



MARGARETTING NEWS

April 2014

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ST MARGARET'S CHURCH SERVICES IN APRIL

Sunday, 6th April 10am - Parish Communion

Sunday, 13th April 11am - Palm Sunday

Friday, 18th April 10am - Good Friday

Sunday, 20th April 10am - Easter Day

Sunday, 28th April - NO SERVICE

On Maunday Thursday 17th April there will be a Service at St Giles, Mountnessing at 8pm

In addition Margaretting Church will be open from 2.00-5.00pm on Sundays 6th and 20th April for anyone to visit. There will be tea/coffee and cake and music.

From Canon John D Brown:

Dear Residents of the Parish of Margaretting,

For those of you who do not know me, I was the Priest in Charge ('Vicar') of St. Margaret's, Margaretting, from September 1992 until October 1999. I lived with my wife Sue in the Vicarage in Pennys Lane.

It was my privilege recently to officiate at the Funeral and Thanksgiving Service for John Currie, a very significant member over a number of years of Margaretting's community - a farmer, a Chairman of the Parish Council, and a Churchwarden of St. Margaret's Church. Margaretting Church was packed for the service, for many there was standing room only within the Church, and some stood outside. One member of the congregation, clearly a visitor, asked me if such an attendance was a common feature of the Church? I found myself responding: 'Sadly, No!'

My reason for writing this letter, to be distributed to all the residents of the Parish, is to bring to your attention my deep anxiety about the future of Margaretting's Church with respect to its continuance to be the community's place for worship on a Sunday. I was not aware until recently that just prior to the departure last autumn of the Revd. Jean Haliday, it was decided that on account of the poor attendance at the weekly Sunday Service, Services would generally only be held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, it being considered discourteous to those being invited to lead worship on the 2nd and 4th Sundays if the congregation consisted of only a small handful of people and some of these not resident in the parish.

Margaretting's Church has always suffered as a result of its geographical location. Without a car or bicycle it is inaccessible to the majority. Indeed when during the late '90s I was leading its Services, some congregation members were regularly picked up from the village and brought to the Church by minibus. Furthermore I am very much aware that during

recent years some of Margaretting's key residents have moved away or died, and others have not chosen to 'put on their shoes.'

My question is: 'To what extent are today's residents of Margaretting concerned as to the future of their Parish Church?' I have pledged myself to the extent that I am able to underwrite the provision of worship on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month until such times as a decision is made as to a future pattern of ministry which may or may not include Margaretting. I long that whether or not you are interested in attending Margaretting Church, you nevertheless feel you 'own' it as a very significant component within village life. Some of you may have been baptised there, married there, attended funerals there; some of you may have been present at services of worship on particular occasions, Christmas, Easter, Harvest Festival, or as a result of your children being educated at Margaretting School.

I would welcome residents e-mailing me: canonjbrown@mac.com or 'phoning me 01245 358185, or writing to me at 556, Galleywood Road, Chelmsford, CM2 8BX. **I would be very happy to chair a public meeting** when we could talk about 'your Church', since as residents of Margaretting, St. Margaret's **is your Church**. We are told that many people these days are seeking space, time for quiet, answers to difficult questions. Margaretting Church offers responses to all of these. The Services of the Church are not set in stone: there is room for flexibility both in time and content. But unless people say what they want their Church to be for them, there is a real danger the Church will continue to answer questions which are not being asked, and fail to hear those which are, and as the ultimate, Margaretting Church may be permanently shut.

So here is both my very deep concern which I hope you also share, and my invitation. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely, John D Brown

MARGARETTING PARISH COUNCIL - MARCH MEETING

DEMOCRATIC TIME

Three members of the public were present. Matters raised included the Flood Alleviation Scheme and recent Police activity at a property in Maldon Road.

REDUCED SPEED LIMITS FOR WANTZ ROAD, WRITTLE ROAD AND MARGARETTING ROAD

The survey results and our proposal for a lower speed limit will be considered by Local Highways Panel at its April meeting.

A12 SLIP ROAD

Reports of someone occupying the wooden shed which has been erected on the raised verge adjacent to the A414 have been reported to Essex Highways. A silver car has been seen parked along side the shed.

BRIDLEWAYS & FOOTPATHS

Parsonage Lane: The flooding problem caused by a blocked ditch in the verge in front of 'The Parsonage' is to be sorted out by the owners private contractors. Essex Highways do not have the funds to carry out this work.

BUS SHELTERS

A litter bin is to be installed for the new shelter outside the Red Lion. We have asked the Essex Highways' Transport Officer to arrange a temporary stop whilst the shelter opposite the Black Bull is being repaired.

ALLOTMENTS & PLAY AREA

Youths from outside the village, having parked their cars in Maldon Road, have been seen gathering in the youth shelter. Litter is being thrown on the grass and not in the litter bins.

VILLAGE SPRING CLEAN

Saturday, 12th April at 10.30am.
See next page.

FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME

Preliminary works have started and Margarettng Tye residents have had cause to make a number of complaints to the Environment Agency (EA) about the damage being done to Swan Lane. It is understood the EA and Essex Highways, to prevent further damage, will be carrying out road repairs/improvements. It was reported that a contractor's lorry had been seen driving through the village and contractors are working on Sundays. At our last meeting the parish council was assured by the EA that no vehicles would access Swan Lane via the village and there would be no Sunday working.

Clearance works to west side of river Wid has started. The number of mature trees due to be felled is still provoking feelings of anger and resentment because the extent of the tree felling had not been made clear when we attended the planning committee's site visit. Also, the planning committee's PA system was so poor when the scheme was being considered that no one in the public seating area could hear what was being said about the trees. And, despite EA assurances there would be silent piling the house owners most affected by the scheme have now been told this may not be the case.

The parish council advises members of the community to register all concerns and complaints direct with the EA or the contractor. Contact details are:

Ian Dodson (EA) 01733 464316
David Gee (Contractor) 07966 624116

ACCOUNTS

The expenditure agreed was:
£500 - Ingleton Wood (Project Fee)
£273 - C Kochan (Clerk)

VILLAGE PROJECTS

Parish Council Office: Work on the new room starts on 17th March.

Village Hall Road Sign: Highways has issued instructions not to install the signs until permission is granted

Garden opposite the school: The railings are being repaired. Thanks were recorded for Brian Smith who kindly volunteered to do the necessary repairs.

VILLAGE INTERNET

Our request for comments on the broadband service to the village prompted one response only.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

Chelmsford City Council's Election Officer has been informed. We are waiting to receive an official vacancy notice for the notice boards.

PARISH CLEANSING DAYS

Chelmsford City Council's Street Care Team will be in the village on 8th May

PLANNING

The following applications were received for comments:

14/00338/ful - The Old Vicarage, Church Lane: Part single/part two storey rear extension

14/00337/ADV and 14/00350/LBC - Red Lion Public House, Main Road: Assorted illuminated and non illuminated signage.

The following decisions were noted:

14/00048/FUL - Whitewebs, Main Road: Part two storey, part single storey rear extension.

Grant Planning Permission

13/01851/FUL - 2, Wantfield Cottages, Wantz Road: Part two storey, part single storey side and rear extension.

Grant Planning Permission

MARGARETTING PARISH COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION

Penny Savill (Chairman),
The Martins, Main Road, CM4 9JB

Harry Blurton (Vice-Chairman),
Chalksfield, The Tye, Margarettng, CM4 9JX

Tim Boem - Mayrose Cottage, Main Road, CM4 9HX

Lynn Edwards - 7 Bank End, Maldon Road, CM4 9JH

Colin Quilter - 3 Crondon Hall Cottages, The Tye,
Margarettng, CM4 9JU

Michael Scott - Yew Tree Cottage, Main Road, CM4 9HZ

Peter Slade - 3, Whitesbridge Cottages, Maldon Road, CM4 9JS

Anthony Smith - Whites Bridge Farm, Maldon Road, CM4 9JS

Caroline Kochan (Clerk to the Parish Council)
1, Entrance Lodge, Coptfold Hall Farm, Writtle Road, CM4 0EJ
E-mail: parishcouncil.margarettng@virgin.net

Ian Grundy (Ward Councillor and Essex County Councillor)
5, Thornton Place, Stock, CM4 9NQ

ART CLASSES

The art classes at the village hall, now in their eighth year, are continuing to run on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The classes are small and friendly, and all abilities are welcome. There are beginners with everything to learn, alongside the more experienced, who come to brush up on their skills in the company of other like minded adults sharing an interest in art. I have had great pleasure over the years in watching several people who have joined as complete beginners, gaining in skill and confidence to become competent artists.

The classes cover drawing and painting in different mediums, in various subjects, including portraits, landscape, still life, or sometimes looking at the work of famous artists, so all interests are catered for. In addition, starting on April 22nd, I will be offering a new, 6 week course on water-colour painting, on Tuesday mornings.

If you would like to find out more, or feel you would like to join in, call Susan on 01277 353973, or pop in to the Chelmer room and see what we are doing.

susankeeble-artist@moonfruit.com

BINGO

Bingo will start again on Wednesday, 9th April - 7.30 for 8pm - in the village hall. We look forward to seeing all our old members and hopefully many new players.

VILLAGE SPRING CLEAN

Saturday, 12th April at 10.30am. Volunteers needed to help litter pick. Meet outside the Black Bull. Litter picks, gloves and plastic litter sacks provided.

OVER 60S CLUB

The club's AGM and fish and chip lunch is on Wednesday, 2nd April. On 16th April we have 'Rosemary's games' and on 30th April we look forward to an interesting talk by Mrs B Britten. New members are always made very welcome.

Our meetings start at 2pm and are held in the village hall. For more information contact June or Don Moore on 01277 356126.

EASTER LILLIES

Easter Sunday is 20th April this year and as usual, we would appreciate donations towards our traditional Arum Lily pedestal, arranged in memory of loved ones.

The lilies cost approximately £3 per bloom, which we appreciate is a little high. Therefore, we have a general flower fund and all donations are gratefully received. If you are making a donation and would like a loved ones name mentioned please advise at the time. All monies and names should be sent to Margaret Boxall at Tarporley, Pennys Lane, or telephone 01277 354844 as soon as possible. Thank you once again for your support. *Margaret Boxall.*

FAMILY FUN DAY

Saturday, 12th July

Suzie, Julie and the Family Fun Day team are looking for volunteers to help out on the day and to join their committee to plan the day. Please contact Julie at The Black Bull if you would like to join them. Also, they are looking for ready made teams (or people to make up a team) for a tug-of-war contest on the day. This used to be an annual event and was always great fun! And, finally, if anyone has anything they'd like to donate in advance, i.e. raffle prizes, tombola items, bottles etc. then to please pass to Julie as well.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Wednesday, 23rd April at 5.30pm in the village school, Pennys Lane. Anyone on the electoral roll of St Margaret's church can attend.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

If you are interested in being co-opted onto the parish council please contact the Clerk to the parish council Mrs Caroline Kochan - her email address is parishcouncil.margaretting@virgin.net Alternatively, you could contact a member of the parish council or come along to our next meeting. Parish Council meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the meeting room at the village hall.

MOTHERS UNION

Meetings are held in St John's Church Hall, Mountnessing 2.30 to 4.00 on the third Thursday of each month. If you would like more information about our annual programme of events please contact Diana Bandy on 01277 353178.

BOOK CLUB

We meet again on Wednesday, 23rd April when we will be discussing two well known classics - 'Little Women' by Louisa M. Alcott and 'Mill on the Floss' by George Eliot. Books on order from the library for future reading are 'The Husband's Secret' by Lianne Moriarty, 'Life after Life' by Kate Atkinson and 'The Secret Keeper' by Kate Morton.

APRIL RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

Black bins and food waste

Every Tuesday

Brown bin, paper sack and bagged plastics & cartons

Tuesdays 1st, 15th and 29th

Green box and card sack

Tuesdays 8th and 22nd

MARGARETTING TYE

Black bins and food waste

Every Wednesday

Brown bin, paper sack and bagged plastics & cartons

Wednesdays 2nd, 16th and 30th

Green box and card sack

Wednesdays 9th and 23rd

MARGARETTING FRIENDS

A well attended AGM saw the voting in of a new committee with Lynn Cameron as President for the forthcoming year. Thanks were given for the work and support which Rosemary Carter and the outgoing committee had given to Margaretting Friends over the past three years. A new initiative which received unanimous support at the AGM is for The Friends to hold regular coffee mornings in the village hall. The Friends will continue giving its support to village projects and events. REMUS - a local animal rescue centre - is our chosen charity for 2014. Our meetings are held on the third Monday of every month at 7.30pm in the Chelmer Room.

Family Fun Day and Horticultural Show

With the Family Fun Day and Horticultural Show fast approaching here is a full list of all the horticultural classes to help you plan in advance any possible entries.

It is possible that many gardeners are too shy to enter exhibits in the horticultural show put off by the thought that those who exhibit are some kind of expert with secret knowledge and a special ability. Don't be afraid, they all had to start somewhere. If you've grown it and are proud of it, then show it! Remember in any show the exhibits that don't win a prize ticket are just as important as those that do.

1. Three Potatoes White
2. Three Potatoes Coloured
3. Three Onions, Unskinned (Seed Grown)
4. Three Onions, Unskinned (Set Grown)
5. Three Shallots
6. Three Carrots
7. Three Courgettes
8. Three Broad Beans
9. Six Pods of Peas
10. One Cabbage
11. Three Beetroot
12. One Lettuce
13. Six Chilli Peppers

14. Four Sticks of Rhubarb
15. Six Strawberries
16. Six Raspberries with Stalks
17. Six Bunches of Red or Blackcurrants
18. Three of any other Vegetable not listed
19. Collection of Vegetables, Four Kinds.
Three of Each in a Box.
(The box will be supplied 20x20 inches)
20. One Bloom, Large Flowered Rose, any Colour
21. One Stem of Most Fragrant Rose
(Judged on Fragrance alone)
22. Two Stems, Cluster Flowered Roses
23. Two Stems Old Fashioned Type Roses
24. Two Stems of Rambler and/or Climbing Roses
25. Six Sweet Peas
26. Three Stems of Herbaceous Perennials - Same Variety
27. A Single Stem of a Named Flowering Shrub
28. Collection of Mixed Flowers
29. One Cactus or Succulent
30. One Potted Plant
31. Collection of Mixed Herbaceous Perennials
32. Collection of Foliage from Trees and Shrubs

Helen Boem (Horticultural Show)

SCHOOL NEWS

The school will be breaking up for Easter soon and this half of the term has been busy as usual with a few extra surprises along the way.

Firstly, as soon as we came back from the half term break we were informed of an unexpected Ofsted inspection the very next day! We are very proud to say all went well and we were awarded the overall standard of 'Good', with the children's behaviour and safety gaining an 'Outstanding' as quoted in the Ofsted report and several other points marked as 'Outstanding' and 'Good'.

At the end of March the whole school enjoyed a wonderful day out to France. This trip to Dunkirk was kindly spon-

sored by Floodcom, who have also thoughtfully supplied the school with some Technical resources.

Great fun was to be had by all when we imaginatively dressed up as book characters for World Book Day. The school also organised a collection, helped by the children of class 3 who designed posters to show around school, for donations of clothes, toys and food for the Ingatestone Postmen's Charity appeal 'Aid for Kosovo'.

Class 2 were studying the Romans and due to the refurbishment of Colchester Castle, they went for a day trip to the Museum of London in 'Londinium' to see the many artefacts that have been found in the local area.

Our school is 150 years old this year and to do some research on the subject Class 3 went to the Records Office in Chelmsford where they looked at old maps and log books for information about the school. As an extra treat they also had a tour of the Records Office and saw King Charles I bible, and Captain James Cook wedding register plus many other historical documents.

It was wonderful to have a visit by Rev. Jean, where she also kindly showed us all the lovely stole that was made using the children's designs to be worn at services attended by the school.

Have a lovely Easter!

Margaretting Village Hall - 'Palm Wine & Stout' - Tuesday, 20th May at 7.30pm

This play written by acclaimed poet, composer and playwright Segun Lee-French is a funny and emotional play based on the writer's own visit back to a small Nigerian village in search of his father.

The story, which focuses on Taiye, a young British man on a quest to find out more about his African heritage, draws some fascinating parallels with English village life. Produced by East Anglia's regional touring company Eastern Angles, Palm Wine & Stout premiered in

2010 when it received fantastic feedback from audiences and critics. Now the show is touring to a much wider audience right across the East of England. Directed by the company's Artistic Director Ivan Cutting, this play will strike a cord with all those familiar with the traditions, eccentricities and petty politics of village life! Tickets £8 (16's and under £5).

To buy your tickets please telephone Jennie and Michael Scott on 01277 354821

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The period covered in the following update ranges from Sunday, 23rd February to Saturday, 14th March.

18:00 23/02/2014 – 10:00 24/02/2014
Heath Road, Ramsden Heath.
Entry gained to premises by cutting through a chain securing a gate, trailer and other items stolen

18:00 23/02/2014 – 10:00 24/02/2014
Heath Road, Ramsden Heath.
Barn broken into by forcing doors, items stolen including vehicle wheels, lead statue and bronze replicas

14:00 24/02/2014 – 17:00 25/02/2014
Main Road, Margaretting.
Entry gained to outbuilding through forcing a window, items stolen from within.

03:00 26/02/2014
Downham Road, Ramsden Heath
Entry gained to secure vehicle by means unknown, computer items stolen from within

09:00-13:00 26/02/2014
Main Road, Margaretting.
Entry gained to insecure outbuilding, bicycle removed from within.

20:00 28/02/2014 – 09:30 01/02/2014
Crowsheath Lane, Downham.
Vehicle stolen from driveway by means unknown.

12:00 03/03/2014 – 12:00 07/03/2014
Wantz Road, Margaretting.
Entry gained to shed by unscrewing hinges and folding doors back. Three bicycles stolen and garden equipment.
Entry to premises gained through neighbouring fence.

12:45 06/03/2014
Main Road, Margaretting.
Attempted theft of post from a letter box – male disturbed by the homeowner – description of suspect – black male, approx. 20 years, grey flat cap, navy jeans, black shirt.

17:00 07/03/2014 – 17:30 09/03/2014
Downham Road, Downham.
Entry gained to secure shed by removing hasp, items stolen from within including bicycle and garden equipment.

20:00 08/03/2014 – 08:30 09/03/2014
Downham Road, Downham.
Lock broken from a tack room, items stolen from within, entry gained across farmers' fields

22:00 08/03/2014 – 05:40 09/03/2014
Castledon Road, Downham.
Entry gained to insecure barn, vehicle stolen from within.

17:15 12/03/2014 – 07:00 13/03/2014
Matgaretting Tye.
Site entered by removing fencing, pressure washer stolen

Also, I can confirm a cannabis factory has been located in Maldon Road on Monday 10th March. This is currently under investigation.

As you are well aware, crime does travel, so I respectfully ask that you make a note of index numbers and report any sightings.

If you witness any suspicious activities day or night, please report it as soon as possible.

Jemma Carr
PCSO 71018
South Woodham Ferrers Neighbourhood Policing Team
Telephone 101 - extension 421001

USEFUL CONTACTS

POT HOLES

To report a pot hole - telephone 0845 603 7631 or post a report on line via Essex Highways website:
www.essexhighways.org/Report-a-highways-problem.aspx

FLY TIPPING

To report flying tipping - telephone 01245 606800 and ask for Environmental Services. Alternatively, post a report on line via Chelmsford City Council's website:
www.chelmsford.gov.uk/fly-tipping

PLASTIC SACKS

Additional bags can be picked up from Julie Jones.
Telephone 01277 354504

FOOD WASTE BAGS

Additional bags are available from Penny Savill.
Telephone 01277 356182

DOG WASTE BAGS

These bags are available from Keith Young.
Telephone 01277 354516

PEACE OF MIND WHILE YOU'RE AWAY

The following tips, giving advice on making your home and belongings more secure, have been copied from a Home Office leaflet. Before you go on holiday ...

- Make your home look like someone is living in it. Don't close your curtains - in daytime this shows the house is empty. Use automatic timer-switches to turn your lights on when it goes dark.
- Cancel any milk or newspaper deliveries.
- Avoid discussing holiday plans where strangers may hear details of your absence.
- Cut the lawn before you go and trim back any plants that burglars could hide behind.
- Uncollected mail is a sign that you are away. The Royal Mail 'Keepsafe' service (0845 7777 888) will keep your mail for up to 66 days while you are away.
- Consider leaving important documents and valuable items with other family members or a bank.
- Do not put your home address on your luggage when you are travelling to your holiday destination.
- If you normally leave valuable pedal cycles or similar items in your shed, consider putting them in the house
- Finally, make sure that you've locked all outside doors and windows and, if you have a burglar alarm, make sure it is set.

VILLAGE HALL ACTIVITIES

What's on in April

Please note bookings are weekly unless otherwise stated.

Mondays

Pilates 9.30 – 10.30am; 10.45 – 11.45am Main Hall; 7 – 8pm Main Hall
Margaretting Friends – 14th – 7.30pm – Chelmer Room – All welcome

Tuesdays

Multiple Sclerosis Society - "Getting to Grips" (six weekly sessions) - Main Hall 7pm
Stitch and Chat – 1st, 15th and 29th 9.30am – 12 noon – Meeting Room
Art Class – 1st, 22nd and 29th - 2 – 4.00pm – Chelmer Room

Wednesdays

Dance to Fitness – 9.30 – 10.30am – Main Hall 2nd and 30th
French Class – 10am – 12 noon – Meeting Room 2nd and 30th
Over 60's Club – 2nd, 16th and 30th – 2pm - Main Hall
Bingo - 9th and 23rd - 7.30pm - Main Hall

Thursdays

Pilates 9.30 – 10.30am Main Hall; 7.30 – 8.30pm Main Hall
Art Class – 10.00am – 12 noon – Chelmer Room 3rd and 24th
Village Hall Committee meeting - 3rd – 7.30pm – Meeting Room
Parish Council meeting – 10th – 7.30pm – Meeting Room

Fridays

Stitch and Chat – 9.30am – 12 noon – Main Hall

Saturdays

Pirouette School of Dance – 5th – 8.30am – 1.30pm – Main Hall
Hindu Dharma Society – 19th - 5pm Main Hall

Sundays

Loose Threads Patchwork Group – 13th – 9.30am – 6pm – Main Hall

**For further details or queries for private functions
please contact April Nixon (Booking Secretary)
on 07794 187741**

DIARY DATES

Wednesday, 9th & 23rd April
7.30pm

Bingo in the village hall

Saturday, 12th April at 10.30am
Village Spring Clean
Meet outside the Black Bull

Tuesday, 20th May (7.30pm)
Margaretting Village Hall
Eastern Angles Spring Tour 2014
'Palm Wine and Stout'
Tickets £8 (16's and under £5)
To buy tickets contact Jennie or
Michael Scott on 01277 354821

Coach Outings

Saturday, 14 June 2014
RHS Gardens at Wisley

Thursday, 10 July 2014
Hampton Court Flower Show
(or Palace)

Saturday, 11 October 2014
Waterperry Gardens Oxfordshire
'Apple Festival' Weekend
To book a coach outing contact
Ann Monk on 01277 352869

Saturday, 12th July (1pm - 4pm)
Margaretting Village Hall
Family Fun Day and
Horticultural Show

MOBILE LIBRARY Fortnightly on Thursday afternoons, 3rd and 17th April
at 3.20-3.35pm in Maldon Road in the lay-by opposite the playing field.

SHOPPER BUS Margaretting to Asda Supermarket, Chelmer Village - Tuesday mornings
Margaretting to Tesco Supermarket, Wood Street - Thursday mornings
leaving Orton Close at 11.00am, Maldon Road at 11.02am, Main Road at 11.04am.

TRUST BUS Margaretting to Ingatestone, Friday mornings
leaving the Pond, Main Road at 9.55am, Orton Close at 10.00am
and returning from Ingatestone at 11.15am

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