



MARGARETTING NEWS

March 2014

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ST MARGARET'S CHURCH SERVICES IN MARCH

Sunday, 2nd March 10am - Parish Communion

Wednesday, 5th March 8pm (Ash Wednesday)

Sunday, 9th March - NO SERVICE

Sunday, 16th March 11am - Parish Communion

Sunday, 23rd March - NO SERVICE

Sunday, 30th March - NO SERVICE (Mothering Sunday)

There is no service at Margaretting on Mothering Sunday as this is a Benefice Sunday - instead the service will be at St Giles, Mountnessing at 9.30am

PALM WINE & STOUT

Margaretting Village Hall

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

DIARY DATES

Tuesday, 20th May (7.30pm)

Margaretting Village Hall

Eastern Angles Spring Tour 2014

'Palm Wine and Stout'

Saturday, 14 June 2014

Coach outing to

RHS Gardens at Wisley

Thursday, 10 July 2014

Coach outing to

Hampton Court Flower Show

(or Palace)

Saturday, 12th July (1pm - 4pm)

Margaretting Village Hall

Family Fun Day and

Horticultural Show

Saturday, 11 October 2014

Coach outing to

Waterperry Gardens Oxfordshire

'Apple Festival' Weekend

Further information on the coach outings can be obtained from Ann Monk on 01277 352869.

Family Fun Day and Horticultural Show

Margaretting Village Hall

Saturday, 12th July (1pm - 4pm)

If anyone would like to be involved in planning, setting up or running a stall, then please contact Julie in the Black Bull.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

If you are interested in being co-opted onto the parish council please contact Caroline Kochan at parishcouncil.margaretting@virgin.net.

A good way to find out what's involved in being a parish councillor is to attend a parish council meeting where you can listen to the full range of items raised and discussed. Margaretting Parish Council meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the meeting room at the village hall. Alternatively, you may prefer to speak to a member of the parish council. Parish Council contact details are posted on the village notice boards.

MARGARETTING PARISH COUNCIL - FEBRUARY MEETING

DEMOCRATIC TIME

Seven members of the public were present. Matters raised included a planning application for the demolition of an existing property and construction of a new property at Margarettng Tye.

FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME

Ian Dodson (Environment Agency) and Chris Fosbeary (Royal Haskoning) attended the meeting to give a presentation on the current status of the scheme. This included details of advance work which had already started in Swan Lane (installation of passing bays and establishment of a site compound) and clearance work to be undertaken to west side of river Wid, construction of a temporary bridge across the Wid, removal of hedges and trees from the main embankment area, railway piling area and Brook Farm. All of which were due to be completed by the end of February. A contractor for the main construction work will be appointed in late April/early May with the view to the project being completed before the end of November.

Concerns were expressed about the plans to remove 20% of the trees and the damage, caused by the contractor's lorries the day before, to the verges in Swan Lane and the green at The Tye. Mr. Dodson assured those present that to mitigate the loss of trees extensive planting of trees, shrubs and hedging would be undertaken. The damage in Swan Lane would be made good. Bollards would be installed to prevent further damage and the contractor and lorry drivers given instructions not to drive over the verges and the green. Mr. Dodson also gave the following assurances:

1. No heavy lorries would be allowed through the village. Access to the main site would be via Galleywood and traffic movements in Swan Lane would be restricted between 12 and 2pm.
2. The traffic access point opposite the school would not be used during the school's peak hours.
3. There would be no flood risk to properties in the vicinity of the Red Lion in the event of the Wid water being held back in the flood storage area because Main Road is higher than the valley. Operational staff would monitor water levels.

4. When the scheme is finished it will be classified as a Category A site which means the EA will place a high value on its maintenance. This will include annual inspections and grass cutting.

5. There will be another drop in exhibition in the village hall. It will be contractor led and possibly take place in late April.

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

We discussed the results of the Automatic Traffic Count (speed/volume) survey undertaken during December 2013 and January 2014. The results show there is a considerable number of vehicles which do not adhere to the speed limit. They also show the high volume of traffic using Main Road - north east bound total volume 21,475 and south west bound total volume 20,160. We agreed these results support the view that the speed limit should be lowered to 30mph. The survey results and request for an introduction of a lower speed limit for the village will be presented at the next meeting of Chelmsford's Local Highways Panel.

ACCOUNTS

The expenditure agreed this month was: £252 - Red Lion bus shelter litter bin.

BRIDLEWAYS & FOOTPATHS

Parsonage Lane: We noted the damage caused by cars being driven over the verge fronting Glenside Cottages. The damage will be reported to Highways. We noted also the continuing flooding problem caused by a blocked ditch in the verge in front of 'The Parsonage'. This was reported to Highways at the beginning of 2013 but to date no action has been taken. We agreed to contact Highways and the property owner to ask when they plan to resolve this drainage problem.

VILLAGE SITES

Pond and Trees: We agreed to convene a working party for the pond work - adding shingle to the path and lime to the pond. The phone in the red telephone box in front of the pond has been damaged - BT to be notified.

It was reported that the Jubilee Oak planted on the Maldon Road Green is definitely dead. We agreed to see if a replacement tree is available from Chelmsford Council's Tree Officer.

VILLAGE PROJECTS

Village Hall Road Sign: We agreed to send a drawing of the metal road sign to Highways together with a letter giving notice that we will be installing two such signs at the cross roads.

Parish Council Office: The PWLB loan has been received. The contractor has proposed, weather permitting, a start date of 17th March. We agreed the increase in the costs needed to cover the extra ground works stipulated by Chelmsford's Building Inspector. Concerns were expressed and noted at the amount of money being spent of the new room.

351 BUS ROUTE

It has been confirmed that the Margarettng zone had never been changed - it begins at The Black Bull. Bus drivers have been informed accordingly. A copy of the new timetable has been posted at the bus stops.

ALLOTMENTS & PLAY AREA

No reported incidents.

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

We agreed to inform Chelmsford Council that there is a vacancy. Details to be posted on the notice boards and advertised in the newsletter.

ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England)

RCCE advice confirms some of the changes listed in the European Commission's review of existing VAT legislation on public bodies could affect our ability as a parish council to reclaim VAT. We agreed to respond to ACRE's consultation expressing the view that if VAT claims were abolished this would have an adverse affect on our budget and precept.

PLANNING

The following applications were received for comments:

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

13/01858/FUL - Van Dykes, The Tye: Demolition of existing house and construction of a new five bed roomed house with detached garage and new driveway.

The following decisions were noted:

13/01710/FUL - Bullfinches, Writtle Road: Change of use of agricultural buildings and land.

Grant Planning Permission

BOOK CLUB

In February we reviewed James Bowen's 'A street cat named Bob' and 'The colour of magic' by Terry Pratchett. This was the first time our group had read one of Terry Pratchett's fantasy novels. Our choice was the first book which forms part of his 'Discworld' series. James Bowen's book is far from fantastical. Written in 2012 it gives an insight of life on the streets of London and how one injured ginger cat transformed his life. We have chosen two classics to read in March - 'Mill of the Floss' by George Eliott and 'Little Women' by Louisa M. Alcott.

MARGARETTING FRIENDS

We are pleased to announce that the winner of our 'Trivia at Christmas Quiz' was Malcolm Woods - a Billericay resident. Thanks are owed to Rosemary Carter for organising February's fun games evening. The games, designed and constructed by Rosemary, certainly produced a lot of laughter as well as a good display of gamesmanship! Who ever said table top games are boring? Our meetings are held on the third Monday of every month at 7.30pm in the Chelmer Room at the village hall. Our next meeting, which is our AGM, is on Monday, 17th March.

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.

OVER 60S CLUB

On Wednesday, 5th March we look forward to Rosemary's 'A touch of Class Entertainment' and on Wednesday, 19th March to hearing John Ellison sing. Our meetings, held in the village hall, start at 2pm. New members are always made very welcome.

Preparing for a power cut

This advice from UK Power Networks was received too late to include in the February newsletter.

To report any power cuts and damaged lines on free helplines, please refer customers to the following numbers: **In the South East call 0800 783 8866 or 01243 50 8866 for mobile users and in the East of England call 0800 783 8838 or 01243 50 8838 for mobile users.**

You can also see www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk and follow the company on twitter for updates.

Below is some advice on how our customers can prepare for a power cut:

- Keep our freephone number handy
- See the website for some useful videos offering you advice during a power cut.
- Keep spare batteries for radios and torches – local radio stations often broadcast helpful information

- Keep an old-fashioned corded phone which you can plug in, as cordless phones won't work in the event of a power cut
- Dress warmly in several layers of clothing, stay in one room or even get into bed
- Take care if using candles, tea-lights and other naked flames
- Keep fridges and freezers closed, with a blanket over as they will stay cold for many hours
- Switch off all your electrical equipment, except one light which will let you know when the power comes back on
- Remember the street lights may also be off so take care if you go out
- Look out for elderly neighbours; please consider taking them a flask of hot water round or hot food

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT

The period covered in the following update (no reported incidents for Margaretting) ranges from Friday, 24th January to Tuesday 18th February and is as follows:-

Between 09:00-15:00 on 22/01/2014

Stock, The Square: Land Rover damaged by slashing tyre

Between 24/01/2014 – 01/02/2014

Ramsden Heath, Heath Road: Theft of garden equipment from shed – locks broken

Between 20:00 on 26/01/2014 and 06:00 on 27/01/2014

Stock, Furze Lane: Engine cover stolen from a JCB

Between 19:05-19:10 on 28/01/2014

Ramsden Heath, Broomwood Lane: Fence cut at property, CCTV damaged and removed, entry attempted to out-buildings by removing padlocks

22:30 28/01/2014

Stock, Mill Road: Stable block broken into, tools stolen

Between 18:30 on 30/01/2014 and 08:45 on 31/01/2014

Ramsden Heath, Park Lane: Lock forced on the steel box of a Ford Transit. No entry gained to cab.

Between 21:30 and 22:00 on 02/02/2014

Ramsden Heath, Mill Lane: Items stolen from insecure garden shed

15/02/2014

Stock, Mill Road: Graffiti on window sill to front of property

16/02/2104

Stock, Church Road: Plaque stolen from church.

Between 10:00 on 16/02/2014 & 17:00 on 17/02/2014

Ramsden Heath, Heath Road: Padlock cut on gate.

Between 20:30 on 18/02/2014 and 07:15 on 19/02/2014

Stock, Brookmans Road: Index Plates removed from Silver Transit, Index RF11BWD.

Between 18:00 on 18/02/2014 and 07:00 on 19/02/2013

Ramsden Heath, Barbner Gardens: Removal of magnetic signs from vehicle. Index MJ54FXE – White Renault.

Between 18:00 on 18/02/2014 and 08:00 on 19/02/2014

Stock, Dakyn Drive: Attempted removal of Index Plate from Black Renault Clio. Index HY63DZS.

**Linda Fallon 75728, Customer Contact Administrator
Telephone:- 101 (Ext:- 421333)**

VILLAGE HALL ACTIVITIES

What's on in March

Please note bookings are weekly unless otherwise stated.

Mondays

Pilates 9.30 – 10.30am Main Hall; 7 – 8pm Main Hall

Margaretting Friends – 17th – 7.30pm – Chelmer Room – All welcome

Tuesdays

Stitch and Chat – 4th and 18th 9.30am – 12 noon – Meeting Room

Art Class – 2 – 4.30pm – Chelmer Room

Wednesdays

Dance to Fitness – 9.30 – 10.30am – Main Hall

French Class – 10am – 12 noon – Meeting Room

Over 60's Club – 5th and 19th – 2pm - Main Hall

Archery Club – 5th 8pm Chelmer Room

Thursdays

Pilates 9.30 – 10.30am Main Hall; 7.30 – 8.30pm Main Hall

Art Class – 9.30am – 12 noon – Chelmer Room

Village Hall Committee meeting - 6th – 7.30pm – Meeting Room

Parish Council meeting – 13th – 7.30pm – Meeting Room

Essex Handicraft – Bobbin Lace with a Twist – talk and demo by Jacqui Barber - 27th – 7pm – Chelmer Room

Fridays

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

Saturdays

Essex Audio Visual Group Photographic competition – 22nd – 9am – 10pm – Main Hall

Sundays

Sailing Association 9.30am – 6pm 2nd – Main Hall

Loose Threads Patchwork Group – 16th – 9.30am – 6pm – Main Hall

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

MARCH RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

Black bins and food waste

Every Tuesday

Brown bin, paper sack and bagged plastics & cartons

Tuesdays 4th and 18th

Green box and card sack

Tuesdays 11th and 25th

MARGARETTING TYE

Black bins and food waste

Every Wednesday

Brown bin, paper sack and bagged plastics & cartons

Wednesdays 5th and 19th

Green box and card sack

Wednesdays 12th and 26th

MOBILE LIBRARY Fortnightly on Thursday afternoons, 6th and 20th March
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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