



Parish News

Great Waltham Ford End Howe Street Littley Green North End

APRIL 2021



An Associate Priest for Great Waltham St Mary and St Lawrence with Ford End St. John.

The Archdeacon of Chelmsford requested that the following announcement was made on Sunday 14th. March 2021

I am pleased to announce that the Revd. Carolyn Tibbott is to serve as Associate Priest for Great Waltham St Mary and St Lawrence with Ford End St. John. She will offer Sunday worship and one day a week of pastoral support within the Parish. This is in addition to her role as Vicar of Broomfield St Mary with St. Leonard. Revd. Carolyn will be licensed on Sunday 18th. April 2021 , exact details to be confirmed in due course."

We look forward to welcoming Revd. Carolyn to our Parish and I know she is looking forward to meeting everyone over the next few months.
Roger Bearman Chair GW with FE PCC.

Signs of Spring and Easter around the Parish



Herd of Deer

Great Waltham's Mark Francis is well-known locally for his wildlife photos and he has kindly shared this photo of a large herd of deer, taken recently on fields near Fanners Green.

Calving time at the farm

Thanks to Kate and Sam Squier at The Turkey Farm, Great Waltham, for sending in a photo of a heifer calf born in early March. The farm has been welcoming plenty of calves over the past few weeks as the Spring birthing season gets well under way.



From plot to plate, it's not too late.

There is still time to acquire an allotment at either of our 2 sites within Great Waltham village. Both Brookmead and Bury Lane sites have availability.

Both sites benefit from having an available water source and a variety of sized plots, affordable rent and a growing community of new and experienced allotmenters.

So, whether you want to dig or no dig, grow fruit, flowers or veg, it's not too late to start growing and benefit from plot to plate.

Gardening in any form benefits mental and physical wellbeing, reduces stress and anxiety and allows us to connect with nature. For further information please contact

clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk or cllrjop@gmail.com see page 5 for the cost.



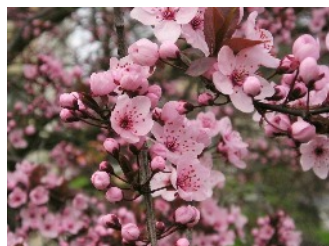
Tomorrow will be a good day

Easter is all about hope and I really want to find some hopeful words to share with you all. At the time I write this it's mid March and I am still waiting for the sunshine, the rule changes, the end of lockdown - and a haircut!

I think it's fair to say any novelty that was to be found in lockdown has long since worn away and we are weary. My old chocolate Labrador dog has just come and shown me what hope looks like. She has a hopeful look in her eye as she sits at my feet and stares at me. Her bones ache, she is almost totally blind and deaf. But she still greets me exuberantly when I walk through the door. Though she now has health issues and her life has narrowed and is much more limited, she has adapted and still loves life. She looks forward not backwards. She enjoys what she has and not what she has lost. I think I can learn much from her. As Capt Sir Tom Moore would have said "tomorrow will be a good day."

The wonderful thing about the church calendar is that it provides for us when we can't provide for ourselves. Whether at church or at home, Easter comes and with it the joy of the resurrection and new hope. Hope for a fresh start and a new beginning, hope that God is eternal, and that new life comes to all who ask.

This Easter finds us not quite in the joy of freedom of movement and relaxed rules, but still in the midst of gradual relaxations and slow steps back towards normality. But this is really ok, because it is here



in the hardest moments that hope does its best work.

Hope is like a small bud trying to break through the soil amidst the gravel and rocks, it can be stamped on, crushed and diminished but shine a light for a moment and it springs up anew. When we lift our eyes and look around, we see the blossom unexpectedly in a corner, the nesting birds, the newborn lambs, fresh life bursting through all around us.



The last year of lockdown has been heart breaking for

many, and yet the reality of loved ones who have died may be felt more keenly as we are out and about noticing the gaps left in our lives. For those suffering with long covid, the disease casts a long shadow, blotting out the sun, hiding the hope. But if despair is the pain of knowing that tomorrow will be exactly the same as today then hope is the relief of believing that maybe tomorrow will be different.

As we emerge slowly from this crisis, we must be people of hope, who dream of a better tomorrow, who cry out for justice and mercy and who know that whatever today feels like, God is with us tomorrow, with forgiveness, joy and peace.

May God bless you with hope, peace and steady joy.

Rev'd Sandra



Don't forget the Great Waltham Parish website for information on the community groups and PCC meetings,
<https://e-voice.org.uk/greatwalthamparish/>



Little Waltham United Reformed Church

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

Unfortunately we are unable to hold Services at present due to COVID

But we are planning to hold an open air Service to mark Easter Day

This will be on 4th of April at 10.30am
In the Car Park weather permitting
otherwise
inside the Church socially distanced

For any further Services please see the Notice Board

Keep Safe

LITTLE WALTHAM GARDENING CLUB

Evening Meeting, September 1st 2021 7.30pm,
Little Waltham Memorial Hall.

"Plants of Seasonal Interest" by Tim Carter of Long House Plants.

Tim will bring along a range of perennial flowering plants and after discussing their attributes and cultivation, will invite the audience to purchase them.

Good plants at good prices!

Visitors are very welcome £3.00

For more information, please phone
M Williams 01245 360042



From the County Council - John Aldridge CC - April 2021



Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

Whilst there is good news over the reduction in the number of cases and a great increase in the numbers of us who have been vaccinated, concern has been expressed by Dr Gogarty, the Essex Director of Public Health, over the degree of socialising and relaxed behaviour we are seeing across parks, supermarkets etc. Whether you have been vaccinated or not, it remains important that every one of us should observe the "lockdown" rules and be safe to yourself and others by maintaining social distancing at all times, wearing a mask when with others whilst shopping or going to work and wash your hands as

often as possible.

Free School Meals The Council is providing more than 35,500 eligible children and young people with free school meals vouchers for the Easter school holidays. In addition, the Council and Active Essex are running the 'Essex ActivAte' holiday activity and food programme again over Easter. Meal vouchers worth £30 per child covering the holiday are being sent to parents and young people by email or text. Printed vouchers will be provided to parents who cannot access them online. Parents or young people who have received vouchers or who have questions can find out more at help.schoolvouchers.com/hc/en-gb

Essex Climate Action Commission

The Commission, which is a cross-party, independent group chaired by Lord Randall, is focused around key themes including adapting to the changing global climate. The report agreed to a range of climate mitigation initiatives, that include: -

- building net zero school buildings, with plans to create nine school projects which will be low-carbon or net zero.
- Complete the conversion of all our streetlights to LED
- The introduction of low carbon techniques, such as Leaky Dams to enhance Natural Flood Management.
- To plant by the end of this current planting season 36,000 trees as part of the Essex Forest Initiative; of which 14,000 are in the Chelmer Valley
- The transformation of its property estate to have net zero greenhouse emissions by 2030

Beaulieu Railway Station and the Chelmsford North East Bypass

Good news! the long-awaited railway station for Beaulieu and the Chelmsford North East bypass are now a step closer to reality after The Council's Cabinet approved grant funding worth more than £200 million.

If you have any problems about these and any other County Council matters, please let me know on 01245 421524 or email cllr.john.aldridge@essex.gov.uk.

Ford End Senior Tea Afternoons

The month of Easter is upon us and instead of talking of tea this month I thought you may like a Poem about Spring. I am looking forward to so many things including Spring. I have been watching birds through the window all Winter and now Spring is nearly here..

I Watched a Blackbird. By Thomas Hardy

I watched a Blackbird on a budding sycamore
One Easter day, when sap was stirring twigs to
the core;

I saw his tongue and crocus coloured bill
Parting and closing as he turned his trill;
Then he flew down, seized on a stem of hay,
And upped to where his building scheme was
under way,
As if so sure a nest was never shaped on spray.



Happy Easter,. Sheila

The Great Waltham Horticultural Society Hut is now open for members and non-members (£4 joining fee).

Please contact ianpeter.bradley@gmail.com who will take your order and leave it for collection at a pre arranged time.
Payment via BACs, cheque or cash by arrangement with Peter.

Forthcoming Events:

AGM and talk on Helping Hedgehogs April 20th on Zoom.

Plant Sale May 15th outside Great Waltham Village Hall 10.00-12.00. More information next month.



Great Waltham Horticultural Society
present a Zoom



AGM

on
April 20th 2021
7.30- 9.30
and a talk

Helping Hedgehogs, the Gardener s Friend
by
Sheila Dearn



Members free -
Non-members £4 (joining fee)

If you are interested please email
Helen Willis hwillis@hotmail.co.uk
to be included in the Zoom link.

The committee welcomes new members. We meet every couple of months in the evening. Please contact Helen Willis if interested

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All Allotment Holders – Its invoice time for the Sept 2020 – Sept 2021 season.

If you have not received an invoice by the time you are reading this article, then the details we hold for you on file need to be updated.

Please contact the Clerk – clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk to update your details
We do have a selection of plots available at both Brook mead (4) and Bury Lane (5) and these can be reduced in size to suit your requirements. Allotment holders must live within the Parish. The land rent is £3.75 per rod plus £3.20 per plot service charge. The Service Charge increases in September 2021 to £4.40 per plot.

News from Great Waltham C of E VC Primary School

Monday 8th March was a much celebrated day across England. Pupils, after an 8 week block of home learning were eager to enter the school gates again to be re united with their classmates. As well as being crucial for their mental and physical well-being, which in turn supports their capacity to learn, it was also the first crucial date in the government's 'road map' back to the life we may refer to as 'normal'. The children were excited (with some nerves) to be back and quickly established their routines. The unmistakable school 'sound' was back and we sincerely hope that was the last school closure!

The spring term topics are:

KS1 – Happily Ever After - children are enjoying learning about the roles of people who live / worked in castles and of course the children relish reading and sharing Traditional Tales like Jack and the Beanstalk.

KS2 – Mayans and the Rainforest. Two separate topics to ensure that the children are getting a good blend of history and geography. Much of the learning has taken place at home as 8 of the 11 school weeks this term were during the lockdown.

In the three weeks leading up to the Easter Holidays the class teachers ran a 'Friendship / Well Being' Club to aid the transition back to school. This coincided with friendship week at school. We hope to be able to run extra-curricular clubs in the summer term.

The first week back was also Science Week, the children completed a bridge building challenge in school. Y6 were asked to build a bridge to support wooden bricks with just 6 pieces of A4 paper, spanning 30cm. The winner supported 20 bricks!

We wish all the Parish News readers well as the restrictions start to ease and we can make plans to see family and friends again.



Walthambury Women's Institute

At our March meeting via zoom we welcomed Howard Middleton a Great British Bake Off contestant who entertained us with tales of behind the scenes.

On Tuesday **April 13th at 2.00 PM** via zoom

Liza Jones will be joining us. Her presentation is entitled "Knickers! The history of underwear" Sounds intriguing. Pam Crouch our President reminded members that our annual subscription of £44.00 is due by the end of the month.

Howe Street Litter Pick

Thanks to the band of stalwart litter pickers who once again cleaned up Howe Street over the weekend of March 13th.

Sadly in less than 24 hours more take away (throw away ?) packaging appeared but at least our village looked tidy for a while.

Peter Jackson

Pet Food Pouch Recycling

Did you know you can recycle your pet food pouches locally?

Many pet food pouches and packaging are not recyclable through the council kerbside collection but from January I set up a doorstep collection box for clean, dry pouches and packaging to be deposited. This is located on my drive at 27 Cherry Garden Road, Great Waltham. The pouches are then sorted and counted and taken to the Chelmsford and District Branch of Cats Protection League who send off to Teracycle to raise much needed funds for their invaluable work. By the beginning of March, as a community, we had collected over 700 laminated foil and plastic packaging which saved it from going to landfill. An amazing achievement. The following items may be deposited but please ensure they are clean and dry, no traces of food otherwise they are not accepted by the scheme. All brands and supermarket own brands are also accepted, the photo is an example of the types, no foil dishes. Thank you for your continued support. Jo Palmer



Children Return to Ford End School

We were delighted to welcome back all our children and their families to Ford End School on Monday, March 8th following the national lockdown. It has been such a difficult time for all families and this re opening of schools has seemed such a long time in coming. When it finally arrived it was a joyous occasion. We were thrilled to have 100% attendance and the children seemed genuinely happy to see their friends and their teachers. The school was at last filled with children's voices and busy playtimes; schools are so much nicer when they are busy and bustling with stories from the children.

As a staff, we have prepared a curriculum for the three weeks leading up to the Easter break that is very holistic and focuses on ensuring that the children are fit and well both physically and mentally. The staff will be looking for signs of any child who is distressed and offering them support if necessary. We will be teaching a lot of art and subjects that children feel at ease with. The timetable will reflect an emphasis on mental health and the desire we all have for our children to really want to come skipping into school.

It is sad that we are still unable to offer a whole school collective worship, but children are leading the way in their own class worship and we hope to have a whole school Zoom worship, where we can meet together virtually. As the weather improves we are hoping to hold safe collective worship on the field. You will be able to hear our dulcet tones of singing sailing through the air!

We are ensuring that our children have a lot of physical education and all classes, working in their bubbles' are enjoying a weekly dance class lead by Rachel Squire; this is good for both physical and mental health. They are also enjoying a games lesson outside on the field lead by Premier Sport. We strongly believe in the importance of physical activity to offset any feelings of anxiety and worries the children may have.



On Friday, 19th March, we will all be celebrating Red Nose Day to support those people who are less fortunate than ourselves. We will nurture a powerful collective spirit by supporting our community through exciting physical activities – running round our track whilst telling jokes!

In the run up to Easter, the children at Ford End will remember the ultimate sacrifice that Christ made by crucifying his Son so that we can all be forgiven for our own sins. As we come out of lockdown, let us all be thankful for the small and precious things in our lives, namely our children. They have brought the staff at Ford End much joy and happiness.

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

THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Guilds were an early form of trade association. They became established in the Middle Ages by groups of merchants to control standards and promote their particular craft or skill in the locality in which they operated. Some acquired sufficient funds and status to erect their own premises or Guildhalls in market towns. These buildings were used for meetings and other functions by the guilds. Some were designed to allow markets or trade on the ground floor.

The Hundred Parishes has some wonderful surviving examples of guildhalls. Thaxted is probably the best known - three storeyed, timber framed and jettied, built in the 15th century (below). Thaxted was an important centre of cutlery manufacture and it is



believed the cutlers helped to fund the building we now know as the Guildhall. Its original purpose is uncertain; it may have had broader uses as a moot hall or civic meeting place. The building later became a school and today it is used for parish council and other meetings and incorporates a small museum of Thaxted's history.

Other guildhalls are at Linton, built in 1523 and is now a private house. It was once the home of Sir John Kendrew who was awarded the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1962. Finchingfield's 15th-century guildhall (right) stands beside the parish church. In the past it was used as almshouses and now the renovated building houses a library and excellent museum. The first floor is used in non-Covid times for courses and is available for private hire. Ken McDonald, Secretary



Great Waltham Parish Council

Clerk, W Adshead-Grant, Great Waltham Village Hall, South Street, Great Waltham, Essex CM3 1DF Tel 07880 717329

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The following is a summary extract (by Mike Steel – Chair) of the Parish Council Meetings of **15th March 2021**. 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 County Cllr stated that vaccinations continued at a good rate, that there were ECC £500K grants to assist volunteer groups, and kickstart grants to assist with getting 18-24 back into work. Also that the Army and Navy roundabout options did not include a new flyover. Furthermore, approval had been given to the new Beaulieu Station and NE bypass. ECC budget set for next year with 0% increase but 1.5% increase for Adult Social Care.

City Cllr reminded the meeting of ECC Highways commitment to £75K contribution to FE Average speed Cameras, but the remainder was proving difficult to obtain. Meeting held with Highways Cabinet Member which confirmed the original commitment and agreed actions to look at reducing the total cost and address the funding gap. City Cllr also raised the issue with our MP to see if there was any Central Govt help available. It was noted that a serious accident occurred at Ford End, just 4 days before this meeting which demolished the school wall and damaged 4 cars in the car park.

The 2.5% City Council tax increase had turned into a 7.6% increase for GW and an explanation had been requested. The meeting considered the pros and cons of recording future PC meetings, including the practicalities of recording face-to-face meetings, and determined that it did not see sufficient benefit from the process. However, it recognised that if someone thought a meeting (or section of a meeting) should be recorded, it could take a vote on whether to do so,

The PC considered a request for a £941 grant towards a hide/shelter at Old Park Meadow Natural Burial Ground for the Gardening Support group. Total cost £4,882 with £3,000 from own sources, £941 from Stansted Airport Passenger Community Fund, and balance request from GWPC. The Wildlife nature reserve is open 24/7 with Parking and pedestrian access and benefits residents. The application was approved as long as the facility was available to residents. The bin by the GW bus shelter needs to be reinstated. It was decided that a better option might be to have a smaller bin by the bus shelter with a recycling bin by the school.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held **7pm Monday 19th April 2021**, 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.

We can also help with driving you to a vaccination centre if you haven't got your own transport.

Ring one of the group coordinators –

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.*

Great Waltham Litter Pick and Spring Clean 2021



Let's spring into action and give our village a Spring clean.

The litter pick will take place over the weekend of 10/11th April and we would love to see as many of you as possible making your contribution to keeping our wonderful village spick and span so please volunteer if you can.

We would like to encourage our younger members of the community to take part but it

must be under the supervision of parents/carers.

Could you volunteer to do your road?

Take a photo and send it in after the event so we could do an article in May of all our volunteers.

And of course, we still need our adults to do the main roads and ditches.

All pickers, bags and hi vis will be supplied by the Parish Council and can be collected before the weekend or on the Saturday morning at 9am.

All rubbish bags and larger items will then be collected by CCC.

Please contact **Jo Palmer 360639**

or email cllrjop@gmail.com with the area you would like to litter pick and further details.

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 May issue is April 18th.