

Parish News

Great Waltham Ford End Howe Street Littley Green North End

July 2021

Waltham United Football Club - league champions



Congratulations to Waltham United Football Club, which took home top honours in the Pope and Smith Sunday League Champions Division 2A. To find out more about their achievement, see page 6.

Village art display



An exhibition of paintings from Great Waltham Art Club is currently on display at The Stores. The Art Club is organised by Diane Hughes, who studied at the world-famous Slade School of Fine Art. When not in lockdown, the club meets every Thursday at Great Waltham Royal British Legion Club.



Find out why pupils at Great Waltham Primary School were tasked with drawing a picture of Captain Sir Tom Moore and catch up with more school news on page 3.

From the Vicarage



Wind and Fire

By the time you read this I am praying that many of the fun things we have been denied over recent months are back in our lives. As I write, the Eurovision Song Contest has just been on television, having missed a year because of covid-19. It's always a fun occasion for many who make a real family event of it, eating lots of unhealthy snacks, keeping score-sheets, and having lots of laughs.

The music is always a broad mix of styles, both musical and visual, ranging from the amazing to the truly dreadful. It's quite predictable in some ways but at the same time capable of springing genuine surprises. It's both political and also gloriously mould-breaking as the performers stand, at least for a while, for all that's good about the rich variety in people and cultures around the world.

The only mistake is to take it too seriously, because that means missing out on the fun!

The Church's celebration of Pentecost has also just happened, and this year I've been struck by the parallels.

At Pentecost, the Church was launched in a blaze of pyrotechnics and a blast of sound. Wind and fire fell on the disciples and gave them the power to go and tell the world all about Jesus. It was witnessed by a multi-ethnic, multi-lingual crowd, some of whom are disapproving and even thinking the disciples must be drunk. But most were captivated – both by the spectacle and by the message of peace and reconciliation which transcends any of their differences.

As the Church has grown and spread around the world over the passing centuries, it has become even more diverse in language, culture, and expression of faith, including doing some things badly. Underlying it all, though, the person of Jesus has not changed: he is the point of unity which links together all that rich and wonderful diversity.



With thanks to Mark Francis for this shot of a fox on the outskirts of the village recently - a reminder that we are lucky to live in such beautiful countryside and be able to enjoy wildlife encounters like this one.

Little Waltham United Reformed Church

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

Sunday July 4th	Rev Hans Stein
Sunday July 11th	Rev Geoffrey Griggs
Sunday July 18th	Rev Hans Stein
Sunday July 25th	Rev Geoffrey Griggs. HC

Forthcoming notice

COVID allowing we are planning to start a new monthly event beginning on Thursday July 1st. This will be Coffee & Cake !!

Hopefully this will be for a couple of hours between 10am & 12 noon & will be held in the Church with our new round tables which will be more sociable so that we can all catch up after such a long time

Keep Safe

Cont'd

The Eurovision Song Contest ends with judgement being delivered by professional juries and by the popular vote. There is a winner, and sometimes, as this year, some go away completely empty handed and unappreciated.

This is where Pentecost is radically different: there are no losers in God's kingdom, nobody gets 'nul points'. God's promise is that everyone who turns to Jesus gets forgiveness, new life, and the Holy Spirit. "*This promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away*" as Peter said to that excited crowd, "*then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.*"

You may or may not have watched Eurovision, and you may or may not have experienced God's Holy Spirit at first hand. Both need to be approached with an open mind, but unlike Eurovision, you don't need to wait till next year to meet with God. Why not give it a go?

Rev'd Sandra

News from Great Waltham C of E VC Primary School

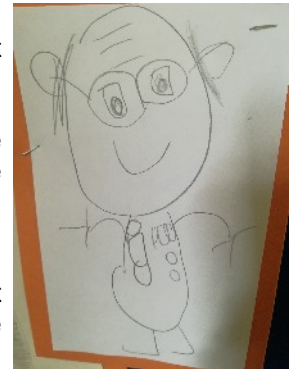
In late May, class teachers attended pupil progress meetings to check how the children's core skills were developing during what has been a very challenging 15 months. In September, we were already playing 'catch-up' due to the massive disruption caused by the March - July school closure. The teaching staff were very pleased with the way core skills were returning in the autumn term 2020 but the closure in 2021 has set schools back a little. The aim to ensure that the core skills in English and maths get to age-appropriate standards is very much underway but for some children this will take longer than others.

In RSE (Relationships & Sex Education) children have learned about positive, healthy relationships. They were very knowledgeable and mature in their approach to these lessons. They used words like, sharing, love, fun, fair, laughter and balance to describe what a positive relationship would look like.



Some staffing news - Mr Brady will be leaving us at the end of the school year to take up a new teaching position. Mr Brady has very much-loved working here but since he has moved out of the area he endures a difficult commute. We wish him all the best. Mr Radford, the site manager is also leaving for new work – we thank him for his vital role in running the school.

In art, all the children in the school completed an art sketch of Captain Sir Moore. This linked with the track fundraising but gave the teachers a wonderful opportunity to see how well skills develop from EYFS to Y6. There were some fantastic examples.



In Y1 children have completed some African lion and sunset artwork, in Y2 children have created a Kenyan Safari Park, made models of elephants, made PowerPoints about their topic and rewritten 'Handa's Surprise'.

Well done to the litter pickers who gave up an hour of their time in May to help around the village.

Rev. Carolyn visited the school in May to meet staff and pupils – we look forward to working with her and we hope to attend church for the first time since December 2019 for the Y6 Leavers' Service in July

In Collective Worship, we have covered Respect, Responsibility and Empathy with Bible stories - The Good Samaritan and Feeding the 5000 to help explore themes along with the story of Florence Nightingale. Take care all.

A combination of April's frosts and May's wet weather made it a difficult breeding season for blue tits, but this family successfully raised chicks at their home in one Howe Street garden. Below right, these deer were pictured enjoying the last of the evening sunlight in Chatham Hall Lane. Photos: Craig and Alison Dewar



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Great Waltham Village Hall

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Take notice that the Annual General Meeting of the Charity known as Great Waltham Village Hall (charity number 301320) will take place

8.30pm Monday 12th July 2021

The Main Hall, Great Waltham Village Hall, South Street, Great Waltham CM3 1DF

All inhabitants of the area of benefit of eighteen years of age and upward are entitled to attend and vote. The area of benefit is the Parish of Great Waltham as constituted on 9th July 1889.

At the AGM:

- The report and accounts of the Charity for the preceding year will be presented
- Not more than five trustees of the Charity are to be elected with their appointment to take effect at the end of the meeting
- The appointments of the presently elected trustees of the Charity will expire at the end of the meeting

David Chapman Chair of the Trustees 17th May 2021

Nailbiting finish to the season as Waltham United crowned champions

Congratulations to Waltham United Football Club, which ended the season as champions in the Pope and Smith Sunday League Division 2A.


The club, formed at Great Waltham British Legion Club three years ago, plays at Melbourne Park and was only promoted to the division in the 2020/21 season.

Players and supporters endured a nailbiting wait for the title after going into the last game two points behind the league leaders Hatfield Peverel. A win against Stock would see them crowned as champions but after a thrilling first half with Waltham United hitting the woodwork, having a ball cleared off the line and Stock having a goal disallowed for offside, the score was still 0-0.

Steve McClement, on behalf of the Waltham United Committee, reports: 'The effort of the players could not be faulted. And as Supporter of the Year 'Tino Tinsley' (never missed a match) shared his thoughts with the ref, manager Don gathered his valiant players together.

'Spurred on by the sight of some of the 60 supporters attaching a rope to high branch and a vote of confidence from the Club Chairman, he embarked upon his 'we shall fight them on the beaches' speech! Thankfully it worked! The first goal came within 15 minutes of the restart and the second followed shortly after. Two more goals sealed the game and the final score of 4-0 ensured Waltham United were well deserved League Champions!

'The Committee would like to thank the whole squad, primarily young men from our village or friends from Chelmer Valley School, for their efforts throughout the season during which their enthusiasm, commitment and loyalty to the Club has been tremendous. Our supporters are also to be thanked for turning up in all weathers to cheer the team on. Also to be thanked is the Legion Club and its staff for providing our 'home base', especially the after match roast potatoes on the bar! Here's to next season.'



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Walthambury Women's Institute

Instead of our usual WI Meeting and as a thank you to our wonderful NHS, Social Care and Frontline Workers we are inviting you to join us for tea and cake on Monday 5th July from 2.30 in the garden of the British Legion.

There is no meeting in August. Our next meeting will be Tuesday 14th September at 7.30 in the British Legion Hall. This will be our Annual Meeting. We look forward to welcoming as many members as possible to enjoy a cheese and wine evening.



Little Waltham Drama Group

After over a year of seeing everybody virtually Little Waltham Drama Group are hoping to be once again rehearsing at the Memorial Hall on Mondays and Thursdays from 8.00 – 10.00 from June 28th (government guidance permitting). We are hoping to have a couple of workshops such as dancing and also hold auditions for next year's Panto, details of which will be announced on June 28th, Rehearsals will begin in earnest in September for our Pantomime which will take place in January 2022.

The Drama Group is always delighted to welcome new members (from 15 years old upwards) so, if you enjoy singing, dancing, acting, making props, costumes or cups of tea, we'd love you to come along and meet us as we are a friendly group who enjoy each others' company and also happen to like a bit of acting too.

If anyone would like further details we'd love to hear from you so do please contact Vicky Weaver on Victoria_weavers@sparrowhawks.co.uk and we look forward to welcoming new members to our happy, fun-loving group of thespians.



**GREAT
WALTHAM
HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY**

Save the date

Don't forget to put **Saturday, September 18th** in your diary for Great Waltham Horticultural Society's Annual Show 2021.

Look out for more details soon. You can contact the Society on greatwalthamhortsoc@gmail.com

Ford End Gardening Club

The Club is having a celebration of Summer on Monday 12 July from 6.00pm visiting three gardens in Church Lane, Ford End. Members will be contacted with further details nearer to the 12th.

Great Waltham Parish Council is delighted to be able to offer all Primary School Children in the Parish

Play in the Park '21

At The Great Waltham Recreation Ground

Wed 11th August 10.30-12.30 & 13.30-15.30

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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

Local family launch new craft beef venture



Above: Sam and Kate are pictured on the farm with their family

Exciting news from the Squier family at Humphreys Farm, Great Waltham, with the launch of exciting new craft beef venture Wild and Rooted Farming. It marks the culmination of a long-term plan to return the land to sustainable farming and their herd of exclusively grass-fed Aberdeen Angus cattle now graze on a mixed pasture of legumes, grasses and herbs, all of which play a role in providing for wildlife as well as the cattle.

The 40-strong herd has been born and grown to maturity by the family and, starting this month (July), they will be offering craft beef for collection or home delivery.

Kate says: "We are both passionate about giving back to the land and embracing the nature around us and the launch of Wild and Rooted Farming has been an ambition for a long time.

"Everyone knows us for our Christmas Kelly Bronze turkeys but launching a specialist craft beef range has been a dream of ours ever since Sam turned up at the farm with just six cows back in 2007. We can't wait for local families to come and try what we believe is the best beef they will ever taste."

The Hundred Parishes Society

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

With school holidays approaching and more people spending time near home, I would like to remind you of the walk routes that are on the Society's website and free to download and print. We now offer more than 75 routes covering some 400 miles in total with little repetition.

There is a good range of distances, from 1 mile upwards. Station walks start and finish at railway stations and all others start and finish at a suitable place to park. Many walks pass or finish near a pub or tea room, thankfully open again.

The routes are planned so as to use good paths and quiet lanes, and to achieve an interesting mix of scenery. While we can plan the route to pass through attractive countryside and villages, we can't predict what pleasures nature may have in store: perhaps majestic cloud formations, the sights and sounds of birds, the variety of butterflies and insects, the scale of badger diggings, deer prints, even a glimpse of a hare or fox or herd of deer. We encourage you to carry a camera.

Ken McDonald, Secretary.

Great Waltham Horticultural Society

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Great Waltham Parish Council

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The following is a summary extract (by Mike Steel – Chair) of the Parish Annual Assembly of 5th May 2021 and the Parish Council AGM of 17th May 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 Annual Assembly was held on-line 5th May, with 22 residents joining. The meeting was Chaired by GWPC Chair, Mike Steel, who referred to the Annual Report which had been delivered to every household in the Parish. Cllrs Martin and McDevitt also gave a summary of the previous year and plans for the following year on Recreation and Planning respectively. Local organisation reports were given by GW Community Network, Twinning Association, FE Village Hall, GW and FE Parish Churches and Walthambury WI.

The AGM of GWPC was held 17th May, as a face-to-face meeting in the GVVH main hall and was conducted in line with Covid regulations and a risk assessment.

Cllr Steel was elected as Chair for the following year with Cllr Jackson as Vice Chair. The attending public raised 3 issues – Dunmow Lane damage to surface and tress, Butchers Arms potential business change, and state of Church Lane in FE. The meeting welcomed the newly elected ECC Cllr Steel who reported that Cllr Bentley was the new leader of ECC which means that the FE road traffic issues will need to be followed up with the new Highways Cabinet Member, Cllr Scott. As usual for the AGM, Cllrs were elected o the various committees. These will be shown on the GWPC website.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held **7.30pm Tuesday 20th July 2021**, details on the agenda, which will be published on the Parish website and notice boards before the meeting.

Parish News contributions

We love receiving contributions for the Parish News and thank you to everyone who supports and keeps us going with the latest news and information around the parish. If you plan to send something, here's a little reminder of what we need:

- Articles should be a maximum of 300 words and supplied as a word document attachment or included in the body of the email
- Any photos should be jpg format, preferably at least 1mb
- Adverts should ideally be supplied as a pdf, jpg or word document

The editors reserve the right to edit articles to fit the available space and while we do our best to include everything we receive, there may be occasions when we are unable to do so because there simply isn't enough room. Contributions should be sent to gwparishnews@gmail.com and the deadline for the following month is printed on the back page of the current issue.



The choir is back

We have started after the long delay imposed by the Covid pandemic. The Village Choir is now over 30 in number, having grown from just 14 nervous would-be choristers who turned up at the first gathering at the School 6 years ago. Under the guidance of Toni Cooper, our talented and fun loving musical director, we aim to perform at least 2 concerts a year, an informal one usually combined with a BBQ at the School in the summer and of course the Christmas Concert in the church where we share the evening with the Essex Police Band and others. Last year we performed an eclectic selection of songs including Freddie Mercury's 'We are the Champions,' Gershwin's 'Fascinating Rhythm,' the lovely 'One Moment in Time' and 'A Thousand Years' and the delightful Irish blessing, 'May The Road Rise Up To Meet You. Admission is £5 a session but your first evening is FREE as is the coffee in the interval. Tempted to join the fun? We meet at the school at 7pm every Thursday evening. No auditions. No solos. Come along and give it a try. You won't regret it! And that's a promise.

Further enquiries from Malcolm on 360149

Possible changes to events due to Covid restrictions

Please note: As the Parish News went to press before the Government's latest June 21 Covid announcement, we suggest if you are planning to attend any of the advertised events, you check with the organisers in advance.

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 August issue is July 22.