

Parish News

Great Waltham Ford End Howe Street Littley Green North End

February 2018

Best Ever Christmas Tree Festival

Twenty one local clubs, businesses, the school and preschool decorated trees on the theme of "animals" for the 2017 Christmas Tree Festival. One of the trees was decorated especially in remembrance of Sonia Honeywood.

As well as the beautiful and imaginative trees, the weekend included a bustling market and fair, a concert by the excellent Essex Police Brass Band with the village choir (page 3) and the primary school choir, the arrival of Father Christmas and his elves in a Lodge's coach, the switching on of the tree lights at Banbury Square, an enchanting Christingle and a moving performance of Beauty and The Beast.

The event was jointly organised by the PCC and the Community Network and with the help of many kind friends. Thanks to everyone who took part and who came along.

The following weekend, the Waltham Eagles played to a large crowd in the church (picture on page 3) . The funds raised went to the Community Network, the PCC and the British Legion and helped to pay some of the expenses of the Christmas Tree Festival.



The Hoola Stall



Some of the magnificent Christmas Trees on display



The cast of Beauty & the Beast



Essex Police Brass Band

From the Vicarage,



Pass the Treacle!

How do you like your pancakes? With sugar and lemon? Or maple syrup or treacle? Or chocolate spread perhaps? All my family

have different preferences but we all agree on one thing- we love pancakes.

I'm writing this in early January after a post Christmas break. It was wonderful to see so many of you in our churches and in our schools over the Christmas period.

I've lost count of the number of people who have said to me recently, 'Christmas must be your busiest time?' Well, it is a full and wonderful time for the Church but now we are well into the Countdown to Easter.

Pancake Day, Lent and Holy Week are all part of the journey to Easter Day, and you might be surprised to know that this is actually the *biggest* Christian celebration of the year. It is a time when lots of people make time to think carefully about their life. For Christians, it's a sort of Spring Clean. It all starts on Pancake Day - also called Shrove Tuesday. This is one last chance for a big party before Lent begins with Ash Wednesday the next day. What's it all about then?

Long ago, Christians traditionally used up all the eggs and fat they had in store by making pancakes and feasting on them. This was because when Lent came, they would eat less food, or even fast (do without food sometimes) to help them focus on things spiritual and not on the things they wanted. Shrove Tuesday always falls 47 days before Easter, a date which changes every year. So this year, we'll be eating our pancakes on Tuesday Feb 13th, before Lent begins the following day.

Why is Lent important? Lent is a time of getting ready for Easter. During Lent, Christians often do something different too, if not fasting they may pray daily or take on new reading. This reminds us of Jesus' time in the desert to focus on God and feel closer to him. Remember even young children can take part in Lent. For example giving up a sweet treat every day might remind children that we can live more simply - or doing a good deed every day will make them feel good about themselves. The good news is that Sundays are very much celebration days - a time to relax and enjoy. So we will still have cake after the service! The last week of Lent is called Holy Week - during this time, the church remembers Jesus' death on a cross.

Lent is a time to reflect, and services won't include the word 'Alleluia' - a very joyful word to express praise for God.

Why not come along to a church service in Lent to reflect and do some inner 'soul sweeping.' Then go at Easter and experience the real uplifting joy and meaning of Easter. It's better than the biggest chocolate egg (though they are wonderful!) Our services for February are in this magazine. See you there! Blessings

Revd Sandra

Associate Priest Gt and Lt Leighs and Lt Waltham, Gt Waltham, Ford End and Chignals with Mashbury



Church of England Services in February

Sunday 4th February 9.30am Communion Ford End
11.00am Communion Great Waltham

Sunday 11th February 8.00am Traditional Communion Great Waltham
9.30am Communion Ford End
11.00am Café Church Great Waltham

Wednesday 14th Feb 7.30pm Ash Wednesday Communion Little Leighs

Sunday 18th February 9.30am Communion Ford End
11.00am Communion Great Waltham
11.00am Communion Chignals

Sunday 25th February 9.30am Café Church Ford End
11.00am Communion Great Waltham

Contact: Alison Bates Parish Administrator

Tel: 07957 228467

admin@littleandgreat.org.uk

Services and Events at Blackchapel, North End

FEBRUARY 2018

Sun. 4 th	Family Worship	P. Hamilton
Sun. 11 th	Holy Communion (bcp)	Rev K Holloway
Wed. 14 th	Good Book Club - 1.20pm	Schoolroom
Sun. 18 th	Holy Communion (cw)	Rev. S Bailey
Wed 21 st	Prayer Meeting - 8pm	Schoolroom
Sun. 25 th	Morning Worship (cw)	J. Turton
Wed. 28 th	Good Book Club - 1.20pm	Schoolroom

bcp = Book of Common Prayer; cw = Common Worship
Enquiries: contact Mr P Hamilton on 01371 820095

Services & Events at Little Waltham United Reformed Church February 2018

Contact; Rev Geoffrey Griggs 01245 471990

Services 10.30am Each Sunday

February 4th. Rev Geoffrey Griggs
February. 11th. Christina Mclure. Bring & Share Lunch
February. 18th Marina Price
February. 25th. Rev Geoffrey Griggs. Leprosy Mission.
Victoria Granger. HC

Thursday 1st Feb Gossip & Guzzle. 11am - 1.0pm.
Fish & Chips

Thursday 8th Feb. Pippins Parent & Toddler Group.
9.30 - 11.0

Saturday. 17th Feb Coffee Morning in Schoolroom
10am

Ford End Gardening Club

Once again we had a very jolly December meeting with a quiz, seasonal food and one or two festive drinks.

At our first meeting of 2018, Mr Gillan, who has been mad about dahlias since the age of ten, gave an enlightening and enthusiastic talk about all aspects of growing this plant. He is Chairman of the Dahlia Society and has won many national awards for his prize dahlias. We learnt the difference between decorative dahlias and pom pom dahlias and how to grow this dazzling plant.

Our February meeting is on **Monday 12 February starting at 7.30pm** in Ford End village hall and Clare Matthews will be coming to talk about Daisy the Countess of Warwick and also the the history of Easton Lodge. The garden club will be visiting the gardens of Easton Lodge in the spring.



Up, up and away preschool.

December was an extremely busy month for us at preschool. The children enjoyed making lots of different Christmassy bits to take home at the end of term while also finding time to decorate cardboard monkeys with paint and glitter and thread foam bananas onto string for our entry at the Christmas tree festival. This year for the first time we

had our Christmas play and party on the same day, although it was a really busy day it was very successful. We had stalls, a raffle and refreshments during the morning of the play where we were able to raise a massive £300. Some of this money has been used to buy a soft play 'Nessy'. The children love him and he has encouraged some great physical and imaginative play. Auntie Sarah from The Imagination Station returned once again to entertain the children in the afternoon, they all made puppets which they then used to join in with her very amusing puppet show. January has seen us welcome 4 new children and their families. Our existing children have been very welcoming to our newbies helping them when needed and being very kind, kind words and helping hands are 2 of our Mr Potato Head rules so its great to see these paying off.

Rebecca and Michelle

Ford End Senior Tea

Happy New Year to everyone.

The next tea will be held at 2pm on Monday, 19th February at Woodstock, Church Lane, Ford End. New members always welcome.

Anyone interested or who has not been before, please ring Sheila Bearman on 01245 237335 or 07977 077945

Ford End Dancing

Happy New year to you all.

The club will meet on February 7th and 21st at 7pm in Ford End Village Hall.

For more information, contact Sheila Bearman on 01245 237335 or 07977 077945

The Great Waltham Village Choir



The Choir were singing at the Christmas Tree Festival in Great Waltham Church to a packed audience. The Village Choir resumes after the new year in the Great Waltham School at 7pm on Thursday January 4th. Come and join us!



The Waltham Eagles performing at the Christmas Tree Festival.

Women's World Day of Prayer

This annual meeting is to be held on March 2 at 2pm at Great Leighs Free church, Main Road, Great Leighs, CM3 1NP. This year, the service has been compiled by the Christian ladies of Suriname, which is in the north east of South America.

Our group involves 12 different denominations in the villages around Chelmsford and a number of people will be taking part. The service - which is around an hour - is not just for ladies, everyone will be very welcome and refreshments will be served afterwards in the barn.

We hope by the end of the meeting, some of us will be able to speak a few words of greeting in Suriname.

For more details or to be involved, contact Libby Hill on 01245 360655.

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Friday 2nd March @ 7.45
Gt Waltham Legion Hall

Tickets on door - Members £2 / Non Members £4
Profits to on-going Legion Refurbishment Fund



FEBRUARY 2018

Date	Fixture	Time
Sat 03 Feb	Wales v Scotland France v Ireland	1415 1645
Sun 04 Feb	Italy v England	1500
Sat 10 Feb	Ireland v Italy England v Wales	1415 1645
Sun 11 Feb	Scotland v France	1500
Fri 23 Feb	France v Italy	2000
Sat 24 Feb	Ireland v Wales Scotland v England	1415 1645



Great Waltham British Legion

Events in February



Kids Bingo
Friday 2nd February - 6.00pm
£3 per child. This Bingo evening is designed specifically for the KIDS! With 4 games of Bingo there are plenty of prizes to be won. Don't forget to grab your free hot dog and unlimited squash.



Valentines Quiz
Saturday 17th February - 7.30pm
£5 per person - Join us for another fun Quiz. For your Ploughman's supper please register your team of 6 by adding your name to the list at the Club during opening hours or email helen.mansfield007@btinternet.com

Follow us on Facebook for updates on all future events and activities. The club is also available to hire for private functions. Pop in to the club for details.

[f](https://www.facebook.com/Gt.WalthamRoyalBritishLegion) Gt.WalthamRoyalBritishLegion
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Great Waltham features in the Quest (again)



The Great Waltham Christmas Tree Festival kicked off the BBC Essex Radio Quest on Sunday 3rd December. The programme is on every Sunday morning and asks listeners to phone in to help them solve cryptic clues to mystery locations somewhere in Essex. This isn't the first time that GW has featured, having been one of the mystery locations in summer with the Talking Bench. This time, the Church was the starting point and after interviewing Joanna Steel (Community

Network President) about the events for the weekend (great publicity), they read out the next clue and set off for the destination. The team behind the BBC Essex Quest are always looking for new locations and events for the programme to visit. If you have an idea then email essexquest@bbc.co.uk.

BIG VILLAGE RAFFLE

- The winners were -
1. David Williams;
 2. Ann Shuttle
 3. Margaret Mills
 4. Mrs Styles
 5. Liz Eccles-Williams
 6. Elaine Emmerson
 7. Mrs Willsher
 8. Mr & Mrs J Clark
 9. Dom
 10. Mr Pritchard
 11. Colin Reynolds
 12. June
 13. David Moncaster
 14. Nick Fewster
 15. Samuel Poulton
 16. A Taylor
 17. Pete Copnell
 18. Mike Steel

Thanks to everyone who bought tickets and donated raffle prizes.

Mostly Valentine Quiz!

Sat 17th February, 7.30pm
Village hall, Great Waltham
Adults - £7.50 Child - £3
with ploughman's supper



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(Note: The evening will start with a 10 min Twinning Association AGM.)

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7pm

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WALTHAMBURY WI

At our first meeting of 2018 we enjoyed a talk given by Andy Bennett on the 'View from Space'. He used slides to give us a fascinating insight into our solar system, planets and our own world. Andy used to work for e2v, a technology company in Chelmsford making imaging sensors for cameras used in space exploration giving the views back to earth. Andy is now self-employed as a speaker, artisan blacksmith and bee keeper and we hope to invite him back at a later date as he gave us such an excellent talk.

Sadly at this meeting we said goodbye to Marion Garvey, who has been a mainstay of Walthambury WI for many years but is now moving away from this area.

Our next meeting will be on the **13 February** and John Wiffen, a Mystifier (conjurer) will be giving a talk.

Our meetings start at 8.0pm and are held in the British Legion hall in Great Waltham and guests are always welcome.

For the December meeting of the **Little Waltham Gardening Club**, 32 of the members celebrated with a lunch at the White Hart in Little Waltham. **The next meeting will be held on February 7th 2018** entitled 'Getting started with Alpines'. at the Little Waltham Memorial Hall. Visitors are welcome and will be provided with a list of speakers and outings for the forthcoming year.

News from Great Waltham C of E VC Primary School

The children have returned to school after their Christmas break and a very busy autumn term. Whilst the snow and ice made travelling to and opening the school difficult, in December, we did remain open. Thanks to all the staff and volunteers whom ensured all the wonderful Christmas events took place, even if we had to re-schedule some of the evening Christmas plays. All the events were well attended and successful and the term culminated with our Carol Service, led by the children and Revd. Caroline and Revd. Jackie.

The spring term is the shortest of the school year, with only 11½ weeks but there will be much to report on.

Children are nearing the half-way point of the academic year and in the next parent consultations in March parents will be given a clearer picture of current attainment and progress in school. Peer tutoring has started again this term; this is an initiative where older children in Y5/6 help younger children with their English and maths skills once per week.

Y2 children are busy preparing for the Infant Music Festival, they will join children from other local primary schools to perform at Christ Church in



Chelmsford.

25 children from Y5/6 attended an indoor athletics competition and came



second; they have now qualified for the finals to be played later in January.

Cross Country fixtures begin again in February. Y4 children will compete in a

Superstars Competition in February too. We have a guest football coach from the FA taking lessons for two classes this half-term and working with the school team on their skills at break time.

Clubs are very busy again, on Wednesday the school staff and volunteers offer clubs for Choir, Knitting, Film, Board Games, Tag-Rugby, Homework and Health Ambassadors. The health club is a new one and it gives the chance for children to learn about keeping healthy (physical and emotional) and act as role models for others.



Alex Burden Headteacher

ADVANCE NOTICE

GREAT WALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH SPRING CLEAR UP

Saturday 17th MARCH

**Volunteers may wish to clear
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Chelmsford Local Plan – Have Your Say

The final version of Chelmsford City Council's new Local Plan – called the Pre-Submission – will be open for consultation from 31 January to 14 March 2018. The Local Plan identifies the number and locations for houses, jobs and businesses and local facilities to support growth to 2036, and beyond. It also includes planning policies which will be used to determine planning applications.

Find out more

To see the locations, dates and times for all the exhibitions, please visit www.chelmsford.gov.uk/pre-submission (from 31 January). Go to www.chelmsford.gov.uk/planningpolicyconsult to:

For tips on how to register, or what to do if you are registered but have forgotten your login details, read our User Guide to find out more: www.chelmsford.gov.uk/EasySiteWeb/GatewayLink.aspx?allid=54663

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Great Waltham Parish Council

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Tel 01245 362638 clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk

The following is a summary extract (by Mike Steel, Chairman) of the Parish Council meeting of **20th November 2017**. The full and approved minutes are published on the Parish Council Notice boards and at the Parish Website www.greatwaltham.org.uk

Chelmsford County Council Cllr Knight reported that they had achieved vacant possession of Cherry Garden Road garages. The land is still to be transferred to Chelmer Housing Partnership.

The PC would like to refurbish the cobbled area near Walthambury Stores. A proposed drawing was reviewed and accepted (including planters and a bench). Highways have committed to repair the kerbing. Permission will be sought from the landowner with a view to a long term usage lease.

The Parish Office sub-committee reported back to the main council meeting on long term plans to look at an alternative site for a Parish Office on the Rec Ground. It was decided that it would be prudent to seek CCC Planning dept. advice before committing to any work in terms of plans or costings.

The PC were asked by the British Legion if they would allow them to refurbish the light at the entrance to their premises. The PC were not sure if they owned it and would make enquiries

Summary Minutes for meeting on 18th December 2017.

The precept was confirmed for year April 2018 to March 2019 at £44,880. This is estimated as £48.52 per Band D property pa (a decrease of £4.80 pa).

The PC agreed to send a letter to Stansted Airport, complaining about the level of noise, but to back this up with relevant data. Cllr Braisby to prepare draft letter for consideration.

Cllr Steel reported that the 20mph variable advisory limit, past the school, in Ford End, had been approved by the ECC Cabinet Member, but now had to go to the Local Highways Panel. The 40mph entry buffers were also on the LHP agenda of 20th Dec, but the island refuge was likely to be declined as not cost effective. There was a proposal to offer the older Speed Indicator Device to Ford End residents to ensure battery changes were done on a regular basis. A rep of the Ford End traffic committee responded that the SID should remain the responsibility of the PC and that it would be more useful if the SID was able to collect data (the newer SID, which is cycled around the Parish, has this capability). Cllr Allen agreed to take on the responsibility of regularly changing the battery.

The PC had previously considered the proposal to put 2 table tennis tables at the Rec Ground on the condition that Sport England would fund. The Clerk reported that the application had been turned down. The PC will proceed with 1 table funded by CIL

The PC agreed to the request from the British Legion to allow them to renovate the old oil light by the entrance to the BL

The Clerk was instructed to follow up the claim on the recently damaged FE village sign, via the PC insurers.

The next Parish Council will be held at the PC Office, **Monday 19th February 2017** commencing at 7.45pm; the Public and Press are welcome to attend. The agenda will be published on the Parish website and notice boards before the meeting.

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. Enquiries and advertising requests should be sent by e-mail to: adverts@parish-news.co.uk The last date for inclusion in the March issue is February 15th

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