

# Parish News

Great Waltham Ford End Howe Street Littley Green North End

## April 2019

### Making a difference in the community

Litter may be a scourge of the countryside, but in Great Waltham and Howe Street, residents have been doing their bit to help keep the area clean.

Samuel Smith (below), who lives in Howe Street, has been very busy collecting and disposing of the litter in and around his home. He has already completed a three-month period of volunteering and has been awarded his Bronze Duke of Edinburgh.



During this time

he collected around 20 bags of litter and several boxes of glass bottles.

He now starts his next period of volunteering – this time for his Silver Duke of Edinburgh. He will be litter picking for the next six months in and around Howe street with the support of his parents.



Meanwhile, the Parish Clear Up took place on a very blustery Saturday 16 March. Mike Steel, chair of the Parish Council, thanked the volunteers who turned out on the day. There is also a Monthly Volunteer Litter Pick team who concentrate on a selected area each month and Mike says: "No wonder our Parish looks so clean! The Parish Council recently made a grant to the monthly team to purchase a 6 foot litter picker and what a difference it makes."

The Parish Council supports both the monthly litter pick group and the six monthly Parish Clear ups held in March and October. If you spot any fly tipping please contact the Chelmsford Street Clean team on 01245 606606.

#### Do you want to see a Speed Watch group in Great Waltham?

We have been running a very successful Speed Watch in Ford End for the last year. I have just had a Great Waltham site registered with the Community Speed Watch group and we went out last week – myself plus a couple of Ford End people. I chose a site where we know speed can be an issue and where residents have complained. The end objective isn't to catch people but, through awareness, to get them to slow down. It also demonstrates that residents are concerned and helps when trying to get ECC Highways to implement speed measures – as we have done at Ford End – ECC are installing 20mph (variable voluntary) past the school and 40mph buffers soon. If anyone in GW wants to join the group, I can arrange training – a short course of about an hour – mostly about objectives, safety, etc. Contact [mike.2.steel@btinternet](mailto:mike.2.steel@btinternet) if interested.

#### Keith Flint 1969 - 2019

The unexpected death of Keith Flint, lead singer of The Prodigy, was widely reported by the media; but what you may not know, is that Keith was a long time resident of North End. We were sad and shocked to learn of his death at such a young age. Unlike his flamboyant stage performances and public persona, Keith lived very quietly in a timber-framed house tucked out of sight and was considered to be really lovely man by those who met him. He could often be seen around the hamlet jogging or riding his horse. Many flowers and other signed tributes were left beside his gates and he will be sadly missed.

#### SAVE OUR PRE-SCHOOL!

Up Up and Away pre-school in Great Waltham **will have to close in July after around 30 years** of serving our community **unless there is a drastic increase in numbers**. PLEASE would all parents with pre-school-aged children consider using the pre-school. Parents, children and staff are all devastated as this is a loving, nurturing and brilliant home-from-home for its children. If your child will attend Great Waltham school, it provides a large number of opportunities to visit the school to help the children settle in.

**Can all residents please spread to word to save our beloved pre-school.**

### War and peace?

Something happened in a school that I think has relevance and is food for thought for us all.

A friend of mine went into a Church of England school at the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday and invited children who wanted to be marked with a cross on their forehead by other children with the words, 'This sign of a cross shows that God loves you.' Most of the children clustered round and were keen to have a cross on their heads. The day before a girl had said excitedly, 'It's tomorrow you come and put a cross on our heads.' When asked at a different time of the year another child had mentioned how much this meant to them. Given they go and do assemblies and do everything they can think of from video clips to re-enacting stories it was interesting that this was what stuck in children's minds.

As she left the school she walked through the playground. A little boy came up to her, crying and said, 'Dannie is hitting me with his coat and the boys are running away and making fun of people with a cross on their heads'. They went to talk to the boys in the group and he said, 'But Freddie went to kick me'. A little girl said, 'While they were fighting I was praying'. They went over to a teacher and explained what was going on. She was naturally concerned and they talked to the boys about it, and she said they would talk about it in circle time. She later told me it was a bit more complicated, and I don't want to be over dramatic that it happened to be around people with ash crosses on their heads – it could have been anything.

But I was struck by how a group of 7 year olds were reenacting what is happening in our world, how intolerant we can be of difference, how easy it is to be fearful. In some areas of the world Christians are killed for their beliefs, and it is too easy for there to be fear of people from different religions, especially Islam.

This week Revd Jackie and I went into Great Waltham school and did an assembly about difference. I've got short hair and Jackie has longer hair so we got all the kids with shorter hair to sit on my side of the hall and all the children with longer hair to sit on Jackie's side. I started by saying that people with shorter hair are better than people with longer hair, and Jackie obviously said people with longer hair were better. The kids were laughing at the absurdity of our argument. We got the kids cheering for their different sides, and then we ended up being able to say and see that differences don't matter and give us more richness. Children were able to see that it's fine for people to have different length hair – and then think where else this applies in life. Mr Burden even said he would bring in a photo of himself with long hair – which I am dying to see! It is important that 2 primary school children can learn to live together with their differences and be friends. It is important that we can value those who are different from us. How can we calmly listen and find out what makes them tick. There is a lack of moral debate in our society about so many things. Everyone seems to be shouting at each other. We find it so hard when people are different from us, to value that difference, to be interested in it rather than threatened.

I won't use the B word, but I think what I am saying is clear. We have to learn to live well together with those who disagree with us.

This is my prayer this Lent.  
Revd Caroline Brown

### Church of England Services - April

#### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April

9.30am Communion Ford End  
11.00am Communion Great Waltham

#### Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup>

8.30am Coffee with Christ The Castle  
Gt Leighs

#### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>

9.30am Communion Ford End  
11.0am Service of the Word Great Waltham

#### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>

9.30am Easter Communion Ford End  
11.00am Easter Communion Great Waltham  
11.00am Easter Communion Chignals with  
Mashbury

#### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>

9.30 am Family Service Ford End  
11.00am Communion Great Waltham

### Easter Services

Mon 15<sup>th</sup> 9am Morning Prayer Gt Waltham  
8pm Compline Ford End  
Tues 16<sup>th</sup> 9am Morning Prayer Lt Waltham  
8pm Compline Little Leighs  
Wed 17<sup>th</sup> am Morning Prayer Gt Leighs  
8pm Compline Chignals  
Maundy 4pm Stripping of the Altar Gt Waltham  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> 7pm Passover meal Ford End  
with Communion followed by Vigil  
until 10pm  
Good Friday 10am – 12noon Great Waltham  
The Happening (for Children)  
2pm At the Foot of the Cross GW  
Easter Sunday 9.30am Communion Ford End  
11am Communion Great Waltham  
11am Communion Chignals

Contact: Alison Bates Parish Administrator  
Tel: 07957 228467 [admin@littleandgreat.org.uk](mailto:admin@littleandgreat.org.uk)

### Services & Events at Lt Waltham United Reformed Church April 2019

Contact Rev Geoffrey Griggs 01245 471990  
Services 10.30am

7th April John Amos. Passion Sunday  
14th April Rev Geoffrey Griggs.  
Palm Sunday. 6:30pm Rev Geoffrey  
Griggs **HC**  
19th April Good Friday 6:00pm Rev Geoffrey  
Griggs  
21st April Easter Sunday **HC** Rev Geoffrey Griggs  
28th April Charles de Lacy

4th April (Thurs) **Gossip and Guzzle 11am-1pm**  
20th April (Sat) **Coffee Morning in the  
Schoolroom 10am**

## Ford End Gardening Club

Our speaker for the March meeting was unwell, so we had a very impromptu meeting of gardening mistakes and hints, dahlias and a member's memories of a recent trip to India. There is a Horticultural saying, 'when sowing seeds, plant 1 for rook, 1 for crow, 1 to rot and one to grow'. Unfortunately for Alan, the rooks had the lot and left the holes to prove it! He also admitted to letting the temperature in the greenhouse get too high for his first sowing of Little Gem lettuce. Anything over 60 degrees F and lettuce seed can enter a condition known as thermo-dormancy and remain inactive. We were reminded to dead-head our daffodils as soon as they faded and feed the leaves to enhance next year's flowers. Tony Bugden had brought along some dahlias and corms for sale and gave instruction on how to grow them. We were then treated to some aspects of Gill and Adrian's recent trip to the state of Kerala In India. We had a most interesting talk about the tea growing and the many spices that were grown there, as well as sampling the chocolate that was made from the cocoa they produced. Our next event is the Plant Sale and Coffee Morning on Saturday 27th April 10-12. There will be a craft stall, cake stall and cards for sale and a list to add your names for the outings to Wisley and Marks Hall.

## GREAT WALTHAM FRIENDSHIP CLUB

There was a really good turn out for the March meeting when members took part in a fun quiz about Essex Villages and another where 15 plants had to be recognised and named. New member, Doreen, was welcomed and as it rained outside tea and cakes were served and plans were discussed for the upcoming programme. The next meeting, which will be the AGM, will take place next month on April 15 and will have an Easter feel to it.

## BEER, BBQ AND A BAND....

What more could you want on a Sunday afternoon?  
Please reserve Sunday 14th July in your diaries, Ford End Village Hall will be entertaining you! From 3pm 'til 7pm. Tickets will include entertainment and plenty of BBQ food plus a licensed bar. More details on tickets etc to follow – this is our main fundraiser, so we would love you to join us! Sandra Brown 07736 965286

## Services and Events at Blackchapel, North End APRIL

Sun. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Family Worship	P Hamilton
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Communion (bcp)	Rev K Holloway
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	Good Friday Meditation at noon	
Sun. 21 <sup>st</sup>	EASTER Holy Communion (cw)	Rev Stephen Bailey
Sun. 28 <sup>th</sup>	Morning Worship (cw)	John Turton

bcp = Book of Common Prayer; cw = Common Worship  
Services start at 10.00 unless otherwise stated  
Enquiries: contact P Hamilton on 01371 820095

## Easter Family Fun Day



## Walthamby Women's Institute

Our speaker last month was Gillian McClure who gave us a fascinating insight into her career as a children's author and illustrator. Our members enjoyed a trip to Thurrock to see where the Royal Opera House stores all their costumes and scenery. These are despatched worldwide from Thurrock for performances. Our successful darts team is through to the quarter finals in April – very well done ladies!!

Calling all crafters - we would like to invite you to join us on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April in the British Legion Hall. Lucy Thorogood is visiting demonstrating textiles and their many decorative uses.

Our competition this month is a 'bookmark' please either make one or bring your favourite along. In March we welcomed three visitors and hope they will consider becoming members. Our meetings start at 7.15 for 7.30 second Tuesday of the month in the British Legion Hall. Visitors are always welcome.



**Happy Birthday** to Myrtle Blows who recently celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday with a family get-together at the White Hart, Little Waltham. She has lived in the Parish all her life and is pictured with her daughter Yvonne and son Trevor.

## Ford End Dancing

The club will meet on 3rd and 17th April at 7pm in Ford End Village Hall. For more information, contact Sheila Bearman on 01245 237335 or 07977 077945.

## Ford End Senior Tea

The next tea will be held on 15th April starting at 2:30, at Woodstock, Church Lane, Ford End. Anyone interested or who has not been before, please ring Sheila Bearman on 01245 237335 or 07977 077945.

# Parish Directory


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**Great Waltham Parish Office - an open letter**

I am writing this open letter to the Parish Magazine to try to promote further debate as to the future of our Parish Office in the run up to our Parish Council Elections in May.

Parishioners may know that the lease on the current Parish Office in the Old Fire Station is soon to expire and our Parish Council are in discussions to either relocate the office to Great Waltham Village Hall or to build a new facility, possibly adjacent to the changing rooms on Great Waltham Recreation Ground.

Both alternatives have their 'pros and cons' and I will leave it to those standing for election to inform parishioners of their views on this issue. In my opinion, relocation to the Village Hall would be the preferred option, in that the rent that is currently paid to a private landlord, will in effect, be paid back to the parishioners of Great Waltham - the Village Hall using the rental to maintain and improve a valuable village asset. When one bears in mind that over the term of the lease, the Parish Council will have paid approaching £80,000 to rent the current facility, this is a considerable amount of money which could be re-invested back into our community.

May I finish this letter with a word of thanks to our current Parish Councillors who give their time freely and work tirelessly for the benefit of our Parish. We are fortunate to live in such a wonderful community and this in part is due to their efforts for which I for one am very grateful. Andrew Tinsley

**Great Waltham  
Horticultural Society  
The Show will go on!**

A big thank you to the volunteers who stepped forward to help with this year's Great Waltham Horticultural Society Annual Flower & Produce Show on **Saturday, September 21**.

The committee will be meeting on March 26 to discuss plans for the Show and details will be announced in due course.

In the meantime, please save the date and make this an extra special event to remember.

And, if you were unsure whether or not to become involved, it's not too late, please contact membership secretary Helen Willis 07747 847240 [hwillis@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:hwillis@hotmail.co.uk).

**Awesome  
April Quiz**

**Sat 27<sup>th</sup> April, 7.30pm**

Village hall, Great Waltham,

Adult - £10, Child - £2.50 including supper, bar, prizes,

*Questions to suit all ages*



Tables of 6 to 8 of family, friends, the kids or we can add you to a table.  
Tel: 01245 360918 or email [joanna.2.steel@btinternet.com](mailto:joanna.2.steel@btinternet.com) to tell us you are coming by 20<sup>th</sup> April.

**ART SHOW**

**AT**

**GT WALTHAM CHURCH**

**ON**

**SATURDAY 4 MAY 2019**

**11.30 AM - 4.30 PM**

**AND**

**SUNDAY 5 MAY 2019**

**12.30 PM - 4.30 PM**

**ADMISSION £1**

**HOMEMADE REFRESHMENTS**

**News from Great Waltham C of E VC Primary School**

As we send this to the Parish News, we are two weeks away from the Easter break, a two-week holiday before the children return for the summer term. Parents will be visiting to meet with their teachers for the second time this academic year before the Easter break so they can discuss the pastoral and academic



progress their children have made. Each family receives a mini report before the consultations to explain progress in school.

Lots of events to reflect upon:

World book Day was brilliantly supported as ever, too. The children also participated in 'book swap' where they brought a book they owned from home and exchanged with another from a class mate. They children also were able to buy some new books when the 'Travelling Book Fayre' arrived for one week.

Revd Caroline and Revd Jackie delivered a thought-provoking Collective Worship around the idea of respecting each other's differences and that we are all unique. They sat the children in the hall according to the length of their hair – and then proceeded to have a (fake) argument about their hair length and whether it made you better than someone. The school agreed that it did not. Recent themes in school have been Integrity, Miracle and Mystery, Jesus is the Son of God and Easter. We of course look forward to our Easter Service at church on Thursday 4 April.

Y2 children enjoyed their collaboration with other local schools to perform the Sultan's Bath – the title of this year's Infant Music Festival. They sang, acted, danced and played music well. Thanks to Gill Parkin for coordinating the event as always and the staff at school for preparing the children so well.

Class Antarctica (Y1) delivered a splendid Class Assembly to explain their learning across the curriculum.

Our year 5 boys' team have won their cross-country league and will represent the school at the county finals in late April. Our netball team will play in a re-scheduled tournament in April after the first one was postponed due to weather. The football season has continued with friendly games with one league game still to play. The tag-rugby team played Moulsham as a warm up before they (Moulsham) represent Chelmsford at the county finals in Southend. We lost by 14 tries to 12 which shows the strength of the school team. Our Y5/6 gym team competed in local tournament too after practising hard for 8 weeks.

Mr and Mrs Fairchild are to retire after many years of service. Mr Fairchild is the school caretaker and will be greatly missed as there is nothing he cannot replace or fix! Mrs Fairchild has worked at the school for over 30 years and is currently midday supervisor – this is a crucial part of the school day when the children refuel, relax and play before afternoon lessons. We wish them both well in retirement in July and thank them for their dedicated service.

**New Parish Website**

The Parish Council has set up a new website for the Parish, which includes the Parish Council, other local organisations and useful information. It uses the EssexInfo.net community website and is easier to manage than the previous html based website. The old site has now been disabled. Please visit the new website at <https://www.essexinfo.net/great-waltham-parish/>. If any organisations want to add their own page, contact Mike Steel.

COMING SOON... COMING SOON... COMING SOON...

## GREAT WALTHAM Music & Arts FESTIVAL


MAY / JUNE 2019

The Chelmsford Male Voice Choir  
**The Waltham Singers**  
Live Music at the Gin & Beer Festival  
**Legionstock**  
Village Choir Concert & BBQ  
**Frog Island Jazz Band**  
Music Quiz  
'Sing-a-long' to **Mamma Mia**  
The Old Curiosity Shop Play Reading  
**The Village Art Show**  
Life of the Wicked Stage Memoir

FESTIVAL BROCHURE SHOULD BE READY MID APRIL  
WITH ALL THE DATES & DETAILS

Co-ordinated by the Gt Waltham Community Network

More info or to add an event contact Andy Tinsley on 360653

Find us on  @GreatWalthamFestival



## CHELMSFORD MALE VOICE CHOIR

### 'SONGS FROM THE SHOWS'

SAT 11th MAY

Gt Waltham Church

@ 7.30 pm

Tickets £8 from Village Shop  
Licenced Bar

Part of the:

Great Waltham  
Music & Arts  
Festival

Find us on 

@GreatWalthamFestival



## THE WALTHAM FACES IN CONCERT

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April  
@ 7.45 pm

Gt Waltham British Legion

Guests £4  
Members £2

Tickets on the door

ALL PROFITS TO THE LEGION  
BUILDING FUND

## Great Waltham Parish Council

Clerk Will Adshad-Grant Gateshead, Old Fire station, Great Waltham,  
CM3 1DF, Tel 01245 362638 [clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk)

The following is a summary extract (by Mike Steel – Chair) of the Parish Council Meeting of **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019**. The full and approved minutes are published on the Parish Council Notice boards and at the Parish Website <https://www.essexinfo.net/great-waltham-parish/>

The PC reviewed a letter received from the GW VH Committee and information relayed in the public open session. The VH committee stated that they are reviewing the future use, and invited the PC to comment especially in regard to public car parking. It was noted that the PC had previously discussed, in 2016, on how the car park might be made open to the public, but these had not reached a satisfactory conclusion. Given the invitation to re-open such talks, the PC agreed to meet with the VH Committee to see if a viable solution could be reached

The poor state of the GW football pitch was recognised. Discussions with maintenance contractors had resulted in conflicting advice and it was decided that independent professional advice would be sought.

The previous PC meeting had been looking at options to pay for a refurbishment or new build of GW Changing Rooms combined with Parish Office. An unsolicited proposal from Waltham United to refurbish the Changing rooms by using local voluntary labour had been received prior to this meeting, with a target to extend the life to 20 years to match the remaining lease on the land at the Recreation Ground. It was agreed that the PC needed to find out whether the lease can be extended as this had a bearing on any decision.

In regard of the offer of leasing 14 car parking spaces on the GW "garages" site; the last meeting had agreed in principle to this subject to an acceptable level of cost and removal of certain conditions. Cllr Steel had spoken to CHP and received reassurance that these terms could be removed. Cllr Steel had also investigated potential maintenance costs of block paving areas, and reassured the meeting that the levels were within acceptable limits. The PC thought that they should engage professional legal support in order to respond back to CHP. Ford End VH are unable to complete the toilet upgrade prior to the end of March, when the part grant from the PC expires. It was agreed that the grant would be rolled over to the next Financial Year and given in the original proportion as the work was completed.

The PC considered a complaint by a Ford End resident in relation to the placement of the warning Speedwatch signs on the 9<sup>th</sup> Feb. The PC concluded that there was no evidence to support the complaint. Furthermore, they agreed to write to the Speedwatch group and congratulate them on their hard work on behalf of the community

The next Parish Council meeting will be held **15<sup>th</sup> April 2019**, at Ford End Village Hall. The Public and Press are welcome to attend. The agenda will be published on the Parish website and notice boards before the meeting.



## VILLAGE BOULES TOURNAMENT & "WALTHAM WELLY WANGING!"

Bank Holiday Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May  
at 2pm.

**NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE - [GW recreation ground](#)**

- Make up a team of 3
- Children's teams, family teams, adult teams
- £5 per team
- Prizes for the winners
- Easy and fun for everyone – even beginners.
- Boules provided.
- Refreshments **AND.....**

### "WALTHAM WELLY WANGING!"

After the boules tournament, try and see how far you can throw a welly! *Bring your own* – large or small. You might win a prize!

Enquiries- [joanna.2.steel@btinternet.com](mailto:joanna.2.steel@btinternet.com)



Thank you for all of the contributions to this edition of 'Parish News'. Please send your contributions for the next issue by email to: [articles@parish-news.co.uk](mailto:articles@parish-news.co.uk). Enquiries and advertising requests should be sent by e-mail to: [adverts@parish-news.co.uk](mailto:adverts@parish-news.co.uk) The last date for inclusion in the May issue is Wednesday 17th April 2019.

[articles@parish-news.co.uk](mailto:articles@parish-news.co.uk)