

Parish News

Great Waltham Ford End Howe Street Littley Green North End



Winter 2020/21



Great Waltham and Ford End Remembrance Commemoration



The Parish Council, Church and British Legion had planned a Covid Tier 2 compliant event at the two war memorials followed by services in the Churches. Unfortunately, at the last minute, the new lockdown restrictions imposed from 5th November discouraged gatherings at the memorials and closed the churches for services. Instead, the Parish Council asked the wreath layers to lay their wreaths and poppies individually, at a time when they could ensure they complied with the new regulations, and still show their appreciation of those who made the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom. The multitude of poppies and wreaths laid at the memorials meant that the British Legion were still able to collect much needed funds. I know that many of you were disappointed not to have our usual ceremony but let's hope we return to normal by next November. Mike Steel, Great Waltham Parish Council Chair.



Roger Bearman adds: "Thank you to all Ford End residents who donated towards the £60.00 raised for the Royal British Legion collection on Sunday 8th and Wednesday 11th November. The donations have been sent to RBL Poppy Appeal."



Christmas Tree Trail ~ Sat 5th & Sun 6th December *Bringing Christmas cheer to the village!*

The Community Network is inviting you to take part in a **Christmas Tree Trail** around the village on the weekend of **5th and 6th December**.

Decorate a tree or bush that you have in your front garden, or dig out an old artificial tree or buy a real one. The decorations can be anything you like - glitzy, natural, homemade, traditional or modern - whatever! Switch your tree lights on by 3pm on the Saturday and Sunday to delight the passers-by.

We will put up posters and provide maps of a suggested route. Email Joanna Steel (joanna.2.steel@btinternet.com) if you'd like to take part. And if you and your family are looking for something to do on a miserable December afternoon, grab a map from Walthambury Stores, (*open Sat 7-5, Sun 8-1*) put on your coat and scarf and maybe get a takeaway hot chocolate and have a stroll round. **Sounds good!**

Happy Christmas to all our readers. Thank you to all the volunteers who help to produce and deliver the Parish News and the advertisers for their support.

From the Vicarage

Christmas in a pandemic

Despite what you might have heard, Christmas has not been cancelled! Whether or not we are able to gather for worship, Christians all over the world will celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, God with us.

The Advent themes of darkness and light seem especially relevant this year. 2020 has felt like a journey through the dark, with us fumbling our way along an unmapped road. We will all have had moments of anxiety and uncertainty. Some will have felt loneliness, fear and sorrow, or experienced illness and loss.

But despite all difficulties, there have been moments of light in the darkness. In our pared down lives many of us have become more aware of what is really important to us. We found a sense of togetherness, even when we have had to be apart.

The Christmas Gospel (John 1:5) tells us 'the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it'. Jesus comes as the light of the world. We don't know the date Jesus was born but it seems appropriate that we celebrate Christmas when the weather is coldest and nights are longest.

By a cosmic coincidence, on the longest night of this year, 21 December, there will be a rare event between Jupiter and Saturn - their closest conjunction since 1623. The two heavenly lights will almost converge, becoming a single bright light. The 'star' the Magi followed to Bethlehem might have been a similar planetary conjunction.

When you look up at the night sky on 21 December, the light from Jupiter will have taken about 50 minutes to reach you, and the light from Saturn about 85 minutes. The Andromeda galaxy, the furthest object visible with the naked eye, is 2.5 million light years distant. Celestial distances are mind-boggling. But the light of the stars still reaches us, bringing hope and joy to those who look up.

We may be socially distanced, but God is with us.

Why not put a Christmas star in your window during December? It may remind you that God is with us even in this difficult time - the light shining in the darkness.

(Cont'd to next page)



Church of England Services* December 2020 & January 2021

Sunday 6th	9.30am	Communion service at Ford End
Sunday 13th	11.00am	Communion Great Waltham
Sunday 20th	9.30am	Communion Service at Ford End
	11.00am	Communion Service at Chignals
	3.00pm	Nine Lessons and Carols Great Waltham
Thursday 24th	3.00pm	Crib Event at Ford End Church
Christmas Eve	11.30pm	Midnight Mass at Great Waltham
Friday 25th	9.30am	Christmas Day Service at Ford End
Christmas Day		
Sunday 27th	10.30am	Joint Service at St Mary's Great Leighs

January

Sunday 3rd	11.00am	Communion Great Waltham
Sunday 10th	10.00am	Communion at Ford End
Sunday 17th	11.00am	Communion Great Waltham
	11.00am	Communion at Chignals
Sunday 24th	10.00am	Communion Ford End
Sunday 31st	10.30am	Joint Communion Little Waltham

*Please use the Eventbrite booking system if you can, to book a place for all December services at Great Waltham and Ford End Churches. See the Church website www.greatwalthamchurch.org.uk for more details.

If you are unable to use Eventbrite please phone Sheila Bearman 07977 077945 in advance for Ford End services and Jo Pritchard 07980 292696 for Great Waltham services.

Church Opening Times for Personal Prayer:

- Ford End Church will be open for private prayer every Thursday 10am to midday and Sundays 2pm to 5pm when there is no morning service.

- 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.

- St Nicholas Chignal Smealey 10am-3pm on Sundays

- St John the Evangelist Lt Leighs 8-2pm on Saturdays & 2-8pm Tuesdays

Given the on-going 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

Christmas is not cancelled!

The residents of Great Waltham always know when Christmas is coming because the star appears on top of the Church and the oak tree in Banbury Square is also lit up. Being under Covid restrictions means that we have to be careful this year to make sure we comply with them. I would like to say thank you to my usual "star" team (Peter, Peter, Steve and Alli) who help me put up the star – it's not a straightforward task and this year done with masks as well as hard hats. Also thank you to the Community Network for funding a new set of lights as the old ones failed to switch on. And thanks to Joanna for helping me wind the new lights on to the star. Thanks to the Parish Council for putting up the Banbury Square lights and Catriona and Iain for supplying the electricity. Sadly, there won't be a "switch on" ceremony this year.

A Merry Christmas to all and I hope somehow, we all manage to achieve some sort of normality next year. **Mike Steel**



North End Defibrillator



North End villagers have been raising money to purchase a defibrillator via monthly coffee mornings, harvest supper, summer fete etc., for some time. Although they were more than half way there, the pandemic put a stop to all such fundraising events. Thanks to a generous donation from Great Dunmow Round Table, the village now has sufficient funds to go ahead with the purchase of the

defibrillator. It will be housed in the telephone box on the green, which is a Listed Building!

We must clean up and paint the phone box prior to installation of the defibrillator. AkzoNobel (Dulux Decorating Centre), a member of the British Coatings Federation, has kindly donated the correct undercoat and red paint.

Christmas Eve 3~5pm

Book your family slot to see Baby Jesus

Ten minute family slots will be available to book in Ford End Church to visit the Church to see our Christmas Tree, Lights, Music and look at Baby Jesus in the crib. The children will be given a small gift to take home.

It probably will not be quite the same for children this year but this will hopefully be something a little different to look forward to in the village.

Please book your slot with me, Sheila Bearman on 07740 880247, either by phone call or text and please include how many children in your family bubble.

Ford End Church also send wishes for a Happy and Healthy Christmas to all.

Ford End Garden Club

The Garden Club would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas however you celebrate and a healthy and peaceful New Year. We look forward to seeing all our friends and visitors at the next meeting of the Garden Club, hopefully in the not too distant future. In the meantime carry on gardening and remember the roses will bloom again.

(Cont'd from page 2)

This Christmas may be different to the one we expected. We may have to do it more quietly this year. But that very first Christmas crept in quietly. Christ the King was born in humble surroundings to a teenage mother with few witnessing his birth. As that star shone over the stable, most of the world went on their way unawares that God had come to earth. This Christmas will still happen. Christ will still be with us.

Alleluia!
The Rev'd Sandra Sykes

Services & Events at Lt Waltham United Reformed Church December 2020/January 2021

Contact: Rev Hans Stein 01371 875654 / 07763 169605
Rev Geoffrey Griggs 01245471990

Please feel free to contact either of these Ministers during these strange times. Sadly all services were again cancelled during November but we were able to have a very shortened gathering at the War Memorial in the village attended by 26 adults & four children.

Dec 6th	Moira Walker	10.30am
Dec 13th	Rev Hans Stein	10.30am
Dec 20th	Rev Geoffrey Griggs	10.30 am
Dec 24th	Rev Hans Stein	6 pm (Christmas Eve)

Jan 3rd	Rev Geoffrey Griggs	10.30 am
Jan 10th	Rev Geoffrey Griggs	10.30 am

All of these services will be subject to COVID regulations and advice.

Parish Directory

To advertise in the Parish News, please contact us by email on gwparrishnews@gmail.com

If it needs **PRINTING**
 from Stationery & Leaflets to a Bespoke Glossy Brochure
GIVE US A CALL
 Fast • Efficient • to Budget



T: 01787 479479
E: info@fmlitho.co.uk
W: www.fmlitho.co.uk

L. BARTRUPT & SON LTD
 Lavenders Farm
 Ford End
 Chelmsford
 Essex CM3 1LL



Locally grown selected potatoes
 (25kg bags)

Available in season
 October to April

Red, Whites
 & King Edwards

ALWAYS OUTSTANDINGLY GOOD VALUE
 Free local delivery for larger orders

Telephone: 01245 237371



**Structural Steelwork,
 Steel Fabrication, Gates,
 Railings and anything
 for the garden**

Tel: 01245 237233

enquiries@plesheyforge.co.uk

Unit 20, Warners Farm,
 Main Road, Howe Street
 Chelmsford CM3 1BL

www.plesheyforge.co.uk

Free Quotes



EVERETT PAINTING

- INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
- WALLPAPERING
- JUST OVER 20 YRS
- FULLY INSURED
- ONLINE PORTFOLIO

TEL 07595 534872
www.everettpainting.biz



STEPHENS CHIMNEY SWEEP

- Sweeping • Stove Installations
- Fully Insured • CCTV
- Stove Servicing • Smoke Test
- Nest Removals • Flexi Inner Installs
- Advice Service • Cows Fitted

Tel. 0800 112 3600
Mob. 07918 708 626

 www.stephenschimneysweep.co.uk



Willsher and Son
 Electrical Contractors

- All work insured and certificates issued where applicable
- No job too small, free estimates
- Based in Great Waltham
- Reliable family business

07970 759565
info@willsherandson.co.uk
www.willsherandson.co.uk
 or find us on Facebook

Electrical Safety Register


CHELMSFORD PLUMBING AND HEATING LIMITED

RELIABLE FAMILY RUN BUSINESS 

BOILER SERVICES, BREAKDOWNS AND REPAIRS 

NEW BOILERS AND HEATING SYSTEMS 

ELECTRICAL WORK UNDERTAKEN 

T: 01245 478 588
 W: WWW.CPH.UK.NET

The Rose & Crown
 between Little Waltham and Great Waltham



A Great Little Pub and Restaurant with good food, and a warm and friendly atmosphere

Open All Day 

Ben and his staff will be delighted to welcome you. If you want to ensure a table is available

Telephone 01245 360359
www.roseandcrowngreatwaltham.co.uk

Walthamby Stores
 Great Waltham, Essex



POST OFFICE Post Office opening times

Monday to Friday 9am to 5.30pm
 (open lunch hours)
 Saturday 9am to 12.30pm

When visiting the Post Office, why not use the shop? You will find -

Groceries, Fresh Produce, Sausages & Bacon, Newsagent, Stationery, Dry cleaning, Delicatessen, Frozen Food, Greeting Cards, Photocopying, National Lottery, Car Tax

Barrack Lane, Great Waltham
Telephone: 01245 360278

DRISCOLL CLEANING SERVICES



Window Cleaner

01245 360540

YOUR LOCAL COUNTRY STORE




ernest DOE power
where you can buy with confidence

FYFIELD, ONGAR CM5 0NS
 TEL: 01277 899464

Bespoke Blinds

We provide stunning solutions for every home, no matter your style or budget.



TIDMARSH
 Unit 5, Station Yard Industrial Estate, Station Road,
 Chelmsford, Essex, CM3 1ND
 01245 257798
info@tidmarsh.co.uk
www.tidmarsh.co.uk

A & W Gowers Ltd
 Specialist Joinery Manufacturers

A local family run company with many years of experience providing bespoke joinery to trade and private customers.

Conservation, Restoration, Ordinary or Contemporary, we can manufacture and install all types of work.

Windows Fitted Furniture
 Doors Kitchens
 Conservatories Wardrobes
 Gates Bookcases
 Stairs ...and much more

For free friendly advice and estimates please contact us at
www.special-joinery.com
 Howe Street, Great Waltham, Chelmsford
Telephone: 01245 362737
 Now selling eco-friendly stove briquettes as well

JCMSERVICES
 AMENITY AND GROUNDSCAPE

- PADDOCK MAINTENANCE**
- GROUNDS MAINTENANCE**
- TREE MAINTENANCE**

01245 408777
07788 941 501

www.jcm-services.co.uk
james@jcm-services.co.uk

Visit our website for more info

To advertise in the Parish News

please email gwparrishnews@gmail.com

Are you struggling to find the time to get everything done?
Is your life one constant balancing act?
Why don't you let me lighten the load
Let me be your extra pair of hands, helping you create balance in your life



HANDY LITTLE HELPER

Contact Me:
Francesca Bradford
07780614747
fbradford.handylittlehelper@gmail.com
www.handylittlehelper.co.uk
Fully Insured & DBS Checked

FELLAS
hair

Chelmsford Rd, Gt Waltham
Chelmsford CM3 1DE

Tel: 01245 360 024

Brian Honeywood
07771 534 377

HJM Landscapes

- Tree Surgery
- Equine and Stock Fencing
- Domestic Fencing
- Pond Restoration
- Landscape Design

01245922015
info@hjmlandscapes.co.uk
www.hjmlandscapes.co.uk

Belle's Tails
of Great Waltham
Pet Grooming Spa
located in the centre of the village
1-2-1 Grooming in purpose-built parlour offering a calm and cool environment
Full grooms, Hand Stripping, quick fixes
Spa treatments
City & Guilds level 3 Diploma in Professional Dog Grooming
Canine First Aid trained/Fully insured
Weekend appointments available
07795808790
Bellestails@outlook.com
Follow us on Facebook and Instagram
[@bellestailsofgreatwaltham](https://www.instagram.com/bellestailsofgreatwaltham)

Hilton Hall
South Street
Great Waltham
07501 313321
upawaypreschool.co.uk
upawaypreschool@gmail.com

Looking for a preschool with a large, natural outdoor space and confident, happy children?
Come and visit us!

AD FUEL OILS LTD.
Your local answer!

NOW SELLING LPG AND AdBlue

Commercial and general public welcome with easy access for all cars and vans

Yard sales from A D Fuel Oils Ltd
Barnters Lane, Great Leighs, Nr. Chelmsford, Essex CM3 1GX
Opening Hours: Monday-Friday: 8am - 5pm
Saturday: 8am - 1pm
01245 362616 • www.adfueloils.co.uk

Products available for collection or delivery:

• Petrol	• Paraffin	• Barrel dispensers
• Diesel	• AdBlue	• Rotary pumps
• Kerosene	• LPG	• Boiler additive (Additive for Aga's)
• Gas Oil/Red Diesel	• 20L containers	
• PBO	• 205L containers	

WIGGLE WAGGLE GROOMING

1-1 attention in a stress free environment for your fur baby

City & Guilds qualified, insured and dog first aid trained

We provide maintenance and full grooms, which include health checks, ear cleaning, nail trimming and sanitary area cleared

All Breeds, sizes and ages welcome

Lawn Hall Chase, Dunmow, Essex CM6 3PL
Call: 07545 185939
Email: jenny@wigglegagglegrooming.co.uk
[@wigglegagglegrooming.co.uk](https://www.facebook.com/wigglegagglegrooming)

Whether you are religious or not, would prefer a burial or ash interment, a service or a wake afterwards, Old Park Meadow can help.

Old Park MEADOW
NATURAL BURIAL GROUND

Tel: 01245 806332
www.oldparkmeadow.co.uk

Coppice Lane, North End, behind the Butchers Arms Pub, Chelmsford, Essex, CM6 3PL

Wood Automotive

MOT's, Vehicle Servicing
Tyres, Vehicle Diagnostics
Air Conditioning Repair
Clutches, Welding
Free Local Collection

"We look forward to seeing you and your car"
Neil and Sarah

Unit 1 Walthambury Farm
Pleshey Road, Great Waltham
CM3 1AZ
www.woodautomotive.co.uk
01245 361180

Art & Craft Classes

A range of Sketching, Craft and Art courses suitable for everyone - ranging from evening classes, half days from 3-12 weeks, up to a full day for 8 weeks. Covid safe classes.

Upstairs Studio in Great Waltham Village Hall, CM3 1DF

Check out our website for details - www.TheArtAndDesignStudio.co.uk
Or call 07866 608646
See you there!
Cathy & Shelly

Michelle Dulieu PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography Services

Do you need - Digital Images to enhance your online presence - or - Prints and Wall Art for lasting family memories?

Your Local photographer offering a bespoke service

- Portraits
- Events
- Business
- Headshots
- Product
- Brand

T: 07775 664785
E: michelle@michelledulieuphotography.com
W: www.michelledulieuphotography.com

Jayne's Upholstery Classes Ltd

10 week termly upholstery classes
held at
Little Waltham and Great Totham

For more information contact Jayne on 07881816889 or email jayne.interiors@googlemail.com

Great Waltham Parish Community Care Group

The aim of the group is to provide short term and ongoing help to meet the needs of elderly local residents for whom there is no statutory provision.
Predominately this will involve providing transport to doctor or hospital appointments.
If you require the services of the group, please call our co-ordinators, who are:
Gill Mitchell 01245 362215
Wendy Proctor Tel. 01245 360483
John Lattimore, Chairman Tel. 01245 363818

Thank you to John Bell

Everyone at the Parish News would like to say a special thank you to John Bell, who has recently stepped down from his role as one of the delivery team members for Howe Street. John's contribution to the News (and indeed to the wider village) has been unstinting over many years and we are very grateful for all his support.

Thanks also to Paul Church for ably taking on an additional delivery round and enabling us to continue to reach as many parishioners as possible.

Exciting Changes at Ford End CE VC School



The term has started well at Ford End Primary School. We have had a good attendance from all our families in often difficult and challenging circumstances. School is different and presents its own set of problems in trying to keep children in their 'bubbles' whilst keeping school as normal as possible. As always, the staff have been brilliant in supporting our children and their families.

On December 1st, Ford End Primary School will become a member of the Life Education Trust (LIFE). After researching many multi academy trusts (MATs) and the possibility of federating with other schools, we realised that LIFE matched the ethos and values that we hold so dear. With a reduction in funding for small schools coming into force in 2022, we realised we could not continue to stay as we were and would need the support of either another school or a MAT. After meeting with Julian Dutnall, LIFE CEO, it was agreed by staff, governors and our school community, that LIFE was the way forward.

LIFE believes that 'Learning is for Everyone', and through the breadth of specialist services and education expertise, offers high academic achievement and outstanding leadership support. Ford End will become the 7th school in the Trust.

The values of the Trust are strong and are evident in all their schools and these are:- **Courageous Optimism, Boundless Creativity and Heartfelt Compassion.**

Every member of the LIFE community is encouraged to champion a can-do attitude, stimulate innovative thinking and embrace difference and

individuality. LIFE is devoted to supporting whole schools, from the pupils to the Headteacher and wants to empower school leadership teams and teachers to enhance the quality of education for their pupils.

The Trust has a broadly Christian ethos but recognises and welcomes those of any faith and none.

Talking bench - Covid memories

When we are back to "normal," I would like to record people's memories of life in the parish during this difficult year, to go on Great Waltham's talking bench by the war memorial. Before we all forget how things have been for us and how we felt, you might like to jot down a few notes. You may have happy memories of cycling with the kids on quiet country roads; long, sunny walks in the countryside; gardening; working from home. But you may also remember the problems of home-schooling and teenagers' school exams; missing friends and family, especially elderly family members in residential homes; closed pubs, cafes and shops; cancelled holidays; struggling financially or worrying about your job or your business; being unable to visit a sick relative in hospital; giving birth without your partner; holding a funeral with only 15 people present; postponing a wedding; losing a loved one to Covid. As we go into another uncertain period, please jot down your feelings about the next few months.

I will advertise again when I am finally able to visit people in their homes to make recordings. Meanwhile, keep safe and well.

Joanna Steel Joanna.2.steel@btinternet.com.

Senior Ladies Teas

I would like to wish you all a really **Happy Christmas**. It may well be different from every other Christmas but I do hope that you can all still enjoy this special time.

When we meet again next year we will be able to chat over a cuppa and cake and I really look forward to seeing you all. Maybe we will have to have an extended time so that we can catch up with all these past months.

Please take care and God Bless you all at this wonderful time.

Please do not forget that if you need anything at all then do give me a ring.

Sheila 01245 237335.

Little Waltham and Great Notley Patients Participation Group (PPG)

Purpose of a PPG

- To give practice staff and patients the opportunity to discuss topics of mutual interest in their own practice.
- A forum for patients and staff to improve and develop services within the practice by co-production.
- To provide an opportunity for patients to make positive and constructive suggestions/ideas about the practice and specific medical conditions as an 'expert' or 'experienced patient'.
- To encourage health education activities within the practice.
- To involve further patients from the wider population.
- To involve patient participation in future commissioning of Health Provision.

The PPG committee has made the decision to delay the Annual Patients Open Meeting that usually meets in October at the Great Notley Surgery until **27th January 2021**. This delay is as a result of current Government guidelines that limit the number of people who can meet together.

The PPG Annual Open Meeting usually offers an opportunity for patients of Little Waltham and Great Notley Surgeries to 'have their say' and hear updates on any recent changes or developments to the services offered.

It is not clear at the moment whether this meeting will be able to go ahead 'face-to-face' or whether it will need to be online. If you plan to attend, please contact the PPG email: lw.gnpatientgroup@gmail.com to express your interest in attending.

News from Great Waltham C of E VC Primary School

The children have returned to school after half term at the same time the second lockdown was implemented. Thankfully, schools remain open this time. Sadly, we are seeing cases in local schools. One Chelmsford Primary School recently shut entirely due to multiple cases.

Collective Worship has focused on the British Values, Strength, The Bible, Symbols - always lovely to share with the children. Each class is able to attend these whole school assemblies via a video link.

In class, EYFS have settled brilliantly and are really enjoying playing and learning. Their current topic is

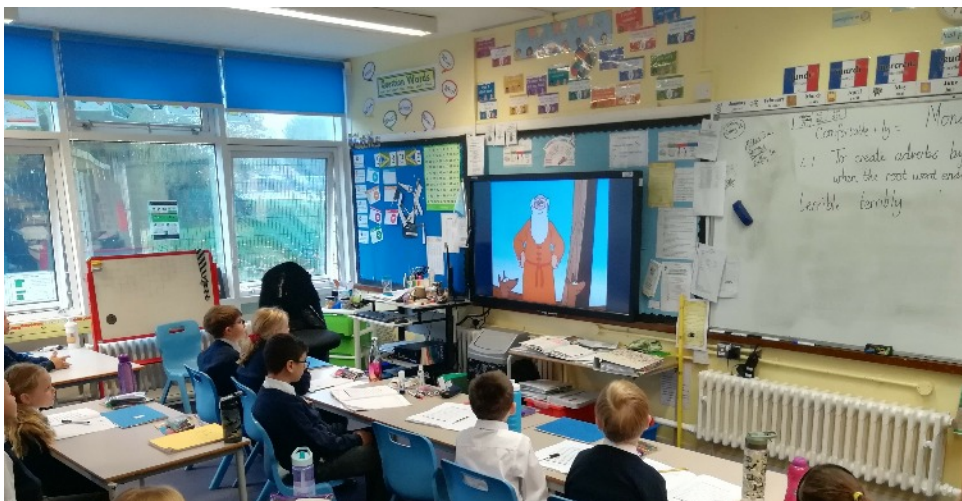
Celebrations and they made lanterns to learn about Diwali. KS1 children are learning about Special People, with a focus on Florence Nightingale - quite apt that they are learning about nursing in the current climate.

KS2 pupils' topic is the Ancient Greeks, where they have learned about Gods and Goddesses, the difference between Sparta and Athens and made Greek pots to name three activities they have participated in. Y6 are enjoying learning about the human circulatory system in science.

The 2nd half of the autumn term would normally see the children prepare to share Christmas with the community - including the nativity play at church, helping with the Community Network Christmas Concert, our Carol Service at church and the Christingle Service. Sadly, due to obvious restrictions these events cannot take place. The classes, however, are planning on re-telling the Christmas Story and sharing these via a video link. We will have a Christmas Service in classes via our Google Classroom video link. Christmas dinner this year will be in 6 sittings!

The children enjoyed Careers' Week at school, the original plan was to invite adults in to talk about their careers. Thankfully, brave parents recorded videos to share with the children, including nursing and banking.

As we move towards December, we will run Enterprise Week - each class will be given £1.50 per pupil and the class' challenge is to make Christmas decorations ready to sell so that the children learn about planning, production, sales etc. They hope to make a profit to spend on classroom resources! Take care all.



Update on Ford End Recreation Ground

Following a period of public consultation, the work has now commenced with regard to the tree planting at the Ford End Recreation Ground. Unfortunately, due to the second national lockdown, the date for the tree planting has had to be rescheduled to February 8th. This date is obviously subject to further change.

The Parish Council will be publishing information on how local residents can get involved with the planting nearer the time. Social distancing measures will need to be in place which means we will be looking for volunteers to commit to a set period of time and work in small manageable groups. The Parish Council are working with Chelmsford City Council and will provide further details for how residents can register to take part.

For the time being, the area which has been designated for trees has been treated in order for the grass to be killed off ready for planting in the new year. The treatment used was animal and wildlife friendly.

Information on the public consultation and the approved design plans can be found at <https://e-voice.org.uk/greatwalthamparish>

Calling all contributors

If you have changed your email address, please send the new one to gwparishnews@gmail.com so we can update our records. We are seeing an increasing number of undelivered emails when we send out deadline reminders and would hate for you to miss the chance to contribute.

There's a whole 'lot' of growing going on!

There's 'a lot' to be said for having an allotment and we are pleased to say our Parish allotments are 'growing' with newcomers.

This year has seen a significant increase in plot uptake on both sites and there's room for more. The allotments are provided by the Parish Council with sites at Brookmead (behind the shop) and Bury Lane. The rent is very reasonable and the Brookmead site also has the 'hut' for purchasing supplies (managed by GW Hort Soc).

We have welcomed complete newbies, experienced growers, gardeners and a plethora of ages. Newcomer Kyria, 23, says: "I'd always loved the idea of an allotment and lockdown gave me the opportunity to explore growing all the things I have, but also gave me a place to be with my own thoughts and learn about the incredible world we live in through watching everything grow."

It has been great to see villagers who may never have crossed paths before do so. Our allotments were and are a safe place to be and we share knowledge, ideas and produce too.

Renting an allotment plot has so many benefits, mentally, physically and socially. It doesn't have to be a seasonal hobby either, Autumn activity is taking place with garlic, onions and broad beans being planted and sown, and beds prepared for springtime too.

For further details and availability, email clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk or myself, Jo Palmer, allrjop@gmail.com

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 **19th October and 16th Nov 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/>

19th Oct - The ECC Cllr explained the move to Covid Tier 2 – least economic damaging actions whilst aiming to get R below 1. The City Cllr stated that he was trying to get the police to be more definitive on what residents can do to report Anti-Social Behaviour so that the police will take action.

The PC is unaware of the view of CGR residents on its green spaces and their use for car parking. The area is owned by City Council and the PC could only lobby for its preferred position. It was agreed that a door-to-door survey would be conducted when Covid regulations allowed.

Remembrance Sunday – Covid restrictions require that this is run by the Local Authority. The PC are keen to organise a “Covid compliant” event at the GW war memorial on the basis that it is invitation only and undertakes the required Govt risk assessment. (this was subsequently cancelled because of the new lockdown)

Signposts that point motorists to M11/Stansted from Sheepscote roundabout via the A130 were put in by the LHP some years ago. These were removed in recent upgrade thus diluting an initiative to point M11 traffic to bypass Ford End. The PC resolved to write to the ECC Cabinet Member to ask that the signs be reinstated.

The FE Cllrs had consulted with residents and agreed to create a Carbon neutral woodland walk scheme on the recreation ground. Planting date 27th November. The event is being advertised for volunteers. Whips – 600 to 700 would be provided by City Council along with planting resource. It was also thought that more mature trees would be provided but the PC would need to purchase these at £150 per tree (including maintenance). The will purchase such additional trees. Note – the area will be fenced (as part of the contribution from City Council) to restrict wildlife damage to the trees but is still open to the public.

16th Nov – Cllr Bloomfield offered her resignation as she is moving out of the area. The PC gave a vote of thanks for her service.

The ECC Cllr stated that the traffic surveys that had been done at Ford End would be repeated further out at the Northern end. Footpath 88 would have signs installed, but the use by horses is a trespass issue and the PC would pass onto the landowner. The City Cllr reported on Anti-Social Behaviour in GW – call being set up with CHP, City Council ASB & Police to determine what more can be done to address frequent incidents. City Council Covid-19 - essential services continue to operate. Children’s play areas remain open. Cafés in parks remain open for takeaway. CVS support will continue and there are five foodbanks in operation in the Chelmsford area.

Further meeting with residents taken place on the Ford End woodland walk and the scheme will still go ahead. Planting is delayed until 8th Feb due to Covid-19 restrictions.

The 21/22 budget of £53,180.40 was agreed representing a 6% increase. The impact on individual council rates depends on the taxation basis (current number of dwellings). The Reserves are allocated to specific projects except for a £17,000 General Reserve retained to cover unexpected costs.

The GW MUGA will proceed following a 50% CIF grant. Also a new set of junior goals will be installed with sufficient sockets to enable the goal posts to be moved to avoid wear patterns. The next phase of the improvements to the Changing Rooms (henceforth to be called the “Pavilion”) was approved comprising a single accessible toilet, a kitchen area and a large single open space.

Review of the data supplied by Highways did not show a speed problem through Broads Green but did determine that the HGV volumes were around 1% and the LGV/MGV around 11%. The survey is not able to determine whether this is traffic traversing the hamlet, or accessing it. On the basis of these volumes it is highly unlikely that a weight restriction will be granted but we may be able to get “Unsuitable for Large Vehicles” signs.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held in **February 2021 date TBD**, details on the agenda, which will be published on the Parish website and notice boards before the meeting.

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.**

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 February 2021 issue is January 21st.

gwparishnews@gmail.com