

Parish News

Great Waltham Ford End Howe Street Littley Green North End

JULY 2023

The Walthams Scout Group sere up a delicious breakfast

Sunday 11th June saw all three sections, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts gathered at the Scout Hut to deliver a June breakfast for adults and children which was an annual event up to 2019. In the hottest of days the children worked tirelessly to provide large and small breakfasts to the attendees. Sausages, bacon, mushrooms and egg were served whilst the Cub Scouts served the food which was skillfully cooked by our Scouts. The section leaders held Food Safety Level 2 Certificates to ensure our young people complied with food hygiene expectations. We will run the event next year in May.



A Message on Bus Travel and DigiGo



I do get complaints about bus services, especially in the rural areas. Most bus services are commercial operations and the operators struggle to put on a service during non-peak hours, or at all, in the more remote areas. How often do you see a bus with hardly anyone on it?

I believe the answer is on demand buses like DigiGo, which is a flexible and shared public transport service with an EV fleet. It's not a taxi or a traditional bus. With no fixed route or timetable, passengers are in control of their journey. Bookings can be made on-demand or up to 7-days in advance via the TravelEssex app. The

service operates flexibly within the operational area – journeys can be made anywhere from one of the thousand virtual stops to another, within the area. Other passengers may be picked up on route to help reduce emissions and congestion. The service is made for everyone... so, whether you're a commuter, a student, a weekend tripper or a key worker, DigiGo can get you to where you're going.

DigiGo is a two year subsidised trial operated by Essex County Council and covers the rural area to the north and west of Chelmsford. It has recently been expanded to come down as far as Broomfield Village Hall.

All single fares are currently capped at just £2! Concessionary bus pass holders travel for free after 9am on weekdays and all day at weekends. It's easy to book a DigiGo journey via the TravelEssex app, www.travelessex.co.uk.

- **Book** - Select your pick-up and drop-off points within our operational areas and pay on the app.
- **Track** - Watch on your smartphone as your designated vehicle makes its way to you in real-time.
- **Ride** - Hop on and off you go!

If you can't use an app, journeys can be booked via the booking phonenumber on 03330 137138, Monday – Friday, between 10am and 12pm (excluding bank holidays). If you have a smartphone but would like support in making bookings via the app and the first few journeys, email us at digigo@essex.gov.uk and we can put in a referral for you to meet with a Travel Trainer. Travel Training is a service that helps support and train people to travel independently on public transport on a one-to-one basis. For more information on the service, visit www.digigo.uk We need this trial to be a success so that it becomes a permanent service. So please make use of it!

County Cllr, Mike Steel



From the Vicarage

Do you like poetry? Perhaps not. I'm not always sure I get myself. I like some and I'm befuddled by others. Nevertheless I dabble in writing it. Below you will find one of mine. I sometimes ask myself "who am I becoming?". I suppose I wonder about what kind of person I am or desire to be. That's what this poem is about. It's called, 'Formation'. I hope you get something out of it. Peace. Dan.



Upon an incline roots will burrow planted deep inside the hill.
While stubborn rocks and brutal skies bestow their worst to test trees will.

Battered then by coastal winds titling tree to permanent pose.
But grow yet still it will still grow
Tree knows what tree still knows

Stripped by season upon season stripped by frost and scorching heat.
Yet return with nature's reason
Return each cycle to repeat

To burst thy fruit upon our senses
ur sight and taste and touch reclaim.
From winters woeful last dissenters
Above their heckles scream thy name

God with us, God within us
Come in stillness come with storm
And in timber, twig and lichen come
Where still we planted form

Ford End Senior Tea

The next tea will be on Monday 31st July starting at 2.30 at Woodstock, Church Lane, Ford End. Anyone interested or who has not been before, please ring Sheila Bearman on 01245 237335 or 07977 077945



Church of England Services

July 2023

Priest In Charge: Revd Dan Pierce
Tel: 07790 558579

Sunday 2nd July	11am	Communion Great Waltham
Sunday 9th July	10am	Communion Ford End
	4.30pm	Contemporary Service St Francis Beaulieu Community Centre
Sunday 16th July	11am	Communion Great Waltham
	11am	Communion Chignals
Sunday 23rd July	11am	Joint Summer Communion Great Leighs
Sunday 30th July	11am	Joint Summer Communion Little Waltham

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

Little Waltham United Reformed Church

All services are at 10.30am

July 2023

2nd - Rev. Geoffrey Griggs
9th - Rev. Geoffrey Griggs
16th - Rev. Geoffrey Griggs
23rd - Rev. Hans Stein - Holy Communion
30th - Rev. Hans Stein

Other Events

Thursday 6th July - Coffee and Cake from 10a.m. - 12 noon
Saturday 15th July - Coffee Morning from 10a.m. - 11a.m.

Services at Blackchapel, North End

All services start at 3 pm unless otherwise state

July 2023

Sunday 2nd Family Service
Sunday 16th Family Service

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: contact Patrick Hamilton on
01371 820095

Great Waltham Parish Community Care Group

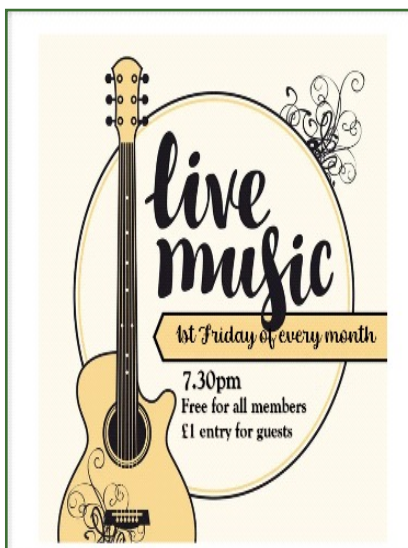
The aim of the group is to provide short term and ongoing help to meet the needs of elderly local residents for whom there is no statutory provision.

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



Coffee Morning Blackchapel North End

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Last Wednesday in the month
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A Peal For The King

You may have heard that a national effort is under way by church bell ringers across the country, to celebrate the accession of King Charles, by ringing as many peals as possible during the year following his coronation.

A peal is a major ringing event, for expert ringers; it involves a succession of set sequences and variations, in which each bell changes place with another, a total of 5,040 times, all done from memory, over a period of nearly three hours. A group of visiting ringers will be coming to St John the Evangelist church at Ford End, during July if possible, to ring a peal for the King. It will be wonderful for Ford End to be part of the celebration of such an event, which many of us will be unlikely to see again.

New Multi Play at Howe Street Recreation Ground

The Parish Council is pleased to report that we have installed a new Multi Play at Howe Street Recreation Ground. Designed for children in the 5–12yr age group it is a welcome improvement to the play area and provides many challenging activities for younger children including a climbing wall, firefighters pole, rope walks and a slide. Just in time for the nice weather and the summer holidays



Last month the Government delivered on its 2019 manifesto commitment to recruit an additional 20,000 police officers by March 2023, in fact they exceeded it.

Delivering on this pledge and keeping our communities safe is one of my key priorities for our constituency. With an additional 500 officers, the largest and strongest force in its 182-years history, and an increased budget of nearly £364 million, they can deliver on the Government's priority to Get Crime Down.

They have already introduced new Town Centre Teams, boosted Neighbourhood Policing, and introduced a new Rural Engagement Team (RET), helping to focus on cutting rural crime, anti-social behaviour in our towns and villages and working to keep local communities safe.

Having recently joined the RET for a police ride-along and having spoken with residents and local farmers during roundtable discussions on rural crime, I know just how valuable these officers are for Chelmsford and Uttlesford.

The Government's Beating Crime Plan and the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act that I voted for in Parliament is also helping to crack down on illegal hare coursing, unauthorised traveller encampments, and gave greater powers to officers to tackle disruptive protests, all concerns that are frequently in my inbox.

However, I am keen to expand on my understanding about how local residents experience and perceive crime, particularly rural crime. Rural crime can have a huge impact on our communities. Too often it goes unreported, and we need accurate information to reduce crime in our area. It is an important part of bringing forward changes and solutions, which is why I'm encouraging residents to take part in my online rural crime survey, which is now live on my website:

www.kemibadenoch.org.uk/kemi-badenoch-mp-rural-crime-survey-2023

I want to hear from residents, local farmers, business owners and anyone who has experienced or has concerns about rural crime in our constituency. I will report back on the results of my survey and work with the local police and authorities to ensure our communities are safe for us all. If you have any questions or feedback, do email me at kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk



Parish Defibrillators



The Parish Council recently took the decision for the provision and support of defibrillators within the parish. In addition to supporting the ongoing maintenance of existing units at North End and Littley Green two replacement defibrillators and cabinets have recently been installed at Ford End and Howe Street. The defibrillators are stored in secure cabinets and in the event that one is needed the 999 call handler will direct the caller to the nearest unit and provide the access code.



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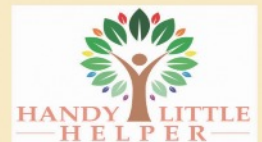
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Little Waltham Gardening Club

The June outing of the Little Waltham Gardening Club was to Sandy Lodge NGS garden in Halstead. We had a good turnout with many friends as well as members of the gardening club enjoying the beautiful garden on a hot and sunny day.

The owner, Emma made us all feel very welcome and we spent a lovely afternoon wandering around the various areas of the garden, including the woodlands walk, the stumpy, the long border and the two tier gravel garden. The latter was completed in 2012 and was inspired by Beth Chatto's gravel garden.

The next outing of the gardening club will be a visit to Strandland in Manningtree on 5th July. This is a four acre decorative garden with a formal courtyard and wildlife meadow.

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Wednesday 16th August

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GWRoyalBritishLegion Instagram The Village, Gt Waltham, CM3 1DE

Prosecco & pasta

Indulge in a 2 course traditional Italian lunch whilst enjoying live entertainment from an ABBA tribute duo... Not to mention the unlimited Prosecco or bottled beer.

Tickets sold in advance only from the Club. Doors open at 12pm



Saturday 15th July
£30pp 2pm to 4pm

Great Waltham Horticultural Society
150th Anniversary Show
1873 - 2023

Annual Flower & Produce Show

Saturday 16th September
2pm - 4pm
Great Waltham Village School

Amateur Photography categories

1. Black & White any topic
2. Black & White or Colour 'Where I Live'
3. Black & White or Colour 'Trees'
4. Black and White or Colour 'Wildlife'
5. Black & White or Colour 'Shadows'


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An evening of song, dance, comedy acts, poetry, dance

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CASH BAR
Tickets £8 adult, £4 child (under 16)
From Walthamby Stores (cash only)
If coming in a wheelchair, let us know, so we can arrange seating 01245 631918

Walthamby WI



Monthly meetings are held 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

Great Waltham Cof E Primary School



We recently had a visit from rapper, DJ and music producer DJ Shy Cookie - Alex. He worked with all the children in KS2 who took part in his rap workshops. They worked in groups to produce their own raps to share with their classes. It was great to hear from a musician in the field and the children really got a lot out of hearing how he began his career.



Key stage two had a fantastic day learning all about the Egyptians. They made artefacts, pretended to be an Ancient Egyptian royal family and performed a play!



Well done to Great Waltham year 5/6 football team who played at home to St Anne's Primary School. The boys worked hard as team with great communication skills. Frankie scored the opening goal and the next, then Moses scored with Jack wrapping it up to make a 4-0 victory!





Ford End C of E Primary School

The end of term is fast approaching and we will soon be saying goodbye to our Year 6 children as they head off to their respective secondary schools. We wish them all the very best and want to let them know that we are so proud of all they have achieved. At the other end of the school, we look forward to welcoming our new children into EYFS. They came for a visit to play in the EYFS garden, and a fun time was had by all!

We have had a very successful term. The children from Year 4 performed in the Mighty Oak public speaking competition, where they spoke articulately and confidently. Our Year 2 children took part in the Mini-Games organised by Chelmsford Schools Sports Partnership and came first! One of our Year 6 pupils skates at national level, and she has just won two gold medals for Great Britain.



The pupils at Ford End continue to make us proud with all their achievements. We wish all of our extended community a safe and restful summer.

Some of our new EYFS children exploring our outside area!

Miss Bailey, Head of School

FRENCH VISIT TO GREAT WALTHAM JULY 2023



Great Waltham Twinning Association are so excited to be welcoming visitors from our twinned town of Ceyrat in July, the first time since July 2019. Thirty people are coming, including 8 teenagers, to stay with families in the village for a week, so if you see them around, give them a big smile!

While they are here, Great Waltham Twinning is taking them to Falcon Bowling Club near Channels, "Wild and Rooted" farm on Humphreys Farm Lane, National Art Gallery in London, and outdoor painting in the village with a tutor and GW Art Club members. (If anyone is interested in joining in with the painting, let me know on joanna.2.steel@btinternet.com.)



It's always great fun for us to visit each other's countries. Last year we visited Ceyrat for the first time since covid ended and we signed a renewed treaty of friendship between our two communities.

Here are some photos of some of things we got up to on past visits –



Vacancies for Parish Councillors

There are vacancies on Great Waltham Parish Council created by the May elections. Under s.21(2)(a) of the Representation of the People Act 1983 the Parish Council is now looking to co-opt three councillors.

Being a councillor offers the opportunity to make a difference and help enhance your local community. The Council wants its membership to be as diverse and inclusive as possible, so if you feel the role is for you, contact us for more details.

Persons wishing to make an expression of interest for the vacancies should do so by 7th July by contacting the Clerk to the Parish Council at The Parish Office, Great Waltham Village Hall (Houlton Hall), South Street, Great Waltham, CM3 1DF, or by email at clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk

Have you used the Leather Bottle in Pleshey ?

The pub provides vital services for Pleshey and the surrounding community: it is a meeting place, a second living room, a communication centre, a place where many groups choose to meet and as such it is an important lynchpin of community life. Part of the appeal of Pleshey and surroundings comes from the sense of community and the amenities that support the community. We (The Friends of the Leather Bottle Steering Group) believe that keeping the pub open as a Community Pub would greatly enhance that community spirit, if we can make it happen.

A short survey is being conducted to gather information.

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/7KRSNG/>,



Great Waltham Parish Council

Clerk, Will Adshead-Grant, Great Waltham Village Hall, South Street, Great Waltham, Essex CM3 1DF Tel 07880 717329
clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk

The first monthly meeting of the new Parish Council was held on 22nd May. You can find more details beyond this short summary in the full and approved minutes available on Council noticeboards and the parish website (e-voice.org.uk/greatwalthamparish).

We elected our officers for the next 12 months and completed the various governance protocols necessary to continue the Council's work. We welcomed a new member, Cllr Matt Bradley. Because we are now no longer at our full complement of eleven, we agreed to activate our co-option policy, so in due course we hope to welcome three further members.

Mike Steel, our county councillor, outlined the Local Highways Panel budget for proposed works. Although two schemes for the parish were not completed in 2022/23, they have been approved for the new financial year, but dates have yet to be confirmed. They relate to road markings in Littley Park Lane and footway improvements at the junction of Barrack Lane and Cherry Garden Road, Great Waltham.

We noted that the Pavilion at Great Waltham Recreation Ground remains popular and we continue to identify and implement where we can further improvements for its users. We therefore agreed to install a projector-friendly whiteboard to make the venue even more functional.

We made an important decision concerning the longstanding issues in relation to traffic which passes through Ford End. Our data indicates that speeds for almost three-quarters of traffic exceed the 30mph limit, and we estimate that annually 3.4million vehicles use the route. For several years the Council has held a reserve to be used for the installation of an average speed camera system on the B1008 through the village. However, the scheme will cost significantly more than the amount set aside so we established that if the Council raised fifty per cent of the total costs Essex Highways would consider match funding the other half.

At the meeting we resolved to secure a loan to fund the remainder of our portion. Although the vote was split, we now have established a way forward. However, while this was a significant step, things still remain at an early stage as we await the outcome of Highways' consideration of the matter from their side. To provide context, as things stand, we would need to raise a further sum of approximately £50,000. Given the way our finances work (our income is overwhelmingly derived from the parish precept element of the Council Tax) the repayment of the loan would likely be funded over a period of years by increasing the precept. The scheme's progress and likely impact on the precept will naturally be discussed at future meetings.

We also hosted the annual assembly on 5th June at Ford End Village Hall. There were eighteen attendees and the meeting received charity reports from The Great Waltham Charities and North End Charities, and updates from the Twinning Association, Community Network, Horticultural Society, the Walthams Scout Group, city and county councillor Mike Steel, and myself on behalf of the Parish Council.

Our next monthly meetings are on 17th July (at the Pavilion) and 22nd August (at Ford End Village Hall). We also have these committee meetings in July, all at the Pavilion: Recreation Committee on the 12th, Highways and Transport Committee on the 24th, and Finance & General Purposes Committee on the 31st. All parishioners are welcome to attend these public meetings.

Steve Gilbert, Chair



RideLondon photos of participants riding through Great Waltham.

Photos by Barry Teader



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 20th.

gwparishnews@gmail.com