

The Othona Community in the Autumn, October 2018.

As we move towards darker days and chillier nights, what better time to reflect on such a memorable summer! As the Othona Summer Season started, so the sun was already shining, and our international community must have returned to their far-flung homelands believing England was a place of scorching hot sun, cloudless skies and wonderful high tides on First Beach, for swimming and sand castles! For a few weeks each year Bradwell becomes a place where many languages join with the common language of laughter, where life-long friendships are formed, where age, nationality or background are no barrier to conversation around the dining table, and to heart-felt discussions led by a range of fascinating speakers. This summer we found Time to Simply Be, a time to relax together; music, in the American tradition (Camp DoReMi) – and at the memorable “Let’s Make Music!” concert in St Thomas Church, shared by many local people. We held an International Week, a Wonderful Wildlife Week and a Salt and Clay beach and bible week – and a return visit from a Jodrell Bank astronomer, with a chance to make and fire some rockets of our own. The Summer Season drew to a close with more reflective topics, insights into mental illness and an autumn retreat on Living Well, Dying Well recognising death as “a natural and normal part of life.” In all this creative and reflective participation we still had time, with leadership from our Pete Baird and a group of international volunteers and a Community Payback team, to complete the Disability Parking and Access Pathways Project, very kindly supported by the Essex Community fund (Bradwell Wind Farm Grant.) Come and see! Not only that, but the D4 wheelchair accessible bus now come right down from the Village to the Othona car park.

You are welcome to look at our Programme of Activities on the website, or from our brochure available from Othona. This autumn you may be interested in joining in some of our Programme: day visitors are always welcome, do book if you would like a meal.

Friday 5th October – Sunday 7th October - Working Weekend – one of our most popular weekends: gathering the apples and hedgerow fruits, seasonal cooking and practical work.

Monday 22nd October to Friday 26th October - Half Term Activity Week – a family week for the half-term holiday break, a chance to meet friends old and new. On two afternoons there will be an opportunity for children aged 5 and above (with their parental/adult support) to join in with outdoor activities at Bradwell waterside: archery, high ropes, wall climbing and sailing – please ask us for further details.

Friday 2nd November – Sunday 4th November Fireworks Weekend – join us for the weekend of Bonfire Night, or come for the Fireworks, Supper and Bonfire.

BRADWELL BONFIRE NIGHT SATURDAY 3RD NOVEMBER.

A dazzling display of fireworks when our huge sky becomes a riot of light and colour. Music, festive food and a bonfire on the beach add to the atmosphere and excitement...
£5 for Local Adults and Children – LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN FREE.

Tim Fox is the Manager. Details of our Programme can be found on our Website. <https://www.othonaessex.org.uk/Home>, or ring Othona at Bradwell (it’s down East End Rd and through East Hall Farm) on 01621 776564. **Free Parking for all visitors to Othona.**