunder Yardley's Charity to balance the council's accounts or attempt to interfere in the function of the Church. What we might today consider wayward political shenanigans pale into insignificance compared with the fractious and near nefarious goings on in the mid 1500's. The launch of this volume, with the author signing copies, will take place in Thaxted Library later in the year.*

# ***SUMMER IN THAXTED DURING THE 1960S***

*Peter Bassett*

Growing up in Thaxted in the 60's there was always plenty going on for us kids and families, we spent most of our time out and about over the fields, weather allowing. As summer approached Whit Monday was the fete on the vicarage lawn, the vicarage in those days was up Newbiggen Street and was subsequently developed as was the lovely garden into a total of over a dozen properties!

There were side shows like Mark Arman making his pottery, Hugh Coe manager of the Co-op ran a



bowling for pig stall, Mark Caton had a wooden aeroplane that he spun round and you won whatever the tail stopped over, he'd always call us children over to have a go.

The Morris danced and there was country dancing for all to participate in. The garden lent itself well for such an event as it had done since the first revival dancing in 1911. Fr. Jack did so much for the town including taking youngsters on walking holidays all over the place.

The other good garden was at Aldboro House, home of Dr Michael Weller and his wife Daphne, they hosted the British Legion Fête on August Bank Holiday Monday, this was always a good event. As they had a pond a stout log was placed over it and two people would sit astride it and attempt to knock each other off with sacks full of straw into the pond, there were always plenty of volunteers! Also lots of stalls and refreshments, with the very derelict Windmill as a backdrop on the hill behind.

We always enjoyed watching the Morris dancing on Bank Holidays as

today, only it took place in the road at the Bull Ring not in the church yard as there was far less traffic. Any traffic was ably controlled by the towns two special constables David Kinley and Mr Percival who lived up Newbiggen and drank in the Bull public bar with George Rolph, Percy Coe, Mark Caton and all the other old boys that frequented those premises. He had come from London and always wore a bow tie when not in uniform, it is not printable what he called us children when my father would tell us to ask him the time! You'd be lucky there wouldn't be more than half a dozen cars pass through. We could ride down past the Beech tree and the Cock Inn on soap box carts safely in those days.

The Patronal Festival was also a popular event, we would follow the dancing through the town before bedtime and for us church servers the Sunday procession was one of the years largest and went from the Vicarage to the west door of the church and filled the road, the church would be full to celebrate the life of Saint John the Baptist.

But the main event for me was always Morris Weekend as it was quite a spectacle in those days as it is today, enjoyed by many locals as people didn't travel in the

same way as today. Excitement would mount during the week before and when the board went up in front of the Church Hall to list the visiting sides and the arrangements for the weekend, we knew it wasn't far away.

We lived on the corner of Margaret Street and Vicarage Lane. In those days many of the dancers camped on the piece of land at the end of the old vicarage lawn so would be up and down by our house all weekend. We would anxiously wait to hear the first bells of the visiting sides as they walked up the lane to pitch their tents at the Vicarage as they quite often came in their kit on Friday afternoon.

Also across the lane from us were the old public toilets which the dancers camping would use for their ablutions over the weekend often using the ladies side as well. Men would often join up for a dance whilst waiting, I used to sit on the front doorstep to watch and listen to the lovely old tunes passed down over the years. All weekend the town seemed to come alive with music and dance at any time as well as the planned events.

The Bull was the main pub for the Morris and had an extension on the Friday night as pubs shut at 10.30 pm then, it was always the place to go to hear fine folk

singing, music and dancing in the yard. I was too young to go in but would go and watch and listen with my father until it was past my bedtime. Needless to say the merriment continued as long possible that evening.

Saturday morning the men went off for their tours around the local villages and some to Saffron Walden, some men would dance in Thaxted mid-afternoon and we would sit under the Guildhall to watch.

Thaxted was much quieter in those days, a lot more shops but less traffic so it wasn't thought necessary to close the road as it is today. As the day wore on and afternoon was turning to evening the dancers all back from their

tours gathered around to process to the Guildhall as today to the tune called Winster Processional. We would walk down the pavement so we saw all the procession and be at the Guildhall as it arrived, a mass of colour and music with Fools and Horses to entertain us kids. Long serving Thaxted Fool Cliff Yeldham always recognised the local children and hit us with his pigs bladder on a bit of string, it was quite a spectacle for us all.

As I got older, I was allowed to stay out longer so I could see more of the evening. One year my father said he'd take me down to see the second half of the evening and the Abbots Bromley horn dance that concluded the





evening, I was so excited. When the time arrived we stood by the corner of the Guildhall and the street fell silent. As we strained our ears to hear the sound of the fiddle, usually played by Russell Caton, playing the lovely old tune for this dance becoming louder as it grew closer, the men appearing carrying the antlers that I remember used to scare me when they were kept in the entrance hall at the old Vicarage and we went there for Sunday School some weeks. The dance seemed to last forever as they twisted and turned and came together to that haunting tune in the shadows of the old Guildhall, a setting for so much of Thaxted history. Then they headed off back up Stoney Lane and the music faded away until we could hear it no more, there was always a moment of silence followed by applause. I have seen it many times since but never forget the lasting impact the first time had on me. And so to be contented.

Being a server in church meant that I took part in the procession to church for the Sunday service. All the dancers took part and a chosen side would dance the Offertory dance in The Crossing as part of the service. Another fine spectacle of colour and music, dancers in their kit, all the church people in robes and candles and banners being carried aloft with

incense being swung in a thurible as we made our way to the west door of the church. The music played by the musicians of the visiting sides. The "Fieldtown Processional" changing to "Monks March" on entering the church. It was lovely to hear and made us all feel part of the weekend.

When we came out of church there was more dancing in the Bull Ring and country dancing which the public were encouraged to take part in. The afternoon country dance session was on the vicarage lawn, a lovely setting for such an event and was well supported by Morris Men and public alike, again us kids would go and watch and listen to the music. At about 4pm it all came to an end for another year, the events of the weekend would be subject of many a pub evening that summer.

After we got home from the vicarage, we would hear the bells of the men heading home as they came down the lane. I have often likened the whole weekend to the Abbots Bromley, it starts quietly and builds up as it goes and reaches its peak then slowly fades to silence as it ends as all depart.

It still happens today I am glad to say and I do hope it has a similar lasting effect on people as it had on me as did all the childhood Thaxted events.

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# ***SERVANT LEADERSHIP***

*Jim Ford*

A story is told about King Hussein of Jordan facing up to a potential coup. A group of his generals were planning to assassinate him and set up a replacement government. According to the story (which is not proven) when he heard about the intention of his generals, he did something unusual and downright dangerous. Rather than sending in the army and having them immediately arrested he flew down to the airbase where the generals were based. Striding into the room he bared his chest and said, "Here I am. Shoot me if you will." Overcome by this action the generals ended their opposition then and there and pledged their loyalty.

As I reflected on this story I pondered on the nature of leadership. Britain has just come to the end of another general election. The country has a new government. One that has pledged to fulfil its promises to the people, but which faces massive challenges across a whole range of areas. People across the country are hungry for leadership that will put the people first. As I thought about that I was reminded of the words of Tony Blair in 1997,

*"What the people give, the people can take away. We are the servants. They are the masters now. To govern Britain is a privilege not a right. Never forget it."*

Jesus put it another way in Matthew 20:27-28

*"Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first among you must become your slave. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

In other words true leadership is not about power, but humility. True leaders do not care about self-aggrandisement or power. They care about the people they lead. They seek to give people what they need, which is not always the same as what they want. True leaders are courageous and honest. Integrity governs everything they do. They are in it for the long haul. They lead by word and example. We are not all in positions of public leadership, but we may lead offices, clubs, churches, or families. The same principle applies.

Finally it is worth pointing out one small difference between Jesus and King Hussein. King Hussein walked away alive from his encounter. Jesus did not. As it says in the verse above, he gave his life as a ransom for many. Like those generals many people have no time for God in their lives. They want to get rid of him. Yet in response God did something not just risky, but incredibly sacrificial. He sent his Son to lose his life so that we could have real life. A life lived in fellowship with God. A life lived for eternity for those who want it.

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*We have had a great start to our campaign in Thaxted. On 6th April we had our launch event in Thaxted Parish Church with exhibitors including Saffron Walden Community Energy, Uttlesford District Council, Thaxted Parish Council and Essex County Council, Eco Church and Jonathan Ashe Architects.*

*Since the event, Lowe's on Town St, have reported an increase in sales of insulation materials and LED bulbs!*

*The Thermal Camera proved to be of great interest so together with Thaxted Parish Council we intend to buy our own camera. This coming winter we will be able to assist you to effectively identify heat losses and insulate your home.*



*On 23rd May CommuniPower joined us to run an "energy café" with experts on Heat Pumps and insulation.*

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# Windmill Update

Over the past two years the Trustees of the Windmill, Volunteers, and a large team of specialists have been working very hard throughout the Development Phase of the Project. This has allowed the piloting of several schemes in the community, fundraising and a thorough investigation of the building including up to date costings for a full restoration.

By the time that you read this article, the funding applications to the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Historic England will have been submitted and shall be pending an outcome. The Trustees hope to hear around December time as to whether they have been successful and can move forward with the project.

If the Trust is fortunate to receive the funding, work at the Windmill is scheduled to commence around March 2025 and will run for a period of around 18 - 24 months, the building reopening to the public sometime in 2027. Besides a fully refurbished and working Windmill there will be a brand new Museum housed within incorporating up to date displays and technology for an enhanced visitor experience.

The Trustees would like to thank everyone who has supported this scheme so far. We are especially grateful to both Historic England and the NLHF for their support, guidance and advice as well as other local organisations who have provided ongoing financial support. Our Project Team have been amazing and have all gone above and beyond and demonstrating a passion and belief in what the Trust is trying to achieve. Last, but not least, to those people of Thaxted who have vested their time freely in the project, a huge thank you as you have helped us further on our way to saving this beautiful building for the generations to come. You all know who you are.

*For further information on how you can get involved email  
[johnwebbswindmill@gmail.com](mailto:johnwebbswindmill@gmail.com)*

*For any updates:*

**[www.facebook.com/johnwebbswindmillthaxted/](https://www.facebook.com/johnwebbswindmillthaxted/)**





## Thaxted Fayre Trust Update

Whilst we enjoyed another sunny day on the bank holiday weekend at the Fayre & Fun Dog Show, we plan to return this event back to the Saturday afternoon of Morris Weekend next year following feedback received. We are also hosting a FREE live music fundraising event on Sunday 15th Sept in Clarence House Gardens. There will be a licensed bar, hot drinks and cake for sale. All monies raised go towards our Annual Community Grant Fund for which we will be opening applications from Nov 1st (for more info go to [www.thaxtedfayretrust.com](http://www.thaxtedfayretrust.com)). We look forward to seeing you there.

**CLARENCE HOUSE**

**SUNDAY  
15TH  
SEPTEMBER**

\*\*\*

**FREE ENTRY**

\*\*\*

**EVERYONE  
WELCOME**

**2 - 5PM**

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**ROSIE JAMES  
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# ***NEWS FROM THAXTED SURGERY***

*Jessica Peck - Practice Manager*

We continue to be very busy here at the surgery. Demand for appointments is not lessening; more and more work is being pushed back into Primary Care from Secondary Care (hospitals) and, sadly for us, bureaucracy increases every day.

However, saying that we are lucky to have a strong team who continue to help and care for patients the best they can - I am very grateful to them all! We have welcomed some new reception and dispensary team members in the last six months, and they have proved to be great additions to our team, bringing with them experience and enthusiasm.

## ***DISPENSARY***

We took the decision earlier this year to increase our dispensary turnaround time from 48 hours to 72 hours. This is not a decision we reached lightly but due to increased workload, patient safety and the increasing stock shortages we felt it was a logical one. Please do remember that this is 3 full working days, not including weekends or Bank Holidays. Prescription charges

also went up in May this year from £9.65 p/item to £9/90 p/item.

## ***APPOINTMENTS***

As mentioned previously demand for appointments runs very high however, I am sad to say that our DNA (Did not attend) rate is also increasing - particularly amongst appointments that are pre booked in advance. We do understand that sometimes there are circumstances beyond your control but where possible we ask that you notify the surgery if you are unable to attend an appointment or no longer need an appointment - that way we can release it and offer it to someone else.

## ***GP REGISTRAR***

Something new for us - we will be welcoming our first GP Registrar to the surgery from August. Dr Jonathan Saye will be joining the team here for six months. GP Registrars are qualified doctors



undergoing specific extra training to become a GP in the future. Appointments with him will become available from September after his induction period.

### ***PPG (PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP)***

We are very fortunate to have a supportive PPG here at Thaxted and are very grateful for the £2000 raised by them over the past year, including the Christmas Raffle. We have put this money towards some new equipment such as blood pressure monitors, a new vaccine fridge and other equipment. The PPG are always on the look out for new members

so if you think you may be interested please enquire at reception and we can point you in their direction.

### ***VACCINE CLINICS***

Last but not least, we are approaching flu and covid time again. We will be offering vaccine clinics at Lord Butler Leisure Centre from the first weekend in October. There will also be one clinic in house. Eligible patients will receive an invite. Please can I urge you to support your local surgery and attend either the in house one or the at the leisure centre.

*Thaxted Surgery Contact: 01371 830213  
111 (Out of Hours)*

*Margaret Street, Thaxted, Essex, CM6 2QN*

*The Surgery would like to invite you to use the NHS App  
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The advertisement features a circular inset image on the left showing a person's ear being examined with a syringe. The background is a light green with white leaf-like patterns. The text is arranged in a clean, professional layout.

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Thaxted Lecture Society (TLS) will begin its Autumn season on October 2nd. After last season's successful and varied programme the aim is once again to provide lectures covering a wide range of topics from history to gardening, from folklore to comedy, from food to art and much more.

Last season's programme, attracting good numbers of interested and curious people, began with a hilarious account of Iestyn Edwards' experiences as an entertainer with the army in Afghanistan. We learnt about the work of the Bardfield Artists and later watched a fascinating film about Eric Ravilious, one of their group. Our knowledge of history and legend was widened with talks about the Civil War, Battlefield Essex, and Witchcraft. Talks on gingerbread, saffron and honey informed our sense of taste and smell.

At the time of writing the programme for the coming season is still developing but we can promise you interesting, intriguing and informative topics, including among others Iestyn Edwards' hilarious return with his latest talk, a return by the ever popular and informative Honor Ridout, Graham Towers' insights into the life of a French Soldier in the Napoleonic wars, Sue Collins' reflections on her wide-ranging work in the Society of Friends, Tony Dale's talk on Carver Barracks, Lindsay Whitehouse on his life as a prison governor, and Mark Lewis on London through artists' eyes.

TLS meets on Wednesday evenings from 7.30 to 9.00pm in Pam's Place and at a cost of £5 per week. Lectures usually last about an hour and there is time afterwards for questions and chat over a cup of tea or coffee. Details of lecture topics will be advertised on Facebook as well as by posters around the town. Look out for more information in September.

If you would like to be included on the mailing list to be kept up to date with upcoming events please email:

[simmons.peter@btinternet.com](mailto:simmons.peter@btinternet.com)



# ***BAPTIST CHURCH NEWS***

*Peter Archibald*

## ***MEN'S BREAKFAST***

The Men's Community Breakfast is now held on the second Saturday of each month and continues to have a good attendance. We now have a wide selection of Speakers covering various subjects. For further details please contact Paul Tingley on 07494 757114.

## ***HUMPHREY LODGE SERVICE.***

As part of our community activities we continue holding a service at Humphrey Lodge on the 1st Monday of the month at 10.30 am.

## ***COMMUNITY CHOIR***

The Thaxted Ladies Community Choir sing for companionship and pleasure, and if you enjoy singing come along and join us. For more details please ring Jill Jones on 01371 830 104.

## ***COFFEE & COMPANY***

If you have experienced the loss of a loved one and would like to chat and also have mutual support with people who understand, please come and join us for coffee/tea and cake. We meet on the last Saturday of every month in our Church Hall between 10 and 11.30 am. For details visit [www.thaxtedbaptistchurch.com](http://www.thaxtedbaptistchurch.com): or ring Debbie on 01371831548

## ***EXERCISE CLASSES***

The armchair exercise class for the elderly is held in our Church Hall every Thursday starting at 11.00 am. All very welcome.

## ***FRIDAY COFFEE MORNING***

We have a Coffee Morning every Friday between 10 and 11.30 am in our Church Hall. Come and enjoy good beverages and company after your market shopping.

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Sun 20 Oct, 3.30pm  
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Scholars**



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**Sheku & Isata  
Kanneh-Mason**



Fri 8 Nov, 7.30pm  
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Contact: Benefice Administrator, Maryanne Fleming  
[admin@ttsrh.org](mailto:admin@ttsrh.org) or 07958 629506.

Sunday	8 am	Said Mass
	11.00 am	Sung Mass
Wednesday	10.00 am	Said Mass
Sunday 29th September		Harvest Festival

See "Some Dates" for more events.

**THE BAPTIST CHURCH, PARK STREET**

[www.thaxtedbaptistchurch.com](http://www.thaxtedbaptistchurch.com)

or [facebook.com/thaxtedbaptists/](https://facebook.com/thaxtedbaptists/)

Contact : Jim Ford Tel 07889758285

Sundays	10.30 am	Church Service
Thursday	8.00 pm	Bible Study
Friday	10 - 11.30 am	Coffee Morning
Saturday	8.45 for 9.a.m.	Men's Breakfast

[Held on the second Saturday of each month]

Please see the Baptist News section for our community activities.

**THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**For information contact : Patrick O'Brien 01371 830 480**

Regular Thaxted Services SATURDAYS 5 pm in Parish Church

All other Services will be in Bardfield.

**UNITED REFORMED CHURCH BOLDFORD STREET**

For more information about all our activities, please contact our  
minister, Revd Mark Hayes.

Phone 01799 524944 or email [markhayes@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:markhayes@hotmail.co.uk)

Sundays	9.30 am	Service with Communion on the first Sunday of the month, with coffee following all services.
---------	---------	---

For full details of ALL our activities and events please see page 47.

### ***BAPTISMS.***

- 26th May Louie Joshua William Lambdon, son of Shari and Josh Lambdon
- 7th July Harry and William Gilbank of Great Sampford
- 28 July Bertie Raymond, son of Bert Greenwood and Robyn Rankin

### ***IN MEMORIAM***

Pauline Baldock, Neville Chambers, Elsa Clarson, Marlene Grout, Margaret Harris, Jessie Lister, Bernard Lee, Robin Lee, Michael Mizon, Diana Saywood, Olive Saych, Margaret Taylor and Ida Thorp.

### ***SOME DATES***

- 7 - 13 Sept Michel Debono Exhibition. See page 43.
- 15 Sept "Gig in the Garden" Free music event. See page 23.
- 15 Sept Guildhall model display. See page 67.
- 15 Sept Apple & Bees Day @ Easton Lodge. See page 50.
- 21/22 Sept Thaxted Show. See page 51.
- 29 Sept Harvest Festival.
- 2 October Lecture Society starts. See page 30.
- 4 October Pam's Place Raffle Draw. See page 37.
- 19 October Craft Fair. See page 66.
- 26 October Holst Anniversary Concert 'Planets'. See page 38.
- 27 October RBL Poppy Appeal Concert, Haverhill Silver Band.
- 10 Nov RBL Remembrance Sunday Service.
- 23 Nov Christmas Fayre.
- 23 Nov Felsted Choral Society Concert. See page 55.
- 1st Dec Advent Carol Service - 4.00 pm.

# Pam's Place

Vicarage Mead, Thaxted, CM6 2RL



**WEBSITE: [WWW.PAMSPPLACE.ORG.UK](http://WWW.PAMSPPLACE.ORG.UK)**

## **WHY PAM'S PLACE?**

Normally the name of a community space indicates what happens in that place. Here at Pam's Place we feel that is important that the name does not restrict what happens here.

Yes, it is a community space and over the past two years how it is used has evolved and is ever changing. There are two main strands. Firstly, there are the events that the charity organise, the "Drop-In" and Community cafes and lunches. The second are the groups that hire the building; to hold club meetings, social group occasions and private parties. We primarily want the space to be used by as many people as possible. In the past two years we have run various events in collaboration with The Food Bank who helped families to budget and cook delicious family friendly meals using a Slow Cooker. Touchpoint Stansted delivered their popular Foodshare to us saving fresh food from going into landfill.



Wednesday is our main lunch day along with alternate Thursdays. A homemade two course lunch with coffee or tea for £10. Check out our notice board or Facebook for weekly menus. This must be pre-booked by calling in or phoning 01371 830094 or 07973 311550.



We recognise that it may be daunting to come to somewhere new, however you will always find our team friendly and welcoming.

We don't bite - except food!

## ***HOW ARE WE FUNDED?***

We would like to thank the Thaxted charities of Yardleys and Hunts for their generous support. This along with a grant from the District Council, the hire fees from bookings and donations at Drop-in café are the ways we are able to keep going.



## ***NEW FOR THE AUTUMN:***



We look forward to collaborating again with TouchPoint in Stansted over a “Food Share” on Mondays.

Also, from the 9th September a mother and babe-in-arms group is planned for 9am - 10.30 Mondays. If you have a new-born or soon will have a baby come along for chat and support.

Look out for a Bingo Night later in October and Quiz night in November

## ***“GRAND FUND RAISING” RAFFLE***

We have just launched a “Grand Fund Raising” Raffle for a Defibrillator and cabinet. 1st prize £75 cash, 2nd prize 7 £10 meal vouchers, 3rd prize 5 £10 vouchers, plus more prizes as displayed at Pam’s Place on draw day. Tickets £1 each can be bought from Pam’s Place when open. **Also, by kind permission, inside Lowes shop on Friday mornings.** Alternatively leave a phone message (01371 830094) or email message ([info@pamsplace.org.uk](mailto:info@pamsplace.org.uk)) and one of us will arrange to visit you. **Draw to take place 4th October.**

*Contact information*

*Phone: 01371 830094*

*email: [info@pamsplace.org.uk](mailto:info@pamsplace.org.uk)*

*website: [pamsplace.org.uk](http://pamsplace.org.uk)*

*Cassy - Facilities Manager*

*Cally - Catering Manager*

*Charity no: 1197612*

*Charity name: Thaxted Day Centre*



The background of the poster is a reproduction of the painting 'The Starry Night' by the Dutch Impressionist painter J.M.W. Turner. The painting depicts a coastal town with a prominent church spire, set against a turbulent, swirling night sky filled with bright, glowing stars and a crescent moon. The colors are dominated by deep blues, yellows, and whites, with visible brushstrokes that create a sense of movement and texture.

# Holst's The Planets

Saffron Walden  
Symphony Orchestra

Thaxted Parish Church  
Saturday 26th October  
7:30pm  
(Doors open 6:45)

Tickets online from:  
[www.friendsofthaxtedchurch.com](http://www.friendsofthaxtedchurch.com)  
or from

Thaxted Library



[www.friendsofthaxtedchurch.com](http://www.friendsofthaxtedchurch.com)



## *THREADS – JOAN HOLLEY*



Joan Holley has celebrated her 90th birthday this year and she has also this year made this delightful quilt for her great, great, great niece Ruby.

Joan is a long standing member of Threads which is a sewing/creative group which meets at Pam's Place on Tuesday afternoons between 2-4 p.m.

For more information call Jill Smith on 07805094605 or drop in.

You will get a warm welcome !



## FRIENDS OF THAXTED CHURCH

### 50/50 CLUB

1st September is the start of a new year for the 50 50 club .

Anyone can join. Members pay £1 (or more) a month, £12 for one year. Each month a draw takes place. Half the money received that month goes to the prize winners and half goes to the Friends Of Thaxted Church.

This supports Thaxted church in restoration work and other projects.

The draw takes place around 12 noon on the last Monday of the month.

We invite you to become a member of the club.

To join, find a membership form in church, OR send a cheque payable to the Friends of Thaxted Church OR send cash with your name address, phone number and email to Joan Holley, 5 The Maltings Thaxted CM6 2NB.

**Thank you.**

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The Friends of Thaxted Church Trust is a registered charity NO. 104277

# Moat House Care Home

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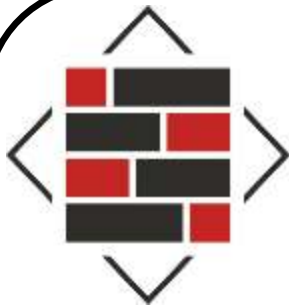
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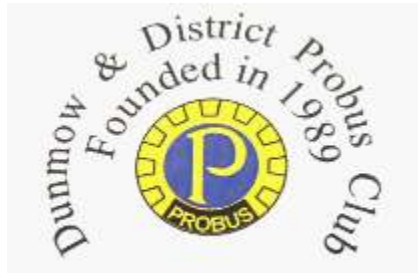
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The local Probus Club has existed for 35 years and meets monthly, first Wednesday of every month, at The Barn, Little Easton Manor. It is part of a national network which started in the UK in 1965 and clubs exist in most large towns, Dunmow being one of some 29 clubs that exist in Essex. Probud Clubs are now very popular in a number of other countries particularly Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

The name Probud derives from PROfessional and BUSiness and the club is for retired or semi-retired men and has a total mix of accountants, builders, surveyors, engineers, teachers, company directors, farmers, local government officials, members of the police and armed forces and many others. Basically. the club is solely a luncheon club meeting at 12.30 with an attractive range of after dinner speakers. We generally finish at around 3pm.

We also have regular outings arranged by our Social Secretary which are very well supported and visit a wide range of attractions within a day's travelling range.

Membership is around 60 and we are now in the fortunate position that our venue is able to take a larger number of members. Thaxted has always been very well represented and currently twelve of our members live in Thaxted Parish. It was very sad to lose two



**Our current President is Alistair Leslie who lives in Great Dunmow.**

well-known local characters recently – Robin Lee & Clive Menhinick who are sadly missed.

New members usually attend as a guest of an existing member first before applying to join. However, if you would like to see what we are about, our Secretary, George Wilder, will be able to book you in for lunch – his contact number being 07742 006260. So whether you are new to the area or have lived or run businesses in the area you will find that we are a very interesting bunch.

Ian Westall, a resident of Monk Street, is the current Vice-President He says '*I retired nearly 3 years ago and leaving work left me looking to fill the vacuum left in my social life. Although I had heard of Probus Clubs, I didn't know that there was a local one. It was only when I joined another Dunmow based club that I was invited to a meeting. What really appealed to me was that I could have a good lunch, meet with different people each month having interesting conversations and listen to an entertaining after dinner speaker once a month*'

The club's website is [www.dunmowprobus.org.uk](http://www.dunmowprobus.org.uk) where you can read more about us.

*By Ian Westall. Vice-President.*

**Who's Holding Who Up - Michel Debono Exhibition**  
**Sat 7th Sept - Fri 13th Sept**  
**Free entry**



*In the Harvest edition of 2022 we had an article which included Michael's amazing work. Ed.*

Michel is having another exhibition in September. This time at Fish Island near the old Olympic site in the Indra Gallery. For full information go to the website: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/whos-holding-who-up-art-gallery-exhibition-tickets-969297253177?aff=oddtcreator> (Tickets only required for Saturday 7th. Otherwise just walk in.) The theme once again is deforestation.

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# **CAVE, REFECTORY, ROAD**

*Revd Mark Hayes*

As we explore what it means to be “Church” in today’s society, Thaxted United Reformed Church has been using three themes from Ian Adams’ book “*Cave, Refectory, Road.*” †

Ian Adams identifies monastic rhythms for contemporary living:

*The Cave can be seen in Jesus’ going into the desert to pray. It is a place of stillness and withdrawal.*

*The Refectory builds on the monastic practice of hospitality, reflecting Jesus’ commitment to synagogue and temple as places of learning, and his inclusive sharing at table.*

*The Road is Jesus’ practice of connection and community-echoed in the travelling band of teachers and followers that have been an important feature of Christianity down the ages.*

These rhythms can be followed by all of us as we seek to put our faith into practice.

For us, the **Cave** is a place for reflection, both as individuals and together in fellowship. At home it might be a favourite armchair in which we sit while we reflect and pray. At church we have been nurturing a ‘wild garden’ with the aim of creating both a positive

environment for wildlife and a quiet place for contemplation and reflection. This summer’s weather has not helped the process, but the Messy Church Summer Holiday Club successfully used parts of the garden during one of its sessions.

Our **Refectory** is our church building which is a place for both physical and spiritual refreshment. We share in the Lord’s supper and meals together. As well as worshipping together, we explore ‘The Story’ through our occasional informal Sunday afternoon services, combining both spiritual and physical sustenance each month at Breakfast Church.

We follow our **Road** through outward facing activities that seek to engage with the wider community in Thaxted. Working in partnership with other Thaxted churches, we host family friendly *Messy Church* every month and our *Second Saturday Coffee Mornings* provide an opportunity to share tea, coffee and chat. We also play an active role with Churches Together in Thaxted and support TWAM (Tools with a Mission) and Christian Aid.

For all of us, these monastic rhythms can help us develop community and make a difference personally, locally, and in the wider world.



**ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS AT THAXTED UNITED  
REFORMED CHURCH, BOLDFORD STREET**

**Sundays:** We usually meet for Morning Worship on Sundays at 9.30am, sharing coffee after the service. On the first Sunday of the month our service includes Communion.

**Breakfast Church:** On the second Sunday each month, “Breakfast Church” at 9.30am starts with a light breakfast of bacon rolls, *croissants* and *pains au chocolat*, followed by an informal, family friendly service. This service is especially suitable for families with children. Everybody welcome! Breakfast Church will meet at 9.30am on Sundays 8th September 13th October and 8th December.

**The Story:** Most months we also meet for an informal service at 3pm exploring “the Story” focussing on each book of the Bible. The services are followed by light refreshments and an opportunity for discussion. “The Story” will continue at 3pm on Sundays 6th October 10th November and 8th December.

**Messy Church:** This meets monthly, usually on the second Tuesday, from 4.00pm to 5.30pm and is probably best described as “*Church, but not as you know it!*”! Ideal for families, we have fun exploring stories through craft, songs and sharing tea together. Messy Church meets again at 4pm on Tuesdays 17th September, 8th October, 12th November and 10th December.

**Second Saturday Coffee Mornings:** We meet for tea, coffee, cake and chat on the second Saturday each month from 10.00am to 12.30. Everybody welcome and we have activities available for children. The next Second Saturday Coffee Mornings will be on 14th September, 12th October, 9th November and 14th December.

**Our Garden:** We are working on a “wild garden” at the rear of our church: a space to sit, reflect and also provide a home for birds, insects and other wildlife. If you’d like to get involved in this project, please get in touch.

For more information about all our activities, please contact our minister, Revd Mark Hayes.

Phone 07706 701041 or email [markhayes@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:markhayes@hotmail.co.uk)

†*Cave Refectory Road: Monastic Rhythms for Contemporary Living*  
by Ian Adams. Published by Canterbury Press Norwich



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*From Jill Goldsmith*

***NEWS FOR SEPTEMBER 2024***

I can't believe I am writing news for September already - where has the year gone?!

The Gardens have looked surprisingly good, despite the on/off spring and summer - the rains have helped the roses and the trees and grass have been lush, the Italian Garden borders have changed colours through the season and are now moving into late summer gold framed by the lavender hedge, golden yew and the buddleia. Unfortunately the dahlia border in the walled kitchen garden has barely recovered from the incessant slug damage in early summer. But our patient volunteers have, eventually, managed to get vegetables growing and it has been lovely to see visitors leaving with bags full for a healthy supper!

As reported by others, there have been relatively few butterflies this year, but we have had quite a lot of dragonflies. So it will be interesting to find out from our bat walk on 6 September, at 7pm, whether we still have the range of bats that usually frequent the Gardens. Contact us through our enquiries email to reserve a place on the walk.

[Enquiries@eastonlodge.co.uk](mailto:Enquiries@eastonlodge.co.uk)

We have been harvesting soft fruit for jams and jellies and the apples have been swelling on their trees. So, things are shaping up for our **Apples and Bees Day on Sunday 15 September**. It will be a fun celebration of orchard produce, including apple juicing, apple and honey cake tasting, apple crafts for kids and much more. There will be music from local groups: the Rock Choir and Harlow Concert Band; and plant and craft stalls.

For more information about our opening hours and discounted advance tickets for the Sunday Open Day go to [www.eastonlodge.co.uk/whats-on](http://www.eastonlodge.co.uk/whats-on)



# ***THE THAXTED SHOW***

***2024 Dates - September 21st/22nd***

The show is a long standing Thaxted tradition that showcases the talents of our community. The Sections include: Children's, Domestic (baking, preserving etc) Beverages, Chrysanthemums, Dahlias, Flower Arranging, Vegetables (including classes for novices and novelty) Textile Crafts, Photography and Craft & Artwork. Why not pick up an entry form in Gifted and have a look if there is anything you could enter? The effort of all the people who do enter makes for a wonderful display, which is open for all to visit. The only criteria

for entering is that you live within a 10 mile radius of Thaxted. There are classes designed to be suitable for beginners or more advanced. Maybe you will be tempted to have a go at something new with the goal of entering it for all to see? Or perhaps you have already made something that fits the criteria of a class, that's perfectly fine too.

All the details are on the entry forms which are available at Gifted or Lowes in Town Street or on our Facebook page 'The Thaxted Show'.

Here are some words from Yolanda, who entered last year for the first time.

*'I have lived in Thaxted for 35 years and in earlier years I would visit the show and loved seeing all the labours of local people. I finally found the courage to enter and I'm so glad I did.*

*It is a medley of Thaxted talent. Whether it be green fingers, baking, sewing, photography or arts and crafts it's certainly a sight to behold. And there is always tea and cake provided by*

*the WI ladies. The excitement builds as the judges choose their favourites, but it's not about winning, it's about community. So pick up a form from Gifted or Lowes and join in. Enter your wonky vegetables, prize plants, delicious cakes and scones, jam and crafts. I enjoyed it so much they have very kindly allowed me on to the committee! Put the date in your diary.'*

**The Thaxted Show** - Completed entry forms must be in by Wednesday 18th September. The show is open for viewing Saturday 21st 2-5pm Sunday 22nd 12-5pm. Prize giving is at 5pm on Sunday 22nd. See you there?!



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## Dunmow u3a's



Drop in anytime  
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*If you are no longer in full time work or raising a family, we call it your third age. Just along the road in Dunmow, your local u3a welcomes you with opportunities to develop interests, make new friends and have fun.*

Having taken a break over the Summer, Dunmow u3a will be kick starting the Autumn with a special, all day WELLNESS DAY on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September** instead of our usual monthly meeting.

In October, we return to our usual monthly speaker-based meetings:

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October** - Howard Slater will be guiding us through the Music of the 1940s

and 1950s. Having been postponed in April, we look forward to what promises to be a toe-tapping afternoon.

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November** - Stephanie Disch will be telling us everything about the Dogs Trust; from its history, who they are, their various national campaigns and what anyone can do to support them.

We finish the year with a members-only Christmas Concert in December.

*Dunmow u3a is aimed at older adults in the CM6 community, from Stebbing to Takeley and Thaxted to Barnston, who have an interest in all things new, be they*



topics, challenges, sports or just making new friends. There are currently almost 40 member-led interest groups from Geology to Luncheon groups, Golf to Wool & Waffle, Family History to Table Tennis, Art to Wine Appreciation and many more!

To find out more, visit the Du3a's website <https://dunmow.u3asite.uk> or email [membership@dunmowu3a.org.uk](mailto:membership@dunmowu3a.org.uk)  
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# ***THAXTED SINGERS***

*Maggi Griffiths*

Thaxted Singers is a local community choir formed in 2018 by local musicians, Steve and Maggi Griffiths. The choir rehearse on Thursday evenings at the United Reformed Church in Thaxted and perform regular concerts in Thaxted Parish Church. Recent concerts have featured well known local soloists, Nancy May and Annabel Crossman as well as international tenor, Bonaventura Bottone.

The choir recently played a small part in Thaxted Festival.



Forthcoming events include participation in a choir festival in Bishop's Stortford in October followed by a concert in December as well as leading the singing in the annual Thaxted Town Carol Service.

New members are always warmly welcomed into this friendly, all-inclusive, non-audition choir. Follow us on Facebook and for more details about the choir, please contact Maggi Griffiths [maggigriffiths@gmail.com](mailto:maggigriffiths@gmail.com)

# ***THAXTED'S FOOTPATHS***

Thaxted has a wealth of Public Rights of Way, many radiating out from the centre of the Town and with interconnecting paths enabling circular walks out into our countryside.

If you are not completely sure of the routes there are a couple of walk booklets available from the CIC in Town Street and there is a large scale map in the Margaret Street car park. The P3 group also arrange guided walks on some Bank Holidays throughout the year

These paths are looked after by a team of volunteers, financed and administered by a partnership between our Parish Council and Essex Highways (the Parish Pathways Partnership or P3), and of course some landowners also carry out an annual cut of the paths that run through their land.

The P3 group mow the paths, cut back brambles and nettles, and remove fallen trees, and in a typical year the volunteers collectively put in over 325 hours of activity and mow many miles of paths. Last year we used over 80 litres of fuel in our mowers.

In the last twelve months bridges have been replaced on the paths out towards Richmonds Farm and from the Sampford Road down towards the Solar Farm, and repairs carried out on a number of footbridges and steps.



If you come across any problems on the network of public rights of way within the parish please let P3 know by contacting the Parish Clerk on [clerk@thaxted-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@thaxted-pc.gov.uk) or on 01371 831952 and the message will get through to them.

## ***THAXTED SQUAD IN LAS VEGAS!!!***

A squad of 13 from **Thaxted Dragons Karate** travelled to Las Vegas with their Sensei **Barry Healy** to compete in the North American Open Karate Championships along with competitors from 23 countries, including the US, Japan, Peru, Mexico and Canada.

It was an exciting, challenging and demanding competition, with each competitor having to push themselves both physically and mentally. Their dedication and commitment to their training paid off as they brought home a total of 17 medals.

The squad won: 3 GOLD medals, 5 SILVER medals & 9 BRONZE medals

This is an incredible achievement and cements Thaxted Dragon's karate on the international karate map.

Out of 125 teams taking part, Thaxted finished 26th in the medals table and compared to other teams, our squad was very small. The squad, aged from 8 to 19 not only represent Thaxted but England and have done Thaxted proud!

Karate teaches respect, resilience, discipline and improves fitness and coordination but is also lots of fun. Thaxted Dragon's Sensei Barry Healy is a very talented and experienced sensei who teaches children from age of 3 up to adults, 3 nights a week in Bolford Street Hall in Thaxted. Thaxted Dragons is an exciting club to be a part of, if you would like to be part of this awesome club, please do get in touch. [www.facebook.com/thaxteddragons](http://www.facebook.com/thaxteddragons)

The squad are straight back into training preparing for future competitions over the next couple of months which will help prepare them for the European Karate Championships which are taking place in November in Poland.



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*More than ever, wildlife and their habitats are under threat for survival. **The Essex Local Nature Recovery Strategy** provides a new vision for our natural spaces and the draft strategy is currently being prepared for public consultation. Made mandatory in the Environment Act of 2021, the Essex Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) presents a pivotal opportunity for us all to contribute towards a sustainable future for our wildlife and the landscapes they inhabit. Essex County Council, in collaboration with the Essex Local Nature Partnership, has created the draft Essex LNRS, alongside a range of key local stakeholders, including Supporting Authorities, farmers, landowners, environmental organisations and charities, community groups, parish and town councils and the public.*

*Covering the whole of Greater Essex, the document aims to identify key locations for the creation and enhancement of habitats, focusing on areas that will provide the most significant benefits for nature and the wider environment. By outlining key biodiversity priorities and proposed actions, the aim is to achieve a more connected, collaborative approach to nature recovery. The draft strategy is expected to go to public consultation later this summer.*

*Sign up to receive updates when the public consultation is live by scanning the QR code or visiting:*

*<https://consultations.essex.gov.uk/e/lnrs-public-consultation>*

**For more information of the Essex Local Nature Recovery Strategy visit [www.essexnaturepartnership.co.uk](http://www.essexnaturepartnership.co.uk)**





# THAXTED LIBRARY NEWS

*Janet Easterbrooke - Senior Customer Services Assistant*

## CHILDREN'S EVENTS

After a busy summer with lots of children joining the Summer Reading Challenge, we have some exciting events launching in the library this Autumn. **Lego club** returns on Tuesday after school between 3.30 - 4.30pm on the following dates: Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November and Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December. Come along and get building!

We are having an exciting free author event for children during October half term. Come along and meet local author, **Antonio Maxwell** who will be launching her new children's adventure book 'Terra Electra - The Guardians of the North' and take part in some fantastic, themed activities.

In November, we will be launching the **Winter Reading Challenge** for children of all ages. Look out for details in the library and on our website: [www.libraries.essex.gov.uk](http://www.libraries.essex.gov.uk)

## ADULT EVENTS

We will be holding a launch event for the latest volume in the series of the **Thaxted Society's History Project** written by Richard Till. Details of the date and time will be announced soon.

Our drop in **community coffee morning** continues every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month between 10.30am - 12.00pm. Pop in for a cuppa and a chat. If you like knitting or crochet, bring that along too!

## LIBRARY OPENING HOURS

Tuesday 2.00pm - 5.30pm

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# Thaxted

## art & craft fair

St. John the Baptist with Our Lady and St. Laurence

### saturday 19th october

We look forward to welcoming you to this year's 13th annual Thaxted arts and crafts fair on Saturday 19th October.

Over the years, the fair has gained a great reputation for quality and atmosphere which we work very hard to keep. This year we have over 60 stalls of curated artists and makers from all over the local area, showcasing pottery to painting and glassware to woodwork. We will also be running our popular children's trail-something for all the family!

This year the catering will be run 'in house' with a dedicated catering team from the church providing tea, coffee, cake and a light lunch.

This event is a fantastic fundraiser for the church, we had the busiest fair ever last year with around 2000 visitors and raising well over £2000, we are aiming high this year! The fair is run by a small committee of volunteers who work incredibly hard to make this a very special event for all the community. We'd love to hear from you if you'd like to volunteer to help us. Please email us on [thaxtedartandcraftfair@gmail.com](mailto:thaxtedartandcraftfair@gmail.com) for more information.

The fair runs from 10 am and finishes at 4 p.m. Looking forward to seeing you all there on the 19th!



## ***GUILDHALL MODEL - SIMON EVANS***



This model of Thaxted's unique and beautiful guildhall, and the equally beautiful cottages attached to it has been a labour of love for the last year and a bit, taking up in excess of two thousand man hours, between cutting hair, eating and sleeping.

I have used many different materials in the construction, including high density foam, balsa wood, polyfiller, air dried clay, plastic, aluminium, wire, gravel (for the cobblestones,) modelling putty, lots of acrylic paint and lots and lots of super glue!



These photos show the almost finished model at the beginning of August, I expect that I will be putting the finishing touches to it up right up until **Sunday 15th September** when I will be showing it, for the first time, to the public beneath the arches of the guildhall.

Please come along and see it for yourselves.

## ***EDITORIAL INFORMATION***

### ***DATES FOR NEXT EDITION - HARVEST 2024***

Date for copy to Editor: Friday 1st November 2024  
Publication date: Sunday 1st December 2024

### ***HOW TO CONTACT US***

Editorial	Mike Collins	editor@abc-u.co.uk	
Adverts:	Emma Fearnham	email: adverts@abc-u.co.uk	
Committee:	Peter Archibald	Julie Barnard	Yvonne Baccush
	Michael Culkin	Andy Frater	Stephanie Hughes
	Jill Jones	Dena Oxley	Glyn Pritchard
	Richard Till.		

### ***LATEST 3 EDITIONS ON THE WEBSITE:***

***WWW.ABC-U.CO.UK***

We would welcome more members on the magazine's editorial team. In particular we are looking for people to help with editorial and layout design aspects. If you have an interest in creating articles or other aspects of this magazine why not contact us to discuss the ways you could help.

We are always pleased to receive articles for inclusion. Write about what matters to you in Thaxted. We also want to include items such as births, weddings, etc. We do need to be told about events and interesting happenings, as we do not always know of them.

### ***ADVERTISING INFORMATION***

All colour and monochrome adverts are charged at the same rate. These 2024 rates have risen to reflect the current printing costs.

Full page portrait -	£140 for 3 issues -	£50 for a single issue
Half page landscape -	£80 for 3 issues -	£30 for a single issue
Quarter page landscape -	£43 for 3 issues -	£15 for a single issue
Quarter page portrait -	£47 for 3 issues -	£17 for a single issue

Please apply to Emma for all information. Contact details as above.

# H. LOWE. & CO



*Garden supplies: compost, top soil, manure, garden accessories.*

*Fireside products: coal, kindling, logs, firelighters, charcoal.*

*Salt: Tablet salt 25kg & 10kg, block salt, granular salt 25kg & loose, rock salt, Hydrosolt brand, & a cheaper alternative.*



*Equestrian supplies: electric fencing, stable yard equipment.*

*Animal feeds: horse, sheep, goat, pig feeds.*

*Animal bedding: shavings, hay, straw, hemp etc.*



*Chicken feeds: Marriages, Copdock, etc. Layers pellets, mixed corn, mash, crumbs - feeders and drinkers.*



*Petfood: dog and cat foods, small animal and fish.*

*Dry and wet foods: top brands: Burns, James Wellbeloved, Go-Cat, Pedigree, Skinners, Lily's Kitchen.*

*Wild bird food: seeds, peanuts, Sunflower, Niger, treats, feeders.*

*Dog and Cat Accessories: litter.*



*Homeware: Electrical goods, batteries, hardware, DIY, HG, cleaning materials.*



**Open 8.30 - 4 pm. Closed Wednesday & Sunday**

**18 Town Street, Thaxted, Essex CM6 2LA**

**FREE DELIVERY within a 15 mile radius or collect  
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# THE MAYPOLE

THAXTED

31 Mill End, Thaxted, Essex, CM6 2LT

*The perfect place for a drink, delicious meals and the best entertainment*  
*We cannot wait to show you all we have to offer*

## Home Cooked Traditional Food (Tue - Sun)

Lunch served 12pm - 2:30pm Evening 6:00pm - 9:00pm

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**Good Selection of  
Real Cask Ales,  
Lagers and Ciders**



**Large Gin selection, Cocktail menu and extensive Wine list**

### Regular Entertainment

**Live music acts or tributes**

**Lauren Porter**

*Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September - FREE ENTRY*

**Meat Loaf & The Legends of Rock**

*Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October - Ticket Event*

**David Lumley**

*Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November - FREE ENTRY*

### Charity Drag Bingo

*hosted by Ginny Tonic*

**Sunday 1st September 6:30pm**

*In aid of Arthur Rank Hospice*

**Sunday 3rd November 6:30pm**

*In aid of John Webb Windmill Fund*



### Pub Quiz

*hosted by Ginny Tonic*

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September 6:30pm**

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October 6:30pm**

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December**



Late **SUMMER** fayre & Mini **Beer Festival**

**SATURDAY**  
**28<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**  
 From 11:00am till 6pm

**STALL HOLDERS WANTED**  
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**Tel: 01371 831599**

web: <http://www.maypolethaxted.com> email: [themaypolethaxted@gmail.com](mailto:themaypolethaxted@gmail.com)

