

WELCOME TO GREAT YELDHAM



This pack contains information which we trust you will find useful as you settle into your new home.

**WE HOPE YOU WILL ENJOY LIVING IN
OUR VILLAGE!**

This pack is brought to you by Great Yeldham Parish Council

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• Street Map	
• Footpath Map	
• The 4 Villages Magazine (depending on availability, if not please visit https://greatyeldhampc.co.uk/4-villages-magazine/)	

For more information visit www.greatyeldhampc.co.uk

Great Yeldham Today



Great Yeldham is a medium sized village of 1,844 residents (2011 Census) with 732 dwellings (2021). It sits on the junction of the busy A1017 from Braintree to Haverhill (or from Felixstowe to Cambridge) with minor roads to Halstead and Sudbury.

The village has a Nisa Local grocery store; a fast food take-away outlet; a Veterinary Surgery; a hairdresser salon and three Public Houses. Post Office Services and a Prescription Collection Service can be accessed through the Reading Room, Mondays between 10.00 am and 12 noon.

St. Andrews C. E. Primary School in Church Road and the Acorns Pre-School housed on the same site, offer a first-class introduction to education. Hedingham School and Sixth Form is located in Sible Hedingham, children from the village can access a free school bus service.

Bus services run regularly from Great Yeldham to Braintree, Colchester, Halstead and Sudbury, calling at many smaller villages en-route. Buses pick up by the bus shelter located near the Village Green. DaRT 3 (Demand Responsive Service), passengers can travel to and from anywhere within the parishes within North East Braintree and direct to Sudbury, Halstead and Haverhill Town Centres (refer to 'Useful Contact Information' in this booklet). The railway station at Braintree, thirty minutes away by road, offers trains direct to London Liverpool Street.

There are several open spaces within the village including the Village Green, Whitlock Green and the Sports and Recreation Ground (access from Toppesfield Road or via the footpath next to Peel Court which was the old Police Station). A recreational area with play equipment is situated in a corner of Bowtells Meadow off Churchfields. The Sports and Recreation Ground has a zip wire, outdoor exercise equipment, skateboard park, BMX track and football pitch. The village has its own Cemetery and Natural Burial Ground which is managed by the Parish Council.

Several clubs and societies exist within the village, all of which welcome new Members. (see page 11).

Great Yeldham is surrounded by farmland, mostly arable in nature with the occasional field of sheep or cows. The many footpaths give quick access to the countryside and are linked to form the Great Yeldham Millennium Circular Walk. (See Footpath Map enclosed.)

Shops, farms and the two small industrial areas at Woodpecker Court and the Hunnable Estate offer limited employment opportunities with most residents travelling out of the village for work.

A Brief History of Great Yeldham



St. Andrew's Church

The name "Yeldham" is a corruption of "Geldham" recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086. The latter comes from the Saxon '*ham*' meaning Homestead and '*Geld*' denoting a tax, hence Geldham – a settlement paying a certain tax.

The Old Oak tree which stands where the three roads converge, is shown on a map of 1777 but was growing there many centuries before that. It is said that the tree was over 1,000 years old at its demise although this may be an exaggeration! Only the old stump, now filled with concrete, survives as testament to its great girth. The oak tree behind the stump was planted there over 150 years ago but has much growing still to do if it is to compete with the original tree.

Four hundred years ago the main employment for the people of Great Yeldham was on the land nurturing both crops and animals. Today, the farming is mainly arable and the use of large, modern machinery obviates the need for many farm hands. In the seventeenth Century most of the women and children in the village were employed making straw plaits for hats and bonnets.

The Whitlock family had a great influence on life in Great Yeldham when two of the brothers started the Whitlock Bros. factory, the frontage of which spanned the area now known as Whitlock Green. This factory manufactured agricultural machinery as well as acting as dealers and exporters of their own and similar products. The Company was bought by the London and Midland Industrial Group in 1967 and finally closed its doors in 1972. At its height, the company had employed almost 600 people. The Whitlock Chaff Company exported hay to South Africa during the Boer War and at one time had 70 employees. The brick works, using locally dug clay and situated in Toppesfield Road, provided the bricks for the Chaff Works. This building can still be seen at Poole Farm today.

For over one hundred years, from 1862 to 1964, Great Yeldham could boast a Railway Station on the Colne Valley and Halstead railway line which was used to great advantage by the Whitlock enterprises, by passengers and, during the 2nd World War, transported troops and munitions for the Ridgewell Airfield where 381st Bomber Command was stationed. Now only the crumbling platforms remain with access via a footpath leading from Toppesfield Road, formally Station Road, to the Sports Field.

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At one time a toll was charged to people using the road through Great Yeldham and the toll house remains on the A1017 leading out of the village to Sible Hedingham.

Many old buildings remain to grace Great Yeldham: St. Andrew's Church begun in the fourteenth century with many additions since then; The Old Rectory (15th Century); Great Yeldham Hall built in the reign of King John; The White Hart Public House (1500) to name but a few. Spencers, on the outskirts of the village, was built in 1760 by Lady Anne Bateman nee Spencer with funds provided by her grandfather, John Churchill first Duke of Marlborough.

Recommended reading:

"A History of Great Yeldham" by Adrian Corder-Birch, ISBN 0 9513106 9 0, obtainable from 75 Swan Street, Sible Hedingham or from Mr. Corder-Birch by post at Rustlings, Howe Drive, Halstead CO9 2QL. Price: £6.95 + p&p.



The "Young Yeldham Oak" (now more than 150 years old) stands guard over the stump of the old tree.



CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The children's play park located on Bowtells Meadow includes swings, slide, multi-climbing frame, momentum disc, skateboard swing and roundabout.



Play Park, Bowtells Meadow, North Road.

The Sports and Recreation Ground facilities include a Pavilion (for hire) Skateboard Park, BMX Cycle track, football pitches, basketball nets, outdoor exercise equipment and the zip wire. The local Scout Hut is also located on site.



*Zip Wire, Sports & Recreation Ground
Toppesfield Road*

In partnership with the Sports and Recreation Ground Management Committee, the Parish Council is working to regenerate the ground. A Sports Ground Strategy document has been prepared, see website for further details.



Skate Park, Sports & Recreation Ground, Toppesfield Road

THE READING ROOM “VILLAGE HALL”

Great Yeldham’s “Village Hall” is known as “The Reading Room” and was built in 1898. It is situated on the High Street, opposite Whitlock Green.

At the beginning of the last Century, the Reading Room provided a venue for the reading of books and newspapers. Nowadays Great Yeldham Reading Room is used widely by Clubs, Groups and Societies; by the Parish Council for its meetings and the events it organises and for private hire by residents.

The Parish Council Office is accommodated within part of the building.

Post Office Services and a Prescription Collection Service can be accessed through the Reading Room, Mondays between 10.00 am and 12 noon (excluding bank holidays).

There is a defibrillator attached to the front wall of the building.

Watch out for events held in the Reading Room, advertised on the Parish Council’s website, noticeboard and Facebook page or in the 4 Villages Magazine.

Visit: www.greatyeldhamreadingroom.org.uk



USEFUL CONTACT INFORMATION



Anglian Water: Tel: 0845 7145145

Braintree District Council: Tel: 01376 552525

Bus Services: Buses pick up and drop off opposite the Village Green. See Bus Stop for timetables. Bus services run regularly from Great Yeldham to Braintree, Colchester, Halstead and Sudbury, calling at many smaller villages en-route. The DaRT (Demand Responsive Transport) system, services North East Braintree (DaRT3) and is an alternative way of providing access to key services in rural areas. Instead of using fixed routes with fixed stops and times, DaRT customers book journeys with the operator in advance and are picked up from an agreed point – often their own home, a bus stop or local place of interest. You can use it to go shopping, attend a health appointment, get to/from work, school or college, visit friends. Contact North Essex Area: 01621 874411 Email: bookings@essexandsuffolkdart.co.uk for further information

Chemist: Sible Hedingham - Day Lewis Pharmacy Tel: 01787 460427

Clubs & Societies: See page 11.

Churches: St. Andrew's - Church of England, Church Road, Gt Yeldham. Revd. Justin Tomkins on 01787 237211 email mail@justintomkins.org Service times in 4 Villages Magazine. Contact yeldhamchurches@gmail.com
'Hope' Strict Baptist Chapel, Toppesfield Road, GY. Services on Sundays, 10.30a.m., 2.15p.m. or 6.30p.m. Ministers as announced.

Cemetery & Glades Natural Burial Ground: Church Road. Great Yeldham.
Contact the Parish Clerk Tel: 01787 237832 email: greatyeldhampc@btinternet.com

Councillors: County Councillor: Mr Peter Schwier - cllr.peter.schwier@essex.gov.uk
Telephone No:01787 460473

District Councillor: Mr Richard Van Dulken Tel: 07803 932737 or email cllr.rvandulken@braintree.gov.uk

For list of Great Yeldham Parish Councillors and contact details, see 4 Villages Magazine or website at <https://greatyeldhampc.co.uk> .

Doctors:

Hedingham Medical Centre currently works from 2 sites:

10 Falcon Square in Castle Hedingham and Hilton House in Sible Hedingham contact: 01787 461465 or visit <https://www.hedmed.co.uk/>



USEFUL CONTACT INFORMATION (Cont.)

Essex County Council: For Education, Libraries, Public Transport, Social Services' Trading Standards, Highways, Waste Disposal, etc. Tel: 01245 492211

4 Villages Magazine: Covers Great Yeldham, Little Yeldham; Tilbury-Juxta-Clare & Ovington. Ten issues per year, monthly but with one issue covering January/February and one covering July/August. Issued and delivered free to all households
Editor: John Marks Email: the4villagesmagazine@gmail.com

Hospitals with A&E:

Addenbrooke's, Cambridge. Tel: 01223 245151;

Broomfield Hospital, Chelmsford. Tel: 01245 440761

Colchester General Hospital. Tel: 01206 747474

West Suffolk Hospital; Bury St. Edmunds. Tel: 01284 713000

Library: The Mobile Library parks in North Road 11.25 am – 11.55 am Every 3 weeks on a Wednesday. For further updates visit <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/mobile-library-service/great-yeldham/north-road/>

Notice Board Parish Council & Community Board for General Notices: Situated beside the Nisa grocery Store.

Parish Council: Meetings held at 7.30 pm on first Thursday of the month (excluding January, check website for meeting dates) in the Reading Room. The public is very welcome at these meetings, agenda is published on the website and notice board. The Chairman of the Parish Council is Mr Philip Rawlinson Tel: 01787 237049. For other Parish Councillors, see the 4 Villages Magazine and website <https://greatyeldhampc.co.uk/>.

Visit Great Yeldham Parish Council and click on "like" to receive future updates

<https://www.facebook.com/greatyeldhamparishcouncil>

Parish Office: Located in the Reading Room – Office Opening Hours:

Monday 10.00 am to 12.00 pm

Tuesday 10.30 am – 1.30 pm

Wednesday 10.30 am – 1.30 pm

Thursday 10.30 am – 1.30 pm

The Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer is Tracy Wigmore Tel: 01787 237832 email greatyeldhampc@btinternet.com

There will be periods when the office is closed due to council business and annual leave. A message can be left on the answerphone or email when the office is closed.

If you have an urgent enquiry, please contact Cllr Philip Rawlinson on 01787 237049.



USEFUL CONTACT INFORMATION (Cont.)

Police: Braintree Community Policing Team

Non-emergency ring 101

Craig Wheeler PC 3655 Email Craig.Wheeler@essex.pnn.police.uk

John Thorne PCSO 42070714, Joanne Cooper PCSO 42070955 and Sgt Andrew Christian
Phone 101 ext 400155 Emergency 999

Post Office (Mobile Service): Reading Room, Great Yeldham.

Opening hours: Monday 10.00 am to 12 noon (excluding Bank Holidays)

Public Houses:

The Wagon and Horses, High Street, Gt Yeldham. Tel: 01787 237936

The Three Bottles, Leather Lane, Gt Yeldham. Tel: 01787 237122

The White Hart, Poole Street, Gt Yeldham. Tel: 01787 237250

Reading Room: For availability/bookings contact John Marks, e-mail:

john.gyrrclerk@gmail.com Tel: 01787 238297

Rubbish Collections: Day varies according to location. Two-week cycle i.e. Week 1 black bin, Week 2 Green Bin and Recycling Sacks, Food Bin weekly. Winter months no green bin collection. Check your collection calendar at <https://www.braintree.gov.uk/collectioncalendar>
For more information Tel: 01376 551414. A small supply of recycling bags are held in the Parish Office or visit your local library.

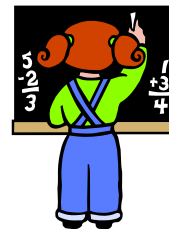
Vets.: Ardmore Veterinary Group, Bridge Street, Great Yeldham; Tel: 01787 238255
24-hour Emergency Service Tel: 07836 723934.

Community Agent (Supporting Independent Living): Community Agents are part of the Live Well partnership and referrals can be made by email or phone, through Essex Wellbeing Service. To arrange a free visit call or email us: Tel: 0300 303 9988 Email:

livewell.linkwell@nhs.net Providing services, information and advice on varied topics such as welfare benefits, fire and home safety, health and fitness, travel services, carers' support, etc. etc.

Website for the Village: www.greatyeldhampc.co.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/greatyeldhamparishcouncil>



USEFUL CONTACT INFORMATION – EDUCATION

ACORNS PRE-SCHOOL LTD. – Church Road, Great Yeldham, CO9 4PT.
Tel. 01787 237684. e-mail: acornspreschool@hotmail.co.uk

ST. ANDREW'S C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL – Church Road, Great Yeldham,
CO9 4PT. Children 4 – 11 years of age. Head Teacher: Mrs Emma Flin
Tel. 01787 237235. Email: office.greatyeldham@dcvst.org www.greatyeldhamschool.co.uk

HEDINGHAM SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM – Yeldham Road, Sible Hedingham,
CO9 3QH. Head Teacher: Mr Andrew Harvison. Tel. 01787 460470.
e-mail: enquiries@hedingham.essex.sch.uk www.hedingham.essex.sch.uk

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL – County Hall, Market Road, Chelmsford, CM1 1LX.
Schools, Children and Families: Tel. 0845 603 7627
e-mail: contactessex@essex.gov.uk www.essex.gov.uk



USEFUL CONTACTS – CLUBS, SOCIETIES AND CLASSES

1st Yeldham Scout Group

The Group provides a varied programme of activities and takes part in Group camps, District and County event. Contact: The Group Scout Leader Hazel Callaghan Tel: 07958 176025

Venue: The Scout Hut, Recreation Ground, Toppesfield Road, Great Yeldham.

Beavers: Children 6-8 years. Meets Thursdays 4.30 – 5.30pm.

Cubs: Children 8-10½ years. Meets Thursdays 5.45 – 6.45pm.

Scouts: Children 10½-14 years. Meets Thursdays 7.00 – 8.15pm.

Yeldham Brownies

Term time only - Contact Corrie Rutter on 01787 237689 for more information.

Bell Ringers:

Evening practices at Gt. Yeldham, Toppesfield or Ridgewell Churches.

Ringling for Church Services/Weddings/Special occasions at Gt. Yeldham, Toppesfield, Ridgewell and Stambourne. Everyone welcome Instruction arranged for new comers.

Contact: Mike Brewster, Bell Captain. Tel: 07896 341028.

Gt. Yeldham Carpet Bowls Club:

Open to all ages, a little eye and hand co-ordination needed, for which training is given!

A social evening where friends are made.

Tuesdays 7.15pm – 9.30pm at The Reading Room.

Contact: Margaret Rawlinson, Club Secretary, 01787 237049

Gt. Yeldham Cottage Garden Society:

The oldest Cottage Garden Society in the country, founded in 1854. Open to all. No need to be an expert gardener – just come along and enjoy the activities. No regular meeting time. Annual diary, trips to places of interest; talks; Open Gardens; Plant Sale and Annual Show.

Contact: Jo Williams email: joannacwilliams@btinternet.com Anne Burrows, Secretary, 01787 237959/anneburrows@btinternet.com

Gt. Yeldham and District Ladies Club

Enjoy a wide variety of speakers/demonstrators, summer and Christmas Parties. Husbands, partners and friends are welcome to all meetings.

Last Thursday of the month (excluding December) 7.30pm-9.30pm at The Reading Room.

Contact: Margaret Rawlinson 01787 237049.

Gt. Yeldham Footpath Walking Group:

Explores the local footpaths. Walks are usually about 2 hours long; all are welcome including dogs. Walks not suitable for pushchairs and young children need to be carried.

Meet on the Village Green, by the Notice Board, 10am on the second Saturday of the month.

Gt Yeldham Men's Shed

Work has started on establishing a Men's Shed for the village (opening April 2023). Sheds are set up across the country for a variety of activities including model making, gardening, carpentry, bike refurbishment and woodwork. They help reduce loneliness and isolation but most importantly, they're fun. Follow the Shed's progress on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/482066230422000>

USEFUL CONTACTS – CLUBS, SOCIETIES AND CLASSES (Cont.)



Gt Yeldham Parent and Toddler Group

New-born up to and including pre-school children. Supporting local families as they play, learn and grow together. Group Leader: Rachel Buckenham. Meets 1st Wednesday of the month, 9.30- 11.30am (term times only) in The Reading Room. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/greatyeldhamtoddlers>

Gt Yeldham Table Tennis Club

Coming soon to the village, watch out for updates in the 4 Villages Magazine. For more information contact John Marks on 04776328628.

Line Dancing Classes (Sundowners Line Dancers):

Teaching of line dancing and some partner dancing + some social events. 7.30pm Monday evenings in the Reading Room. Contact John or Cherie Taylor Tel: 01787 461973 / 463427
email john758taylor@btinternet.com

Move It or Lose It

An exercise class with a difference. Easy to follow exercises for over 50's and people with health and mobility issues. Every Tuesday at 11.00am, Reading Room.
Contact: Georgina Burr on 07547 927238 or email georgina.burr@moveitorloseit.co.uk

Neighbour Watch Group:

Clive Stewart, Braintree District Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, Braintree District Council Area,
Email: braintreenwsg@btinternet.com

Sophia Allen Dance Movement & Exercise

Contact email s.allendance@yahoo.com Tel. 07938 520672 Term time only in The Reading Room

Children Classes

Ballet & Movement: Saturdays 9.30am

Theatre Dance Club, Dance Troop & Intermediate Ballet: Thursdays from 4.00pm

Adult Classes

Adult Ballet: Monday 4.00-6.00pm

Circuit Training: Thursday mornings 9.45-10.45am

Stretch & Strengthen: Fridays 5.15-6.45pm

St Andrews Café

1st Thursday of the month from 10.00-11.30am. Please note that there is no café April or August)
Dates: 2nd February, 2nd March, 23rd March, 4th May, 8th June, 6th July, 7th September, 5th October, 9th November, 7th December. The monthly café, run in partnership with St Andrews Church in Great Yeldham. The purpose of the café is to provide a regular space for people in the village and surrounding areas to connect and catch up with friends. The café is run by volunteers who provide refreshments, cakes and biscuits.

Veterans Club, Great Yeldham:

This group meets socially for bingo, raffles, outings and meals out. Meets every other Wednesday, 2.00-4.00pm at The Waggon and Horses, High Street.

Contacts: Joint Treasurers - Sylvia Wilson Tel: 01787 238396 / Joan Storrar Tel: 01787 237740
roger.storrar@hotmail.co.uk

For more information
DON'T FORGET TO VISIT
THE VILLAGE WEBSITE

at:

www.greatyeldhampc.co.uk



*View of the Cemetery and Glades Natural Burial Ground
Great Yeldham*