The Othona Community in Spring 2023.

Easter celebrations at Othona started with a tradition that spans faiths, as Jesus celebrated his Jewish Passover supper on the Thursday before his death – his Last Supper, now shared within the Christian tradition. From a Thursday supper table laden with symbolism, to the Friday of reflection and sharing of the sorrow of Christ's death, those from Othona united in prayerful reflection with people worshipping at St Thomas' Church and St Peter's Chapel. These days our Good Friday inevitably includes a wonderful batch of freshly-baked Hot Cross Buns - thanks to Phil and various Othona Helpers.

By Easter Saturday many more had arrived at Othona, including our Ukrainian friends, and other visitors from overseas – France, Germany, people returning to catch up with long-term Othona friends, and meet new people here. By now Egg Painting is well underway, enjoyed by all, from toddlers to Grannies. The Weekend programme has something for all, with thought-provoking discussions led by Andrew Gough, with his wife Clare, who is currently Chair of the Othona Community Trustees. Now Easter Sunday – an exhilaratingly chilly dawn worship led by our Bishop Guli of Chelmsford, with Rev Steven – words of joy and comfort, the lighting of the Easter candle, fireworks over the sea, and a candlelight procession into the Chapel for our Easter morning communion service. Thanks to those who remained behind at Othona, so that a warming full English breakfast awaited the worshippers. Easter Eggs, the famous traditional Egg Rolling down the sea wall (watch out for Phil's hammer coming down on stray eggs!) No weekend at Othona can truly be planned – fun, food and fellowship blossom like the emerging buds on the orchard trees.

Come and spend some time with us this spring – all welcome! Please book if you want a meal.

Essex Green Weekend- Fri 28 Apr — Mon 1 May 2023

Join us for this weekend to find out how we can influence Climate Change

***** Camping and day visitors only now****

May Working Week Sun 7 May — Fri 12 May 2023

Celebrate the arrival of Spring by working in Community

Spring Watch Mon 15 May — Thu 18 May 2023

Wildlife watching on the Essex coast

Open Space Mon 15 May — Thu 18 May 2023

Time to unwind at Othona Bradwell.

You will find the Othona Community down the track through East Hall Farm, East End Rd, Bradwell on sea, Tel: 01621 776564, Website: <u>www.othona-bradwell.org.uk</u>. Email: <u>bradwell@othona.org</u>. The Warden/Managers are Debbie and Richard Sanders.