

Parish News

Great Waltham Ford End Howe Street Littley Green North End

February 2012

Parish Council Works

Just before Christmas, the long awaited gates appeared suddenly at the entrance to Ford End village. Following many years of seeking Essex County Council to provide gates at



Ford End, in an attempt to reduce the speed of vehicles entering Ford End - particularly past the village school- the Parish Council decided to go it alone. The gates pictured below were made by Ricky Mitchell and installed by Ricky and Alexander Micklem; our thanks to them both. We await results from the Speed Indicator Device to show the effect of these works.

Further works have taken place at Bury Lane Ford in Great Waltham. This was to tidy up the area around the ford, following works carried out by Essex County Council which restricted large pieces of agricultural equipment from passing through the ford. At the same time, the timber barrier, probably installed at the ford in Victorian times, was replaced to deflect the water and prevent further erosion of the bank and, eventually, the footway over the bridge. The stream was also cleared on the exit from the ford. This has caused the water level at the ford to diminish to the lowest level that has been seen



in many years. Once again, many thanks to Alexander Micklem and Tim Burton. Other works have been carried out at Penden Hill Corner, where brambles and nettles have been cleared from the wide verge at this point. This improves the sightlines when exiting Pleshey Road into Main Road and the general tidiness of the area. Hopefully, it will encourage the return of the bee

orchids which were once seen on this area.

The cost of all of these works came to just over £400 for materials, as labour was freely given. The Parish Council is very appreciative of these works. The residents of Lucks Lane are also to be congratulated for the works carried out in that area following Essex County Council's works to the drainage and verges. Many thanks. These are all examples of the Big Society working in Great Waltham Parish. I know there are many other examples and all parishioners are encouraged to continue to make our surroundings a better place.

More About the Flagpole...

Great Waltham Church flagpole had needed painting for years and, in 2011, we managed to raise grants to get it done. Then, blow me, this New Year, that huge wind blew the top off! Fortunately the wooden cap (with its metal bonnet and great long lightning conductor spike) fell flat on the tower roof. Imagine what might have happened if it had fallen spike down – perhaps in the churchyard or through the church roof! So we were very lucky, really. Lucky, too, that the steeplejack was able to come and make the repairs really quickly so the lightning protection is back in order and that the PCC can make an insurance claim for most of the cost, which is over £1,000. Whilst the steeplejack was there, we got him to repaint the weather-vane. The top of the tower should look very smart with the gold-painted weather-vane and its new St George's flag on festival days (the old flag was absolutely shredded in the wind) - and no, the insurance didn't pay for that! But I hope parishioners think that it was worth doing – and if they do, might perhaps become "Friends" of the Church Buildings if they aren't already? David Moncaster (01245 362778) is your man... Rose Braisby Chair, Buildings Subcommittee, PCC

Quiz Night – Ford End Village Hall

SATURDAY, 3rd MARCH AT 7.30PM

Book a table and bring a team, or we can find you a team to join!

Tickets cost £8 to include a ploughman's supper. Drinks available from the bar. Contact Ian Leyde 237127, Sheila Bearman 237335 or Sandra Brown 237555 for your tickets.

This is a fundraising event for the Jubilee celebrations at Ford End in June

The Waltham Singers Love Sacred and Profane

featuring Orff: Carmina Burana
and music inspired by the Song of Solomon
Andrew Fardell Conductor

Saturday, 24th March, 7.30pm
King Edwards Grammar School
Tickets £13, £10 (conc), under 18s £5
available from James Dace and Son Ltd,
22, Broomfield Road, Chelmsford
Kate 01277 355756, any choir member or
at the door

www.walthamsingers.org.uk

**From the Vicarage
01245 364081**

carla@hamptonc.freeserve.co.uk

Dear Friends

Well, the journey of the magi (or the wise men) finally came to an end on 6th January, which is called the Epiphany, and all the Christmas decorations finally came down. Gradually, we moved the figures in our Nativity scene from a distance away in the churches, closer and closer, until they arrived at the stable itself. This amazing journey that they undertook, across the desert, from lands far away, is rather like our journey through life. They must have had times when the journey was straightforward and relatively easy, but then there were times when the road was treacherous and anything but straightforward. However, all the time they were following that star – the light that guided them throughout that long journey. Just once, they decided to follow their own way and sought the advice of King Herod, who they were convinced would know about the birth of this new king. That proved to be a big mistake, as he wanted to find him for himself and make sure that he would not be a threat to his kingdom. The result was mass killing of innocent children under the age of two, to ensure this ‘king’ was got rid of. All that because those wise men followed their own way, just once, instead of that guiding light that God had sent for them. Is it any wonder that the world is in such trouble now, when so many of us simply do our own thing, regardless of the needs of others and totally disregarding the will of God? Thankfully, the magi listened to God and did not go back to Herod to give him the information he wanted; but the damage was done! However, they continued their journey following that star, as God had intended, and the reward for them was wonderful. They came face to face with the Saviour of the world, that young child, and bowed down to worship him and gave him the special gifts they had brought with them: Gold for a king;

**St Mary & St Lawrence Great Waltham with
St John the Evangelist Ford End**

These are your two local churches which serve Broads Green, Great Waltham, Howe Street, Ford End, North End, Little Green and Old Shaws.

Anyone who lives in the parish can be baptised, or married, in either of the churches, subject to suitable preparation being undertaken. Priority for burial in the churchyards is also given to those who are actually resident in the parish at the time of death, or who already have a family grave. There are regular services every Sunday and these vary from week to week, so that they are suitable for all the ages who may attend. The usual times are **9.30am at Ford End** and **11am at Great Waltham**. Sometimes we have joint services in either building (usually on the 5th Sunday when it occurs in any month) and these are at **10am**.

On Thursday mornings at **10am** there is a simple Said Communion service followed by a Coffee/Tea Shop with lovely cakes.

On 1st Wednesday, ‘Bears and Biscuits’ meets at **3.15pm** in Gt Waltham School. After Easter, we hope to resume ‘Bears & Biscuits’ for our mums and babies.

The team which is responsible for various parts of the ministry in the churches will do our best to help you if you contact us; but please remember to contact the Parish Priest first about baptisms, weddings and funerals. These will be at times that are suitable for both family and church.

Parish Priest:	The Rev'd Canon Carla Hampton	
Parish Office number		01245 364081
Reader:	Rose Braisby	01245 361927
	(Family Service at Ford End – every 4 th Sunday)	
Pastoral Assistant:	Sue Piper (co-ordinates the work of the Pastoral Team) contact via Parish Office	
Team member	David Moncaster	01245 362788
Church Wardens:	Florence Townsend	01245 362629
	(Sunday School & Family Service at Gt Waltham – every 2 nd Sunday)	
	Peter Messenger	01245 361050 (GW)
	Roger Bearman	01245 237335 (FE)
	Bill Bliss	01245 237430 (FE)

PLEASE LOOK AT THE CHURCH NOTICE BOARDS EACH WEEK AND THE DIARY IN THE PARISH NEWS EACH MONTH TO FIND DETAILS OF WHAT IS HAPPENING IN YOUR CHURCHES

Services & Events at Lt Waltham United Reformed Church

Minister – Rev Jane Mortimer 01245 444931

Services 10.30am each Sunday – Sunday School during Morning worship

Feb 5 th	Peter Watchorn			
Feb 12 th	Rev Jane Mortimer	FS	Bring/share Lunch	Praise to follow
Feb 19 th	Eric Amundsen			
Feb 26 th	David Pennicott			

Gossip & Guzzle, Thurs 2nd February 11am – 1.0pm

Pippins – Baby & Toddler group, Thurs 9th February, 9.30am – 11.30am

Saturday 18th February, Coffee Morning in Schoolroom 10am

Frankincense for a great High Priest; Myrrh to anoint the body after his death. Remember all the joy of the Christmas story – the child born in the stable – the shepherds hearing wonderful news from the angels – the great gift that God had sent to redeem the world. In that one gift of myrrh, we are reminded of how the actions of humanity rejected the Saviour and instead sent him to the cross. Yet we continue to do this every day of our lives, by ignoring the call of God to worship him and putting our own needs at the centre of everything. The word SIN sums it up and I is in the middle of it. How can we change the world when so many of us are completely self-centred? Is it possible for our world to change – can we, personally, live our lives differently and will that make a difference? The simple answer is, ‘yes’, if we are determined enough but are we strong enough and brave enough to try? *With my love and prayers for us all that we can change and allow God to guide us all once again. Carla*

Divorce Recovery

If you, or any of your family/friends, are divorced and you are finding life very different and bewildering, then the Pastoral Team may be able to help. We shall be holding a series of workshops each Saturday morning in March in the community room in Great Waltham church and you are very welcome to join us. For more information, or to register your name, please contact myself or Revd. Carla at the Vicarage, Glebe Meadow, Tel. 364081, or email: sue.piper.waltham@gmail.com. Sue Piper, Pastoral Assistant

Keep This Date Free

SAT 21st APRIL @ 7.30 p.m.

Star of Les Miserables
Phil Cavill

IN CONCERT @ Great Waltham
Church

Listen to him at
www.philcavill.com

Why not invite friends for supper
& come to the concert afterwards

Chelmsford Plumbing & Heating Ltd

- Local family run business
- Servicing repair and breakdown
- All plumbing requirements
- Gas, Oil and LPG
- New boilers and heating systems
- Renewable Energy

Call us on 01245 355336

www.cph.uk.net



AJ & Co Carpentry

- All Aspects of Carpentry and Joinery
- Timber Frame Garages and Outbuildings
- Loft Conversions
- Staircases and Floors
- Novelty Outbuildings
- Hand Made Dressers

Please Contact Andrew:
Mobile: 07805 109223
Tel: 01277 368289
ajandcocarpentry@aol.co.uk

Dovetail Health Osteopathy Sports Massage

Camilla Oates
07900997349



www.dovetailhealth.co.uk
D&A, High Street, Great Waltham

THE STORES

Period Pine & Country Furniture
Est. 1974



Come and visit our Victorian shop in Great Waltham and view our range of Antique and Period Pine Furniture carefully restored in our workshop.

- Unusual & interesting pieces in stock
 - Range of unfinished furniture to view
 - Search undertaken for specific pieces
- Open: Thursday – Saturday 10am to 5pm
Sunday 11am to 4pm
- Telephone 01245 360277



The Green Man
Howe Street
The Oldest Pub in Essex

A Warm Welcome
From Kate & Paul

01245 360203

Full Takeaway Available

- Open Mic Night
First Thursday every month
- All you can eat curry buffet
Mondays from 6pm
- Don't forget to book a table for
our Sunday Lunch

Special Offers @

www.specialofferspubchelmsford.co.uk



Fully qualified & 10 yrs experience
Most Electrical & Building
Work Undertaken

- Re-Wiring / Earthing
- Fuse boards
- Lighting
- Electric Showers
- Extractor Fans
- Extensions
- Alterations
- Kitchens
- Bathrooms
- Decorating

24 hour call outs
Tel: 01376 584688
Mobile: 07842 145624

J. E. MURKIN

Established 25 years

Building Services

Kitchen & Bathroom Fitting,
Windows & Conservatories
Structural Alterations,
Painting & Decorating,
Property Maintenance

Tel: 07885 653586 (anytime)
E-Mail:
johnmurkin@hotmail.co.uk



Burglar Alarms
CCTV Systems
Video Intercom
Security Lights

Certified security
system installers

Call 0845 0175377
07946 650503
www.innovatesecurity.com

Ford End Gardening Club

The decorations are down, the broad beans and garlic are up and we are off to another Gardening Year - and who better to start us off but Mr Tony Bugden? Tony judged our Hyacinth Bulbs and gave most of us a good natured verbal bashing - too early, too late, too small a pot, too shallow, too uneven and too dry - and gave us his experienced advice to correct our mistakes! Tony presented a prize and a cup to Mrs Marion Garvey for the only one with everything correct, showing three beautiful, even flowers. He went on to give a talk on self sufficiency from a vegetable plot and answered many questions on a whole range of gardening problems. It was a most informative and enjoyable evening.. Our Speaker next month is Mr Brian Carline, whose subject is 'Soil, Sweat 'N Tears'. We meet in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Monday, 13th February. New members are always welcome. Our December meeting was on that very English subject, 'The Rose'. Matthew Eden, of Eden Horticulture, gave us an illustrated lecture on all of the various types of rose. Drawing on his experience at Writtle, and several years working at Hyde Hall, he explained the growing and pruning of roses in great detail. His explanation about which way round to hold our secateurs shook even our most knowledgeable gardeners- but made very good sense.



Great Waltham Horticultural Society

Thanks to Ben Wincott our first speaker of the year who gave an illustrated talk about the **Ideal Home Exhibitions Young Gardener of the Year 2011** which had involved him and his students from Writtle College in a head to head competition with five other colleges to create an inspirational and sustainable show garden in Association with the Prince's Foundation for the Built Environment. www.princes-foundation.org. Ben pointed out the difficulties of staging a garden show like this so early in the year. His garden featured an outside cooking area and took a well deserved prize. The competition aims to highlight the very best examples of sustainable practice in British garden design amongst student designers. Each college was given a 5.5m x 4m plot to both plan and design a unique and sustainable garden based on the theme of 'landcraft techniques in an urban setting' with the emphasis on craft skills. Each garden design aimed to inspire city dwellers, showing just what can be achieved in the most impossible of tight urban locations. This years show dates: 16th March till 1st April at Earls Court www.idealhomeshow.co.uk ur next talk: February 6th **GROW IT IN ESSEX THE AFRICAN WAY** by Christine

Middleton. An insight into some imaginative and creative growing techniques in the hard conditions of Africa but very much relating it to the gardeners here in Essex. Everyone welcome. Refreshments and Raffle.

Monday Lunch Club

Our next meeting at the Beehive will be on Monday 6th February, from 12 noon onwards. If you haven't joined us and are wondering about us, I can recommend that you join about fifteen of us to eat and chat with old (and new) friends - all are welcome!

Walthambury W.I.

St Patrick's Day Spring Sale

Saturday 17th March 2012
Great Waltham Village Hall
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

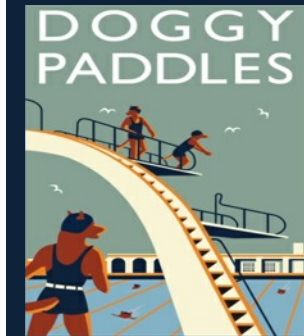
Good as new clothes
Household items (No electrical items)
Books, CD's, DVD's
Bric-a-Brac

Catch up with a cup of tea and go home with a homemade cake.
Donations received at 1 p.m. at the Village Hall or in advance on 01245 360615

AUSTIN + RUSHMER FOOT CLINIC

HPC REGISTERED PODIATRISTS
FREE PARKING
WHEELCHAIR ACCESS

2A MAIN ROAD
LITTLE WALTHAM CM3 3PA
TELEPHONE 01245 363769
WWW.THEFOOT-CLINIC.CO.UK



CANINE HYDROTHERAPY

01245 237151

www.doggy-paddles.co.uk

AD FUEL OILS LTD.

Independent gas oil & burning oil specialists

Domestic • Industrial • Agricultural

01245 362616



"Your Local Answer"

www.adfuels.co.uk

Banters Lane, Great Leighs, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 1QX

Pleshey Tree Services



Tree Surgeons & Arborists

Telephone 01245 362988

Pruning & Shaping
Felling & Removal
Planning & Advice
Stump Grinding
Free quotations & advice
NPTC qualified
Council Approved
Work compliant to BS3998 & BS5837
Fully Insured
e-mail:

tomcrees@plesheytreeservices.co.uk

COMPUTER PROBLEM
NO PROBLEM



Broken, Slow, Home or Business Networks, Wireless Networks, New Build, Upgrade Advice, Home Tuition, Websites Built and Maintained, Virus Removal, Any Problem

All New Systems Fully Guaranteed

Call ALAN on

01245 361821

am.computers@btinternet.com

MICHAEL C DUKE

Central Heating & Plumbing Engineer

Tel: 01245 362348

Mob: 07889 571674

seduke@btinternet.com

20 Manor Crescent
Little Waltham,
CM3 3PD



Seasonal vegetables and salads, grown locally and organically

Picked and delivered to your door within 24 hours.

Tel: 07915 403967

www.rocketandrhubarb.co.uk

info@rocketandrhubarb.co.uk

JUST HANGING



Your Local Ironing Company

For all your ironing requirements be it regular or now and again.

All items priced individually including pick up and drop off Hanging or Folded

Minimum pick up £10.00

Phone 01245 361124

07798 751615

ALL ABOUT GARDENS



Hard Landscaping
Tree Surgery & Removal
Garden Maintenance & Clearance

Telephone Robert on
07879 003135

FennWright

ESTATE AGENTS | CHELMSFORD Est.1768

Specialising in the sale of property throughout Chelmsford and the surrounding villages

Grove House, 114 New London Road, Chelmsford, CM2 0RG

Tel: 01245 292100

www.fennwright.co.uk

STEVE REED

CHIMNEY SWEEP

EST. 1988

01245 469927

Bird Guards, Cows, Chimney Pots Etc.

www.stevereedchimneysweep.co.uk



Walthambury Stores

Great Waltham, Essex



Post Office opening times

Monday to Friday 9am to 5.30pm

(open lunch hours)

Saturday 9am to 12.30pm

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



Up, Up and Away
Pre-School
Houlton Hall,
South Street,
Great Waltham

- OFSTED inspected to accept LEA funding for the over 3s.
- Morning sessions available from 2 ½ to school age
- Lunch time Clubs available.
- Secure Playground & Garden
- Bump, Baby & toddler group (Tuesday 1.30-3.00pm)

For further information please call

01245 442391

Pleshey Forge Ltd

Blacksmith, welding and wrought ironwork

Hill Farm
Church Lane
Ford End
Chelmsford
Essex CM3 1LH



We specialise in the manufacture of decorative items, structural steelwork, steel fabrication and blacksmithing, including gates, railings, fencing and balustrades.

Tel/Fax: 01245 237233

Mobile: 07739 572711

E-mail: enquiries@plesheyforge.co.uk

Company No. 6144781 Directors Shane Rayner & Ian Clements
VAT number 899424168

GOOBY

Complete Building Service

53 Cherry Garden Road, Great Waltham, CM3 1DH

We specialise in
Extensions and Conversions
Complete Renovations
Driveways and Patios
Complete Bathroom and Kitchen Service

We are a fully insured, family run business, who pride ourselves in giving our customers our full commitment.

For free estimates and advice contact:

Tel: 01245 362205

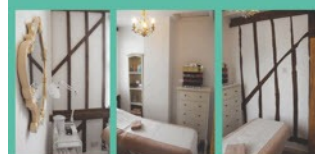
Mobile: 07958 150466

goobybuild@aol.com

www.goobybuild.co.uk



Vickie Hills
Beauty Therapist



116 The Street, Little Waltham
Chelmsford, Essex
CM3 3NT
07760414247

The Rose & Crown



between
Little Waltham and
Great Waltham



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

Richard, Kate and their staff will be
delighted to welcome you.

If you want to ensure a table
is available

Telephone 01245 360359

www.roseandcrowngreatwaltham.co.uk

WCT BAYFORD LTD

SOLID FUEL MERCHANTS

- Coal & Smokeless Fuels
- Seasoned Logs and Kindling
- Peat & Compost
- Gas Bottles & Charcoal

Tel: 01279 723217

Colventors, Grinstead Lane,
Little Hallingbury, CM22 7QX

L. BARTRUPT & SON LTD

Lavenders Farm
Ford End
Chelmsford
Essex CM3 1LL



Locally grown selected potatoes (25kg bags)
Available in season - October to April

Desiree (reds) Estima (whites)
King Edwards & Ambo

Frozen Chips & Roast Potatoes
(2 1/2 kg bags)

ALWAYS OUTSTANDINGLY GOOD VALUE

Free local delivery for larger orders

Telephone: 01245 237371

MAC Carpentry General Builders

All types of household building
works undertaken

Windows	Doors
Kitchens	Bathrooms
Extensions	Roofing
Loft Conversions	Stairs

And much more

- All work guaranteed
- Clean and tidy workers
- Free estimates
- Friendly professional service

01245 362 901
07500 709556

M.FREEMAN & SONS AMENITY & GROUND CARE CONTRACTORS

www.freeman-contractors.co.uk



Paddock Maintenance	Weed Control
Grounds Maintenance	Grass Cutting
Ground Preparation	Soil Sampling
Fertiliser Application	Lawn Treatments

Tel/Fax 01245360232

Mobiles 07710622611/07710619088

Email groundcare@freeman-contractors.co.uk

NEIL WOOD VEHICLE TECHNICIAN



TOYOTA SPECIALIST

ALL MAKES AND MODELS SERVICED
(INC LIGHT COMMERCIAL)
MOT'S ARRANGED, WELDING, CLUTCH-
ES,
AIR CONDITIONING
DIAGNOSTIC WORK UNDERTAKEN
FREE LOCAL COLLECTION AND DELIV-
ERY

RECOVERY SERVICE AVAILABLE

BEAT THE CREDIT CRUNCH SAVE
££££ ON MAIN DEALER SERVICING

Contact

NEIL / SARAH

Tel: 01376 328060

Mobile: 07790 248625 / 07971 523910

DRISCOLL CLEANING SERVICES



Window Cleaner

01245 360540

KATY'S KITCHEN

No time to spare?
Leave all your catering requirements
to me.

- Special Dinner Parties
- Children's Parties
- Funeral Catering and more...

01245 237444
07941 388313

Email: katys_kitchen@hotmail.com

A & W Gowers Ltd

Specialist Joinery Manufacturers

Experienced professionals specialising
in bespoke staircases, conservatories,
windows, doors and all types of fitted
furniture.

Please contact us for unrivalled service
and expertise.

www.special-joinery.com

Howe Street, Great Waltham,
Chelmsford.

Telephone: 01245 362737

Go Green landscapes

- Landscaping and Garden Design
- Horse and Stock Fencing
- Garden Design and Build Service
- Tree Surgery
- Walkways and Paths
- Turfing
- Decking and Patios
- Tree Surveying (for new builds
and dangerous trees)
- Ecological Surveys

01371 821950

07710 411844

info@gogreenlandscapes.co.uk

WINDMILL INN CHATHAM GREEN

ACCOMMODATION · BAR · RESTAURANT

01245 361188

www.windmillmotorinn.co.uk

Treating your pets as our own



- Full surgical & hospital facilities
- Separate cat and dog wards
- Qualified registered nursing staff
- 24 hour emergency service
- On site MRI scanning
- Large surgery car park
- Late evening surgeries

Millennium Way Braintree Essex CM7 3GX
Also at: 30 West Street Coggeshall Essex
CO6 1NS Tel: 01376 56166

Telephone: 01376 325511

www.theveterinarypractice.co.uk

The Beehive Great Waltham



Brenda, Neil, Aaron & Greg
Welcome you to the Beehive

Telephone: 01245 360356

Barrack Lane, Great Waltham,
Chelmsford, Essex CM3 1ES

HM Chimney Sweeping



- Traditional Chimney
Sweep Service
- Cows supplied and fitted
- CCTV Chimney Surveys
- Certificates issued for
house insurance and
home packs
- Fully insured

Mobile: 07522 466184

e-mail: enquiries@hmchimneysweeping.co.uk
Web: www.hmchimneysweeping.co.uk

01245 362 308
01245 362 308

THE COMPASSES
THE HUFFER PUB

Open Monday - Wednesday:
Noon - 3.00pm
& 5.30pm - Midnight

Thursday - Sunday:
Noon - Midnight
Food served all day Sundays

AWARDED LES ROUTIERS PUB OF THE YEAR 2009

LITTLE GREEN, GREAT WALTHAM
CM3 1BU Tel: 01245 362 308

www.compasseslitleygreen.co.uk



We can clean:

Carpets	Fabric Upholstery
Rugs	Leather Upholstery
Curtains	Mattresses

Commercial work also undertaken.

Call 01245 360192

for an instant quotation or booking
1, Upper Moors, Great Waltham CM3 1RB

The Development Of Ford End Church

In 2011, the PCC circulated a discussion paper asking for residents' views. Any changes to the church will require a substantial amount of financial investment and time. There are grants available from various organizations to fund some of the work required. The replies we have received so far are as follows:-

In response to the circulated discussion paper, nineteen parishioners replied, thirteen in writing and six verbally.

The paper generated considerable discussion in the area, not only about the potential future of the Church building but also the future use of the Village Hall.

An analysis of the replies is, as follows:-

- 1) Everyone agrees, and supports, the idea that the Church will benefit from the installation of a toilet(s) and, if possible, kitchen facilities.
- 2) Only one respondent was willing to see some of the pews removed to create more space at the back of the Church. There were many comments about the keeping the interior as a "traditional" village Church.
- 3) Likewise, there was little support for the removal of the organ. Comments ranged from "whilst it is never going to sound like the organ in St Paul's Cathedral, it is suitable for purpose" to "I was outraged to read of the batty idea"
- 4) There were no adverse comments about re-positioning the font.

On the more positive side, there were many expressions of support to find ways of re-arranging the Church. Many focused on de-cluttering the small room on the left and the area at the back. Some suggested putting in some decent storage shelves and cupboards. Would it be possible to convert the room in the tower into a vestry and knock a doorway through into the church? This would free up the room at the back for toilets/kitchen. Could we consider removing the curtain?

Suggestions for future use are:

- 1) A community shop serving tea and cakes that is open at times when the pre-school parents are dropping off, or collecting, their children. In addition, it could be used by ramblers and people in the village. The shop could stock dry goods. Take a look at St.Giles' Church, at Langford, www.stgileslangford.org.uk to see how it has been done.
- 2) As the church is open during the day now, start up a village Book Club with a book exchange stall in the Church
- 3) Start up a Mother and Toddler Group.
- 4) Advertise that the Church is available for meetings.

Most respondents mentioned that they were concerned about the cost of any changes and whether a) we could raise the money and b) whether there will be "value for money". Also, there was a strong feeling that, as a village community, we should be doing more to support the Village Hall. In most people's opinion, both in and outside the Church, the Hall is looking pretty run down at the moment. There are suggestions that the two organisations should be working together to create community based facilities

www.myhomecareservices.co.uk

offers free help and advice for the Essex self-funder. It provides a complete design and home adaptation service, an on-line shop selling specialist products and equipment and holds a directory of local businesses and services that the self funding elderly and disabled may require. For further details please contact John Ford on 07794 475066.

Calling all Musicians and Singers

fancy being part of a local band to play a set at the Jubilee celebrations in June, then please call Jan on 07760 240 550 or Email sixpencejpatch@gmail.com

Ford End Foodie

Dates for this year are **Saturday 24th March, 22nd September & 8th December, from 9.30am until 12.30pm**
at Ford End Village Hall

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the Ford End Foodie throughout 2011 – we are very grateful for your support! At the December event we managed to raise £100 with a raffle, half of this sum has gone to Farleigh Hospice & the remainder has been put towards the Ford End Jubilee celebrations for 2012. £49 was also raised for the ladies cancer charity Look Good Feel Better. If you haven't been to a Foodie yet, come along on the 24th March to feast your eyes upon the wonderful range of local produce available. We'd love to see you there! Free entry & free cup of tea/coffee. For more information please call Kerry 237034, Katy 237444 or Sandra 237555

Thank You

Many thanks to all who sent their Christmas Greetings in the Parish News. Around £220 was raised and divided between our chosen Charities. A very big Thank You and Happy New Year.

Parsonage Lane Bridge, Howe Street

Essex Trading Standards reports that to date we have dealt with well over 4000 contraventions county wide. We have prosecuted 15 drivers and formally cautioned a further 28 for repeatedly breaking the law.

Amanda Miles BSc (Hons) Ost Registered Osteopath

"Osteopathy can help relieve aches and pains throughout the body"

- Muscle & joint pain
- Strains & sprains
- Nerve pain
- Arthritic pain
- Postural, work related pain

Most private health insurance accepted
Flexible clinic times: Onsite Parking



9 Oaklea Avenue,
Chelmsford, CM2 6BY
Tel: 01245 260320



Margret Woods Fishery

Stocked Trout Lake



Annual Membership Available

For further details contact:

Tel: 01245 360239
Mobile: 07887 991835
Email: jenny@chathamhall.co.uk

Andrew Jiggins Architectural & Planning Consultants

- Full-Design & Planning Services
- Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas.
- Accredited agent with Local Planning Authority.
- Residential, Commercial & Leisure.
- New Builds & Extensions.
- Building regulations.

Please Contact :
Mobile: 07805 109223
Tel: 01277 368289
jigginsandrew@aol.co.uk



medics on the move

Quality properties needed for our professional & corporate clients to rent.

Apartments & family homes alike required.

Tel: 01245 570058

richardsmith@medicsonthemove.co.uk

www.medicsonthemove.co.uk

Ford End Village Hall - Unusual Auction

The Village Hall at Ford End is 90 years old this year and the Committee is keen to raise funds so that we can give the hall a birthday make-over. We are holding an "UNUSUAL AUCTION" on the 31st. March 2012, from noon so please put this date in your diaries. **More importantly, can you donate something to be auctioned? It can be a tangible item such as a cake or a bottle of wine or a promise, such as a day's gardening or a car ride to Stansted.**

Your contribution can be as imaginative as you wish. Please think about what you could do to help. Contact Roger Bearman with your donation to the auction on 01245 237335 or roger.bearman@btconnect.com or Sandra Brown on 01245 237555.

Look out for more information in the March issue of the Parish News.

The Felsted Church Recorder

Do you have church mice in St. Mary's? If not, then they could not be blamed if you find an item slightly out of its usual place. However, it might be that a Church Recorder has been around. The Felsted group of Church Recorders will be working in your church from sometime in March, onwards. As we survey and record, we will handle everything with care and aim to leave everything as we found it. Just sometimes, it might go back on its shelf, or in its drawer, out of order. So, what are we doing? For those unfamiliar with our work, may I explain? The grandly titled National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Society, has branches throughout the country. In addition to monthly meetings around a lecture, their outreach is by a voluntary group recording the inside of local churches. These inventories include EVERYTHING, from describing the woodwork and structure, detailing every artwork – from chalice through stained glass to embroidery – and listing each memorial, book, pedestal and even the doormats and dustpans! So why do it? A practical use of the record could be aiding your insurance. Historically, it reports on the condition and contents of your church's interior at a given time. When published, it acts as an academic reference that is kept by the County and National Archive and the Victoria and Albert Museum, amongst other places. We are delighted to be invited to record St Mary's: a large, significant building with several distinctive items that will take us well into 2013 to complete. We shall visit weekly, on a Tuesday morning, to make our 'fieldwork' notes and drawings and take photographs. Beyond that, we have to check references, consult experts (silverware, for instance), draft and edit and finally publish our findings. Do drop in and see what we are doing! On this particular project, we are looking for a typist to convert our work into manuscripts, based on a format set by NADFAS. Do you know someone who we could approach? If so, please ring Anne Haward on 01245 440225.

Waltham Wanderers Wanderin To Their 16th Year



On Sunday 15th January 2012, the Waltham Wanderers stepped it out into their 16th year of walking. New members are always welcome. Walks take place every month on Sundays, starting at various points in Essex and are usually of around five

to six miles. The speed is that of the slowest walker. So if you wish to step out with us in 2012 and want further details, contact Maureen or Peter Bradley 01245 360293 or Clare Lyne 361996.



News from Ford End School

This term we have had five new pupils join us, two have moved into the village and the others are from further afield. We have also had a record number of parents visiting to look round for entry in September 2012 and expect that we will once again be full in reception. This term our topics are *The Toyshop* in class 1 and *Ancient Greece* in classes 2 and 3. For some reason the children are always fascinated by the ancient Greeks and they have got off to a good start. Children have begun with art work, researching Greek pots and their designs on the internet and designing their own in that style. They have also been learning about some of the influences the ancient Greek language had on English. This will enhance their general knowledge as well as their spelling. There are no prizes for knowing why the topic of *The Toyshop* appeals to our younger children! This term we have introduced a new system for learning tables and number bonds. The children have responded well to it and we hope that it will encourage the younger children to learn their number facts early and thoroughly whilst giving the older children the motivation to consolidate knowledge and speed up their recall. The mild weather has enabled the grass on our new mound to sprout and keep growing. It now looks fairly well covered and will hopefully be ready for use as soon as the field is dry enough to be played on in the spring. Several visitors have remarked on how exciting it looks. It has been a good lesson in patience though! The children have watched it germinate and gradually cover the mound in green, whilst knowing that they cannot use it yet. Hazel Arnill (Headteacher)

Legion News



February Events

Sat 11th Race Night

Fri 24th Friday's Coffee morning 10 - 12
Look out for vouchers!!

Sat 25th Soul Night

Snooker room available to hire

Club Opening Times : Thursday 7.30 - 11.00, Saturday 8.00 - 11.00, Sunday 1.00 - 5.00

See board for extra entertainment dates. Families welcome.

Gt. Waltham Branch Poppy Appeal collection.

Proceeds towards the 2011 Poppy Appeal amounted to £4,304.01; this includes £1,397.99 collected in Pleshey. This is an increase of £1,389.29 on last year's total. It is made up from house-to-house collections, static point collections, donations, church collections on Remembrance Sunday, proceedings from a coffee morning and a charity auction at the Royal British Legion hall. A large part of the increase was the result of the auction, which raised a magnificent sum of £835.50. The remainder of the increase on last year's total was the result of generous house-to-house and static point collections plus the proceeds of the coffee morning. As last year was the 90th Anniversary year of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, the Branch committee wish to express a really sincere thank you to everyone within the parish community who helped raised this fantastic sum to make the anniversary a great success!

Vic Smith



It is with great sadness that I write these few words in memory of Vic Smith who died on 5th December 2011. Vic was

born on the border of Great Waltham Parish at Coy's, which is just in Mashbury. He moved soon into Great Waltham, where he lived his entire life. He often said that he loved Great Waltham and the people who lived there. He was educated at Chignal St James and walked some four miles to and from school each day. When Vic left school, he went to the factories of Chelmsford, working firstly with Crompton Parkinson and then with Christy's. Vic was never a man to waste a moment of his life; he loved life and he loved people. He liked a 'pint' and, in his company, I enjoyed hearing many of his humorous tales of events which had befallen him during his lifetime. He was a true countryman and his interest and knowledge of wildlife, animals, farming and particularly gardening, knew no bounds. Willingly, he gave to all and shared his great knowledge and experience. Since his 'retirement', Vic has been a butchers' assistant, a part-time barman and a seed packer. In 1985, his work for the community led him to become changing room caretaker and caretaker of the children's play area at Great Waltham recreation ground, where he continued to give service for twenty six years, right up until his death in December 2011. The Parish Council and the community are indebted to Vic for his dedication and willingness in carrying out his duties to the full. Fame came late in life to Vic. On 12th November, Vic and his wife, Olive, attended an event at Oakland's Museum, Chelmsford in the presence of the Mayor of Chelmsford. Vic became immortalised by local artist Billie Bond who used Vic as a model for her artistic work 'A Portrait of Chelmsford' in which a miniature bust of Vic was placed on the highest pinnacle - a most appropriate place for him to be! Vic's simple philosophy of life was, and will continue to be, an example to us all. His nature was kindness and helpfulness wherever he went. He will be sorely missed by the Great Waltham community.

Great Waltham Parish Council

Clerk, I P Bradley, The Old Fire Station, South Street, Great Waltham, Essex CM3 1DF Telephone 01245 362638.



Readers should note that this is an abbreviated report, prepared by George Hassan from 5 pages of A4. A full report may be read on Parish Council Notice Boards and, on the Parish Website www.greatwaltham.org.uk

The monthly meeting of the Parish Council (PC) was held on Monday, 19th December 2011 at The Old Fire Station. Chairman Mr A Micklem.

Essex Police reported the theft of drain covers from Parsonage Lane and Breeds Road; one arrest was made. Two burglaries were carried out in Great Waltham, one into a dwelling and one into a shed, from which a lawnmower was taken, and a catalytic converter was stolen from Mashbury Road; investigations are ongoing.

A vote of thanks was recorded for the Chairman, Ricky Mitchell and Tim Burton for their involvement in replacing a wooden barrier at Bury Lane Ford, for clearing scrub and brambles at Penden Hill and for installing the Village Gateways/Speed reduction gates at Ford End. Following the completion of work on the ditch and verge at Lucks Lane by ECC, a working party of residents tidied up the lane and verges, reseeding where necessary. Results from the Speed Indicator Device show that, of the four locations tested, the number of vehicles passing Ford End School was the greatest at 14,592 and 53% of these vehicles were travelling between 30mph and up to 40mph.

Approximately 50 residents attended an Open Day at the Parish Office, on 23rd November 2011, to view the proposals dealing with the development of Affordable Housing at Barrack Lane and Mashbury Lane, Great Waltham. A Commemorative tree has been planted at Broads Green, as agreed by the PC. The funeral of Mr Vic Smith took

place on Monday 12th December 2011. He served the community of Great Waltham as changing room and children's play area caretaker for the PC for the past 26 years. A tribute to Mr Smith will be published in the February 2012 edition of the Parish News.

A winter maintenance programme has been formulated and circulated to volunteers. The PC have received a letter of thanks from the Chairperson of Great Waltham Community Network, Joanna Steel, for their involvement in lighting the oak tree in Banbury Square for the Christmas Tree festival. Subject to the agreement of CBC, a dog waste bin will be installed at Hoe Lane, Great Waltham. Clare Lyne, the Parish Passenger Transport representative, has prepared detailed comments on the proposed Local Bus Tender Round 2012 and these will be adopted as the comments of the PC. Details are given in the full minutes. Details referring to the positioning of existing, and proposed future, bus stops within the Parish are given in the full minutes. Photographs of telephone Kiosks throughout the Parish will be forwarded to BT to assist in their maintenance. The PC have agreed that no comments need be made on the CBC document relating to the establishment of a local connection concerned with the allocation of affordable homes. Mr Blaber presented a written report on the consultation document, 'Technical Reforms of Council Tax'. The views expressed were adopted by the PC and Mr Blaber was thanked for preparing the report. CBC has offered to provide an oak tree to be planted in Great Waltham to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee. The PC is to make a request to CBC that two oak trees could be provided, one for planting in Great Waltham and the other in Ford End.

Low Energy Light Bulb Recycling

In its continued effort to encourage recycling in the Great Waltham Parish Community, the Parish Council has arranged for a recycling facility to be installed at the Parish Office to enable residents to recycle low energy light bulbs. Used low energy light bulbs are classed as "Hazardous Waste", as they contain Mercury. Mercury should not go into landfill because of the contamination it would cause. When these bulbs are recycled, the Mercury element can be safely removed enabling correct disposal, or reuse. Used energy saving light bulbs also contain material (rare, earth phosphors) that can be removed within the recycling process and used again. These phosphors are only found in a few places on Earth and cannot be replaced by a man-made substitute. The Parish Office is open on Wednesday afternoons 1pm to 4pm and Thursday mornings, 8.30am to 12.30pm.

The Friendship Club

Members enjoyed their Christmas get-together at the Windmill, Chatham Green in December and look forward to another year of afternoon teas and a varied programme of events. Next meeting: February 20th (weather permitting)

Senior Ladies Afternoon Tea

will be held on Monday, 6th February at Woodstock, Church Lane, Ford End at a new time of 2.30pm. Please contact Sheila Bearman on 01245 237335 for more information



Diamond Jubilee 'Logo' Competition

Queen Elizabeth II is celebrating her Diamond Jubilee this Summer. Your Parish Council will be providing a commemorative Jubilee Mug' to every child aged 11 years or less.

Would you like to see your Jubilee design on these special commemorative mugs?

HOW DO I ENTER?

Competition Rules for your Diamond Jubilee LOGO design

- Any child living in Great Waltham Parish who is aged 11 years or under may enter.
- Put your name, age and contact details on the back of the design.
- Your design must be clear and bold, suitable for display on the surface of our Jubilee mug.
- You may use poster paints/felt tips etc. Don't use too many colours.
- Your design must be your own work and not copied or reproduced from elsewhere.
- Work on paper arranged as for a portrait not landscape.
- You may not include the word 'Queen' as permission for this must be obtained.

- Two designs will be chosen, one from Ford End and one from Great Waltham.
- The chosen design will be reduced to a rectangle about 6cm wide and 8cm high.
- Both winning designs and the official Jubilee Design (top left) will appear on the mug.
- The Judges decision is final.

WHERE DO I SEND MY DESIGN?

Great Waltham or Ford End School, The Parish Office or Sandra Brown 01245 237555 **by 29th February 2012** (the closing date for entries)

For more details, contact Linda Neilson 01245 237292, Clare Lyne 01245 361996 or Sandra Brown 01245 237555



From the County Council, Cllr John Aldridge

Full Time Foster Carers Needed Throughout Essex – Could this be you?

With the start of the New Year, **Essex County Council** is asking people with experience of working with, or caring for, children and young people and who are thinking of a change of direction, to consider a career as a foster carer. Under the new fee paid scheme, foster carers receive up to £19,500 per annum caring for children in their own home. There are also generous allowances to cover other costs of caring for children. For example, a foster carer looking after two children aged 11-15 would receive an additional £372.96 per week in allowances. Foster carers come from a wide range of backgrounds. No specific qualifications are necessary to become a carer but potential applicants will need plenty of determination, empathy and a desire to make a difference to a child who has had a difficult start in life. Jim Bond, Chairman of the **Essex Foster Carers Association** and a long term foster carer himself said: "Fostering is the best job I've ever done and has been rewarding in seeing young people manage to cope with their past difficulties and move on to positive things in the future. It is hard work but every bit of the effort is worthwhile." For more information visit www.essex.gov.uk/fostering or call 0800 801 530.

Essex Chosen for Whole Place Community Budget Pilot

Essex has been chosen, as one of only four areas in England, to pilot a radical and innovative new model of public service. The **Whole Place Community Budget** will see public sector partners in **Essex** coming together to redesign services around the needs of local communities and citizens. The proposals could reshape the way **Essex** partners use the £10.4 billion currently spent on local public services. The Pilot could assist for example in:-

- Simplifying processes for older people using the health and social care system;
- Reshaping local skills provision for young people.
- Joining-up services to reduce the costs of dealing with problem families.

The Pilot will see the **County Council, District and Borough Councils**, the **NHS** and **Essex Police** better co-ordinate existing services and, where necessary, pool resources to tackle local challenges by focussing resources on the issues that matter most to us. **Essex** has always been a pioneering County and it is once again leading the way, by helping the Government to develop community budgets. In January, a team of Whitehall advisors will begin working with officials from across the County's public services to design and implement the **Whole Place Community Budget**. Further information about community budgets can be found at <http://www.communities.gov.uk/corporate/>

If you have any problems concerning **County Council** matters please let me know on 01245 421524 or email cllr.john.aldridge@essex.gov.uk

Hedge Laying on the Great Waltham Recreation Ground along Hatchfields

Some members of Great Waltham Horticultural Society and Ford End Gardening Club have expressed an interest in a practical workshop for 'Hedgelaying' and I have been asked to explain what Hedgelaying is. Basically it's taking an old hedge and rejuvenating it into a much thicker and younger hedge by making it throw up new growth from the base. This is a very old country craft that was used when farms kept livestock. Years ago nearly all farm hedges would be laid as they were then stockproof, and today a properly laid thorn hedge would contain sheep or cattle and would deter any thief or burglar from crossing it. So if you see any activity in Great Waltham or Ford End on a hedge please come and have a look or better still, sharpen that old Bill Hook and come and have a go! For more information please contact Alan Adcock 237522.

Fly Tipping

To report a problem:
01245 606800

Parish Logo

The Parish Council has for some time been looking at the possibility of introducing a Parish Logo, after a request from a parishioner. Back in the summer they asked, via the Parish News, for ideas, and these are now displayed below. Any further ideas can also be submitted. As a continued part of the consultation process, the Parish Council is now looking for comments on these logos, both positive and negative, to enable the Parish Council to encompass these in their deliberations as to which, if any, of the logos should be adopted. Comments should be sent to Peter Bradley, Clerk to the Great Waltham Parish Council, The Old Fire Station, South Street, Great Waltham CM3 1DF, or e-mail gtwalthampc@btinternet.com. Comments should be submitted by 20th February.



Great Waltham Parish Council



Logo 1



Quality Parish Council

The above ideas is the shape of the boundary, then coloured in the different villages in different shades of green with the blue streak showing the river.

Logo 2



Logo 3

Logo 4



Logo 5

Logo 6



Logo 7



Forthcoming Events

Saturday 4th February – Charity Choral Concert

There will be a Charity Choral Concert at Chelmsford Cathedral, supporting Farleigh Hospice and J's Hospice, featuring the South Woodham Ferrers Male Voice Choir, Plume School Choir and Angie

Diggins. Doors open 7pm for 7:30 start. Tickets £10 including a souvenir programme.

Please contact Farleigh Hospice on 01245 457408 for more information.

Thursday 23rd February – 22nd Luncheon Bridge Drive by the Friends of Farleigh Hospice

The Friends of Farleigh Hospice are holding their 22nd Bridge Luncheon at Little Baddow Memorial Hall, North Hill, Little Baddow, CM3 4TA, from 10.30am to 4.00pm. Tickets cost £18 and are available from Julie Renvoize on 01245 258067

True Copies of medical chart notes!

- Patient was alert and unresponsive
- She is numb from her toes down

Laminator

DID YOU KNOW that the Parish Council a laminator available at the Parish Office. Please provide your own laminating pockets or expect a small charge to cover the cost of any pockets provided by the Parish Council.

The Parish Office is open on Wednesday afternoons 1pm – 4pm and Thursday mornings 8.30am to 12.30pm.

Great Waltham Badminton Club

Active village badminton club seeks more players

Tuesday evenings in Hulton Hall, Great Waltham 8.00 to 10.00 p.m.

All ability players welcome.

For further details contact Gill or Adrian Mitchell 01245 362215

FELSTED DECORATIVE AND FINE ARTS SOCIETY

A MEMBER SOCIETY OF NADFAS

29th February 2012

THE ODD COUPLE

The Gardens of Edwin Lutyens & Gertrude Jekyll

by Steven Desmond

Following the AGM at 2pm
Venue: GREAT SALING MILLENNIUM HALL

CONTACT: Sheila Hasler, Publicity 01245 440124

OR Dick Frost 01371 820824

Parish Office Opening Hours

The Office will be open to members of the public on Wednesday afternoons from 1pm – 4pm and Thursday mornings from 8.30am to 12.30pm. The Clerk will be in attendance on the dates above to answer queries or provide information to members of the public. Please ring the doorbell for attention. Don't forget that there is also a book swap at the Parish Office where books can be exchanged with a small donation to charity.

Welcome To Pick Up Sticks -New Play Equipment, Great Waltham Children's Play Area



On 18th January 2012 work was completed on new Playground Equipment at Great Waltham Recreation Ground, Children's Play Area. The new equipment known as Pick Up Sticks is made by Wicksteed's and was installed by Playground Services. The chosen equipment was selected following consultation with the local children. The funding for the project was arranged by Great Waltham Parish Council through the Essex County Council Community Initiatives Fund. The Parish Council is now looking into refurbishment of the train and the provision of a picnic bench at the site.

The Parish Council hopes that the children will enjoy using this piece of equipment.

Peter Bradley, Parish Council Clerk.
01245 362638.

Parish Clubs, Organisations & Activities

Ford End Bell Ringers - Paul Braisby Tel. 01245 361927.

Ford End Carpet Bowls Club - Tina Knight Tel. 01245 237491

Ford End Gardening Club - Alan Adcock, Tel. 01245 237522.

Ford End Senior Ladies Tea Afternoons - Sheila Bearman Tel. 01245 237335

Great Waltham Badminton Club - Mrs Gill Mitchell Tel. 01245 362215.

Great Waltham Bell Ringers - Bill Pepper Tel. 01245 360613

Great Waltham Carpet Bowls Club - Mrs. Jean Terry Tel. 01245 361564.

Great Waltham Community Network - Joanna Steel Tel. 01245 360918

Great Waltham Cricket Club - Philip Burton Tel. 01245 360318.

Great Waltham Friendship Club - Wendy Johnson, Tel. 01245 360362.

Great Waltham Horticultural Society- Ben Wincott
ben@wincottdesign.co.uk

Jubilee Twinning Association - Joanna Steel Tel. 01245 360918.

Players at Waltham - Julie Flint, Tel. 01245 440988

United Chelmsford Churches FC - Mr. Peter Hovell Tel. 01245 421255

Royal British Legion - Legion Hall Tel. 01245 362380.

Waltham Singers - Frances Harrison Tel. 01245 222234

Waltham Wanderers - Maureen or Peter Bradley Tel. 01245 360293,

Walthams Scout Group - John Brogan 01245 444066

Walthamby Women's Institute - Phil Lilley Tel. 01245 360615.

Up, Up and Away Pre School - Mrs Ashmore Tel. 01245 237227,

Great Waltham Primary School - Headteacher Diane Wilson Tel. 01245 360395

Friends of Great Waltham School - Helen Mansfield Tel. 01245 361920

Chelmsford Angling Association - Dave Rounce Tel: 07840 881970

Ford End Primary School - Headteacher Hazel Arnill Tel. 01245 237209

Ford End Nursery School - Joanna Mardell Tel. 01371 874457

Great Waltham with Ford End PCC - Rev. Canon Carla Hampton Tel. 01245 364081

Black Chapel - Pat Hamilton Tel. 01371 820095

Ford End Village Hall Committee - George Hassan Tel. 01245 237397

Great Waltham Architectural Society - Chris Mills Tel. 01245 360115

The Friends of Great Waltham and Ford End Churches - Alexander Micklem Tel. 01245 360239

Great Waltham Village Hall Committee - Philip Burton Tel. 01245 360318

South House Residents Society - Ben Wincott

ben@wincottdesign.co.uk

Great Waltham Parish Care Group - John Lattimore Tel. 01245 363818.

VOICE - Sonia Slater Tel. 01371 821013

Great Waltham Netball Club - Rebecca Clout Tel. 01245 360178

Neighbourhood Watch - Paul Church Tel. 01245 360450

Community Speedwatch - Paul Braisby Tel. 01245 361927.

Great Waltham Book Group - Clare Lyne Tel. 01245 361996.

Walnut Tree Football Club - Peter Stokes Tel. 01245 360222

Book Club - Phil Lilley Tel. 01245 360615.

Bridge Club - Phil Lilley Tel. 01245 360615.

Great Waltham Cycling Group - Steve Huggins, Tel. 01245 362034

Parish Passenger Transport Representative - Clare Lynes Tel. 01245 361996.

Barnston Youth FC - Bob Jenkins Tel 01371 823008

Tree Wardens - Alan Adcock (237522) and Charlotte Bradley 01245 363626

Borough Councillors

DELMAS ASHFORD – 41 MAIN ROAD, BROOMFIELD, CM1 7BU **01245 440406**

BRIAN PATIENT – 4 ROWLAND CLOSE, BROOMFIELD, CM1 7ED
01245 440707

SANDRA PONTIN – **07930 105745**

County Councillor

JOHN ALDRIDGE – 33 EAST VIEW, WRITTLE, CHELMSFORD CM1 3MM
01245 430017

Parish Council meetings are held on the third Monday of every month at 7.45pm – (see your notice board for full details). **Members of the public are most welcome at every meeting of the Parish Council and are able to address the Parish Council at the Public Open Session. This is generally held at the commencement of the meeting. Planning, Recreation and Finance meetings are also held. The agendas are published on the notice boards**

Pet Health – Getting it right the second time round

Have you ever wondered just why it seems so difficult to rescue an animal, why you need to go through so many procedures like the questionnaires and home checks when you could walk into any pet shop and buy a brand new pet without any such things?

The Dogs Trust cares for over 16,000 dogs a year who have been abandoned, unwanted or abused. That is an awful lot of unwanted mouths to feed and that's before you look at the numbers of cats, rabbits, small mammals, reptiles etc... that also need a new loving home. It is really important that following rescue those in the position of carer e.g. at an adoption centre, take steps to ensure the pet will be rehomed to the right home so that the same situation doesn't happen again. Cats and dogs personalities, their temperament and health can be damaged if they are placed in the wrong home and are rehomed over and over. After all a *Dog Is For Life Not Just For Christmas* as the Dogs Trust slogan says – but let's face it the commitment of taking on any pet should be for their life.

There are hundreds of rescue centres across the country – RSPCA, Dogs Trust, Cats Protection being some of the main rescue charities – but also smaller centres. You will find that some vet practices will also be on the lookout for homes for stray animals. Many pedigree cats and dogs have their own specific rescue centre so if you have a particular pedigree in mind this might be the first port of call for you. Either way a quick search on the internet will point you in the right direction. If you don't have a particular breed you want, you can keep an open mind. Go and visit a rehoming centre. Many are open daily, but check first. When you get there you can have a chat with the staff about the sort of lifestyle you have and what sort of pet would be best for you. A questionnaire will need to be filled out at some point – it's not a test but it is really important to answer honestly to make sure the right pet is selected and will fit in easily to your new home. The need for loving homes for kittens in rescue centres is a lot more common than for puppies, though centres may have them from time to time. Often dogs are returned by their first owner after the cute puppy stage has worn off and the real work starts. Puppies and kittens don't have problems finding a new family, it's the adults that need more help. A rescue dog can make a loving addition to your family, it can also rally round the older dog of the family and give them a new lease of life. Have a good look at what pets there are and see if there is anyone you think could be suitable. You don't need to give a home to the first one you see! Instead visit the centre a couple of times, so you are not rushing your decision without due consideration. If you manage to narrow your choice down you will be able to spend more time with them – something that is really important with dogs. You can spend time fussing them; get a closer look at their temperament and whether you feel comfortable with each other. That way you can start bonding with them and give them the opportunity to meet other family members, particularly any children and dogs you have already. As time goes on a home visit will be needed, again this is not a test but the centre needs to check you can offer a safe environment and recommend any changes that may be needed, e.g. making sure your garden is secure! Expect some cost when rescuing any pet. Your new pet will have been fed, watered, boarded and received veterinary attention by their rescue centre. Most cats and dogs will be rehomed already neutered and microchipped – the fee paid will go some way to covering these costs. Be prepared and have set boundaries before you bring your new member of the family home. For dogs and cats, think about putting a bed (and cat litter tray) in each room where you will be spending the most time with your pet. Close doors that are off limits and use child gates where there are no doors, e.g. staircases or hallway. Think carefully about how you are going to get your pet home, especially if it is a dog. Not all dogs would have experienced a car before, so having a second person with you would help him. It is exciting bring them home for the first time, but remember it is all new to them and you will need to take things steady to begin with. Don't expect too much too soon and be patient, it will be a learning experience for them and you. And lastly get them registered with your vet and consider pet insurance to cover the cost of any unexpected accidents or illnesses. If your pet has a clean bill of health with no history of any recurring problem there is no reason why you wouldn't be able to get them fully insured.And enjoy! I have loved each and everyone of my rescued pets. My little dog Sophie will be 15 this year. She was heavily pregnant and on death row when we rescued her but she is the nicest, kindest, loving little dog I have ever known, a true part of my family.

Pet Health – EPILEPSY

2012 already, so Happy New Year to all our readers! This month it's epilepsy - a subject that can be very distressing for owners, if they have a pet who has fits or seizures. So here is some more information on epilepsy for you

Seizures can be caused by a number of conditions including brain tumours, poisoning and head trauma. It can also occur if a dog is diabetic, on treatment and is hypoglycaemic. Epilepsy is often the likely cause when a young animal starts to seizure. If the animal is older, it is more likely that their seizuring is due to an underlying problem e.g. a medical problem or a brain tumour.

Epilepsy is a condition that leads to the animal having repeated fits, or seizures, due to abnormal activity in the brain. Most epileptic seizures happen when the animal is relaxed and resting quietly, often in the evening or at night.

Once seizures start, dogs lose consciousness and don't respond to owners. Facial twitching and running or stretching movements with their legs are also common symptoms and sometimes they cry out. Seizures typically last between 1 and 3 minutes. The dog needs to be left alone while the seizure is happening. Switch the lights off and keep the room quiet. Providing the dog is in a safe place, ideally on the floor and away from sharp objects or the fireplace, you need not interfere with them but just let them come out of the seizure themselves. If necessary, quietly put cushions by these areas to stop the animal going near them.

Once a fit is over, the dog may behave oddly and may appear dazed and confused, sometimes for several hours. More rarely, fits will continue over a longer period. This can be an emergency, as the brain may become starved of oxygen. In such a case, urgent veterinary advice should be sought.

Keep a record of when the seizures(s) happen and how long they last for, as this can be useful for the vet when they are considering the history. Unless the dog is having a long seizure, it is unlikely that they need to come straight to the surgery. It is more likely that you will be advised to wait until the dog has fully recovered before this is attempted. Any stimulation could prolong the seizure or make them have another one – either way, you should contact your vet for further advice.

Diagnosis of epilepsy is generally made by the process of elimination. A full examination, blood tests and various diagnostic tests – such as an MRI scan or CT scan will be needed – to be certain that there is no other underlying condition causing the seizuring.

Epilepsy can be successfully treated in most pets, as there are a number of medications available to control regular, or persistent, epileptic seizures. Phenobarbitone is commonly used and works by increasing the threshold needed for seizures to occur.

Cats can also have fits, or seizures, but it uncommon for them to have epilepsy; normally, the cause is related to another underlying condition.

Dot Creighton RVN Registered Veterinary Nurse, Millennium Veterinary Practice, Millennium Way, Braintree, Tel: 01376 325511