

Little Waltham

PARISH MAGAZINE

Issue 16 - Summer 2021



“ I come home with glue in my hair, and a feeling that I have empowered young women

SHEENA
Brownies volunteer

”



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**Little Waltham
PARISH MAGAZINE**

Good Companions



Summer Report for the Little Waltham Good Companions

We are hoping that since our members will have had both Covid 19 vaccinations, we shall soon be able to resume meetings in the Memorial Hall assuming Covid rules make this practical.

We have been able to keep in touch with our members during lockdown in 2020 with flowers at Easter, Afternoon Tea in June and a hamper at Christmas, also cards and a newsletter at Easter 21; but nothing can replace being able to enjoy a cup of tea and biscuit/piece of cake and a chat together.

Unfortunately, we no longer have anyone physically able to set up and put away the necessary tables and chairs, so we desperately need to find someone to take on this task. This is an urgent plea for somebody to do this. Meetings are normally held on the first Tuesday of the month (except January) between 2.00pm and 4.30pm. The Club would be willing to pay a small fee for this assistance.

Please call the secretary (Mary Dowse, 01245 360341) if you are able to help or recommend somebody who would be willing to do so. **Mary Dowse**



16. Summer 2021

Little Waltham PARISH MAGAZINE

Edition	Input Deadline	Delivery
Spring	1st March	End March
Summer	1st June	End June
Autumn	1st September	End September
Winter	30th November	End Dec

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Front cover photograph courtesy of Suzanne Walker

Local articles of interest, residents views and comments are always welcome and should be sent to the Clerk of the Council at clerk@littlewaltham.org.uk

**Little Waltham
PARISH MAGAZINE**

Whilst Little Waltham Parish Magazine is supported by the Little Waltham Parish Council, the views expressed within it are not necessarily those of the Council





Little Waltham Parish Council

Welcome to the Summer edition of the Little Waltham Parish Council magazine! By the time you receive this magazine it is hoped that restrictions will have been removed and we will be out of lockdown! Also, the vaccine should be available to the 30 year olds and hopefully even younger and you can find out more and make a booking for your jab if you are eligible either by ringing 119 or visiting www.nhs.uk and click on the link that says 'find out about the Coronavirus vaccine'.

The Parish Council is no longer permitted to hold formal Parish Council meetings on Zoom so will be returning to physical meetings at the Tufnell Hall as from its meeting on Tuesday 6th July 2021. The meeting will be in the large hall so that there is plenty of room to spread out to enable those who attend to socially distance even if it is not a legal requirement at that time.

The Parish Council continues to make representations in relation to a variety of matters and would like to draw your attention to a current consultation in relation to a solar farm which may be of interest to residents - you can find out information and how to respond individually if you wish at www.longfieldsolarfarm.co.uk/publicconsultation/ The consultation is open until 13th July 2021.

I am pleased to say that the Parish Council is now up to its full complement of 9 Councillors with a new Councillor – Richard Allen – being co-opted to the Parish Council at the April meeting.

The annual report of the Parish Council Chairman Edith Robertson can be seen further on in the magazine summarising the activities of the Parish Council over the last 12 months and you will also be able to see a copy of the accounts. Other articles will let you know about other activities and forthcoming projects particularly a village celebration in 2022.

The Play in the Park event was held over the Easter school holidays and proved to again be popular. The Parish Council has arranged two sessions to be held at the recreation grounds on 13th August 2021. The activities will be suitable for children between the ages of 3-11 and you will be able to book either a morning or afternoon session for your child on the Chelmsford City Council website. Do keep your eyes peeled as spaces do tend to book up very quickly.

Also, thanks to a grant from the Essex County Council Locality fund the Parish Council was able to purchase new benches for the children's play area which are made of recycled materials (*photo right*).



As always if you have any issues for the Parish Council you are welcome to contact me.

Suzanne Walker

Parish Clerk (01376 331251)

clerk@littlewaltham.org.uk

Little Waltham PARISH MAGAZINE

Public Rights of Way



During the pandemic our local rights of way have been used even more than usual providing a welcome respite and opportunity to exercise during this difficult time. Essex County Council maintains a definitive map setting out those footpaths that are part of the public right of way network and thus protected.

The Parish Council would like to make sure other rights of way are protected for use by everyone in the future and is looking to make an application to Essex County Council to add a particular footpath onto the definitive map. To do this evidence of use of the footpath in excess of 20 years is required.

Therefore, if you have used the footpaths across Glebe Field, Brook Hill (opposite the Old Rectory) regularly for a period in excess of 20 years and are willing to sign a declaration to that effect, please contact the Parish Clerk who can provide you with paperwork to sign to support the application.

The Clerk can be contacted as follows – phone 01376 331251 or email clerk@littlewaltham.org.uk

How to advertise in this magazine

Little Waltham Parish Council is committed to assisting local businesses by providing advertising space in this magazine which is circulated to around 550 homes within this Parish. The magazine is published quarterly and one year's advertising covering 4 issues costs as follows -

Black and White

Half page £140.00 • Quarter page £70 • Eighth page £35

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To advertise please contact the Clerk Suzanne Walker by email – littlewaltham@gmail.com

Or by phone 01376 331251. Your artwork will need to be sent to the above email address. Payment to be made by cheque to Little Waltham Parish Council.



Mike Steel - New County Councillor for Broomfield and Writtle division

After 16 years of being the County Cllr for Broomfield and Writtle, John Aldridge has retired. I would like to thank John for his dedicated service over that time. I was fortunate to be elected in his place on the 6th May 2021. I have a history of addressing ECC issues and now I can deal with them from the inside as a County Cllr.

My background includes being a Parish Cllr for the last 20 years and I am also a City Cllr for Broomfield and the Walthams. The Broomfield and Writtle County Council division is physically large and covers a number of rural parish areas, namely Writtle, Broomfield, Great Waltham, Little Waltham, Great and Little Leighs, Chignal, Good Easter, Highwood, Pleshey, Roxwell, Mashbury and the new developments in Broomfield, Little Waltham and Chignal. I intend to join the many Parish Council meetings when I can, and have already started. I am a great believer in Parish Councils and their knowledge of the local issues. Like John, I will continue to send information on ECC initiatives and issues to future editions of your parish magazine.

If you have problems about County Council issues, such as highways, flooding, overgrown verges, public rights of way, fly tipping etc, I would encourage you to report them, in the first instance, on the ECC website, <https://www.essexhighways.org/tell-us>

If you need to contact me, email me on cldr.mike.steel@essex.gov.uk

Cllr Mike Steel Member for Broomfield & Writtle



One of the issues that seems to be a particular concern to residents relates to traffic so this article is to update you on actions being taken by the Parish Council to address the issue and action that you as residents can take.

Pavement Parking – the Parish Council respectfully requests that people do not park with wheels up on the pavement. It can cause issues for pedestrians safely using the pavements especially parents with prams or buggies as well as those who are disabled.

Speeding and inconsiderate and aggressive driving – reports of such behaviour have been received especially by people travelling along The Street and Brook Hill. The Parish Council set up a speed watch group a couple of years ago. It has not been able to be active during the Covid pandemic but it is hoped that the volunteers can go out again after 21 June. More volunteers are required to enable the scheme to be effective and information can be found elsewhere in this magazine about how to volunteer.

Traffic volume – It is a considerable concern that the volume of traffic travelling through the village centre has been increasing and with potential new developments coming forward in the future this will only increase. The view of the Parish Council is that measures should be put in place to encourage those who are simply travelling through the village to get to Essex Regiment Way to use the B1008 and join Regiment Way at the Sheepcotes roundabout rather than travelling through the village centre and causing the associated congestion.

The Parish Council has therefore submitted applications to the Essex County Council Local Highway Panel for measures to be put in place to discourage drivers from 'rat running' through the village centre. The request is for a 20mph speed limit to be put in place near the school and along The Street and also along Brook Hill up to Church Hill. There is also a request for traffic calming measures along Brook Hill. The applications also requests that there is a 40mph buffer zone along Back Lane on the approach to the existing 30mph speed limit and for village gates to be installed as a visual reminder of the fact that a village location is being entered. Such applications do take some time for the Highway Panel to assess and decide whether to process but updates will appear in this magazine.



**Little Waltham Open Gardens and Classic Car Show 2021
September 5th 2021.**

We're back! This year, on September 5th, we are opening some of the village gardens and hosting a classic car display, all in aid of Farleigh Hospice.

We missed out in 2020, so we are hoping this year will make up for that. It's later than usual so we can be reasonably certain that it will go ahead. We are always looking for gardens to open – so if you are thinking about taking part, please do contact me – by email at dblainey@aol.com, or phone on 07900493544, and I can let you know what it involves.

Over the years it has been very popular, and a great community event, so we would love to see more gardens involved.

Farleigh Hospice has continued to serve the community throughout the pandemic, and is as much in need of funds as ever. We hope that you can support us with this event.

David Blainey



Would you like to help your community by volunteering to help with Community Speed Watch in this Parish?

Speed watch is a traffic monitoring scheme the aim of which is to reduce real or perceived speeding

Although co-ordinated by the Police and fire service volunteers in the community carry out the monitoring

Training, equipment and insurance are provided.

A group has been set up in this Parish and more volunteers are required

For more information and to volunteer please contact the Parish Clerk 01376 331251 or by email clerk@littlewaltham.org.uk

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CHAIRS REPORT PARISH MEETING 2021.

In the past year the Parish Council has continued with its work on behalf of the community of Little Waltham.

Last year all our lives were affected by the Pandemic. We moved to having on-line meetings via Zoom which we felt actually assisted in improving local democracy. We had more people attending the Zoom meetings than we have traditionally had attending in person. To enable us to meet virtually required a change in the legislation which the government brought in at the beginning of the first lock-down. Unfortunately the Government has decided despite representations to the contrary not to extend this provision, therefore after this meeting we are required to go back to meeting in person. On that basis we will probably decide not to meet in June as that will be before the full relaxation of the indoor requirements due on 21st June. So after this meeting our next one will be in July.

During the course of last year we were disappointed that we had to cancel the proposed VE Day Celebrations. However I am delighted to say that we are hoping to have a Village/Parish Celebration to coincide with Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations over the extended weekend from 2nd June – 6th June 2022. The event is in its planning stages and a number of organisations have been approached, if you are interested in being involved or wish to offer assistance please let us know.

We have a full complement of 9 councillors, during the course of the year we co-opted Paul Scott and Richard Allen.

We have dealt with a number of issues during the course of the year - both local and city-wide.

The Local Plan has now been adopted by the City Council, and one of major issues to affect the village is the proposed Bloor Homes development at the hospital. We spent a good deal of time discussing the development with Bloor Homes along with Broomfield Parish Council. It was therefore very disappointing that when Bloor finally applied for planning permission they applied for 550 houses as opposed to the 450 in the Local Plan and the number they had been discussing with us. We lodged our objection to this and we await further information from the City Council. One of the issue relating to this application is the new access road to the hospital. We are fighting to have this road available for everyone visiting the hospital, at present due to an agreement that we were not a party to nor were informed of the City Council would appear to have come to some sort of agreement with the hospital that this road only be for use of hospital employees and deliveries.

Another issue that comes up on a regular basis is speed of traffic and parking. We have been in discussion with the school about the issues that residents and through traffic face at drop-off and pick-up time. We have been assisted by the Parking Partnership with regards to these issues and hope that with effort and assistance from all sides a change in behaviour can be achieved. In conjunction with the Parking Partnership we have an outstanding application of some double yellow lines at the junction of The Street and the B1008.

With regards speed of traffic we have a speed gun and a number of trained volunteers who can monitor the speed of traffic. However as a result of the pandemic we have been unable to get out with the equipment this past year, however with the lifting of restrictions we hope to get this up-and-going again so if you are interested in being part of this and have some time to spare please let us know.

We are also in discussions with the Highways Panel as to physical things that can be done to slow the traffic down and/or deter through traffic. One of the issues of the Bloor development



is that we feel that the village will be subject to rat-running from that development from anyone heading into Chelmsford or to the A12. Again we are trying to see if anything can be done to minimise the impact whilst not unduly affecting the convenience of residents. Pavement parking is also an issue. Very often it is to such a degree that it is blocking the pavement and people with prams, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and the like are unable to pass. Obstruction of the pavements in such a way is an offence. We are looking into ideas to prevent this. Before any major decisions are taken we will of course consult with residents.

Before I leave the issue of traffic I would also like to say that we are pleased that at long last a pedestrian crossing is being constructed across Essex Regiment Way. Quiet why it is taken so long is not easily understood, quite why the construction of it should take so long I don't understand – but at least it is now in progress!

As many of you will be aware the Cricket Club has left the village and the fence has come down. The Parish Council are in the final negotiations with the City Council for a new lease of the cricket field which we hope will be concluded very shortly, there are just a few legal issues to be dealt with. We have however managed in the interregnum to have the concrete blocks removed and a gate installed. We were able to take advantage of the Ping initiative and we have had an outdoor table tennis table installed on the playing field free of charge. We hope that this will be a useful community resource for all. We are also considering installing some outdoor gym equipment, however this will probably need to wait until the issues concerning the lease have been resolved. We will also at the time take possession of the pavilion and again we will consult on ideas for the use of the building, but have to point out that it is badly in need of repair so we will need to deal with that in the first instance. We are keen that this whole area is one that is available for the whole community.

The Glebe Field has been an issue that we have been concerned about during the past year. The Church of England are the owners of the land and without any notification to the Parish Council let it for the grazing of goats. This area is in the conservation area and we have been concerned about the fencing off of the area and the construction of sheds. Planning permission has now been given for the buildings, but we will continue to monitor the use of the area to ensure that it is compatible with is being in the conservation area.

On a more positive note I am pleased to say that our affordable housing project is progressing and Chelmer Housing our partner in this initiative will soon be applying of planning permission.

We continue producing our Parish Newsletter which is published on a quarterly basis. We are delighted that feedback continues to be very positive, and supportive of the initiative.

A lot of our time is taken up with planning applications. Most of these applications are uncontroversial, however where they are not we have made our views clear and where necessary we have attended Planning Committee Meetings of the City Council to present our viewpoint.

Other initiatives that we arranged during the year have been the sessions of “Play in the Park” (when permitted) and we have recently arranged a Parish “Litter Pick” for the beginning of June. We have also engaged with both Macdonalds and Costa Coffee about the litter as much of it emanates from their customers. Both have been very responsive and have assisted in our litter picks with supplying staff to assist and vouchers for those who have taken part.

A lot of the work of the Parish Council goes on due to the commitment of my fellow councillors and I would like to thank them for all their help and work over the past year.



I would also like to thank the other organisations on behalf of the Parish Council who do so much to help the village and the community.

Thanks are also due to our County Councillor John Aldridge who I am sorry to say is leaving us as he has decided not to stand in the elections this week. John has been a faithful attendee at the Parish Council meetings, given us excellent advice and helped us fight our corner on County issues. I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Parish Council and the residents to thank him for his help and assistance and wish him a very long and happy retirement. I would also like to thank City Councillors Mike Steel and Barry Knight who between them attend the majority of our meetings and are always willing to assist us and help us with City Council matters.

The work of the Parish Council is supported by our Clerk Suzanne and on behalf of the Parish Council I would like to thank Suzanne for all her help and assistance over the past year. I can assure you she is an unfailing support and works hard for the Parish and its residents. I continue to get excellent feedback from those who Suzanne has assisted she is a real asset to the Parish Council.

Little Waltham Parish Council account year end 31 March 2021

Year Ended 31-Mar-20	RECEIPTS	Year Ended 31-Mar-21	Year Ended 31-Mar-20	PAYMENTS	Year Ended 31-Mar-21
35,714	PRECEPT	44,102.00	10,007.37	GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	5802.85
6,001	GRANTS	2,373.04	9,758.44	SALARIES & EMPLOYEE EXPENSES	8,030.99
			162.00	HALL HIRE	-
			612.17	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS	654.50
				<u>RUNNING COSTS</u>	
900.30	ALLOTMENTS	1,007.36	5,465.87	ALLOTMENTS	2,234.58
58.12	VERA PERKINS BEQUEST	2,413.12	56.44	VERA PERKINS BEQUEST	58.12
1,420.00	MAGAZINE ADVERTISING	595.00	448.00	HANDYMAN	365.00
-	OTHER INCOME		17,405.54	PARKS AND OPEN SPACES	12,013.80
			40.00	SECTION 137	40.00
			-	EQUIPMENT AND PPE	9.99
1,651.26	VAT RECOVERED	2,813.08	2,813.08	VAT PAID	1,382.56
45,744.66		53,303.60	46,768.91		30,592.39
	<u>RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS SUMMARY</u>			<u>YEAR END FUNDS REPRESENTED BY:</u>	
Year Ended 31-Mar-20		Year Ended 31-Mar-21	Year Ended 31-Mar-20		Year Ended 31-Mar-21
£ 32,854.45	BALANCE B/F 1ST APRIL	£ 31,830.20	31,830.20	CURRENT ACCOUNT	52,158.07
£ 45,744.66	ADD TOTAL RECEIPTS	£ 53,303.60	-	95 day saver	2,383.34
£ 78,599.11		£ 85,133.80			
£ 46,768.91	LESS TOTAL PAYMENTS	£ 30,592.39			
£31,830.20	BALANCE C/F 31ST MARCH	£ 54,541.41	31,830.20		54,541.41

Signed
Date Chair

Signed
Date Clerk & RFO



The Tom Amos Charity

As you walk down The Street from Ashtree Corner towards Winckford Bridge, you may have seen the Blue Plaque over 'The Old Bakery'. This is where Tom Amos lived and worked all his life.

In 1999 he set up The Tom Amos Charity, leaving it the bulk of his estate. He died in 2003, and since 2009, the Charity set up in his name, has distributed over £800,000.00 to local people and organisations. The objectives of The Charity are the provision of recreational facilities, advancement of education, relief of poverty, advancement of religion and other charitable causes that are beneficial to the community, and covers Chelmsford City Council and the Districts of Uttlesford and Braintree. If you wish to apply for a Grant, the Application details can be found in the website as shown at the bottom of this article.



Tom is buried in St Martins Churchyard, where you can visit his grave. If you are interested in reading more about this fascinating man, and seeing photographs of Tom at work in The Bakery, go to Tomamoscharity.org.

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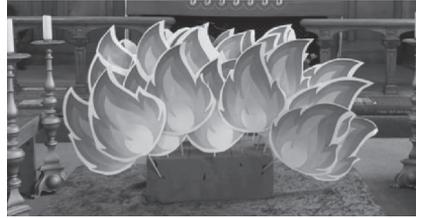


Robert - 07879 003135



Wind and Fire

By the time you read this I am praying that many of the fun things we have been denied over recent months are back in our lives. As I write, the Eurovision Song Contest has just been on television, having missed a year because of covid-19.



It's always a fun occasion for many who make a real family event of it, eating lots of unhealthy snacks, keeping score-sheets, and having lots of laughs.

The music is always a broad mix of styles, both musical and visual, ranging from the amazing to the truly dreadful. It's quite predictable in some ways but at the same time capable of springing genuine surprises. It's both political and also gloriously mould-breaking as the performers stand, at least for a while, for all that's good about the rich variety in people and cultures around the world.

The only mistake is to take it too seriously, because that means missing out on the fun!

The Church's celebration of Pentecost has also just happened, and this year I've been struck by the parallels. At Pentecost, the Church was launched in a blaze of pyrotechnics and a blast of sound. Wind and fire fell on the disciples and gave them the power to go and tell the world all about Jesus. It was witnessed by a multi-ethnic, multi-lingual crowd, some of whom are disapproving and evening thinking the disciples must be drunk. But most were captivated – both by the spectacle and by the message of peace and reconciliation which transcends any of their differences.

As the Church has grown and spread around the world over the passing centuries, it has become even more diverse in language, culture, and expression of faith, including doing some things badly. Underlying it all, though, the person of Jesus has not changed: he is the point of unity which links together all that rich and wonderful diversity.

The Eurovision Song Contest ends with judgement being delivered by professional juries and by the popular vote. There is a winner, and sometimes, as this year, some go away completely empty handed and unappreciated.

This is where Pentecost is radically different: there are no losers in God's kingdom, nobody gets 'nul points'. God's promise is that everyone who turns to Jesus gets forgiveness, new life, and the Holy Spirit. *"This promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away"* as Peter said to that excited crowd, *"then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."*

You may or may not have watched Eurovision, and you may or may not have experienced God's Holy Spirit at first hand. Both need to be approached with an open mind, but unlike Eurovision, you don't need to wait till next year to meet with God. Why not give it a go? **Rev'd Sandra**

**Little Waltham
PARISH MAGAZINE**

Gardening Club



LITTLE WALTHAM GARDENING CLUB

The Spring this year has been especially challenging to us gardeners. Having had our gardens well and truly soaked over the Winter, the searing North East winds of March and April brought us sunshine, drought and sharp night frosts, to the detriment of tender plants.

The vagaries of the weather aside, the good thing is that Covid infections are on the decrease, meaning that after mid Summer normal life can resume. (Fingers crossed)

The Gardening Club has planned an afternoon outing to Ulting Wick, near Maldon on Wednesday 4th August. The cost, including a talk, tour of the garden and homemade refreshments is £10.00 per head. Thus is a stunning garden to visit, the colour schemes and plant use are dramatic. We travel by car, arriving at 2.00pm. Lots of parking space available

Our series of monthly evening meetings begin on WEDNESDAY 1st SEPTEMBER, 7.30 in The Memorial Hall. The speaker will be TIM CARTER of LONG HOUSE PLANTS and his subject will be 'PLANTS OF SEASONAL INTEREST'. Tim will bring a wide range of plants that are at their peak in September and he will discuss how and where to plant them and invite the audience to buy them. From experience, I know his plants are of excellent quality at affordable prices.

Visitors are very welcome at our meetings. As well as plants on offer, there will be refreshments, raffle and a warm welcome.

We charge £3.00 per evening, but a better bargain is to pay a subscription of £5.00 which will be valid for 5 evening meetings until our new year begins in March 2022.

Looking forward to meeting up again. Meanwhile, enjoy the summer.

Maggie Williams (Hon. Secretary). Phone 01245 360042

See also website littlewalthamgardeningclub.co.uk



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**Broomfield & District U3A
new members welcome!**



The first week of June was National u3a Awareness Week. Although various restrictions prevented us from planning a big 'splash' event, we are hoping to hold an in-person social meeting in September – the start of our membership year. At that meeting, current and potential new members can get together for a chat, talk to leaders of special interest groups, and get a feel for the benefits of joining us – and join right then and there if they wish, for a yearly subscription cost of only £13. A number of our special interest groups have continued to meet virtually throughout the pandemic, and as lock-down restrictions have eased, more groups have been able to get together in person. Between now and the end of this year (apart from August) we are also holding monthly speaker meetings via Zoom, on the second Wednesday of the month.

Across the UK, u3a members are learning, staying active and having fun in later life. There are over 1000 branches with over 450,000 members – making it one of the largest volunteer-led organisations in the country. For readers of this magazine, the Broomfield & District u3a is most likely your nearest branch, so if you are not already a member and would like to join, we would be delighted to welcome you. We've asked all our members to tell their friends and acquaintances about the u3a, but if in the meantime you'd like to find out more, and to make contact with us via our website, please visit <https://u3asites.org.uk/broomfield/welcome>



After over a year of seeing everybody virtually Little Waltham Drama Group are hoping to be once again rehearsing at the Memorial Hall on Mondays and Thursdays from 8.00 – 10.00 from June 28th (government guidance permitting). We are hoping to have a couple of workshops such as dancing and also hold auditions for next year's Panto, details of which will be announced on June 28th, Rehearsals will begin in earnest in September for our Pantomime which will take place in January 2022.



The Drama Group is always delighted to welcome new members (from 15 years old upwards) so, if you enjoy singing, dancing, acting, making props, costumes or cups of tea, we'd love you to come along and meet us as we are a friendly group who enjoy each others' company and also happen to like a bit of acting too.

If anyone would like further details we'd love to hear from you so do please contact Vicky Weaver on Victoria_weavers@sparrowhawks.co.uk and we look forward to welcoming new members to our happy, fun-loving group of thespians.



Services at St Martin's Church

Our first service after lockdown will be:

18th July 11.00am

Communion with Neil Richardson

Followed by one communion service every month on the third Sunday (subject to Government guidelines).

In the meantime, Rev Sandra has an online service at 10.30 on Sundays and a Soothe Your Soul Night Prayer every Wednesday at 8pm. You can find them on the "Little and Great Churches at Home" Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Little-Great-Churches-at-Home-110993963898881/>

or on our new YouTube channel Lt and Gt Churches at Home.

For information updates and information on services in the Leighs and please see our notice board.

All are welcome at our services.

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Cameras at the ready for the 2021 Farleigh Hospice photography competition

A Chelmsford hospice is calling on all budding photographers to get snapping for its annual photography competition.

The Farleigh Hospice annual photography competition is now open for entries and closes on 20 June 2021. This year's competition aims to find the photographs that perfectly encapsulate the beauty of Essex. Entrants can submit up to 10 photographs for judging and the winning shots will be used in the Farleigh Hospice 2022 calendar.

The brief is open, with the only specification being that the photograph is taken in Essex. From shots of our green spaces and chocolate box villages to images of long-awaited reunions with loved ones in a favourite spot, entrants can photograph whatever they like as long as the location of the photo is Essex-based.

Graham Fisher, digital marketing lead at Farleigh Hospice said: "It doesn't matter if you're a seasoned snapper or simply enjoy taking a shot or two on your phone, all entries are welcome as long as they are taken within the borders of Essex. With this year's competition we want to show off the beauty of our great county. We are so lucky in Essex to be surrounded by so much beauty, which is why we decided to make Essex the theme of this year's competition. Every penny raised from the sale of the calendar will go towards helping our care teams to provide vital care and support to anyone affected by life-limiting illness and bereavement in mid Essex."

To enter visit www.farleighhospice.org/photography-competition. Entries must be submitted by 11.59pm on Sunday 20 July 2021.



The children are working hard at everything they do and have settled back into the routines of school very well. We are still keeping to our 'bubbles' and not having visitors on site, but that is helping to keep us all as safe as possible.

Under normal circumstances I would be telling you all about our summer plans, which would include a fete – sadly that is not possible this year but we are still planning to organise as many events within school as we can for the children to enjoy. To begin, our Year 6 pupils are going to Danbury Outdoors after half term; they will have two brilliant days of activities just not with a 'sleepover'. They are very excited!

We are taking part in the virtual 'Food and Farming Day' after half term and looking forward to receiving our box of 'goodies' to help the children understand what it is all about. Our school council have recently planted a butterfly garden that now has a huge array of seedlings showing themselves. We are just waiting for some sunshine to encourage them to flower and attract the butterflies. Each class currently has a mini habitat – worms, ants, spiders, ladybirds and caterpillars.

The children have also taken on the 'Plastics Pledge' and organised plastic recycling. Thank you to Contenur UK who donated three brightly coloured wheelie bins which are now around the field and play areas.

Our office staff have been fund raising 'virtually' this year with some very imaginative activities – the Easter 'Golden Ticket' was a great success along with the 100 square. We have also launched a school lottery page on the Essex lottery, a pre-loved uniform shop, *and* you can support the school by selecting us on Amazon Smile and easyfunding when you shop online. Our summer fundraiser will be launched after half term!

If you have time – do take a look at our Weekly News on the website <http://www.little-waltham-school.co.uk/weekly-news/> . This includes children's work, responses to 'The Big Question of the week' and our awards, it will give you a good sense of what happens in school every day.

Take care and stay safe.

Liz Maycock
Headteacher

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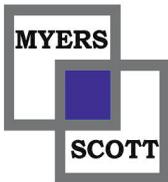
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Village Celebration 2022

In the last edition of the magazine, I let you know that the Parish Council is looking to collaborate with other village organisations to set up a village celebration in relation to the Queen's Jubilee which will take place over an extended bank holiday weekend at the start of June 2022. I am pleased to say that an initial Zoom meeting was held with a suggestion of a 'Queen's Jubilee Picnic in the Park'. The intention is to use the Memorial Hall and the recreation grounds for a village gathering with other activities being provided.

To progress this planning of this event it would be wonderful to include not just our local organisations but local small businesses so if you wish to take part in this event, please contact the Clerk at the details below.

As decisions are made and planning progresses on the precise content and format of this event then updates will be provided to residents both in this magazine and on the Facebook page.



Contact the Clerk at the details below
Phone: 01376 331251

Email:
clerk@littlewaltham.org.uk

Michelle Dulieu
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Little Waltham Community Litter pick

Thanks to all those who attended the Little Waltham Community Litter pick on Saturday 5th June 2021. The event was held in collaboration with the Channels Community Association so that there was a litter pick in the village centre and also at Channels. Thanks also to the local McDonalds store for providing food and refreshments to the volunteers at the end of the event free of charge!





Little Waltham and Great Notley Patients Participation Group

The Aims of the Patient Participation Group

"To work with their practice to provide practical support, to help patients take more responsibility for their own health and to provide strategic input and advice. PPGs are based on cooperation between the practice staff and patients".

Purpose of a PPG

- To give practice staff and patients the opportunity to discuss topics of mutual interest in their own practice.
- A forum for patients and staff to improve and develop services within the practice by co-production.
- To provide an opportunity for patients to make positive and constructive suggestions/ideas about the practice and specific medical conditions as an 'expert' or 'experienced patient'.
- To encourage health education activities within the practice.
- To involve further patients from the wider population.
- To involve patient participation in future commissioning of Health Provision.

Benefits for the patient:

- Patients will be more responsible for their own health.
- Patients will have a better understanding and knowledge of the practice and its staff.

This allows up to date information to be given to patients and will inform what decisions can be influenced and what cannot. It will also allow the practice staff to gain an understanding from the patient's perspective.

- Patients will have a forum to suggest positive ideas and voice concerns
- Patients will benefit from improved communications between patients and staff

If you are interested in joining this group, head over to the Surgery website where there is an online form and then a member of the committee will be in contact with you.



Little Waltham Line Dancing

We are a friendly group of people that get together every Saturday morning between 10am and 11am at The Memorial Hall for an enjoyable hour of beginners line dancing. We also have time for a chat and a few laughs. If you fancy a go or want to pop in to take a look, all are welcome. We are social distance dancing at the moment and taking all safety precautions in line with Government Guidelines. £5 per class - for any more information call Sue on 01245 361019



Little Waltham Parish Council - Your Councillors

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