



# MARGARETTING NEWS

## February 2013

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### 200 CLUB

For those of you who are not aware we run a 200 club with all proceeds going to the village hall. This year's subscriptions have increased to £10 due to a drop in the membership. We have quarterly draws with a top prize of £100 and total prize money for the year of £880. Please see the enclosed letter with details on how to renew your subscription or join the 200 club. Thank you for your support.

*Paul Maynard*

### SURVIVING WINTER

If you struggle to cope during spells of severely cold weather there is help available to stay warm and well this winter. Don't be caught out in the cold. Do contact Brenda Smith, your village agent, who can help you receive the essentials to see you through the worst of the winter. Brenda can be contacted on telephone 07540 720612

### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Should you need to contact a Police Sergeant about a local Policing matter your point of contact is now Ps 214 Phil Morley.

E-mail: [phil.morley@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:phil.morley@essex.pnn.police.uk)

Ps Morley is based at South Woodham Ferrers Police Station, Tyler's Ride, South Woodham Ferrers, CM3 5XD.

Opening hours Mon - Sat 12:00 - 18:00.

Closed Sundays.

Any concerns or incidents in Margaretting should still be reported to: Maldon & South Woodham Neighbourhood Policing Team. Telephone 101 Ext. 421500

### ST MARGARET'S CHURCH SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

Sunday, 3rd February 10am - Parish Communion  
Sunday, 10th February 4pm - Family Service  
Sunday, 17th February 10am - Parish Communion  
Sunday, 24th February No Service

### ST MARGARET'S CHURCH

Bishop John Wraw, Bishop of Bradwell has asked communities in the Bradwell Area to look at what can we do during Lent.

During the season of Lent, as we prepare for the Easter Celebration, many people give up eating chocolate, drinking wine, eating meat. Bishop John's suggestion is we give up some of our time to do or offer time to others in the community - the separate article (on the back page) 'Community Engagement' has some ideas after discussion at the Parish Council meeting.

Perhaps another suggestion to put into the melting pot would be to offer transport to someone who

used to attend church but can no longer get there under their own steam. Once a month is better than not getting there at all.

There are good ideas already and I look forward to hearing what response comes from the ideas already suggested. It may be that whatever comes from this will continue past Lent.

We continue to pray for the community each week and during February we will be praying for:

Margaretting Friends 3<sup>rd</sup> February  
Wantz Road 10<sup>th</sup> February  
Writtle Road 17<sup>th</sup> February

*Revd Jean 01277 354359*

### EASTERN ANGLES

Tuesday, 9th April (7.30pm)  
Margaretting Village Hall

### "The Long Life & Great Good Fortune of John Clare"

Eastern Angles tell the story of a man who believes he is the 'peasant poet' John Clare. The psychiatrist tries to fathom the reasons behind her patient's delusion but her partner is fixated on his own version of the legend. In their research for the truth the characters reveal some startling stories.

John Clare is remembered for his life more than his poetry - labourer, womaniser, walker visionary, lunatic.

In Tony Ramsay's play, a new history emerges.

To book your seats please telephone Jennie or Michael Scott on 01277 354821. Tickets £8. No concessions.



# MARGARETTING PARISH COUNCIL - JANUARY MEETING

## DEMOCRATIC TIME

Four members of the public present. Matters brought to the attention of the parish council included:

1. **Chelmer Housing Partnership.** The policy for the allocation of CHP's vacant properties in the village. We explained housing allocations are dealt with by CHP but as a parish council we would like to see more families with connections in Margarettng who wished to move into the village given an opportunity to do so.

2. **Road Drains in Maldon Road** The number of blocked drains needing attention. The increase in the extent of surface water in the vicinity of Ynamit since Highways (Essex County Council) had completed its kerb side drain improvement works in Maldon Road. We agreed to refer these matters to Chelmsford City Council's Environmental Services.

## BRIDLEWAYS & FOOTPATHS

We are still waiting for the Highways (ECC) Public Rights of Way Officer's response to our report concerning exposed wires on Bridleway 43. The wires have been covered over temporarily.

## STREET LIGHTING

The part night street lighting, due to begin this year, will include all the street lights in Margarettng. The pilot scheme in Uttlesford and Maldon which started in 2007 has delivered energy savings of 20% (approx £70,000 per annum). These street lights are switched off between 12 midnight and 5am.

## ACCOUNTS

The expenditure agreed this month was: £140 (Active Signs).

## POT HOLES

Our complaint that recent pot hole repairs in the village are not up to standard had been forwarded to Highways (ECC). It was noted that some of the potholes had been repaired again.

## VILLAGE SITES

**Lavender Bank:** Estimates for the labour costs associated with the railway sleepers have been requested.

**Garden opposite school:** Our appreciation to local resident Brian Smith was expressed and noted. Brian's generous offer to carry out the required work to the railings around the garden for the cost of materials only was accepted last month.

**Diamond Jubilee Bench:** The plaque to indicate the bench commemorates the queen's diamond jubilee has been fixed to the bench.

## ALLOTMENTS & PLAY AREA

No reported incidents in the recreation field. Two people have expressed an interest in renting an allotment.

## PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE

We were disappointed to learn that we had been unsuccessful in our bid for funding from CCC. We are still waiting to hear the outcome of our application for funding from MAZTEC.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

We discussed a new co-operative endeavour (between the Diocese of Chelmsford and ECC) which is aimed at increasing the sense of community and effecting a change in culture through volunteering.

**See back page.**

## FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME

The date for the planning application to be considered by CCC's Planning Committee is now thought to be Monday, 4th March.

## WHITES BRIDGE WALK BOARDS

The landscape architect's ideas for the walk boards project were discussed. These included installing hard wood boards, upright posts cast in smooth concrete and steel handrails. The idea of including some installation art - pattern concrete posts - comprising children's art at the bridge and either end of the line of walk boards was thought to be an interesting project that the local school may like to explore. It was also suggested the installation art posts could be cast in a slightly different shape and size. There was a mixed reaction as to whether the railings should be painted a reflective white so that they would be visible in car headlights at night. We agreed the inclusion of a 'Welcome to Margarettng' sign could form part of the scheme. Three possible locations were put forward for consideration at a later date.

It was noted all these ideas and suggestions are subject to ECC Highways comments and safety audit.

## PLANNING

The following were received:

12/01833/CLUED - Whites Yard, Main Road. The storage and repair of motor vehicles.

12/01878/CLOPUD - Park Lodge Bungalow, Writtle Road. Single storey side and rear extensions and construction of a detached cart lodge.

12/00072/S195 - Wells Farm, Ivy Barn Lane. Detached garage and cart lodge. Appeal Ref: APP/W1525/X/12/218944.

## DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, 14 February at 7.30pm in the meeting room in the village hall.

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## FLY TIPPING PROBLEMS

If you would like to report a problem relating to fly-tipping you can contact Chelmsford City Council by:

- **Email** [enviromental.services@chelmsford.gov.uk](mailto:enviromental.services@chelmsford.gov.uk)  
Provide as much detail about the problem as possible, e.g. location, type of litter, size of fly tip etc.
- **Telephone** 01245 606800 Ask for Environmental Services
- **Online** via a **Streetscene Form**

Visit [www.chelmsford.gov.uk](http://www.chelmsford.gov.uk)

Choose option '**Planning & Environment**' then '**Environmental Crime**' and then '**Fly Tipping**' for the **Streetscene Form**.

## 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



## VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT

The VDS is a record of Margaretting village and its country setting as seen through the eyes of those living in the village in 2004/5. It sets out guidelines affirmed by these residents as to how the history and character of the village should be respected in any development or change.

Every household in Margaretting should have a copy. A sticker on the front page reads 'in the event that you vacate the property to which this VDS is delivered, please ensure that the document is passed to the new occupier'. If you do not have a copy please contact Michael Scott on 01277 354821 or Michael.john.scott@hotmail.co.uk

## SPRING TIME

Spring is the time of year to tidy up the garden and do all those outdoor jobs which have laid dormant over the winter period - here are some useful tips to reduce the risk of crime.

**Security mark** gardening equipment and power tools by using an overt property marking system.

**Securely lock away** your tools when you've finished each day - they could be used to break into your home or stolen to sell on.

**Use chains to secure** ladders and wheelie bins when not in use - they could be used as climbing aids.

**Defensive Planting** - you can take added measures to protect weak spots and gaps in your boundary with defensive planting. Consider planting prickly plants, rose bushes, bushes and shrubs this spring, around vulnerable areas such as windows, fences and boundary walls as this will help deter burglars. Some examples of prickly planting are: Pyracantha (Firethorn) - all varieties; Prunus Spinosa (Blackthorn); Mahonia - all varieties; Ilex (Holly) - aquifolium varieties; Rose - climbing and rambling; Berberis - Ottawensis Superba; *Trisha Staerck, Crime Reduction & Architectural Liaison Officer, Chelmsford & Maldon Districts, New Street, Chelmsford*

## VILLAGE HALL

### COMMITTEE REPORT

The new year started well with a new member joining the village hall committee. Rev. Jean Halliday has agreed to become the representative for the parochial church council. This will create better cohesion between the village and the church. In addition our new secretary started and has already proved to be very helpful and constructive.

Contact: Lynn Cameron, 01277 355575 or margaretting70@btinternet.com.

Our finances continue to be healthy so we have decided not to increase hall charges this year. Interior decorating will be complete when the main hall is finished. Exterior maintenance will be continued when the weather gets better. We are still waiting to hear if we can get volunteers to clear the ditch rather than pay £900. It was agreed that Pat, our cleaner would be asked to put out the chairs and tables for the Over 60's Club and any extra time would be charged as overtime.

The 200 Club is only covering the prizes and not creating any funds so we agreed to raise the price to £10 per year. When we were discussing it I realised just how much work Paul was doing behind the scenes, so a big thank you to him on behalf of the village.

*Michael Scott*

## MARGARETTING FRIENDS

We meet again on Monday, 18th February in the Chelmer Room at the usual time of 7.30pm. If you would like more information or are interested in joining Margaretting Friends please contact Rosemary Carter on 01277 350553 or just come along to one of our meetings. We meet on the third Monday of every month in the evening at 7.30pm in the Chelmer Room at the village hall.

## OVER 60S CLUB

The bring and buy on 6th January, our first meeting in the new year, was a great success and raised some extra funds for the club. On the 23rd club members celebrated the New Year with an excellent meal from the 'Black Bull'. We meet this month on 6th February and again on the 20th for a regular club afternoon of chat and a cuppa, bingo and games with friends and neighbours.

## FEBRUARY COLLECTIONS

**Black bin and food waste**  
Every Tuesday

**Brown bin, paper sack and bagged plastics & cartons**  
Tuesdays 5th and 19th

**Green box and card sack**  
Tuesdays 12th and 26th

**Margaretting Tye**  
**Black bins and food waste**  
Every Wednesday

**Brown bin, paper sack and bagged plastics & cartons**  
Wednesdays 6th and 20th

**Green box and card sack**  
Wednesdays 13th and 27th

## BOOK CLUB

Barbara Taylor Bradford's 'The Ravenscar Dynasty' received a thumbs down review from the book club. "Boring" "badly written" "narrative lacked pace and energy" "reading it was like walking through treacle" "it was like reading a script for an Edwardian soap opera with a regular sprinkling of murders and love affairs" are just a few of the comments made about this novel.

This month's meeting is on Wednesday, 27th. Our book for discussion is Kathryn Stockett's 'The Help'.

## MOTHERS UNION

Meetings are held in the Chelmer Room in village hall on the third Thursday of the month at 2.30pm - 4pm. MU membership is £18 per annum (plus £1.20p per meeting towards the cost of the Chelmer Room rent). If you are interested in joining the MU or you would like more information please contact Jill Needs on 01277 627078.



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - GIVING UP TIME

This initiative uses the focus of Lent as a catalyst to encourage people to give up their time (a truly valuable commodity) and engage in some focused and time limited volunteering capacity that will enhance their community or the lives of others. Whilst the proposal is positioned around Lent it is acknowledged that other faiths have a similar community focus and the Diocese and Essex County Council would want to work inclusively with them to develop the approach to benefit the maximum number of people.

The following possible activity approaches were put forward to generate discussion:

**A "Ground Force" approach** to help the frail or vulnerable make their paths and front garden areas safe and tidy.

**Neighbourhood pledges** where people simply pledge themselves to an activity either as a lone individual or on a group basis with statements such as "I will do this" or "I will do this but I need five others to join me".

**Time banks.** A scheme where people give their time and/or their skill to others. Recipients in turn either pay back (or forward) some of their time.

**Renovation of a community resource,** green area, hall, public space, woodland walk etc as in a DIY SOS approach.

**"Coffee and Cake" mornings** for specific groups and inviting speakers.

**A Community Cook book.** People are encouraged to submit recipes which are collated and shared, leading to a community meal.

**Create an emergency support (or at risk) list,** identifying frail or socially isolated people in the community in order to support them in times of crisis such as bad weather.

**Other initiatives might include:**

Adopt a Street  
Community Gardening  
DIY SOS  
Starting a Lunch Club  
Internet Shopping training or doing

Inviting a Neighbour to Lunch/Dinner  
IT Training/Support  
Skype Training  
Knitting or craft groups  
Pet Sitting and Walking  
Shopping (lifts to, or carrying/doing)  
Social Media  
Tea Party  
Transport (lifts to doctors/hospital/shopping)  
*If you interested in these ideas and/or would like to get involved please contact Rev. Jean Halliday or a member of the parish council.*

## VILLAGE HALL - ACTIVITIES IN FEBRUARY WEEKLY UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED

Mondays	<b>Pilates</b> 9.30-10.30am, 10.45-11.30 & 7.00-8.00pm <b>in the Main Hall</b> <b>Margaretting Friends</b> 18th 7.30pm <b>in the Chelmer Room</b>
Tuesdays	<b>Stitch &amp; Chat</b> 5th and 19th 9.30-12.00 noon <b>in the Meeting Room</b> <b>Art Class</b> 5th, 12th and 26th 2-6pm <b>in the Chelmer Room</b>
Wednesdays	<b>Over 60s Club</b> 6th and 20th 2-4pm <b>in the Main Hall</b> <b>Bingo</b> 13th and 27th 7.30pm <b>in the Main Hall</b> <b>Dance to Fitness</b> 6th, 13th and 27th 9.30-10.30am <b>in the Main Hall</b> <b>French Class</b> 6th, 13th and 27th 10.00-12.00 noon <b>in the Meeting Room</b>
Thursdays	<b>Art Class</b> 7th, 14th and 28th 9.30-1pm <b>in the Chelmer Room</b> <b>Parish Council Meeting</b> 14th 7.30pm <b>in the Meeting Room</b> <b>Mothers Union</b> 21st 2-4pm <b>in the Chelmer Room</b> <b>Essex Handicraft (Spinning Yarns)</b> 28th 7pm <b>in the Chelmer Room</b> <b>Pilates</b> 9.30-10.30am & 7.30-8.30pm <b>in the Main Hall</b>
Fridays	<b>Hindu Society</b> 1st 6.30pm <b>in the Main Hall</b> <b>Stitch and Chat</b> 9.30-12noon <b>in the Main Hall</b>
Saturdays	<b>Pilates</b> 9.30 - 11am <b>in the Main Hall</b>
Sundays	<b>Archery Club (AGM)</b> 3rd 10.30-3pm <b>in the Main Hall</b> <b>Loose Threads Patchwork</b> 17th 9.30am-6pm <b>in the Main Hall</b>

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

### MOBILE LIBRARY

Fortnightly on Thursday afternoons, 7th, 21st and 28th February 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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