

Parish News

Great Waltham Ford End Howe Street Littley Green North End

November 2020



Success for the Great Waltham Virtual Marathon Runners

Congratulations to all the local runners who beat the wet and windy conditions to complete their own version of the London Marathon on Sunday 4th October.

Lucy Johnson, Leonie Harper, Angela Holmes, Claire Honeywood and Becky Blunden were among those who set off from The Stores in the heart of Great Waltham at 8am for their 26.2 mile run, supported by family and friends, and fellow runners who joined them en-route. After four loops which took them around Great Waltham, Little Waltham and Howe Street, they finally all finished at the Walnut Tree pub at Broads Green, having raised thousands of pounds for their respective charities. On behalf of all the runners, Lucy wanted to say a special thank you to all their supporters and sponsors for their donations and well wishes. Well done to all of them.



Christmas Tree Festival

Sat 5^h & Sun 6th December

Bring some Christmas cheer to the village!

The Community Network and the Parochial Church Council cannot bring you our usual Christmas Tree Festival this year. But if you as an individual, or with your family, or as a representative of a local group, would like to decorate a tree or bush that you have in your front garden as part of a Christmas Tree Trail round the village, email Joanna Steel on joanna.2.steel@btinternet.com. More details will be sent to you as our plans evolve.

With the ever-changing Covid situation, it is not currently known if the church will be able to welcome visitors to see their decorations. We hope to have firmer details about the Christmas Tree Trail and visiting the church in time for the December Parish News and please do watch out for posters. As always, anything we organise will be according to current Covid restrictions.

News and views from around the parish

All going well as they say in nautical circles, by the time you read this issue we will hopefully have appointed two new Churchwardens for Great Waltham church who will join the Churchwarden at Ford End as the churches legal representatives in the Parish.

This is good news for us all. For the past two years, Great Waltham has not had one Churchwarden let alone two, although there is a very strong team who have and I trust will continue to operate the administrative and service duties which provides the village with a peaceful place for worship and a comfortable resting place in this crazy world that Covid-19 has landed us in.

Does this really matter? Well, yes, I believe it does because sometime down the road, maybe in weeks, maybe in the months ahead we will want to attract prospective candidates to the vacant post of Priest-in-Charge to our Great Waltham with Ford End Parish.

What better advertisement can we display to be able to say we have three Churchwardens, a strong Parochial Church Council and very supportive communities all working together to ensure the church, and I don't just mean the buildings, does not fall apart.

Some churches in surrounding areas have either not yet opened or only just beginning to recommence services. We have been open for private prayer for many months and church services since the 5th July.

The churches, to some, are the rocks which they lean on to pursue their faith, to others they are simply an integral part of the village landscape and perhaps there are those who don't even think about them as they pass by.

Whatever your view, I like to think that they are worth supporting in whichever way the community feels comfortable to offer just like our two schools, village halls, the Legion, shops and pubs. All strands of village life interwoven with each other that makes this area such a great place to live.

Keep well, keep safe
Roger Bearman, Chair – GW with FE
Parochial Church Council
Telephone 07740880247



Church of England Services November 2020

Sunday 1st	11.00am 10am – 6pm 2pm – 5pm	Service at Great Waltham Open for Prayer Chignals Open for prayer at Ford End
Sunday 8th	9.15am 10.45am 10.55am	Remembrance Service at Ford End Remembrance Service Great Waltham Remembrance at Chignals
Sunday 15th	9.30am 11.00am	Service at Ford End Outdoor Service at Chignals, please bring own chair
Sunday 22nd	9.30 am 10am – 6pm	Service at Ford End Open for Prayer Chignals
Sunday 29th	10.30am 2pm – 5pm	Joint Advent Service Great Waltham Open for prayer at Ford End

In addition to the above Ford End Church will also be open for private prayer every Thursday 10am to midday. Where possible, please phone Sheila Bearman 07977 077945 in advance of attending Ford End Church Sunday services, to help with social distancing planning.

Great Waltham Church is open for private prayer by appointment only. Please contact the co-ordinator on 07730 518484 to book a time and day.

Given the ongoing uncertainties about how COVID19 will progress during the coming months the above may be subject to change or restrictions, following national and Church of England guidance. Our primary concern is that worshippers are kept safe so anyone entering Church **MUST** follow the guidelines and the directions given to them by the Stewards and facemasks must be worn.

Facebook

Our online Sunday Services at 10.30am and Wednesday evening soothe your soul night prayer at 8pm are available to be viewed on our Facebook Page Little & Great Churches at Home

Contact: Alison Bates Parish Administrator
Tel: 07957 228467 admin@littleandgreat.org.uk

Ford End Senior Tea

I hope that you are all keeping well. It is still as you know not possible to start up your tea afternoons yet but I will continue to keep in touch with you all.

If there is anything that you need in any way, then do let me know and I will try to sort it for you. Or, if one day you are fed up then give me a ring.

Take care and God Bless you all and keep you safe.

Sheila

News from Great Waltham C of E VC Primary School

We have reached half-term and the children are to be commended for the way they have adapted to the new routines that are in place to keep us all safe. It is so hard to expect children to keep to social distancing rules – especially our younger pupils. They have all been very good at ensuring they keep to the rules



and wash / sanitise their hands at regular intervals. As we near half-term Essex is now placed into Tier 2 of the government guidance for keeping the infection rate down. We all hope that the measures work and things improve.

In school, the children have settled very well, especially our new EYFS pupils. Sadly, they cannot mix with other children yet due to the 'bubbles' in school but they are certainly enjoying each other's company. Y6 children are ready to take up their 'buddy' roles to help the children in their first year in school. We hope they can enjoy some contact time later in the year.

In Collective Worship we have explored themes of New Beginnings, Aspirations, Talents, Good to be Me, Harvest, Faith and Reflections. Collective Worship is currently 'virtual' –

children participating in their classes through a video link. We have shared Bible Stories, ideas, thoughts and said prayers. Four of our classes offered some resources they had used for a class based Harvest Assembly to St Marys and St Lawrence church for their Harvest Service on 18th October. Classes recorded their assemblies on video to share with their families via the 'Google Classroom'.

In lessons, KS1 children are enjoying their topic, 'Incredible Me' and KS2 are learning lots about the Ancient Greeks.

The children are making links from previous learning in the core subjects and concepts they may have forgotten are coming back into focus. Getting used to concentrating and working independently again was a challenge for some pupils but the teachers can see big improvements already.

School Lottery

Remember to buy your lottery tickets! It is a great fundraiser for our school. Please spread the word with friends and family. This is a great fundraising opportunity for us. Tickets are just £1 and you could win many different prizes.

If you would like to join, simply go online and look up 'your school lottery' and search Great Waltham. Please help us spread the word. If we sold 100 tickets per week that would raise £2000 per year to spend on the children.



Click below for more details:

www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/great-waltham-coe-primary-school Stay safe everyone. All at GWPS.

Services & Events at Lt Waltham United Reformed Church NOVEMBER 2020

Contact: Rev Hans Stein 01371 875654 / 07763 169605
Rev Geoffrey Griggs 01245 471990

Please feel free to contact either of these Ministers during these strange times.

We had a very successful Open Air Service on Sunday 13th September attended by 20 people and conducted by Rev Geoffrey Griggs. Our first Service in Church was our Harvest Thanksgiving conducted by Rev Hans Stein on Sunday October 4th with 21 in attendance.

November 8th Remembrance Sunday will be a joint Service with St Martins 10.30am at the War Memorial & 10.45am at Church conducted by Rev Geoffrey Griggs.

November 15th 10.30 am Service led by Rev Hans Stein November 22nd 10.30 am Service led by Rev Hans Stein

Please feel free to join us at any of these services all COVID rules in place. Keep safe

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GREAT WALTHAM CORONAVIRUS VOLUNTEER GROUP

If you are self-isolating, live in Great Waltham, Broads Green or Howe Street, and have no one to do your shopping, fetch prescriptions or do any other errands, or if you would just like a chat, we have a group of reliable and trustworthy volunteers who will be happy to help.

Ring one of the group co-ordinators – Joanna Steel 01245 360918 or Wendy Proctor 01245 360483 or Phil Lilley 01245 360615.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS We will abide by all recommended safety precautions. **Please do NOT share this list with anyone outside the area or post it on social media, due to privacy issues.**

Howe Street features on charity Christmas card range

A portrait of Howe Street's snow-covered bridge has been chosen to feature in a new collection of Christmas cards being sold to raise funds for Danaher Animal Home, near Wethersfield.

The picture, taken by local resident Alison Dewar in 2018, is among a range of nine different cards now on sale exclusively at the charity's shops in nearby Chelmsford, Dunmow and Braintree. Danaher has lost thousands of pounds this year due to the cancellation of fundraising events and reduced income from its shops.

To find out more about where to buy the cards, which also include images by animal artist Ann Edwards, please visit www.danaheranimalhome.org.uk



Is your emergency mobile phone still working??

Many people, especially the older generation, have a simple pay-as-you-go mobile phone that they only use occasionally. Like me, you may have had it for years but find that it comes in handy to stick in your pocket when going out alone so you can summon help in an emergency or to give to a family member to 'tide them over' if they lose their smart phone. During the pandemic, you may not have needed to use this phone and, until an emergency arises, you may not be aware that it has been disconnected!!! - and not only is the SIM disconnected but any money that you had on the card is also lost!!!

I was alerted to the problem by a friend who got stuck at the airport, unable to call her booked taxi – and there are no pay phones. I checked my 'spare' mobile only to discover mine was disconnected too!! Subsequent calls to other friends unearthed lots more people in the same situation. Online searches with our various providers produced little helpful information and most found it necessary to speak to a human – easier said than done! - and involved protracted calls to automated systems and necessitated repeatedly ignoring the messages about 'your phone number is not recognised' until the system finally gave up and connected you to a human – probably on the other side of the world!

Although there was some variation between providers, the main message was that if you have not used the pay-as-you-go phone for a period of time, typically 90 days, it will be disconnected by the provider and any money you had on that SIM is lost! In addition, some providers said that 'your' number could not be reconnected, as it has been reallocated! After a formal complaint and protracted phone call, I managed to get my number reconnected.

Although my number was unchanged and my contacts list was still intact, any credit on the SIM had gone, so my first task was to top it up. My provider's website, like most others, encourages you to top up your pay-as-you-go SIM with a 'Bundle' of calls, texts and data at £10, £20 etc. that need to be renewed monthly – which is very different from the system I used previously where I put £10 on the card and topped it up every year or so!

All is not lost though, for if you ask, or look very hard on the provider's website, you may well find that they offer a 'Lite Tariff' – which provides the same simple voice calls and texts only as in the past; however, it probably requires you to make a call every so many days – the exact number varies with the provider.

Finally, when you top up your credit on your phone, take care to avoid being put onto one of those 'Bundles' requiring monthly renewal by accident. During a recent hospital stay, a friend used her mobile phone more than usual and thought that she had topped up the credit, as usual. However, she now finds that not only has the phone been disconnected but she has received a letter from the provider demanding payment for two month's renewal on her Bundle before it would be reconnected!!! So, if you have a 'spare' mobile phone, check it now and best of luck with getting it reinstated if you find that it no longer works!!

Ann McDevitt

Footpaths – A message from Great Waltham Parish Council:

We are very fortunate to be surrounded by numerous footpaths. The Essex County Council interactive map (see link below) is a good place to check out all the footpaths in the county and you can zoom in on your location.

Select the Public Rights of Way (PROW) asset and it will show you the footpaths, bridleways, and byways.

Many of these are on private property, such as a farmer's field, but the public have a right of way across them. Please respect the rules associated with each type of PROW:

Footpaths - can be traversed by foot, mobility scooter or wheelchair, but only via the designated track. Use by horses, bicycles or vehicles is not allowed.

Bridleways - same as footpaths except users are also permitted to ride or lead a horse and ride bicycles (not motorcycles which are powered two wheeled vehicles).

Byways (also known as Byways Open to All Traffic - BOAT) – are roads with a soft surface that can, in addition to horses and pedestrians, be used by road-legal vehicles – i.e., the same rules as standard highways apply requiring tax, insurance and MOT. Under-age or banned drivers, non-road-legal scramblers & quad bikes are not allowed on BOATs.

Misuse of any of these by motorised vehicles is an offence under Section 34 of the Road Traffic Act and should be reported to the police. Misuse by other means, such as horses being ridden on a footpath, comes under the trespass laws and lies with the landowner.

For more information, visit:

<https://www.essexhighways.org/getting-around/public-rights-of-way/prow-interactive-map.aspx>

Great Waltham Royal British Legion Club



Gifts ❄️ Crafts ❄️ Drink ❄️ Santa

Sunday 22nd November
10am - 2pm

With over 20 stalls spread across our Club you are sure to find the perfect Christmas gift. Christmas will not be cancelled! Our club ethos is one of family and community, so join us for a day of shopping and festive cheer. There is no better way to kick start the season



❄️ Covid compliant, social distancing measures in place ❄️



Santa Grotto

12pm-3pm £2 per child

The Children's Society



Well done to Gill Mitchell from Howe Street, who raised over £400 for The Children's Society with a box collection.

The Hundred Parishes Society

Since March, getting out in the countryside has been greatly encouraged.

Successive generations have shaped this fertile land and, profiting from its production, many constructed beautiful buildings that reflected pride in their locality. Today, a significant number of these are listed buildings. Our rich architectural tapestry is brilliantly recorded in *The Hundred Parishes: An Introduction*, available by mail order from the Society's website or from local bookshops and Tourist Information Centres.

Museum collections of assorted artefacts and documents add another dimension to the human history of the area. Saffron Walden Museum opened in 1835 and houses a real treasure trove of historical and other material relating to the local area. Smaller museums hold collections of agricultural implements, local artefacts and archive material. These include the Grade II* building of the Forge Museum in Much Hadham, housing a collection of metal tools and striking medieval wall paintings, while Ashdon Village Museum has exhibits about life in the 20th century. We look forward to the time when our museums can safely reopen.

Meanwhile, we can enjoy our heritage and celebrate the past by continuing to explore outdoors. With regular additions of new walks to the Society's website, we can use these descriptive routes, some as short as 1 mile, to explore the cultural landscapes that make up the Hundred Parishes. Tricia Moxey, Trustee.

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Great Waltham Village Hall

The Annual General Meeting of Great Waltham Village Hall, postponed from May because of the restrictions on meetings in consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic, was held on 30 September 2020 with nine in attendance observing social distancing. The Chair of Trustees, David Chapman, outlined significant improvements to the premises and hire spaces since the 2019 AGM and the challenges of the Covid19 Emergency since March 2020. The relocation of the Parish Council office to the Village Hall and the Council's hire of parking spaces for weekday public use had provided a valuable new income stream which, together with Preschool's continued presence through the Emergency Period, the government's £10,000 Covid19 grant and a trustee policy of financial prudence, had safeguarded the viability of the Village Hall as confirmed by the Treasurer's report. The Chair announced that CCTV would shortly be installed to help combat increasing vandalism and unauthorised parking, and a grant application had been made to Essex County Council to part fund the refurbishment of toilets, the creation of an accessible toilet and additional storage facilities.

Retiring as trustee after 8 years, a gift was presented to Jo Palmer with thanks for her dedication and energy; under her chairmanship the Village Hall premises and bookings had greatly improved and the trustees were able to look forward with confidence that the Village Hall would continue in normal times as a valuable community asset.

David Chapman and Geri Roe were re-elected and Heather Hollamby was elected as trustees. Michael Proctor and Laura Mitson were appointed representative trustees.

Finally, thanks were given to volunteers and supporters who provide essential help to keep the Village Hall going. If you are interested in supporting your community hall please email greatwalthamvillagehall@gmail.com or comment on our Facebook page, you will be warmly welcomed.

Great Waltham Parish Council

Clerk, W Adshead-Grant, Great Waltham Village Hall, South Street, Great Waltham, Essex CM3 1DF Tel 07880 717329 clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk

The following is a summary extract (by Mike Steel – Chair) of the Parish Council Meetings of **22nd September 2020**. The full and approved minutes are published on the Parish Council Notice boards and at the Parish Website <https://e-voice.org.uk/greatwalthamparish/>

The council considered how to best and quickly address a number of recreation equipment defects and agreed that the Recreation Committee Chair (in conjunction with the Chair and Clerk) can proceed with repairs or replacement to junior goalposts, fence and gate repairs, Tower Ladder and base repairs, and swing seat replacement. The need to get 3 quotes for each item was suspended, if individually under £500.

After discussion, the Parish Council decided that the litter Pick can proceed in Great Waltham and Howe Street on 17th and 18th October, provided the pickers complied with current Covid-19 regulations. The Parish Council believe that this is possible and recommend that all appropriate PPE and safety conditions are met.

The ECC Cllr confirmed that a grant of £1,000, from the Locality Fund, had been approved. The funds will be used for picnic seating and benches on the planned woodland walk in Ford End.

GWPC considered the request to clarify the regulations and byelaws of public rights of way. It was agreed to publish an article in the Parish News pointing to the ECC website that shows the various footpaths and bridleways and explaining the difference between them.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held **19:00 Monday 16th November 2020**, with joining details included in the agenda, which will be published on the Parish website and notice boards before the meeting.

We've got this in the bag!



So, despite the pandemic, volunteers from the local community ensured litter and other waste doesn't become an epidemic in our Parish.

The biannual event is organised by Great Waltham Parish Council, ensuring safety and insurance and supplying equipment.

It was wonderful to have both seasoned and new helpers this year, doubling the number of previous years' volunteers, including Parish councillors.

The GWPC wants to say a very BIG thank you to all of you who came and spent a couple of hours getting the village spick and span. In total over 20 bags and other items were collected from Great Waltham with more being collected in Howe Street by local volunteers.

Further clean ups will take place in Ford End and North End.

Cllr Jo Palmer

Pictured are: Alex Bennion with mum Liz and volunteer Paul Jarrett.

Thank you for all of the contributions to this edition of Great Waltham Parish News. Please send your contributions for the next issue, together with any enquiries or advertising requests, by e-mail to: gwparishnews@gmail.com.

The last date for inclusion in the joint December/January issue is November 19.