



Parish News

Great Waltham Ford End Howe Street Little Green North End

March 2023

Tom Amos Charity appeals for local grant applications

Tom Amos was the village baker who lived and worked in Little Waltham all his life, delivering every day to the surrounding villages. A plaque commemorating him can be seen over The Old Bakery in The Street, Little Waltham. In 1999 he set up The Tom Amos Charity, leaving it the bulk of his estate.

He died in 2003, and since 2009, the Charity has distributed over £870,000.00 to local people and organisations. The objectives of the Charity are the provision of recreational facilities, advancement of education, relief of poverty and advancement of religion and covers Chelmsford C.C. and the districts of Braintree and Uttlesford. The Trustees welcome grant applications from Great Waltham residents and organisations. The website at the base of this article gives details of how to apply.

Tom is buried in St Martins Churchyard, where you can visit his grave. If you are interested in reading more about this fascinating man, and seeing photographs of Tom at work in The Bakery, go to www.Tomamoscharity.org

Aconites light up the countryside



As the harshness of winter draws to a close, we are lucky enough to enjoy the beauty of spring appearing across the parish.

Bright yellow aconites and carpets of snowdrops abound. With thanks to Barry Teader for this picture and his regular contributions to the Parish News.

See page 2 for more photos.

Parish and City Council - Your vote matters on 4 May 2023

This May, local elections are happening to elect councillors to all wards across Chelmsford City Council, as well as some parishes. Councillors make important decisions about your local area so make sure to vote and have your say! Everything you need to know about the elections can be found at www.chelmsford.gov.uk/elections.

Registering to vote - You need to register before you can vote in UK elections and referendums. You can do this at <https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>. The deadline to register is Monday 17 April 2023. You don't need to re-register if nothing has changed since you last voted, such as your name or address.

Voter ID - You now need to bring photo ID to vote in person. There are lots of different versions of ID that will be accepted, including passports, driving licences, bus passes and blue badges. If you don't have any ID that you can use, you can apply for a voter authority certificate for free before Tuesday 25 April. Visit <http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID>.

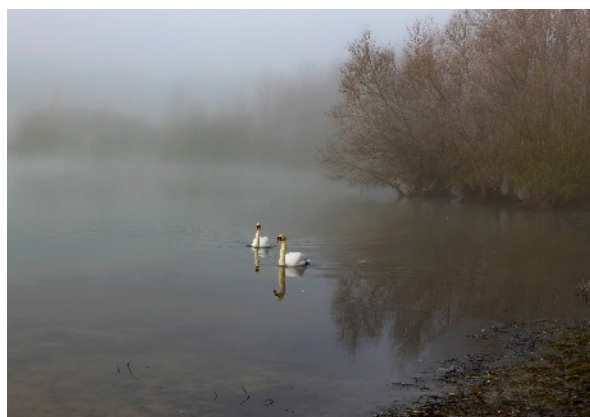
Postal and proxy votes - If you will be away or can't make it to your polling station on 4 May 2023, you can apply to vote by post or by proxy on the Chelmsford City Council website: www.chelmsford.gov.uk/elections. The deadline for a postal vote is Tuesday 18 April, and the deadline for a proxy vote (appointing someone to cast your vote for you) is Tuesday 25 April.

Could you be a councillor? - If you want to get involved in local democracy, then you can either stand as a representative of a political party or as an independent candidate. The deadline for nominating yourself is Tuesday 4 April. A briefing session will take place in early March. Find out more at www.chelmsford.gov.uk/voting-and-elections/stand-for-election/.

More photos of spring on its way – with thanks to the keen photographers who contribute images to brighten up our pages.



Snowdrops and swans photos:
Barry Teader



Hare and a frosty morning at Langleys photos: Mark Francis



Church of England services March 2023

For services in March, please check the church noticeboard or contact:

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

URC Little Waltham March 2023

Services and Activities

For details, please contact:
Rev Hans Stein 01371875654 / 07763169605
Rev Geoffrey Griggs 01245 471990

Walthambury Women's Institute

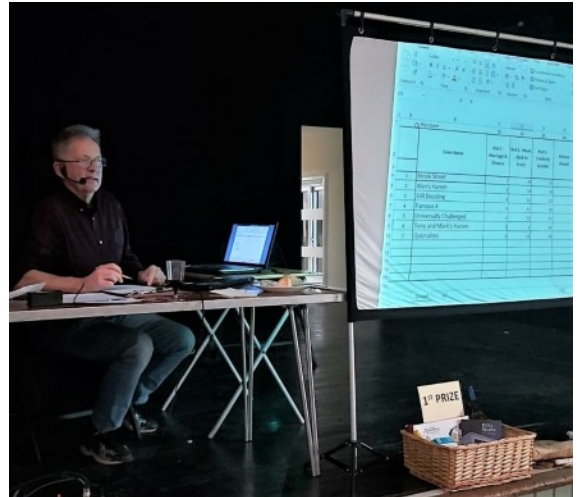


We welcomed to our February meeting Ian Grant who is an Education Officer for the Chelmsford Bee Keepers Association and has been keeping bees for many years. Ian outlined the fascinating history of bee keeping, life in the hive and the production of honey. On Wednesday March 15th Phil Lilley is organising a short walk from little Leighs car park next to the Church to The Compasses at Littley Green where we can enjoy lunch or a drink. We will meet at 11.00 and anyone not wishing to walk is welcome to meet at the pub at 11.45 – 12 noon. Our speaker on Tuesday 14th March is Sam Squier from 'Wild and Rooted Farming' talking about sustainably reared beef in Great Waltham. We meet at 7.30 in the British Legion Hall. Guests and new members always welcome.

The WI holds monthly meetings at the British Legion Hall, on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm. We have interesting talks, go on visits/walks etc and lots more but enjoy socialising too! Guests and new members very welcome. Do come and join us. Contactwalthamburywi@gmail.com

Funny Valentine Quiz raises funds for twinning visit

On 11th February, the village hall was humming with happy quizzers for the funny Valentine Quiz, with quizmaster Mike Steel, ably assisted by Twinning Association members. The quiz tested knowledge on celebrity Marriage, Divorce and Scandal as well the contestants' sense of humour, including the ever popular Mr and Mrs round! The funds raised will go towards the excursions for our visitors from our twinned town of Ceyrat, France, who will be coming here for a week on 22nd July.



STOP PRESS!!!!

I have just heard that we will be welcoming several French teenagers with their parents on the visit. It would be great if they could stay with English families with teenage children. It's a not-to-be-missed opportunity for children who are learning French at school to welcome French youngsters into their home and hear ordinary, everyday French being spoken.



During the visit, Great Waltham Twinning will be organising a week of excursions for the visitors – you can come too if you like. So if you live in the parish or nearby, e.g., Chelmsford, and think you might like to host a family, email me for more information, joanna.2.steel@btinternet.com, or look at the Twinning page on e-voice.org.uk/greatwalthamparish/great-waltham-twinning-associa/ Or our facebook page - Great Waltham twinning.

And don't forget that we go to Ceyrat in July 2024 for a week of sunshine, cheese and wine, beautiful scenery and good company!

Services at Blackchapel, North End

All services start at 3 pm unless otherwise stated.

March

Sunday 5 th	Family Service
Sunday 19 th	Family Service

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:
contact Patrick Hamilton on 01371 820095

Ford End Speedwatch team

Does anyone have an hour to spare from time to time to join our speedwatch team? It's a lovely way to get to know your neighbours and feel part of the community. Full training is provided. If you would like more information, please contact Linda Bute at fordencsw@gmail.com.

Ford End Gardening Club

Martin Lockwood gave a fascinating talk on the yew tree at our February meeting. The yew tree is one of only three coniferous trees that are indigenous to the UK. The oldest yew tree in the UK is at Fortingall in Scotland and is thought to be between 5,000 and 9,000 years old. It is difficult to count the tree rings as many yews are hollow due to fungus affecting them. The yew tree was sacred to the Celtic people who worshipped beneath them and, when they were converted to Christianity, churches were built close to their sacred trees. Not only has yew wood been used in furniture making but was also used for the longbows of the Middle Ages. The leaves, bark and seeds of the yew are poisonous to humans, cattle and horses but not to badgers, deer and squirrels. However, the red fleshy part of the berry (the aril) is not poisonous but it does contain the poisonous seeds.

At our March meeting on Wednesday 15th, we have Alison Shaw coming to talk about bees and honey.

Do come along to our annual coffee morning and plant sale on the morning of Saturday 22 April and stock up your garden for the summer.

Our monthly meetings start at 7.30pm in Ford End Village Hall and we always look forward to seeing new faces.

Parish Directory

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up up & away



Easter Family Fun Day



Easter Hat Parade
Transfer Tattoos
Face Painting
Village Trail Quest
Craft Activities

Great Waltham British Legion
Sunday 9th April
11am - 1pm
£5 per child for all activities

[GWRoyalBritishLegion](https://www.facebook.com/GWRoyalBritishLegion)
The Village, Gt Waltham, CM3 1DE

Karaoke Night

Great Waltham British Legion
Friday 17th March
From 7:30pm
Free Entry for members
£1 Entry for guests



Making YOU the STAR

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The Village, Gt Waltham, CM3 1DE

An Update from your County Cllr – Mike Steel

Parish and City Council Elections 4 May 2023

This May, local elections are happening to elect councillors to all wards across Chelmsford City Council, as well as some parishes, including Little Waltham. Everything you need to know about the elections can be found at www.chelmsford.gov.uk/elections including how to register to vote, Voter ID (a new requirement – passport, photo driving licence, bus pass, blue badges), how to use a postal or proxy vote.

I am particularly keen to get people to join their Parish Council - find out more at www.chelmsford.gov.uk/voting-and-elections/stand-for-election/. I started 20 years ago and initially combined it with full time work in a demanding job, through retirement, and becoming a City Cllr 4 years ago, and a County Cllr 2 years ago. Being a Parish Cllr can mean as little as just attending 1 meeting a month, or being much more actively involved. It is important to have a full range of experiences and ages.



Traffic Issues:

I am pleased to say that the 40mph buffer zone at the northern end of Ford End has now been installed by ECC Local Highways Panel. Ford End should also be having the kerbs raised at the bus stops. This adds some extra safety to people waiting there. LHP will also be installing improvements to the bend warning signs/lines at Littlely Park Cottages, and two 'SLOW' markings.

I deal with a lot of issues via my email inbox, and most are to do with carriageway and pavement defects. We have just come to the end of a "Member Led Pothole" scheme where each County Cllr was given an allowance of 36 potholes for priority repair.. I contacted all of my 10 PCs to nominate their worst holes. It seems some County Cllrs did not use all, or any, of their allowance, so I kept submitting them. I have submitted over 80 holes, which are progressively being done. It does mean I have been getting more complaints about roadworks. I have thanked the Highways Cabinet Member for running the scheme and suggested that an equivalent pavement scheme be set up, and he is doing exactly that, with a new member Led scheme of £4M to address more potholes and pavement defects. I will consult with my Parish Councils to select the worst!

2023 RideLondon-Essex

RideLondon will return Sunday 28th May along the same route as last year. This route goes through 3 of the Parish's in my division, but also effects all the others. Because of the issues last year, I insisted on being on the Steering Group and particularly wanted to make sure that the business that were badly affected last year, do not suffer the same issues. More info at ridelondon.co.uk/community-info including how local access will operate. There will be two Public Meeting/Consultations in my division: - 13th March at Writtle College, and a date to be decided at Great Waltham.

Recycling Centres Booking system

ECC have decided to implement a booking system for the Recycling Centres from Monday 13 March. This was a Cabinet decision and I have to admit that I am not fully on board with it! I understand this is to help manage waiting times, reduce congestion, and improve the customer experience. The booking process has already been trialled using the Rayleigh Recycling Centre. I am a member of the Scrutiny Committee that reviews this decision and I will ensure that the decision is well scrutinised. - in terms of benefits and drawbacks (e.g., impact on fly tipping). Some sites do suffer queues, sometimes backing onto major roads. I am told that just applying the booking system to these, could result in residents travelling to other sites and creating queues there. There is no restriction on the number of bookings you can make as long as the waste you are disposing of is household waste. I understand that same day booking will be introduced. More info at <https://www.essex.gov.uk/news/booking-system-planned-for-essex-recycling-centres>

Little Waltham Gardening Club

The Down to Earth Community Allotment Project was the title of the February meeting of the little Waltham Gardening Club. Carolin Rogers of the Wilderness Foundation gave an excellent presentation advising that the positive power of wilderness can change lives. We cannot keep taking away from the earth and must give something back. Founded in 1976, the Wilderness Foundation aims to help both young people and children, through local schools, supporting mental health and educating over 6,000 every year on how they can help the environment. As well as their base in Chatham Green, they also have allotments in Melbourne as it's been shown that gardening on a regular basis can reduce stress and increase wellbeing. They have raised beds for wheelchair users and of course are always on the lookout for volunteers. The next meeting of the gardening club is the AGM to be held on 1st March when the club will be 40 years old. Prior to then, we have a flower arranging workshop on the 16th February in readiness for the Spring Show. The annual Spring Show will be held this year on Saturday 8th April. Further details on our website www.littlewalthamgardeningclub.co.uk

Ford End Senior Tea

The next tea will be held at 2.30pm on March 27, 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 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

News from Great Waltham C of E Primary School

This half term ended with a celebration assembly, it's always great to welcome parents and carers into school to watch the children receive their well-deserved Platinum Award. Well done to all those children who received any award this term, including our Year 4 Superstars, who came fourth in the event which took place earlier this term. The FOGWS ran a successful disco on Wednesday night, it was wonderful to see all the children coming together to dance, play games and even try the limbo!

It's always good to reflect on what the children have achieved, they have had a busy few weeks enjoying lots of activities including school trips, sports events, yoga, well-being week and Internet Safety Day to name a few. It was great to welcome Reverend Dan into school for collective worship this month. The children listened carefully to his messages and are looking forward to our Lent and Easter celebrations.

Justine Brooks, Headteacher

Hall bookings volunteer urgently required

Great Waltham Village Hall is still urgently seeking a volunteer to manage enquiries for hall bookings via email and the Hallmaster bookings system on the village hall website:

www.greatwalthamvillagehall.co.uk


To find out more, please speak to a committee member or email us at greatwalthamvillagehall@gmail.com

Little Waltham Patchwork and Quilting Friends

We are a friendly group that meet on the last Tuesday of the month 1pm - 5pm in the Little Waltham Memorial Hall.

We are looking for new members. Beginners or experienced hand/machine sewers welcome.

For more information please contact Vivienne Thomson 07939629780



Spring Events

Live Music!
Friday 3rd March – 7.30pm
Members Free Entry – Guests £1
UltraViolet. A young local band aiming to make it BIG. Playing pop rock tracks these guys will give us all a fun night. We are delighted to welcome UltraViolet and do our bit to help expose young talent to the community.

Karaoke Night
Friday 17th March – 7.30pm
Members Free Entry – Guests £1
You can be the star of your own show at our Karaoke night. Select a tune and make your audience laugh, cry, singalong, or leave – you decide! A night guaranteed for fun and laughter with family and friends.



Rugby Six Nations
Members Free Entry – Guests £1
The Six Nations Championship returns to our Big Screen as we cheer on England as they battle it out with competitors France, Ireland, Italy, Scotland, and Wales. We will also be serving burgers and hot dogs to give you that stadium feel.

Kid's Bingo
Friday 31st March – 6.00pm
£3 per child includes 4 games, hot dog and drink.
Kick start the Easter holiday with a jolly game of Bingo – there are shopping vouchers and sweet treats to be won. So eyes down and dabbers ready... get ready to shout "quack-quack, "two fat ladies," "almost there" and "BINGO!"

Live Music!
Friday 7th April – 7.30pm
Members Free Entry – Guests £1
Jessica Panagi. Solo artist singing covers from 1950's to present... and oh what a voice! Some reviews say "phenomenal, absolutely amazing, did not disappoint."

Easter Family Fun
Sunday 9th April – 11.00am to 1.00pm
£5 per child
Our fun Easter Bunny Hunt is back and better than ever! We are teaming up with Up Up and Away Preschool and invite you to join us for a trail around the village where a chocolate surprise can be won, create an Easter hat, and take part in the parade to win more prizes. There will be face painting and craft making - such fun!

All events and sports fixtures will be advertised on social media and displayed on posters. Please contact us by email or social media for any information on becoming a member. Guests are welcome, they will need to be signed in by a member and pay a donation. We are available for private hire for any occasion.

The Village, Gt Waltham, CM3 1DE  @GWRoyalBritishLegion 

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 at

7.30pm Wednesday 19th April 2023

in the Committee Room (first floor) at

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

12th February 2023

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The Hundred Parishes Society

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) recently published analysis of the 2021 Census. Nationally, this showed that the population of England grew by 6% in the last 10 years and 14% over the last 20 years. Locally, the increase has been much faster. The population of The Hundred Parishes in 2021 was around 156,000, up 12% since 2011 and 24% since 2001. If roads seem busier, these extra 30,000 people are a major factor. Half of the increase is accounted for by six parishes close to Stansted Airport. Elsenham, Flich Green, Great Dunmow, Little Canfield, Stansted Mountfitchet and Takeley have each expanded by more than 50% in the last 20 years. Another big growth was seen in Buntingford: from 4,300 in 2001 to 7,900 in 2021.

Today, 8% of the Hundred Parishes population was born outside the UK (compared to 17% in the whole of England and Wales); 10% of homes are flats (v 22%); 36% of houses have 4 or more bedrooms (v 21%); 27% of homes are rented (v 37%); 40% of adults work at home (v 31%); 55% are in professional or managerial jobs (v 46%); 56% of households have 2 or more vehicles (v 35%).

We have a different age mix to the UK average, with a shortfall of around 5,000 people in their 20s and 30s offset by around 5,000 extra people aged over 40. (Cont'd)

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 Parish Council held a monthly meeting on 16th January. This is a summary – full and approved minutes are available on Council noticeboards and the parish website (e-voice.org.uk/greatwalthamparish). The website also includes all of our meeting agendas with their associated briefing/discussion papers and presentations.

This month a member of the public attended to deliver a petition regarding Ford End Recreation Ground and to make representations concerning the related consultation conducted previously by the Council. Because the item was not on the agenda for the meeting, we decided both matters should be discussed in detail at the next Recreation Committee meeting and for the Committee to make recommendations to be considered at the next full Council meeting.

Our county councillor, Mike Steel, updated us on the planned ECC council tax uplift (3.5% overall, compared to the government cap of 5.0%). We were reminded that 45% of the ECC budget is dedicated to the provision of social care, and that for this element ECC has looked to apply the maximum (2.0%) increase it is allowed. Mike also reported that across his area he has submitted 36 applications to repair potholes, with plans to enter more if there are any unused allocations. In addition, he confirmed that ECC funding for the Highways Ranger service (which focusses on minor highways improvements) is to be stopped – if (and how) the service will be supplied going forwards has yet to be fully determined. He also advised that the section of the Chelmsford to Great Waltham cycling route between Goulton Road, Broomfield and Broomfield Hospital has been completed.

The meeting went on to:

- Note that at Great Waltham Recreation Ground the new Hatchfields entrance fencing has been installed.
- Agree the timings for the Spring litter pick events across the parish. Reminders of the various dates/locations will be published in Parish News.
- Amend our Standing Orders to remove gendered titles and pronouns.
- Note this year's 'Play in the Park' event will be on 16th August. We have decided on a single day this year, but with more activities.
- Set up a working group with the remit to report back and recommend an implementation strategy for the Council's provision and maintenance of defibrillators at locations across the parish.
- Agree to fund the costs associated with seeking advice from the City Council planning department to understand whether permissions are necessary to install the small container at Great Waltham Recreation Ground.
- Note the progress made in relation to the Council's action plan (a copy is available on the parish website).
- Approve our Clerk's attendance at an "Election Day" online briefing session in anticipation of the quadrennial parish council elections which will take place this year on 4th May.

Our next monthly meeting are 20th February and 20th March. As always, all parishioners are welcome to attend these public meetings.

Steve Gilbert, Chair

While the previous paragraph highlights contrasts, some statistics are closely aligned with the national picture: 99% of households have central heating; 5% of households have a second home; 51% of the population is female and 49% male.

Each parish introduction on www.hundredparishes.org.uk has been updated to include the 2021 population. For more information, please go to <https://www.ons.gov.uk/census>

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 April issue is March 16.