

# Parish News

Great Waltham Ford End Howe Street Littley Green North End

## August 2024

### An Update on National Grid Pylons Consultation

from your County Cllr, and City Cllr, Mike Steel:

By the time this article is published, we will have gone beyond the 26<sup>th</sup> July National Grid (NG) consultation deadline. I hope you all managed to submit objections. This is the statutory consultation, and we need to increase the response rate above the previous 2 non-statutory consultations which were just 0.1% of the population of the 3 counties affected.

There has been a lot of activity from myself and your Local Authorities, and I would like to outline what we have done:

- I, personally, proposed a Motion to ECC at the 14<sup>th</sup> May meeting, to object to the pylons route; but this went beyond just responding to the NG consultation, and I ensured that ECC also sent their objections to Govt (Ofgem) and the Electricity Services Operators (ESO) as their requirements and timescales are influencing the solution.

- Chelmsford City Council maintained their objection and I arranged for this to be presented at the 9<sup>th</sup> July Cabinet meeting. They focused on the potential harm to residential amenity and in particular the harm to designated heritage assets along the route and the archaeological remains of an Iron Age and later settlements at Ash Tree Corner. I am pleased to say that Parish Councillors attended and supported this.

- The Parish Councils in my ECC division have joined forces to produce a joint response to the consultation as well as advise the 14 Parish Councils on their individual responses. This group, called the North-West Parishes Group (NWPG), regularly meet to coordinate their objections.

- All my Parish councils have logged objections as part of the NG statutory consultation.

- NWPG are going to jointly fund a Landscape Consultant to examine all the NG Environmental Reports to challenge any gaps in their cases.

- NWPG have met with NG to promote alternatives to the currently proposed Overhead Line (OHL) pylons, mainly looking at the East of Chelmsford as an alternative.

- I have met with NG on my own to ensure that the issues around the "Waltham Gap" are fully documented and understood, and alternative routes are considered, as well as alternative technologies, such as HVAC underground (it can be squeezed into a 60m gap!). I am pleased to say that GWPC and LWPC have also pushed on this separately

- I have hosted our MP, Kemi Badenoch, at various locations along the route and shown her the devastating effect of the pylons. Of course, she now acts as our representative for the opposition benches, but I expect her to be vociferous in opposing the OHL route through her constituency.

I am keen that residents are aware that I and your Parish, City and County Councils are working hard to oppose the OHL pylon route.

I understand that once the consultation has closed, the next step will be NG submitting a Development Consent Order (DCO) which is required for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects and will be around early 2025. This will include all the consultation feedback, and any related mitigations, although if there is a significant change, such as a change of route, NG may need to re-consult first! Some of us will continue to liaise informally with NG during this period in order to continue to press our case.

You may have also noted that in the King's speech, the new Govt intends to introduce legislation to accelerate planning consents for National Infrastructure projects, which will make our task more even more challenging.



Great Waltham Horticultural Annual Show schedule is available from the village shop in Great Waltham priced at £2 and online at: [voicgreatwalthamparishcouncil/horticulturalsociety](https://voicgreatwalthamparishcouncil/horticulturalsociety) plus the entry forms and pictures for the colouring category for children. Details of entering is in the schedule.

**Come and have a go!**



## Church of England Services August 2024

Services this month are all  
Gracefields Summer Communion

|                         |      |             |                |
|-------------------------|------|-------------|----------------|
| Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 11am | Communion - | Gt Waltham     |
| Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> | 11am | Communion - | Little Leighs  |
| Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> | 11am | Communion - | Little Waltham |
| Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> | 11am | Communion - | Ford End       |

Contact: Alison Bates Parish Administrator  
Tel: 07957 228467 admin@littleandgreat.org.uk  
Please visit our website for further information: -  
<https://www.greatwalthamchurch.org.uk>



On 23 June, Rev Rose celebrated 10 years since her ordination as a priest with the congregation at Ford End Church.

Well done, Rose - keep on going!

## Little Waltham United Reformed Church Services for August 2024

Minister: Rev. Hans Stein 07763 169605

**All Services begin at 10.30 a.m.**

|                    |                                   |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday 4th</b>  | Rev. Geoffrey Griggs              |
| <b>Sunday 11th</b> | Rev. Hans Stein                   |
| <b>Sunday 18th</b> | John Amos                         |
| <b>Sunday 25th</b> | Rev. Hans Stein - Holy Communion. |

### Other Events

|                      |                       |              |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| <b>Thursday 1st</b>  | - Coffee/Tea and Cake | 10 - 12 noon |
| <b>Saturday 17th</b> | - Coffee Morning      | 10 - 11am    |

## Services at Blackchapel, North End

August 2024

**All services are at 3pm**

|                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| <b>Sunday 4th</b>  | Family service |
| <b>Sunday 18th</b> | Family service |

## Can you help??

Graham Whicker has received the following message from a friend who is a paramedic in Ukraine.

'All is good. We are going to Kharkiv to see how things are there. It's really depressing when people ask me for tourniquets and bandages. Simple things like that are in such short supply. We would be very grateful if you are able to get your hands on ANYTHING resus, bandages, tourniquets, hemostatics, syringes, IV kit,...we pretty much anything that could be put to use for primary care.'

**If you are able to help, or have ideas where Graham can source his needs please contact Graham on 01245 262251 and email [gwhicker@btinternet.com](mailto:gwhicker@btinternet.com)**

## The Fields of Blue



The photo shows the view across the Chelmer Valley from North End – and it has been blue as far as the eye can see for weeks! At first, we thought it might be Linseed or Borage, but it turns out to be Phacelia, which a member of the Borage family and is originally native to North and South America. In this country, I understand that it is being grown as a cover crop to prevent weed growth, and also as a green manure to improve the soil structure and nitrogen content. The flowers attract bees and other pollinators, so it is sometimes grown around orchards.

*Phacelia tanacetifolia* (purple tansy or fiddleneck)



Whatever the reason, it is certainly very pretty and unusual.

## Great Waltham Village Choir



On Thursday 17th June, the Great Waltham Village Choir held their annual Summer Soiree and BBQ. As usual, there was a full house ready for the singing and then the BBQ. The choir sang some old favourites and some from their new repertoire, starting appropriately with 'Why we Sing' followed by a choir favourite 'Can You Feel the Love Tonight'. Old favourites included 'The Lord is my Shepherd' and 'Over the Rainbow'; the performance ended with 'Thank You for the Music'. There followed an encore, 'The Last Sea Shanty' complete with actions, the choir and audience singing together with great gusto! And so off to the BBQ which was enjoyed by all, in spite of the temperature getting a little challenging. It was a most enjoyable evening that was enjoyed by all.

## Ford End Gardening Club

At our summer barbecue on 17 July, we were blessed with a beautiful warm and sunny evening. Our thanks go to members Angie and Chris for hosting the barbecue in their lovely garden. We all brought salads and desserts (which were delicious) and had barbecued burgers, sausages and chicken. It was a real feast! Afterwards, there were games to play, including skittles and golf.

We have no meeting in August but hope to see you all on 18 September in the Ford End village hall at 7.30pm.



Enjoy the rest of summer and happy gardening.

Jean Sanders

## SEICENTO



The Sacred Music of  
Monteverdi  
and his contemporaries  
for voices, period instruments and continuo

Introduced and directed by

Philip Thorby

Great Waltham Church CM3 1AR  
Saturday August 3rd at 5.00pm

Admission free - retiring collection

Further information:

Annabel Malton 01245 360240 [annabel@maltons.me.uk](mailto:annabel@maltons.me.uk)

**SEICENTO** directed by Philip Thorby returns to Great Waltham for a performance of Monteverdi's sacred music. The concert will be the result of 4 days of intensive study and rehearsal by some of the best amateur early musicians from Essex and surrounding counties under Philip's inspirational direction. The Magnificat and Dixit Dominus for 8 solo voices, violins, viols and continuo and the 7-part Gloria form the backbone of this programme of music, presented as it might have been performed in the 1640s when it was first written. Do join us for this feast of Venetian music on Saturday August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5.00pm in Great Waltham Church. Admission is free with a retiring collection. Further details from Annabel Malton 01245 360240 [annabel@maltons.me.uk](mailto:annabel@maltons.me.uk)

## 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 Tel: 01245 362215

Wendy Proctor Tel. 01245 360483

John Lattimore, Chairman Tel. 01245 363818

# Parish Directory

To advertise in the Parish News, please contact us by email on [gwparishnews@gmail.com](mailto:gwparishnews@gmail.com)

If it needs **PRINTING**  
 from Stationery & Leaflets to a Bespoke Glossy Brochure  
**GIVE US A CALL**  
 Fast • Efficient • to Budget



**T: 01787 479479**  
**E: [info@fmlitho.co.uk](mailto:info@fmlitho.co.uk)**  
**W: [www.fmlitho.co.uk](http://www.fmlitho.co.uk)**



**JCM SERVICES**  
 AMENITY AND GROUND CARE LTD  
 JCM-SERVICES.CO.UK | 01245 408 777



**ARBORICULTURAL SERVICES**



**GROUNDS MAINTENANCE**

**01245 408777**  
[www.jcm-services.co.uk](http://www.jcm-services.co.uk)  
[james@jcm-services.co.uk](mailto:james@jcm-services.co.uk)

Visit our website for more info



**Structural Steelwork, Steel Fabrication, Gates, Railings and anything for the garden**

Tel: 01245 237233  
[enquiries@plesheyforge.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@plesheyforge.co.uk)

Unit 20, Warners Farm, Main Road, Howe Street Chelmsford CM3 1BL  
[www.plesheyforge.co.uk](http://www.plesheyforge.co.uk)

**The Rose & Crown**  
 between Little Waltham and Great Waltham



A Great Little Pub and Restaurant with good food, and a warm and friendly atmosphere

Open All Day

Ben and his staff will be delighted to welcome you. If you want to ensure a table is available

**Telephone 01245 360359**  
[www.roseandcrowngreatwaltham.co.uk](http://www.roseandcrowngreatwaltham.co.uk)

**Wood Automotive**

MOT's, Vehicle Servicing  
 Tyres, Vehicle Diagnostics  
 Air Conditioning Repair  
 Clutches, Welding  
 Free Local Collection

*"We look forward to seeing you and your car"*  
 Neil and Sarah

Unit 1 Walthambury Farm  
 Pleshey Road, Great Waltham  
 CM3 1AZ  
[www.woodautomotive.co.uk](http://www.woodautomotive.co.uk)  
 01245 361180



**Willsher and Son Electrical Contractors**

- All work insured and certificates issued where applicable
- No job too small, free estimates
- Based in Great Waltham
- Reliable family business

07970 759565  
[info@willsherandson.co.uk](mailto:info@willsherandson.co.uk)  
[www.willsherandson.co.uk](http://www.willsherandson.co.uk)  
 or find us on Facebook

**Electrical Safety Register**  
 IEE ECA

**Chelmsford Plumbing & Heating**

Trustworthy family run business  
 All calls answered personally  
 Confirmed bookings given

- \*Boiler services, breakdowns, repairs
- \*New boilers and heating systems
- \*Plumbing repairs
- \*Gas, Oil, LPG and Electrical work

No job too small  
 Work covered by 12-month guarantee

**01245 478588**

Email: [sales@chelmsfordplumbingandheating.co.uk](mailto:sales@chelmsfordplumbingandheating.co.uk)  
[www.chelmsfordplumbingandheating.co.uk](http://www.chelmsfordplumbingandheating.co.uk)



Free Quotes

**EVERETT PAINTING**

- INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
- WALLPAPERING
- EST OVER 20 YRS
- FULLY INSURED
- ONLINE PORTFOLIO

**TEL 07595 534872**  
[www.everettpainting.biz](http://www.everettpainting.biz)

City & Guilds




**Village Roofing Ltd**

- New Roofs, repairs and general maintenance.
- 24 hour emergency call out.
- Chimneys and Lead work
- Blocked guttering & drains.

01245 843169  
 07946 242636  
[email:info@villageroofing.co.uk](mailto:info@villageroofing.co.uk)

Checka trade

**Old Park Meadow Natural Burial Ground**




We offer burials and ash interments, funerals, services and wakes.

Adaptable to any ceremony and a completely personalised service.

Reserving a plot in advance is also possible.

01245 806332 [oldparkmeadow.co.uk](http://oldparkmeadow.co.uk)  
 Coppice Lane, North End, Between Chelmsford & Great Dunmow, Essex, CM6 3PL

**YOUR LOCAL COUNTRY STORE**



**ernest DOE power**  
*where you can buy with confidence*

FYFIELD, ONGAR CM5 0NS  
 TEL: 01277 899464

**Jayne's Upholstery Classes Ltd**



10 week termly upholstery classes held at Little Waltham and Great Totham

For more information contact Jayne on 07881816889 or email [jayne.interiors@googlemail.com](mailto:jayne.interiors@googlemail.com)

**A & W Gowers LTD**  
 Specialist Joinery Manufacturers

A local family run company with many years of experience providing bespoke joinery to trade and private customers.

Conservation, Restoration, Ordinary or Contemporary, we can manufacture and install all types of work.

|              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| Windows      | Fitted Furniture |
| Doors        | Kitchens         |
| Conservation | Wardrobes        |
| Gates        | Bookcases        |
| Stairs       | ...and much more |

For free friendly advice and estimates please contact us at [www.awgowers.co.uk](http://www.awgowers.co.uk)  
 Howe Street, Great Waltham, Chelmsford  
 Telephone: 01245 362737

Now selling eco-friendly stove briquettes

**AD FUEL OILS LTD.**  
 Your local answer!

**NOW SELLING LPG AND AdBlue**



Commercial and general public welcome with easy access for all cars and vans

Yard sales from AD Fuel Oils Ltd  
 Barnters Lane, Great Leighs, Nr. Chelmsford, Essex CM3 1QX  
 Opening Hours: Monday-Friday: 8am - 5pm  
 Saturday: 8am - 1pm  
**01245 362616 • [www.adfuelfuels.co.uk](http://www.adfuelfuels.co.uk)**

Products available for collection or delivery:

|                      |                   |                      |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| • Petrol             | • Paraffin        | • Barrel dispensers  |
| • Diesel             | • AdBlue          | • Rotary pumps       |
| • Kerosene           | • LPG             | • Boiler additive    |
| • Gas Oil/Rod Diesel | • 20L containers  | (Additive for Age's) |
| • PBO                | • 205L containers |                      |

**Walthambury Stores**  
 Great Waltham, Essex



**Post Office opening times**  
 Monday to Saturday 7am to 8.00pm  
 (open lunch hours)  
 Sunday 8am to 6.00pm

When visiting the Post Office, why not use the shop? You will find -

Groceries, Fresh Produce, Sausages & Bacon, Newsagent, Stationery, Dry cleaning, Delicatessen, Frozen Food, Greeting Cards, Photocopying, National Lottery, Car Tax

**Barrack Lane, Great Waltham Telephone: 01245 360278**

**GALVIN GREEN MAN**  
HOWE ST.  
THE TASTE OF SUMMER IS BACK

FOUR-COURSE MENU CELEBRATING THE FLAVOURS OF SUMMER.

**£42 PER PERSON**  
AVAILABLE FROM 9TH JULY - 13TH SEPTEMBER 2024.  
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY FOR LUNCH AND DINNER.



WWW.GALVINRESTAURANTS.COM  
MAIN RD, HOWE STREET, GREAT WALTHAM, CHELMSFORD CM3 1BG.

**BOWMAN BESPOKE**

Specialists in media units, fitted wardrobes and built in cabinetry.

Beautiful fitted furniture with a personable approach.

www.bowmanbespokeltd.co.uk  
Phone: 07984947531  
Email: dean@bowmanbespokeltd.co.uk

Unit 3 Walthambury Farm, Pleshey Road, Great Waltham


**ALL ABOUT GARDENS**

Garden Maintenance & Clearance  
Tree Surgery & Removal  
Hard Landscaping



**Robert - 07879 003135**

**WILD AND ROOTED**  
FARMING



Exclusively grass-fed Aberdeen Angus beef.  
Sustainably reared in Gt Waltham

FROM FARM TO PLATE  
WILDANDROOTEDFARMING.CO.UK

**TMFIT**

**SPECIAL OFFERS**

5 X ONE-TO-ONE TRAINING £150

FREE GROUP TASTER SESSION

tmfit.co.uk  
07947 427 489

**TIMBER ASPECTS CONSTRUCTION**  
"Building on Reputation"  
Est.1997

All Aspects of Carpentry and Building

Listed building works  
Extensions Bathrooms  
Kitchens Plastering  
Cladding Maintenance  
Mini digger and dumper hire with driver  
Registered waste carrier and dealer

Call Tim 07770 877669  
A Gt. Waltham based business

**Petz & Potz**

Happy cat; happy home 

Local lady pet owner and horticulturist will look after your pets or plants while you are away (short or long term).

Ensuring that your pets are happy & cared for in their own surroundings.



**07880 700382**

*Barefoot Healing*

Ford End Chelmsford  
07957985192



Treatments available  
Reflexology  
Hopi Ear Candling  
Mian Dui Facial Ritual  
Hand reflexology

Late evening appointments

Thinking of an extension or conversion?  
Planning a home refurbishment?


**All domestic & commercial work undertaken**  
**Whatever your building requirements, we can help**



To find out more call 07762 811549  
or email [dtbuilders21@gmail.com](mailto:dtbuilders21@gmail.com)  
Based in Great Waltham



**SBC Building Services**



General Building Works  
Extensions  
Construction works  
Ensuring compliance with building codes and regulations.  
Free Quotations  
Contact Steve Hayward  
07947544129.  
[sbcbuildingservices41@gmail.com](mailto:sbcbuildingservices41@gmail.com)

**Natasha Allison Physiotherapy**

Womens' Health Physiotherapy

- All obstetric & gynaecology issues
- Scar treatment (following C-section, perineal tear, episiotomy or gynaecology surgery)
- Antenatal physiotherapy
- Postnatal physiotherapy
- Pelvic floor dysfunction
- Mummy MDT

**Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy**

- Sports injuries
- Post-orthopaedic surgery
- Chronic pain

Appointments available at The Nesting Place & in Great Waltham

To enquire please contact Natasha Allison at [naphysiotherapy@gmail.com](mailto:naphysiotherapy@gmail.com)  
07766500388

**GARDENING SERVICES**

Grass Cutting (free disposal of cuttings)  
Hedge Trimming  
Weed Control  
Lawn Treatment  
Garden Clearance  
General Tidy Ups  
Leaf Clearance  
Internal and External Painting and Decorating  
Fence and Shed Painting

Reliable & friendly service  
All of your gardening needs, all year round!  
Discounted regular visits or one-off visits available

**20% OFF**  
Discount on fortnightly grass cutting services

**M.B GARDEN MAINTENANCE**  
213

**PRICES FROM £15**  
Contact me for a free estimate!

Call or text 07946554935

Are you struggling to find the time to get everything done?  
Is your life one constant balancing act?  
Why don't you let me lighten the load

Let me be your extra pair of hands, helping you create balance in your life



**Handy Little Helper**

Contact Me:  
Francesca Bradford  
07780614747  
[bradford.handylittlehelper@gmail.com](mailto:bradford.handylittlehelper@gmail.com)  
[www.handylittlehelper.co.uk](http://www.handylittlehelper.co.uk)

**ARTHUR FRANCIS ACCOUNTANCY**

**Our aim?**  
To add value to your business, help it grow and reduce stress so that you can focus on other critical aspects of your business.

Ltd Company Accounts and Corporation Tax Returns  
Business Consultancy  
Cash Flow Management  
Bookkeeping

01245 922025  
[info@arthurfrancisaccountancy.co.uk](mailto:info@arthurfrancisaccountancy.co.uk)

**Christopher THE LOCKSMITH**

**ARE YOUR LOCKS BEHAVING BADLY?**

We Value Old Fashioned Customer Service  
A Local Trusted Family Business Since 1989

- Specialist in UPVC & Wooden Doors
- No Call Out Charge
- No Fix No Fee
- All Work Fully Guaranteed
- 10% Senior Citizen Discount

For More Advice & Help  
Call Christopher:  
**07772 111 222**

[www.christopherthelocksmith.co.uk](http://www.christopherthelocksmith.co.uk)

**RHP (Chelmsford)  
BOWLS CLUB**

Spacious Clubhouse

Bar

**Give Bowls a Go for Free**

**Friendly Club**

Come Along any Friday  
17th May- 16th August at 18:00  
(Coaching & Equipment provided)

**Ample Free Parking**

**Discounted joining fee**

Visit: [rhpsc.co.uk](http://rhpsc.co.uk) or Contact: Ian on 07840347901



## Great Waltham C of E Primary School



Congratulations to the group of year 5 children who attended this years 'Schools Gotta Dance' at the Chelmsford Theatre. They put on a truly excellent show that filled us with immense pride. Well done to all of the children for spending many lunchtimes perfecting their performance. Their enthusiasm and teamwork were truly commendable.

Furthermore, I am thrilled to share the success of our Year 5 and 6 pupils who recently embarked on their school journey to Bawdsey Manor in Suffolk. Engaging in a wide range of activities, including abseiling, canoeing, and participating in campfire singalongs, the children exhibited remarkable resilience and zest for adventure. The weather was wonderful, enhancing the outdoor experience, and the delicious food added to the joy of the trip. It was heartening to witness our pupils enjoying themselves and creating memories that will last a lifetime.

As we prepare to bid farewell to our departing Year 6 pupils and wrap up another successful academic year, I would like to extend my warmest wishes to you all for a restful and enjoyable summer break

Justine Brooks, Headteacher

## Walthambury WI



This month, we had a guided private tour around the house and gardens of Copped Hall in Epping. It was a splendid visit, seeing many reconstructed rooms in the Palladian mansion, which can be seen from the M25. The knowledge of our two guides was excellent. After refreshments, we went around the grounds and stunning walled garden.

Our July garden meeting was held at Blackchapel, North End, where we enjoyed a short talk on its history by Trustee Jennifer, followed by a quiz, then tea and a selection of homemade cakes.

In August, many members are visiting Tiptree Fruit Farms for a farm tour and cream tea.

## GREAT WALTHAM TWINNING BARBECUE



Members of Great Waltham Twinning got together on a glorious June afternoon for a barbecue before they all set off for a week in Ceyrat, the village's twin town in France. Mike and Alison Bridge hosted us in their beautiful garden, and we had the chance to chat, exchange tales of previous visits, meet new members and generally chill-out whilst enjoying the food and drink.

For any enquiries about Twinning, email

[joanna.2.steel@btinternet.com](mailto:joanna.2.steel@btinternet.com).

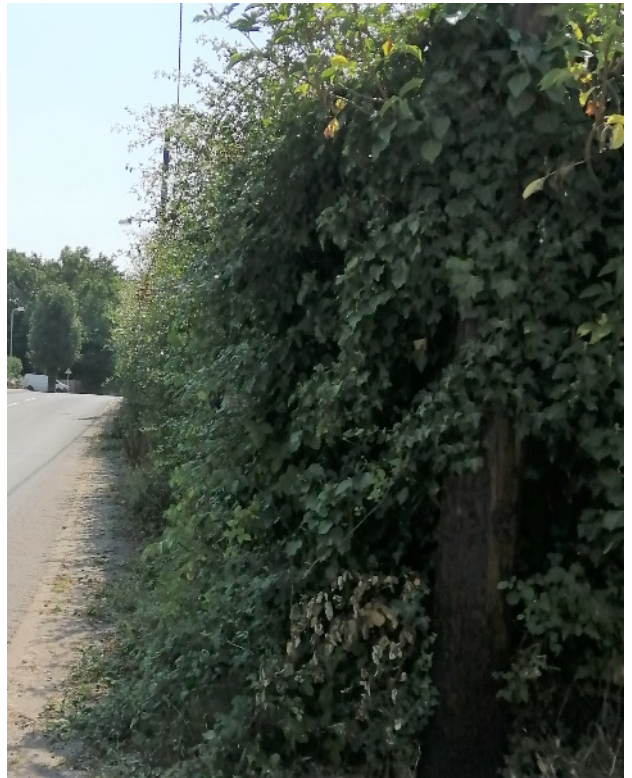
**Coffee Morning**  
Blackchapel, North End  
Come and join your neighbours  
for a coffee and chat for just £1  
Third Wednesday in the month  
10.30 - 12.00

## Is your overgrowth causing a problem?

I often get complaints about hedges overhanging pavements and making it dangerous for pedestrians, as they need to step out into the road. Essex County Council are the “Highway Authority” which means that they have a statutory responsibility for the maintenance of adopted roads and footpaths. This includes dealing with overhanging or encroaching vegetation. But most hedges adjacent to the highway/pavement are privately owned and it is the responsibility of the landowner to trim them. Can I ask that landowners keep an eye on their hedges, especially those that overhang the pavement, and that they take action to trim them back. The alternative is that residents can report them here: <https://www.essexhighways.org/tell-us>.

But if it is privately owned, Highways have to take the longer, expensive and legal route of enforcement and ultimately undertaking the work and then charging the landowner. Much better if we all look at our own hedges and take action for the benefit of the community.

In terms of when hedges can be cut back – you can do this at any time but it is an offence under Section 1 of the [Wildlife and Countryside Act of 1981](#), to intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built. The main bird breeding season is between March and August and the risk of committing any of the above offences is increased between these dates. That doesn't stop anyone trimming hedges during this period but if you undertake any work within these dates, you should check the hedge for any signs of breeding activity first.



Please, have a look at your hedge and make sure you aren't causing pedestrians to step into the road to avoid an overhanging hedge!



### THE HUNDRED PARISHES SOCIETY

[www.hundredparishes.org.uk](http://www.hundredparishes.org.uk)

Amongst the rich heritage, which is a distinguishing feature of The Hundred Parishes, there are many ancient houses that were built originally as a “hall house”, sometimes referred to as an “open hall house”. Many surviving houses that were built between the mid-13th and early 17th centuries had a standard three-part layout: a central ‘open hall’ flanked by two crosswings. The crosswings were of two storeys and were the same height as the single-storey hall that linked them. Individual houses sometimes had variations to this basic design. Daily life for members of the household was a communal affair, focused on the large central hall. It was heated by a fire that burned on a central hearth, its smoke rising to escape through vents in the roof. The use of a chimney to remove smoke generally came only in the 16th or 17th century. The crosswing at one end of the house contained a parlour with a chamber above called the solar, They were used by the head of the household and their immediate family. The other crosswing was a service area, accessed from a passage with front and back doors at either end. The passage also gave entry to the hall, from which it was partly screened. Each wing had its own stairs to the upper floor of that wing. Between about 1550 and 1650 AD, the open hall concept became less popular, with a desire for more privacy. Most open halls were remodelled with the insertion of a floor to make them two storeys. The open hearth was replaced with a fireplace and chimney.

This photo shows an example of a hall house in Howe Street.

The Society's website includes more than a hundred downloadable walk routes. Almost half of the routes pass a former hall house, and these are identified in the route description.

Ken McDonald, Secretary



## Allotments

Great Waltham Parish Council (GWPC) have plots available at both allotments sites in Great Waltham, at Brook Mead (behind the shop) and at Bury Lane. In addition to parish residents we are now able to offer plots to residents of neighbouring parishes. The plots vary in size with the average plot costing less than £16 per year. If you would like to take on an allotment or have friends or relatives in the parishes listed below who don't have access to an allotment where they live please contact the Clerk at GWPC for more information - [clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk).

Residents in the following parishes are now eligible to hire an allotment plot from GWPC; Broomfield, Little Waltham, Great & Little Leighs, Felsted, Little Dunmow, Barnston, High Easter, Pleshey, Chignall & Mashbury.



## Postal Votes during the General Election Mike Steel

I thought it might be worth updating residents on the postal vote situation that came to light during the run up to the election.

Many people I spoke to, said that they had not received their postal vote with just a week to go to polling day. I called Uttlesford District Council (UDC) several times to raise my concerns but was initially told that they had all gone out. It later transpired that 2,600 postal votes had not been printed and despatched, all in the area that covers Writtle, Broomfield and the Walthams, Boreham and the Leighs and Chelmsford Rural West. On realising this, UDC printed them all and put them in the post with less than a week to go.

Some people did not get them until the day before the election. I broadcast on social media that voters needed to immediately return them or take them to the polling station on the day. Of course, many people who were away, lost the chance to vote.

I spoke to the CEO of UDC at the count, and 77% of the affected votes did manage to get their vote back in time (standard expectation is 75%). Fortunately, the win margin was much greater than the unreturned votes, otherwise there would have been a case for appeal!

## Great Waltham Parish Council

The Pavilion, Great Waltham Recreation Ground, South Street,  
Great Waltham, CM2 1DF.  
Clerk, W J Adshead-Grant.  
Tel: 07880 717329. E Mail:  
[clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@greatwalthamparishcouncil.co.uk)

This is a summary of some items discussed at the June monthly meeting of the Parish Council. For more details, see the full and approved minutes of all Council meetings, available on our notice-boards and the parish website ([e-voice.org.uk/greatwalthamparish](http://e-voice.org.uk/greatwalthamparish)).

We received representations from residents concerning the village green located at the southern end of Church Lane, Ford End, at its junction with the main road (B1008). The Parish Council is the registered owner of this land, as recorded by Essex County Council in the Register of Town and Village Greens under reference VG150. We noted an adverse possession claim has been made on the green with the Land Registry. Residents raised concerns over the fence and hedge which have been installed on VG150 without our permission. We also noted that Essex Highways claim highway rights extend to 5-6 metres of the verge, and that they do not allow fencing and hedges to be planted where such rights exist unless a licence has been granted, and even then only provided visibility for road users is not impeded or a hazard has not been created. We agreed to make available from our reserves an initial sum of £1,000 to cover any legal fees incurred challenging the adverse possession claim.

Our ECC councillor Mike Steel confirmed that under the member-led pothole repair scheme, defects he had nominated, such as the remedial work between Pendon Hill and Pleshey, would commence on 23<sup>rd</sup> June. He also confirmed the school wig-wag lights at Ford End have been repaired and are operational again. In his city councillor role, Mike confirmed CCC would be looking to agree its response to National Grid's consultation before the revised deadline date of 26<sup>th</sup> July.

We resolved to take advantage of the offer from the landlord of our allotment sites to permit both a restructuring of how the rent element is charged to a plot holder as part of the overall annual hiring fee, and to allow residents from neighbouring parishes to take up vacant plots, that are not required by Great Waltham parishioners.

Our next monthly meeting will be on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August at the Pavilion, Great Waltham Recreation Ground, starting at 7.00pm. As always, all parishioners are welcome to attend our public meetings.

Steve Gilbert, Chair

### Ford End Senior Tea



There will not be a Ford End Senior tea this month of August.

I would like to wish everyone a lovely summer and see you in September.  
Sheila Bearman

### Waltham Wanderers

The next walks are planned for Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July and Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August.

All are welcome, no fee and enjoy walking about 5 or so miles. If you're interested in joining us, contact Clare Lyne at:

[clare.lyne11@googlemail.com](mailto:clare.lyne11@googlemail.com)



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: [gwwparishnews@gmail.com](mailto:gwwparishnews@gmail.com).

**Due to the Bank Holiday, the last date for inclusion in the September issue is August 9th**