MARGARETTING NEWS

January 2012

Inside this issue:

|  |
| --- |
| *Margaretting Parish Council* |
| *Jubilee Planning Meeting - Thursday 19th January* |
| *200 Club December Draw* |
| *Chelmsford Flood Alleviation Scheme - update* |
| *Local Club and School News* |
| *Village Agents* |
| *Beat Surgery - Wednesday, 18th January* |
| *Village Hall Information & What’s on in January* |

ST MARGARET’S CHURCH SERVICES IN JANUARY

 1st January 10am - Parish Communion

 8th January 4pm - Evening Prayer

15th January 10am - Parish Communion

22nd January 11am - Matins

29th January 10am - Benefice Service

ST MARGARET’S CHURCH NEWS

I wish you all a very Happy New Year. Have you made any resolutions? If so, I wonder how long they will last this year!

At church we have made a resolution. This is to change the time of the service on the second Sunday of each month from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm. In January and February this service will be Evening Prayer. From the 11th March this service will be a Family Service. This will be different from the usual style of worship we have at the church. The Family Service will consist of songs/hymns for children, a bible story followed by an activity for children (age appropriate) with parents/grandparents helping. We will also be praying for people and situations that the children and adults want to pray for. The service will last about half an hour. All will be welcome to come even if you have no children. I will give more information about this service in the March Newsletter.

It is important to remember that the Good News is not only for Christmas but is for throughout the year, each year, every year and is for all ages. The Christ Child doesn’t remain in the crib. Christmas is much more than simply celebrating the birth of Jesus. It reminds us that Jesus is the Light in the darkness, whatever that darkness may be – illness, loneliness, depression, bereavement or other reasons.

It was delightful to see so many families at the Crib and Christingle Service. A wonderful start to the Christmas celebration.

The Good News is also not only for those who come to the church. I am proposing to start a Toddler Group jointly with Sure Start, Chelmsford. This will be a joint effort and for families with children under school age and will be either a morning or afternoon each week. Please see the separate sheet with more information.

I hope you have a peaceful and healthy New Year

Throughout January we will be praying for:

1st January – Wantz Road

8th January – Writtle Road

15th January – Bell Ringers

22nd January – Flower Arrangers

*Revd Jean 01277 354359*

EASTERN ANGLES - PRIVATE RESISTANCE

**7.30pm - Tuesday, 21st February**

**Margaretting Village Hall**

Book your seats now - Tickets £8

 Telephone 01277 354821

Tea and biscuits available during interval

‘Private Resistance’ imagines what might have happened if the East region had been invaded during the second world war - and how Churchill's guerrilla army (the private resistance) would have reacted. It’s a thrilling tale of the so-called Auxiliary Units, Churchill’s secret guerrilla army, and the story of the bonds created and destroyed by wartime.

This unique play has been researched by Ivan Cutting, Eastern Angles’ own artistic director, whose previous shows celebrating and examining the sense of what it is to live in East Anglia have included *The Reapers Year*, *Days of Plenty*, *Bone Harvest*, *Another Three Sisters* and *Beyond The Breakers*.

‘Private Resistance’ will appeal to audiences aged 12 plus.

PARISH COUNCIL - DECEMBER MEETING

**DEMOCRATIC TIME**

Issues raised included:

(i) Unwanted Polystyrene packaging. Advised this cannot be placed in recycling sacks. It has to form part of the general rubbish collected from the black bins.

(ii) Junction of Parsonage Lane and Maldon Road. Received a request for a road sign to be installed warning motorists approaching this junction that this is a dangerous bend. Agreed to refer this matter to Essex County Council (ECC) Highways.

(iii) Theft of metal. Received warning that aluminum car wheel trims have been stolen from various locations in the village.

(iv) Swan Lane. Noted the recent speed check carried out by Traffic Police showed cars were not speeding above the speed limit allowed. Agreed 60mph is too high a speed limit for this road. Agreed also to chase up the status of the speed review for local roads with ECC Highways.

**QUEEN’S DIAMOND JUBILEE**

Noted plans for the village celebrations Saturday 2nd June are beginning to take shape. The Hog Roast, Music for the Barn Dance and a Children’s magician have been booked.

**VILLAGE SITES**

Village Trees: An Oak tree (part of Chelmsford Council’s Tree Warden Scheme) is to be planted on the Maldon Road Green in commemoration of the Queen’s Jubilee. Arrangements will be made to have all the branches taken off the current diseased and dying Oak on the green and to leave the trunk as a wildlife habitat.

Footpaths and Bridleways: Riders have asked if mounting steps can be installed near the new gates in Bridle Way 22. Although these gates are a lot easier to open and close some riders of shorter height are having difficulties getting back on to their horses after dismounting to open and close the gates. Agreed to contact the land owner to see if steps can be installed.

Litter Bins and Dog Waste Bins: Agreed to purchase and install a dog waste bin at the top of Parsonage Lane. Agreed also to purchase and install a litter bin for the new bus shelter outside The Black Bull.

**VILLAGE PROJECTS**

Whites Bridge Walk Boards: Awaiting a third quotation to renovate and replace the posts and boards. Noted quotes received so far indicate this will be an expensive project and without guaranteed grant aid it may prove difficult to take it forward in the short term.

Parish Council Office: Agreed Ingleton’s quote for professional fees (project management). Agreed also that the first tranche of expenditure i.e. preparation of detailed drawings for building regulations and building estimates will be drawn down from parish council reserves.

**MALDON RD PLAYING FIELD**

Allotments: The problem of the back payments owed for the supply of water to the allotments has been resolved. The amounts owed have been agreed and are to be paid in full by the parish council. Arrangements are in hand to reclaim all future water supply costs annually from the allotment holders.

Play Area: We now have two quotes for the purchase and installation of two skate board ramps (Wicksteed and Monster Play). If Chelmsford Council has no objections to the installation of the skateboard ramps we will start exploring funding opportunities.

**ACCOUNTS**

Agreed the following expenditure:

£540 MDL (grass cutting)

£475 PCC (church grass cutting)

£341 Essex & Suffolk (allotments)£174 C. Kochan (expenses)

£75 B. Newman (bus shelter cleaning)

£50 CBC (playing field rent)

£50 Chairman’s expenses

£32 - H. Blurton (repairs and

 maintenance materials)

Noted the following income:

£1,000-ECC (grant towards cost of

 war memorial project)£2-Bank Interest

**PARISH PRECEPT 2012/2013**

The precept for the next financial year (2012/2013) was set at £11,770. This is the first increase in three years and represents an increase of 1.7% on last year’s parish expenditure.

**FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME**

Received Environment Agency’s briefing note circulated to ECC on the progress of the Chelmsford Flood Alleviation Scheme. **See next page**

**ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER**

Discussed whether or not an annual parish council newsletter is wanted by local residents. Agreed to seek residents views. **See next page.**

**PLANNING**

The following applications were received for comment:

*11/05617/CAT* - 2 x weeping willow leafed pear trees - on each side of War Memorial - trim to bring canopy into shape, removing new and straggly growth.

*11/01713/*FUL - Spread Eagle, Main Road: Demolition of fire damaged public house and erection of three four bed roomed houses.

*Since the meeting we have been informed that planning permission has been granted.*

The following decisions were noted:

*11/01540/FUL* - Keepers Cottage, Ivy Barn Lane: Demolition of an existing flat roofed tractor store and workshop and its replacement with a new pitched roof building to accommodate a new tractor store and workshop with two stable boxes and tack store.

Granted Planning Permission

*11/01625/FUL* - Ivy Hill Hotel, Writtle Road: Extension of time limit to permission 08/01516/FUL for change of use of redundant stables and barns to office use with existing car parking.

Granted Planning Permission

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, 12 January at 7.30pm in the meeting room of the village hall.

QUEENS DIAMOND JUBILEE - 2012

The planning group will be meeting in the Chelmer Room on Thursday, 19 January at 7.30pm. Everyone welcome. Please do come along and join us to help plan the village event for Saturday, 2nd June 2012.

OVER 60s CLUB

Following the Christmas break we will be meeting again on Wednesday, 11th January with a ‘bring and buy’ sale for all those duplicated or unwanted gifts. A useful introduction to an early ‘spring clean’ and the chance to pick up a bargain! Having relaxed and fully digested Christmas, Wednesday, 25th January will mark our celebration of the New Year with a party starting at 1.30pm. An ideal opportunity to invite new friends and neighbours to the club for a full lunch and an afternoon of fun and games at £5 per head. Do contact Roy on 356182 for further details or transport needs.

200 CLUB

The winners of the December draw which took place at the Charity Bingo Night in the village hall were:

£100 D Pearce

 £50 K Young

£30 B Green

 £20 J Jamnitsky

 £15 B Chapman

£10 S Cravitz

CHARITY BINGO

A big thank you to all who took part and sent gifts and donations. £185 was raised on the night. £200 raised by the regular Bingo players throughout the year was added to this. The two charities were CHESS and STARLIGHT FOUNDATION.

The first is a local charity based in Chelmsford supporting homeless people and the second a national charity supporting children suffering from liver and kidney diseases.

MOTHERS UNION

Meetings are held in St Margaret’s Church on the third Thursday in the month at 2.30pm.

 *Contact Jill Needs 627078*

MARGARETTING SCHOOL NEWS

Happy New Year from us all at Margaretting School. We hope everyone had a lovely Christmas.

This will be a very special year of celebrations with The Queen’s Jubilee, The London Olympics and the 200th anniversary of birth of the author Charles Dickens, to name just a few. However, the school will also be celebrating and welcoming our new Class 1 teacher, Kathryn Slatter, who will be joining us full time when school resumes on Thursday 5th January 2012.

We look forward to a full calendar of events this year after a relatively quiet return in January.

JANUARY COUNCIL COLLECTIONS

#### Black bins

#### Wednesday 4th and Tuesday 10th

#### Normal collection days then resume

#### Brown bins

#### Wednesday 4th and Monday 23rd

**Green box, cardboard, paper**

 **and plastic sacks**

Wednesday 11th and Tuesday 24th

BAGS FOR PLASTIC RECYCLING

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

DOG WASTE BAGS

These are available from Keith Young. Telephone 01277 354516.

BOOK CLUB

We will be discussing Rebecca Sklott's 'The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks' at our meeting on Friday, 27th January. In February we will be discussing ’Great Expectations’ by Charles Dickens. Books listed for future reading include ‘Memoirs of a Dutiful Daughter’ by Jenni Murray and ‘The Worst Journey in the Word’ by Apsley Cherry-Garrard.

*Contact: Penny Savill 356182*

MARGARETTING FRIENDS

Everyone enjoyed our Christmas Celebration evening at The Red Lion on Monday, 5 December 2011. We thought the choice of menu and service first class. The Secret Santa was fun and provided a few surprises! We meet again on Monday 16 January at 7.30pm in the Chelmer Room in the village hall. New members welcome.

 *Contact Rosemary Carter 350553*

PARISH COUNCIL’S ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

It has been suggested there is no longer a need for Margaretting Parish Council to circulate an annual newsletter. The main reason behind this suggestion is all the various organisations in the village are now providing updates for Margaretting News throughout the year.

The Clerk to the Parish Council, Caroline Kochan, would welcome your views as to whether or not you agree with this suggestion.

*parishcouncil.margaretting@virgin.net*Telephone: 01277 *353181*

CHELMSFORD FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME

The Environment Agency is currently working on a scheme with Chelmsford Council to reduce the risk of future flooding to 944 existing residential properties and provide opportunity for redevelopment within Chelmsford. The scheme is to be delivered in two phases.

**Stage A** (River Wid flood storage area and supplementary works) involves building a flood storage embankment across the river valley, near Margaretting and providing flood protection to 125 properties in Chelmer Village. Estimated cost £9m - Chelmsford Council is to contribute 74% of cost.

**Stage B** (Town Centre flood defence walls/bunds) Estimated cost £10m to be funded solely by Chelmsford Council.

The following is an extract from the Environment Agency’s briefing note dated 23 November 2011.

**What stage is the scheme at?**

‘At the proposed flood storage site near Margaretting we have undertaken further ground investigation to confirm the best location for gaining material to construct the flood storage embankment. We are also developing our detailed designs for the embankment and associated mitigation works to protect a number of isolated properties that would otherwise be subject to a greater flood risk with our scheme in place. We are in the process of discussing our proposal with the landowners that will be affected by our proposed work.’

**What will be happening next?**

‘We will continue to liaise with local landowners to achieve the best possible arrangements with them to reduce the impacts of our scheme. Once our designs are complete we will share these with the local parish councils and other interested parties with a view to making a planning application in spring 2012. It is anticipated that these woks will be carried our during summer 2013 to take advantage of the drier weather needed for these works.’

VILLAGE AGENTS

Village Agents are a small, dynamic group of twelve working to provide up to date information and advice on services to assist a person’s daily living, throughout the County of Essex. Established for two years, Village Agents have been meeting a diverse range of people in the rural community and have been successful in their efforts to improve individual’s well being and making a positive impact on their lives. The breadth of their services and wealth of expertise in providing high quality information and links, ranging from respite care to social groups means they are uniquely placed to deliver any support or advice that may be needed.

If you’ve yet to use their free, at home service please consider calling them on their free phone number **0800 977 5858**. Appointments are normally in the comfort of your own home. So, don’t delay and let your difficulties and concerns escalate, give them a call and see how they could help...

**Jo, Brenda and John** (Chelmsford Agents)

**Lydia, Richard, Chivonne, Jayne, Pete and Sally** (Braintree Agents) and

**Christine, Jan and Laura** (Maldon Agents)

DIGITAL SWITCHOVER IS COMING

TO THE LONDON TV REGION

Digital switchover is coming to our village soon, and if you don’t convert your TV to digital by the time of the switchover, you won’t be able to watch any TV programmes.

If you need any further information or help, or know someone who may, then please contact your designated support volunteer for Margaretting, Brenda Smith, Village Agent on 07540 720612 or e-mail on brenda.smith@vaessex.org.uk.

For further information on the Switchover Help Scheme visit [helpscheme.co.uk](http://www.helpscheme.co.uk/) or call 0800 40 85 900. Textphone users can call 0800 40 85 936.

MARGARETTING VILLAGE HALL

ACTIVITIES IN JANUARY

WEEKLY UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED

Mondays **Pilates** 9.30-10.30am 10.45-11.30am & 7.00-8.00pm **in the Main Hall**

 **Margaretting Friends** 16th at 7.30pm **in the Chelmer Room**

Tuesdays **Stitch and Chat** 10th and 24th 9.30-12.00 noon **in the Meeting Room**

 **Art Class** 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st 2-6pm **in the Chelmer Room**

 **M/S Society** 31st 7.00pm onwards i**n the Main Hall**

Wednesdays **Dance to Fitness**  11th, 18th and 25th 9.30-10.30am **in the Main Hall**

 **Over 60s Club** 11th and 25th 2-4pm **in the Main Hall**

 **Evening Bingo** 4th and 18th 7.30-9.30pm **in the Main Hall**

 **Hindu Society** 5th 6.00pm-12 midnight **in the Main Hall**

Thursdays **Pilates** 9.30-10.30am and 7.30-8.30pm **in the Main Hall**

 **Village Hall Committee Meeting 5**th 7.30pm **in the Meeting Room**

 **Parish Council Meeting** 12th 7.30pm **in the meeting room**

 **Queens Jubilee Planning Group** 19th 7.30pm **in the Chelmer Room**

 **Essex Handicraft** 26th 7pm i**n the Chelmer Room**

Fridays **Stitch and Chat** 9.30-12noon **in the Main Hall**

Saturdays **Pilates** 14th and 28th 9.30 - 11am **in the Main Hall**

*For further details or queries for private functions*

*please contact April Nixon on 07794 187741*

**MOBILE LIBRARY** Fortnightly on Thursday afternoons 12th and 26th January 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 Ingatestone at 11.15am

**BEAT SURGERY** Wednesday, January 18th at 2.30 - 3.30pm at the Village Hall

**COPY FOR THE FEBRUARY EDITION BY 20 JANUARY PLEASE**

‘**Margaretting News**’ is published by the PCC of St Margaret’s Church.

 Editors Roy and Penny Savill, ‘The Martins’, Main Road, CM4 9JB. Tel /Fax 01277 356182 or email: penroy.savill@virgin.net. Distribution to every household in the village is accomplished by a team of volunteers.

**

 *Printed by* 



*Supporting the local community for all its property needs, including sales, lettings, surveys, financial services and commercial.*

*Offices throughout Essex, Greater and Central London - Pall Mall.*

*Ingatestone Office 01277 350505*