

Parish News

Great Waltham Ford End Howe Street Littley Green North End

April 2017

Say Bonjour to our French 'twins' Plea for host families to come forward

On 23rd July, 60 French people from our twinned town of Ceyrat will arrive in Great Waltham to stay for a week with local residents. Coach trips to beautiful places and exciting activities for the youngsters will be organised by Great Waltham Twinning.

Could you host some French visitors?

What if you can't speak French? It doesn't matter – the French like to practise their English. And if you have children at school who are learning French, this is a great opportunity for them to hear day-to-day French being spoken – and maybe have a go!

What does a host have to do? Provide breakfast, packed lunches and dinner on four of the evenings, and a bed. Don't worry if you only have a tiny spare bedroom - French people are used to English houses! Your guests will go off on a day trip every day, paid for by the Twinning. (You can go too, if you like, but you will need to pay for yourself.) That leaves you free to go to work or whatever you need to do.

Who are we? A bunch of boring old fogeys? No! We have teenagers and primary school children in our group, and the rest of us older members aren't so bad. The activities we organise are suitable for all ages.

What's in it for me? Lots of fun, good company, and **next year** it will be our turn to go to France to enjoy their hospitality, good food, good wine, good weather and interesting trips and activities. The visit will be in late July after the schools break up.

See our webpage on www.greatwaltham.org.uk for more info and pictures of last year's trip to Ceyrat. Contact Joanna Steel straightaway. We will be sorting out hosts very soon. Tel: 01245 360918 or email on joanna.2.steel@btinternet.com.



GREAT WALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL ASSEMBLY 2017

The Great Waltham Parish Annual Assembly will be held on Wednesday 24th May 2017 at Great Waltham Village Hall commencing at 8pm.

The Annual Assembly of the Parish is an open meeting for all. The doors will open at 7.30pm and the business part of the meeting will commence at 8pm. This year's theme for the meeting will focus on enhancing the facilities at the Recreation Ground in Great Waltham.

The Agenda and Previous Minutes will be displayed on the Parish Noticeboards in May.

VILLAGE SUMMER EVENTS

The Community Network is putting together a list of summer events run by local groups. It will go in the May Parish News and on posters round the parish.

If your group is running an event from May to August and would like to include it, please email brief details, including name of event, date and time, and location, to joanna.2.steel@btinternet.com by Monday 10th April.

This list will be **in addition to** any more detailed advert organisers may wish to put in the Parish News.

- See page 6 for details of Great Waltham Midsummer Music Festival

From the Vicarage,

I'm writing on one of those lovely days when we get treated to a warm and welcome taste of Spring weather; days that whet the appetite and fill the heart with promise of sunnier days to come.

I've noticed people smiling more readily and there's a definite air of hope around as we slowly emerge from Winter into the freedom of Spring. The daylight hours are increasing and dark short days are beating a steady retreat. But somehow we need to feel the cold blast of Winter to fully appreciate Spring then Summer.

April is a lovely month – so full of promise and life. Easter is just around the corner. When I was a child Easter to me meant roast lamb and time off school, a new dress and shoes, possibly even a straw hat too. It meant painting then rolling boiled eggs down the hill and of course lots of delicious chocolate Easter eggs!

I knew the story of Easter, but going to church wasn't what we did as a family.

Now Easter means much more to me. Christians have travelled through Lent and this month we will journey through Holy week to reach a wonderful celebration on Easter Sunday.

Just as we need to experience Winter to appreciate the return of the sun, it's good to take time out to think about the events of Holy week to feel the joy at Easter.

Chocolate eggs are brilliant – I particularly love the Belgian chocolate ones if you're offering! - but the gift of Easter is much bigger. Why not experience Easter in one of your lovely churches this year? There are services plus The Happening with crafts and a story. Or come along to the Passion Play and see the real Easter story dramatically unfold before your eyes ?

It makes Easter so much more satisfying and meaningful. Like Christmas, this is a gloriously joyful time of the year when God in his Son broke into the darkness and brought light, life and warmth to our world and our hearts.

You might find the kind of joy that lasts so much longer than the aftertaste of even that truly delicious chocolate egg.

Revd Sandra
(curate)

Great Waltham and Ford End Church Services in April

Sun 2nd April	9.30am	Communion	Ford End
	11.00am	Communion	Great Waltham
Sun 9th April	8.00am	Traditional communion	Great Waltham
	9.30am	Communion	Ford End
	11.00am	Communion	Great Waltham
	6.00pm	Passion Play	Great Waltham Duffries Cl.
Mon 10th April	9.00am	Morning Prayer	Great Waltham
	7.00pm	Evening Prayer	Little Waltham
Tues 11th April	9.00am	Morning Prayer	Great Leighs
	7.00pm	Evening Prayer	Ford End
Wed 12th April	9.00am	Morning Prayer	Chignals
	7.00pm	Evening Prayer	Little Leighs
Thurs 13th April	10.00am	Communion	Little Waltham
	6.00pm	Passion Play followed by vigil with Communion	Great Waltham
Fri 14th April	10.00am	The Happening	Great Waltham
	6.00pm	Passion Play	Great Waltham
Sun 16th April	9.30 am	Communion	Ford End
	11.00am	Passion Play & Communion	Gt Waltham
	11.00am	Communion	Chignals
Sun 23rd April	9.30 am	Family Service	Ford End
	11.00am	Communion	Great Waltham
	5.00pm	Evening Space	Great Waltham
Sun 30th April	10.30am	Joint Service	Little Waltham
	12.00pm	Gt Waltham & Ford End APCM	Gt Waltham

Please come along to our Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting to find out about our Vision and results of our church survey.

Contact: Alison Bates Parish Administrator

Tel: 07957 228467

admin@littleandgreat.org.uk

Services and Events at Blackchapel, North End

April 2017

Sun. 2 nd	Family Worship	B Croxton	
Sun. 9 th	Palm Sunday		
	Holy Communion (bcp)	Rev S Bazlinton	
Fri. 14 th	Good Friday	Meditation hour	12.00 noon
Sun. 16 th	Easter Sunday		
	Family Communion (cw)	Rev S Bazlinton	
Wed 19 th	Prayer Meeting	Schoolroom	8pm
Sun. 23 rd	Morning Worship (cw)	J Turton	
Sun 30 th	Morning Worship at Felsted Parish Church		11 am

bcp = Book of Common Prayer; cw = Common Worship

Services start at 10.00 unless otherwise stated

Enquiries: contact P Hamilton on 01371 820095

Services & Events at Lt Waltham United Reformed Church

APRIL 2017

Contact: Rev Geoffrey Griggs 01245 471990

Services each Sunday 10.30am

April 2nd	Rev Geoffrey Griggs	
April 9th	Rev Mark Meatcher Palm Sunday (All Age)	
	6.30pm	Rev G Griggs HC
April 14th	Good Friday 6.00pm	Rev Geoffrey Griggs
April 16th	Rev Geoffrey Griggs	Easter Day HC
April 23rd	Rev Mark Meatcher	
April 30th	Moira Walker	

Thursday April 6th Gossip & Guzzle 11am – 1.00pm

Thursday April 13th Pippins Parent & Toddler Group 9.30am – 11.30am

April 15th 10am Coffee Morning in Schoolroom

Sat April 29th Rambling Group meet in Church Car Park 10.30am

Patchwork Exhibition weekend 7 – 8 – 9th April

News from Great Waltham C of E VC Primary School

Revd Caroline led our Ash Wednesday Collective Worship on March 1. As the children received their 'ashing' they listened to quiet music and could think about the possibilities Lent will bring. Our Life Long Value for the half term is Integrity. Collective Worship themes have included Miracle and Mystery and Jesus is the Son of God. I received a phone call in my assembly to showcase the uniqueness of the human voice and we spoke about other things that are unique, like our fingerprints. The children also heard the story of Jesus healing a leper and feeding the 5000.

World Book Day was fantastic - the variety of costumes from books, mostly by Roald Dahl and Julia Donaldson, were superb. Winners in each class were given some book vouchers.

Well done to the Y5/6 children who braved very cold temperature (close to freezing!) to run in the Cross Country meet at Chelmer Park Thursday 9 February – they all ran very well. The school football team beat St Pius 3-2 and are now top of their league! The school netball team played very well at the High 5 tournament at GBHS, where 22 teams entered. They were split into 5 Pools and we won 3, tied one and lost one game to finish second in the pool

Some children from Class North American competed in a singing competition at Newlands Spring School. They sang a French song called Sur le Pont d'Avignon and were complimented by staff from other schools.

The Science Museum trip was a success and, for the children who had never been to the museum, the awe and wonder was certainly visible. Four hours is not nearly enough time to explore, but the children enjoyed their workshops and especially the Wonderlab.

Class Europe and Asia visited the Cathedral in Chelmsford for 'Cathedral' Day last week. They worked with members of the Diocese Education Team and other schools to explore ideas and discuss RE.

Children in Y2 attended the Infant Music Festival on Tuesday 14 March and worked in collaboration with other schools to perform Eddie the Penguin Saves the World. This is always a great experience for our young children to perform offsite at Christchurch. Some of the Great Waltham children were chosen to narrate, dance and act.

Lastly, we received an Ofsted Inspection on March 8, but the report was not back when this article went to press. We can share news in the next edition of the Parish News.



Up, Up and Away Preschool

Spring means we are able to spend even more time outside in our fabulous garden.

We recently visited The Wilderness Foundation (Chatham Green Project) with our older children, most of whom were accompanied by a parent. It was a fabulous trip and Jenna led a varied experience. Thirty-five of us ate lunch around the campfire, followed by pond dipping, bug hunting and tracked our way to a badger set following poo and paw tracks!

We made bird feeders to take home and enjoyed a nature treasure hunt.

It is wonderful to be able to access this local resource, and the work the foundation do is so important to our environment and future generations. Enabling both children and parents to share in the experience was so worthwhile and we look forward to visiting again in the near future.

Walthambury WI

At our February meeting we had an extremely interesting talk given by Robert Lodge on the history of Lodge coaches and saw many old photographs of Good Easter and some of the old coaches.

Our members who visited London to see the musical 'Girls' had an excellent day, despite battling storm Doris.

Our April meeting is on Tuesday 11 April, when Vicki Greenwood will talk about the Battle against Food Waste.

We have a group meeting with other WIs in our area on 26 April in Great Waltham parish church at 7pm for 7.30. Tickets £6, including light refreshments. The speaker will be Tracey Mackness and there will be a fashion show given by J's Hospice. Also, we will be collecting old spectacles for Vision Aid and there will be a competition for the best pig, no live ones please.

Our meetings are held in the Legion Hall in Great Waltham starting at 8pm and visitors are always welcome.

Great Waltham Horticultural Society

The Society's AGM starts at 8pm on Monday, April 3 at the British Legion hall, when the guest speaker will be Mike Abel.

The Society is always keen to attract new members, so why not come along and meet the team.

And don't forget the annual Plant Sale on Saturday, May 13 from 10am to 12 midday at the Village Hall. Plant donations are always welcome.

A century of birthday wishes

Congratulations to Mrs Ruby Young who celebrated her 100th Birthday recently. Ruby was born and lived in Great Waltham for 98 years and then due to ill health had to go into the Chelmsford Nursing Home, where her family joined her to celebrate this remarkable achievement.

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GREAT WALTHAM MIDSUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL 2017

The programme for the Community Network's first Midsummer Music Festival is starting to take shape with the following events scheduled;

Sun 11th June 'Village Choir & Friends Concert' in Gt Waltham Church

Wed 14th June 'Village Music Quiz' at the Beehive

Sat 17th June 'The Waltham Singers Concert' in Gt Waltham Church

Sat 17th June 'Legionstock' Live Bands at the British Legion

Wed 21st June 'Midsummers Night Music & Dine' at the Green Man

Sat 24th June 'Playgroup Rock' in Gt Waltham Village Hall

Wed 28th June 'Jazz Night' at the Rose & Crown

Fri 30th June 'Waltham Seekers Concert' in Gt Waltham Village Hall

Sat 8th July..... Village Barn Dance' with the Friends of Gt Waltham Church

Sat 8th July ...' The Best of them All' Music Spectacular at the Rose & Crown

The Community Network plans to produce a Festival Brochure for delivery to every home in the Parish during May. This will contain a description of each event with information regarding the venue, timing, tickets and other relevant data. Event organisers are asked to send details for inclusion to gillandandy@tinsleys.me.uk by 8th April. Should a participant like to sponsor the Festival for £20 or have a small box advert to advertise their event in the Festival Brochure for £60, please contact me on 01245 360653 during the first week of April.

Finally, if this article reaches anybody in the village who would like to add an event to the festival programme, please let me know the details as soon as possible to be included in the festival advertising.

To sum up, the Community Network was established to help build and maintain a positive, vibrant community in Gt Waltham for the benefit of all parishioners. Our plans for 2017 include The Art Show, The Christmas Tree Festival & Christmas Pudding Workshop, The Old Codgers Cricket Match, and The Clothes Swap and for the first time The Midsummer Music Festival. If you would like to join the Network Committee to help

They're back!

Ford End Scarecrow Festival 2017

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Plea for someone to run British Legion Coffee Morning

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I have held the reins with a really good team of helpers but now need someone else to take over starting on May 26.

Please call me for more information -
Sue Joyce 01245 360769.





News from Ford End School

Once again, there have been a number of visits, visitors and special events recently representing a range of curriculum areas.

In PE, the year 4s took part in the Superstar competition and did themselves proud, coming fifth.

The year 2 children went to Christ Church to take part in the Infant Music festival which was a performance of Eddie the Penguin Saves the World, where one of our children, Arthur Ford, stepped in confidently on the day to take the part of character who was missing. He did so with great aplomb and no fuss. Well done! The whole of class

two then performed it back in school. For me this is a high point of the Spring term every year as Mrs Greenberg is fantastic at organising the drama and singing so that it is incredibly slick and professional.



During February we had a visit from Valina Bowman–Burns from the Essex Record Office. She came to see how our school had changed since Victorian times; they use a photo of our school as it was in the nineteenth century to help teach other schools about Victorian schools. She was very interesting and it was a wonderful opportunity for all our children to find out more about our past history.

During the week of World Book Day this year, in addition to our dressing up and story reading from volunteers, we had a visit from Katherine Pathak, an author. Hopefully she has inspired some of our children to take their writing that bit further. It certainly gave them the opportunity to see writing as something you do for fun.

Having been at Ford End School for 11 years, I have now decided to retire at the end of the summer term. It has been wonderful to work at such a lovely school and to be part of the community here in Ford End, but the time has come for me to take things a little more easily. Hence a new era for the school (and me) is dawning. Hazel Arnill (Headteacher)

Ford End Gardening Club

We had another excellent and informative talk by John Taylor at our March meeting. This was entitled 'Weeds, our Bane or Bedfellow' and covered how plants developed in glaciers, early farming and plants use for medicinal purposes. We learned that some we think of as native, were brought in by Roman soldiers from as far away as the Middle East. A favourite Medieval plant was fat hen, which used to be sold on the streets of London and is extremely nutritious.

Saturday 29 April is our coffee morning in the Ford End village hall with plant and cake stalls, a raffle and much more.

We are visiting the gardens of Wickham Place Farm on **15 May** and meeting there at 6.30pm.

Little Waltham Gardening Club

The AGM of the Little Waltham Gardening Club was well attended. All committee members agreed to stand for a further year and our Treasurer, Peter Lawson explained the accounts stating they were a little lower than last year due to the Club hosting the Inter Society Quiz. With costs increasing, it was voted that the annual membership would increase to £8.50 with immediate effect.

After the formal proceedings, Sarah Dickie and Julie Everard hosted their own version of 'Pointless' with various questions and a picture round. The winning team were Keith & Jean Hatley, Bill & Lesley Brydon, Marion Lawson and Iris Diver who received a box of chocolates and a Pointless Trophy.

The meeting finished with a reminder of the Flower Arranging workshop to be held at the URC on 23rd March, which will be followed by our annual **Spring Show on Saturday 8th April** held at the **Little Waltham Memorial Hall**. This will be open to non-members and a Schedule is available from Marion Lawson on 01245 361857 and Margaret Williams on 01245 360042.



Dance the night away!

Ford End Dancing Lessons: April 12th and provisionally 19th in Ford End Village Hall at 7pm. New dancers always welcome but bring a friend or partner as you will need dance partner.

If you are single and wish to dance, we are hoping to start line dancing classes. We had one trial lesson in March and if there is enough interest, hope these will become more regular. For more information on the line dancing please phone Wendy Johnson on 01245 360362 and for general dancing information call Sheila on 01245 237335.

Great Waltham Parish Council

Clerk, W Adshead-Grant, Old Fire Station, Great Waltham, Essex CM3 1DF

Tel 01245 362638 clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk

The full minutes of the 20th February 2017 meeting are published on the Parish Council Notice boards and the Parish Website www.greatwaltham.org.uk. Chair of the Parish Council, Mike Steel, presided over the meeting at the PC Office:

Members of the public attending the meeting made statements in regard of items on the agenda:

- The Parish News reported that they had a response from 7 volunteers which secured its continuation.
- A member of the public expressed concerns over the recent thefts at the GW shop and said they wanted to look at how they could assist
- Broads Green residents raised concerns over car parking next to the green and how it was forcing cars onto the green (The PC agreed to replace the missing bollards and look at extending them)
- Broads Green residents raised concerns about the memorial tree being used as a shrine (The PC stated that it deplored the vandalism to the tree and it would to consult with residents on what they wanted to do)
- A representative from the Ford End residents dealing with traffic issues, raised a concern about the lack of progress on 40mph buffer, safe refuge crossing, 20mph advisory outside school. (The PC agreed to continue to press Highways)

ECC Cllr reported that Repairs to FE Church Lane will be happening imminently.

The CC Cllr reported that the Chelmsford Plan is now on line.

The landowner for the Brookmead "cobbled" area had agreed, in principle, with a 10 year lease, which would allow the PC to refurbish the area. The PC will request more detail from the single supplier who responded (4 quotes had been requested, but 3 did not respond).

The PC agreed to moving the Ford End dog bin to near the phone box as it was not being used in its current location and also agreed to replace the dog bin in Hoe Lane, which had to be removed as it was damaged beyond repair.

Cllrs Steel and Huggins agreed to lead on the RCCE invitation for Village of the Year competition (GW won in 2010).

The April meeting of the Parish Council will be held at Ford End Village Hall, **Monday 24th April** 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.

VILLAGE BOULES TOURNAMENT

Come and have a go at boules!
Beginners welcome - *Fun for all the family!*

Mon 1st May, 2.00 for 2.15 start at Gt Waltham school field

- £5 per team of 3 - adults, children or a mixture
- New category - club or group teams, please email to book
- Boules sets available
- Cup for the winning adult team
- Prize for the winning children's team

Or just come and watch and eat the home-made cakes!
Contact - joanna.2.steel@btinternet.com (Great Waltham Twinning Association)

Great Waltham & Ford End
PCC

JUMBLE SALE & GOOD AS NEW

Saturday April 8th 2017
In Danbury Village Hall

1.30pm Start

Ford End Senior Tea

The next tea will be held at 2pm on Monday, 24th April at Woodstock, Church Lane, Ford End. Anyone interested or who has not been before, please ring Sheila Bearman on 01245 237335 or 07977 077945.

Great Waltham British Legion

Events in April & May



Race Night

Friday 14th April – 7.00pm - Free Entry
Back by popular demand an evening at the races on the big screen. So come on down and cheer the on the horses. You can even buy a race horse or sponsor a race!



Easter Family Fun Day

Sunday 16th April – 11.00am to 1.00pm - £2 per child
Come along for a fun event for the whole family, follow the egg trail around the village, make an Easter Hat, join in with cake making and have your face painted.



St Georges Day – LIVE MUSIC

Saturday 22nd April - 7.30pm
£3 Members / £4 Non Members
The 23rd April should be a day when all English people come together to celebrate our great nation and have fun! We will even see the return of our 'tea cup cocktails'



Kids Bingo

Friday 5th May - 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 hot dog and squash too.



Bingo!

Saturday 13th May - 7.30pm - £1.00 per game book
Adult's bingo with cash prizes. Come on down for good fun game of Bingo. Make sure you come with the 'bingo lingo' - quack quack, wobble wobble!!

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

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