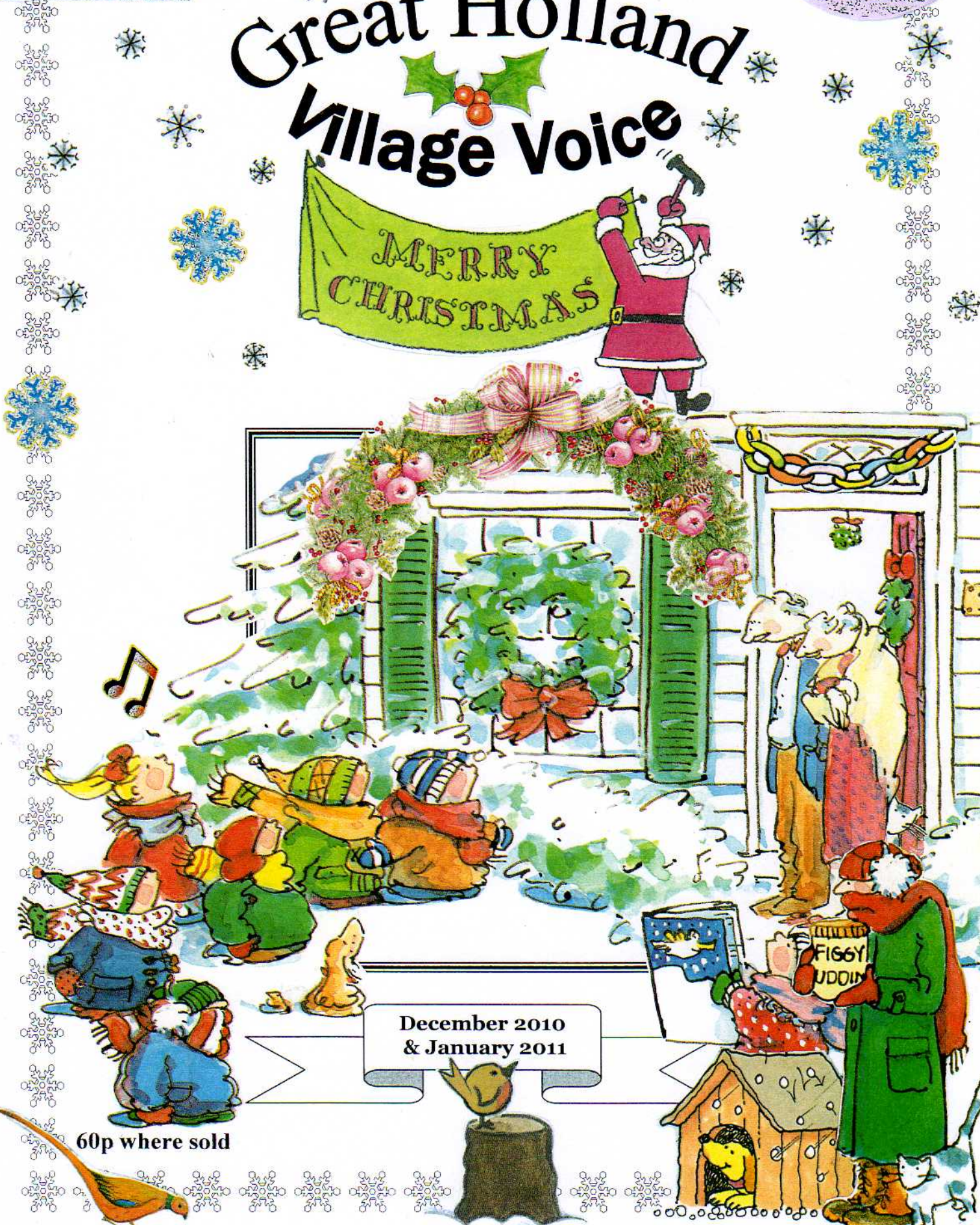
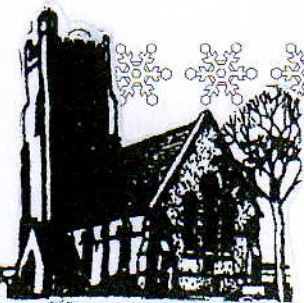


Also available in colour at [www.greatholland.com](http://www.greatholland.com)

# Great Holland Village Voice



December 2010  
& January 2011

60p where sold



... to the December 2010/January 2011 edition of **Village Voice**.



## Included in this edition ...

- ❖ **Reminder about the GHRA Social on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December**
- ❖ **Minutes of the last GHRA meeting**
- ❖ **All Saints' Tower Fund update**

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition of Village Voice. We always welcome new contributors. Is there anything that **YOU** would like us to include in the next edition? For example:

- Are there any events happening in February or March 2011 that you wish to publicise?
- Do you have any local news items to be included?
- Do you want to tell other villagers about a local group/club?
- Can you write an article for the magazine?
- Do you want to advertise any items for sale/your business/service?



Please contact Linda on [REDACTED] or Sandra on [REDACTED] with details, two weeks before the printing date if possible. Please note that Sandra deals with the advertising side of the magazine. The next edition of Village Voice will be printed on:

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011**



## Contents

Village Contacts and Local Information

Dates for your Diary

Rector's Reflections/All Saints' Church Diary/Methodist Church

Village news & articles

Advertisements





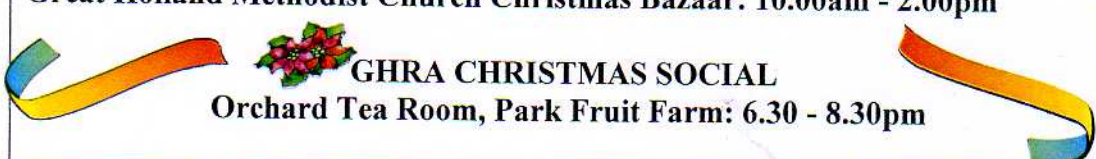
# Village Contacts and Local Information

<b>Member of Parliament</b>	Mr Douglas Carswell MP	<b>423112</b>
<b>Residents' Association</b>	Mr John Poulten (Chair)	<b>679233</b>
<b>All Saints' Church Minister</b>	Post Vacant	<b>675997</b>
<b>Methodist Church Minister</b>	Rev. Ray King	<b>675336</b>
<b>Village Hall Committee</b>	Mr John Knight (Chair)	<b>851370</b>
<b>Great Holland Village Stores</b>	Main Road	<b>674359</b>
<b>Frinton &amp; Walton Town Council</b> (Incorporating Frinton, Walton, Kirby and Great Holland)	Mr R G Richmond (Town Clerk)  Cllr. Mr Alan Large	<b>676666</b>  <b>671490</b>
<b>Tendring District Council</b>	Town Hall, Station Road, Clacton CO15 1SE  Cllr. Mr Robert J Bucke Cllr. Mr Mark A Cossens	<b>686868</b> (Emergency Out of Hours: <b>2220220</b> ) <b>677495</b> <b>861374</b>
<b>Essex County Council</b>	Cllr. Mr Michael (Mick) Page	<b>672410</b>
<b>Walton Police Station</b>	Martello Road Walton on the Naze CO14 8BP  Hours when open to the public: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8.45am - 12.30pm Saturday: 9.00am - 12.30pm	<b>0300 333 4444</b> <b>4444</b> (Extension <b>487554</b> )
<b>Mobile Police Station</b>	Outside "The Ship" P.H: 9.00 - 9.45am, 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Friday of each month.	
<b>Neighbourhood Watch Administrator</b>	Paul Teague - Clacton Police Station: <b>0300 333 4444 (Extension 16360)</b> .	
<b>Crime Reduction Officer</b>	Please call Calvin Heal at Clacton Police Station ( <b>0300 333 4444</b> ) for advice on home security.	
<b>Crimestoppers</b>	<b>0800 555111</b>	
<b>Mobile Library</b>	Calls fortnightly in Great Holland on: <u>Tuesdays</u> <b>The Close:</b> Arrives 9.15am, departs 9.30am <b>Orchard Drive/Laxton Grove:</b> Arrives 4.30pm, departs 4.45pm <u>Thursdays</u> <b>Rosery Mews:</b> Arrives 10.00am, departs 10.30am	
<b>Civic Amenity Tip</b>	Maltings Lane, Kirby-le-Soken. Opening hours: <b>Between 1 March and 30 September:</b> 8.00am - 5.00pm. <b>Between 1 May and 31 August:</b> As above, but until 7.00pm on Tuesdays. <b>Between 1 October and end February:</b> 8.00am - 4.00pm.	



# Dates for your Diary ...



Thursday 2nd	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday. Great Holland Friends Christmas Party: Village Hall, 2.00-4.00pm.
Saturday 4th	<b>CHRISTMAS SPECIAL HOME MADE HOUR</b>
Thursday 9th	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday. Mobile Library visits Rosery Mews. PCSO Surgery: Methodist Church, 10.30-11.30am.
Saturday 11th	Great Holland Methodist Church Christmas Bazaar: 10.00am - 2.00pm
	 <b>GHRA CHRISTMAS SOCIAL</b> Orchard Tea Room, Park Fruit Farm: 6.30 - 8.30pm
Tuesday 14th	Mobile Library visits The Close/Orchard Drive/Laxton Grove.
Thursday 16th	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday.
Friday 17th	Frinton Farmers/Craft Market: McGrigor Hall, 9.00am-12.00 midday. <b>AN OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PRODUCERS!</b>
Sunday 19th	Charity Quiz Night at The Ship.
Thursday 23rd	Mobile Library visits Rosery Mews.
Friday 24th	Live Music at The Ship, 8.00pm - late.
Friday 31st	New Year's Eve Party at The Ship. Disco 8.00pm - free buffet - children welcome.



# January



Thursday 6th	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday. Mobile Library visits Rosery Mews.
Tuesday 11th	Mobile Library visits The Close/Orchard Drive/Laxton Grove.
Thursday 13th	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday.
Thursday 20th	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday. Mobile Library visits Rosery Mews. PCSO Surgery: Methodist Church, 10.30-11.30am.
Tuesday 25th	Mobile Library visits The Close/Orchard Drive/Laxton Grove.
Thursday 27th	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday.
Friday 28th	Frinton Farmers & Craft Market: McGrigor Hall, 9.00am-12.00 midday. <b>AN OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PRODUCERS!</b>
Saturday 29th	Meeting of Great Holland Residents Association: Orchard Tea Room, Park Fruit Farm, Pork Lane, 10.00am
Sunday 30th	Charity Quiz Night at The Ship.

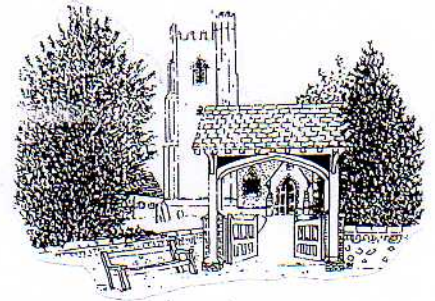


For further details of any of the events at The Ship, please contact Elaine on 674809.

To include events occurring in **February or March 2011** in the Diary section of the next edition of **Village Voice**, please contact Linda on [redacted] or Sandra on [redacted] by **15 January 2011** if possible.



## All Saints' Church



We're writing this on Remembrance Sunday, when Christmas doesn't feel very imminent but we know that in the world of magazine editing things have to get done early - and in the world of house-hunting things can change in an instant. So it might well be that by the time you actually read this, we will have found the one for us. If so, we will have sent word round!

It is now six weeks since we left. Our send-off was so special, so much hard work and imagination put into it, that we don't think any Rectory family can ever have been so lavishly sent on their way. Thank you so much for all of it, for every last little detail and for your generosity. It goes without saying that we have left a part of us behind and we shall continue to miss you all for years. However, things have to change and life goes on - in a caravan in our case! It has proved surprisingly easy to down-size so drastically - and at least any house we buy is going to feel huge! We can keep warm and dry, produce proper meals and get the internet. The main challenge is the mud, as after a glorious early autumn we have had quite a bit of rain and Bob isn't too bothered about what state his huge paws are in. He is full of bounce and joy and seems to love living close to horses and chickens, with 360° views.

We have been to a few churches on Sundays as we do our research, but nothing has yet 'clicked'. So, our dear friends in Kirby and Great Holland, we hope you will continue to pray for us as we do for you. For all of us, Christmas in church is going to feel a bit strange this year, but the joy of the season and the true meaning of it all can surely overcome the sadness we feel at being apart. And these days texts and emails can really shrink the miles. Here are our email addresses again, in case you want to get in touch. We have heard from several of you already, which is always a great treat - and we promise to reply.

**rev.petercoley@gmail.com**  
**anniemcoley@gmail.com**

So once again, thank you so much, not only for all the farewell gifts and events, but for ten happy years, as we shared the journey together. Happy Christmas to you all, but before we get there, let's linger a while in Advent and ponder the great truth it proclaims that Jesus will come again.

With love and prayers, Peter and Annie

## Interregnum Notes

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

For a decade we, at both St. Michael's and All Saints, have been blessed by the ministry and leadership of our well loved and respected Rector, Peter Coley and his wise, supportive and understanding wife Annie. They have both reached the age at which the government is willing to support them with a State Pension and a bus-pass, and so have taken this opportunity to retire from full-time ministry and leave the parishes that he and Annie have learned to love and cherish. We welcome them to the Senior Citizens Club!

So with their hairy, four-legged, fun loving companion, Bob, they have set off in their caravan (not unlike Abram) to pastures new. To where, they don't exactly know, but they go trusting God!



During his incumbency at Kirby, Peter had modified services in order to encourage attendance by those “on the fringe” or who find “Church” rather daunting; and had encouraged the PCC to pioneer our very successful Pre-School, introduce Mums and Toddlers - now named Noah’s Ark - and started monthly children’s work at Kirby Cross. Through his love and concern for families a part-time Family Outreach Worker was appointed. For the lonely and older folk a bi-weekly FIG, Friendship and Interest Group, has been established (tea, cake and board games), which has been of real benefit.

Shortly into his ministry the Chancel was reordered, and later a crèche area was established. The fabric of the church has not been forgotten with the raising of £130,000 for the underpinning of the S.W. corner and long south wall, and recently the re-building of one buttress and the renovation of the organ. At Great Holland the tower and tower-roof are undergoing major works. A new, larger and more versatile Rectory was purchased in 2007 with the long term view that it would better serve a future Rector with family, and it could house a church office, which it has done most successfully.

Peter and Annie left church buildings in better shape than when they arrived, congregations stronger in faith, and, praise God, some individuals starting out on new journeys of faith via Confirmation classes, Alpha courses, Home groups and person to person witness. Several have been encouraged to attend Courses on Christian Studies and one member has taken the bold and courageous step of applying for and being accepted as an Ordinand.

Again we say “THANK YOU PETER and ANNIE FOR YOUR LOVE AND DEVOTION IN YOUR MINISTRY TO THE PEOPLE OF KIRBY and GREAT HOLLAND.”

### **Rod Cutting**

“**Interregnum**”: It sounds almost medieval; well it is, Latin too, and to many its meaning is lost in time. It means simply “the time between”, and for us it’s the time between Peters going and a new incumbent being installed (appointed); the modern term is “vacancy”.

Parishioners have been asking who will be coming next and when will they arrive. Well, as is the tradition of the good old C of E. we expect to be without a Rector for between six and nine months, during which time the PCC and Church Wardens have the extra responsibility of arranging services and generally attempting to keep the churches running. It is hoped that the pattern of services will continue very much as we are familiar with, though there may be the odd times when this will not be possible. Retired clergy will provide cover, especially for presiding at Communion Services whilst lay persons will be called upon to conduct and speak at other services.

Just as Peter and Annie are beginning both a new phase in their physical journey through life and a spiritual journey of faith, we too begin our new journey. To some it may seem like venturing into the unknown, but through faith, prayer and courage we will come through and hopefully be the fitter and stronger for it.

So please support us in your thoughts, prayers and by your physical presence. This is not the time to stay away but a time of joining us: we are a family, and as such we need one another!





## From All Saints' Diary - DECEMBER 2010:

Wednesday	1 <sup>st</sup>	10.00am	Friendship & Interest Group at St Michael's Church Hall
Thursday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	7.30pm	PCC Meeting at Lambourn House
Saturday	4 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	HOME MADE HOUR Christmas Special!!
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Family Service</b>
Tuesday	7 <sup>th</sup>		FIG outing leaving at 1.00pm from St Michael's Church Hall.
Thursday	9 <sup>th</sup>	1.00pm	Christmas Parish Lunch at St Michael's Church Hall
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Morning Service</b>
Tuesday	14 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Special Needs Service at St Michael's Church
Wednesday	15 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm	Friendship & Interest Group at St Michael's Church Hall
 Sunday	19 <sup>th</sup>	4.00pm	Christmas Tree & Christingle Service
 Christmas Day		10.30am	Morning Service with Holy Communion led by Bishop Christopher of Colchester
 Sunday	26 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Joint service Holy Communion at St Michael's, Kirby

## HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL

## From All Saints' Diary- JANUARY 2011:

Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup>	11.00am	Family Service
Wednesday	5 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm	Friendship & Interest Group at St Michael's Church Hall
Sunday	9 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am 11.00am	Joint Holy Communion with our friends from St Michael's Morning Service
Sunday	16 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Holy Communion
Wednesday	19 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm	Friendship & Interest Group at St Michael's Church Hall
Thursday	20 <sup>th</sup>	1.00pm	Parish Lunch at St Michael's Church Hall
Sunday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	11.00am	Morning Service
Sunday	30 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Joint Holy Communion with our friends from St Michael's

## GIFT DAY AT ALL SAINTS'

£225 was raised through our Annual Gift Day for the work of the church in the community. Thank you to everyone who contributed.



# Home Made Hour



Thank you so much to everyone who helped to make our November Home Made Hour so enjoyable, despite the unusual circumstances! The event raised **140.32** for All Saints' Church. **PLEASE DON'T FORGET THAT WE DO NOT HOLD A HOME MADE HOUR IN JANUARY.**



## **CHRISTMAS SPECIAL HOME MADE HOUR**

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2010**

**10.00am-11.00am**

Please join us for tea, coffee, home made goodies, friendly company and other attractions including:



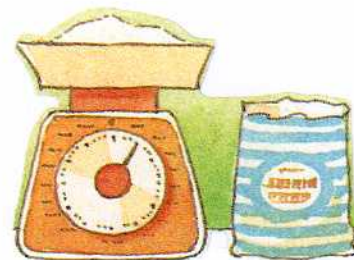
**Greetings cards  
Jewellery  
Village Christmas cards  
Christmas music  
Raffle**



Christmas is coming.... As the festive season is rapidly approaching, what better idea than to get ahead with the cooking. Here is a recipe which freezes well and can be served either as a cake or pudding!

### **Mincemeat Crumble**

200g unsalted butter cubed at room temp  
300g plain flour  
100g ground almonds  
100g caster sugar  
410g jar mincemeat  
50g flaked almonds  
icing sugar for dusting



- Pre heat oven 180/gas4.
- Put flour, butter, ground almonds, sugar and salt in food processor. Blend until it binds together.
- Pour about 3/4 of crumble mixture into tray bake tin (18x28cm) lined with baking parchment. Spread it well and press down firmly, then spread mincemeat on top.
- Mix flaked almonds into remaining mixture. Scatter on top of mincemeat, press down lightly.
- Bake in centre of oven till golden. Remove from tin and leave to cool.
- Dust with icing sugar and cut into 12 fingers

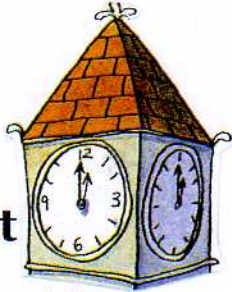
ENJOY!



Please don't forget that there are many more yummy recipes in the **Village Cook Book**. We have had to have a second print run but these are selling fast. They make an ideal stocking filler so please don't forget to buy yours soon from The Village Stores, The Fruit Farm or Caxton Books, because remember this time when they've gone they've gone...

**Karen Withams**





# Update on All Saints' Tower Restoration Project

I had hoped that by the time this edition of Village Voice came out the work on the tower would have been completed and the scaffolding down - but! as with any building work it always takes just a bit longer than anticipated. As I mentioned in the last issue, a lot more masonry repair was needed than was originally thought- this is painstaking work for the Bakers of Danbury craftsmen using specially handmade bricks and jointing them in the traditional manner. They also found considerable damage to some of the stone tracery in the windows -were rotting and have now been replaced. Over the past few years we have had a problem with jackdaws nesting in/on the tower - two of the windowsills in the bell chamber had piles of sticks over 3' high and the spiral staircase to the tower roof had become completely blocked. All this material has now been removed and all the small window slits have had wire mesh fitted securely over them.

The new roof looks quite splendid and should last for 100 years or more! As you can probably imagine, there is a wonderful view from the tower roof and I had thought it would be a good idea to open the tower to the public on completion of the work. I have been advised, however, that this will not be possible as there is no alternative 'fire escape' from the roof!

Some of you may have seen the article on the Tower in the Frinton & Walton Gazette last week, where particular mention was made regarding the generous donation of £15,000 from the Friends of Essex Churches Trust. David Lodge, the Chairman of the Trust's Grants Committee was kind enough to say that a 'bigger grant was given to All Saints' because they had put so much effort into the project.' He went on to say that "It's hard for communities to raise the sort of money needed for repairs like this. We like to help where we can, but the village also did really well on their own and we like to see that. It is important to save historic buildings like this as they are real focal points for communities."

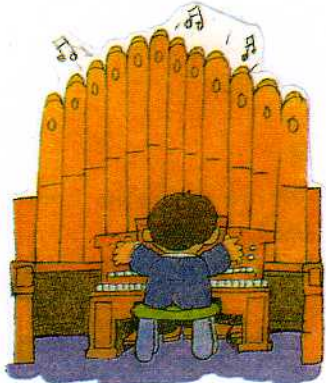
Finally, I DO hope the scaffolding will be down in time for the Christmas services – as you will see elsewhere in the magazine, the Bishop of Colchester will be coming to take the Christmas Day service, which will be very special.

**Judith Little (Chairman Tower Restoration Project)**  
**November 2010**

## CHURCH HALL - ALL SAINTS', GREAT HOLLAND

The Church Hall is situated next to All Saints' and is available for bookings from the general public. The accommodation comprises a pleasant carpeted room with six easy chairs plus seating for about a further 20 people, a small kitchen with tea/coffee-making facilities and microwave, entrance hall and two toilets (one disabled). The hourly charge for winter (October – April) is £7 per hour.

Further details and enquiries from Booking Secretary: **Judith Little 813645.**



# ALL SAINTS' PARISH CHURCH WHO'S WHO

**RECTOR:** Post vacant.

**CHURCHWARDENS:** Mrs Pauline Knight, 'Apletre Piece', Kirby Road, Great Holland, CO13 0HZ (851370) and Mr Don Elam, "Hillrise", 139 Kirby Road, Walton-on-the-Naze, CO14 8RL.

**PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL:** Churchwardens (ex officio), Mrs Judith Little, Mrs Liz Walters, Mrs Rose Batten, Mr Don Osler, Mr Jamie Wright, Mr John Beale and Miss Vanessa Giles..

**HON. SECRETARY TO THE PCC:** Mrs Judith Little, Lambourn House, Little Clacton Road, Great Holland, CO13 0EY (813645)

**VICE CHAIR TO THE PCC:** Mr John Beale, 5 Malting Lane Kirby le Soken CO13 0EH (676472).

**HON. TREASURER TO THE PCC & FREEWILL OFFERING SECRETARY:** Mrs Liz Walters, c/o The Rectory, 10 Thorpe Road, Kirby Cross, CO13 0LT (675997).

**SIDESPERSIONS:** Miss Mary Clark, Mr Ken Green, Mrs Hilary Green, Mrs Pauline Knight, Mrs Rose Batten and Mr Wilf Barnes

**MAGAZINE PRODUCTION TEAM:** Mrs Sandra Mooney & Ms Linda O'Reilly (Joint Editors), Mrs Mim Wilson, Mrs Irene Lightowler, Mrs Michele Frere, Ingrid Harding, Judith Little, Eric Elsworth, Mrs June Forrest, Charmian Goundry, Iain Bell, Mrs Eileen Derrick and Mrs Pauline Knight (Distributors).



## Dog Fouling in the Churchyard

Concerned at the amount of dog fouling at All Saints, Jill and Alan Nash purchased the attached plaque to politely remind dog walkers who use the churchyard to clean up after their pets. However it would appear that this has now gone missing.

Dog fouling is now causing concern, especially since some people are finding it on their loved ones graves. Alan has, on one occasion, slipped on some and had to use the hose pipe in front of the church to wash it off his shoes. Another couple actually picked it up in their hands whilst clearing long grass and were splattered by it when using a strimmer. Bearing in mind that there is a 'doggie bin' outside the church gate there is no excuse not to 'bag it' and 'bin it'.





# Great Holland Methodist Church



Great Holland Methodist Church are holding

## A CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2010

10.00am-2.00pm



HAND MADE CARDS



HAND MADE JEWELLERY

BRIC-A-BRAC

HOME MADE CAKES

Light refreshments will be available



JOY  
'TIS THE SEASON



### REMINDER!

Can we remind you that we hold regular coffee mornings in Great Holland Methodist Church Hall?

They take place every **Thursday morning from 10.30am - 12.00 midday**. Please drop in for coffee, biscuits, toasted teacakes and friendly company.



There will be no coffee mornings on either 23<sup>rd</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup> December 2010.



# Great Holland Friends

**October meeting**  
**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October**  
**Ed Forrest - Holiday in New Zealand**

We welcomed Ed once again, this time to give a talk on his and June's holiday in New Zealand. The digitally projected views of the North and South islands brought life to Ed's interesting talk, and also illustrated what a wonderful country it is to visit, with fantastic views of the many areas they covered. Some parts however were only for the hardy, with plenty of strenuous walking sometimes in quite harsh weather conditions - how I envy the young. Many thanks Ed for giving your time for the Club and of course, thanks to Denys Stritch for the loan and setting up of his equipment.

**November meeting**  
**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Sentimental Journey**



Ernestine and friends performed a variety of popular songs, accompanied by accordion and drums.

**Christmas Party**  
**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2010 2.00-4.00pm**



We again welcome our members and visitors to our Christmas buffet, with music supplied by Rob Price giving a selection of popular music. To keep the Christmas spirit going we will again be asking for a small wrapped present for Santa's sack. As a reminder, normal entrance fees will apply i.e. members £2.00 and non-members £2.50. As usual the Club will meet the cost of the party for members but all non-members will pay £4 for the buffet and entertainment.



★ **THERE WILL BE NO MEETING IN JANUARY as usual, enabling members and friends to readjust after the festive season.** Our next meeting will be in February 2011, when most of our memberships are due for renewal.

Our thanks go out to our stalwarts and helpers who are always there to support the Club and we hope that their health will let them continue for the future. Both Eileen and myself take this opportunity to wish all of our members, guests and friends a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Bill Derrick (677610)**



## **GHRA – Meeting**

Date : 30th October 2010 10.30am (Concluded at 11.22am)  
Venue: Village Hall, Manor Road.

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### **Minutes**

Chairman - John Poulten  
Secretary - Paul Withams  
Treasurer – Denys & Lindy Strich

John Poulten welcomed everyone, including our visitors Mayor Robert Bucke and PCSO Peter White.

#### **Apologies for Absence:**

Were received from Hazel & David Martin, Margaret Turnbull, Eileen & Bill Derrick, Judith Little, Margaret & Roger Frere, Amanda & Ray Smith, Sgt Pete Gerrard.

**Minutes of the last meeting (15<sup>th</sup> May 2010) were approved** - as published in Village Voice.

#### **Matters Arising**

John advised that the majority of items arising from the previous minutes had been addressed via his update in the September Village Voice:

- **Land for potential Travellers site.**  
Tending District Counsel has completed the exercise of inviting requests to sell land, which in turn would be made available to travellers. They are now reviewing a consultant's report prior to release to District Councillors.

#### **Police Update**

PCSO Peter White provided a summary on the 71 Great Holland related items logged by the Police since the last meeting:

- Majority of incidents related to Road Traffic Collisions
- 1 Burglary (Pork Lane)
- 2 vehicle thefts (a Motorbike, recovered the same day, and a car).
- 3 nuisance youth calls, relating to:
  - Pork Lane (bin bags moved into the centre of the road: culprits were found and advice given).
  - Cars reported on the nature reserve – no sign when police attended.
  - Rowdy behaviour in Rectory Road – appeared to be an isolated event.
- 2 reports of travellers on the Marshes.
- 1 instance of criminal damage (Graffiti): kit was supplied to repair the wall.
- 1 theft of a wheelie bin

- No update was available on the theft of the Church Lane Kissing-Gate, stolen some weeks back, together with a metal sign.  
John Poulten advised that the council representative to whom he had spoken, suggested that it was unlikely that Essex CC would support its replacement as their policy is to resist the installation of obstructions to free passage (such as gates) along footpaths where there are no animals that needed to be enclosed.

### **Neighbourhood Action Panel (NAP)**

A forum set up by Essex Police to address issues and concerns raised by members of the local community – the venue changes to encourage maximum participation. The next meeting is: 9<sup>th</sup> December 2010, 7.30pm Great Holland Village Hall, Manor Road.

Further details available at [www.essex.police.uk](http://www.essex.police.uk)

### **A reminder that the Police may be contacted at any time using:**

- **PCSO Mobile number 07850 631017**
- **Essex Police Non-Emergency number 0300 333 4444**
- **In an emergency, 999**

### **Speeding**

With excess speeding remaining the biggest concern within the village, the meeting discussed a number of speed related topics:

- **Speed Camera Training**

PCSO Peter White advised of a scheme that was available to help address the matter. Community Speed Watch is a Police backed initiative that offers to train members of a local community in the operation of a speed camera. Cameras can then be made available for residents to operate.

Anyone wishing to volunteer or requiring further details should contact PCSOs Peter White or Brian Petley on 07850 631017 or via Walton Police Station.

- **Little Clacton Road & Pork Lane**

Alan Large advised that physical traffic calming measures are being considered as a result of the review earlier this year. This will be the topic of discussion at a meeting of the East Area Forum in Venture Hall, Lawford (1.30pm for 2pm start) on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2010.

Alan requested that anyone with anecdotal information relating to accidents, near misses or similar incidents in Little Clacton road should contact him or Mick Page (our County representative), to add weight to the campaign.

Alan confirmed that the inappropriate use of Pork Lane by over-sized vehicles would also be discussed. Malcolm Graham suggested that signs should be erected similar to those used for roads in other parts of the UK, advising that Sat.Nav. advice to use Pork Lane was wrong.



- There will be a public Meeting at Clacton Town Hall on 10<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm to discuss policing matters. It is being convened by Essex Police Authority in conjunction with Tendring Community Safety Partnership. It will be a discussion with Police Independent member Linda Belgrove, Essex Police officers and Tendring CSP members and Neighbourhood Policing Teams. All are welcome.
- 20 MPH Speed Limit across Frinton, Walton & surrounding area. Mayor Robert Bucke advised that it is unlikely that a universal 20MPH would be imposed on the area – however consideration was being given to reducing speed limits in specific areas (such as those close to Schools etc.)

**Treasurer's update-** provided by Denys & Lindy Strich

- 91 Households subscribe to the Association (an increase of 10 from 2009).
- Reconciled balance is £1,668.62

**A reminder that membership costs only £2 per person (or £4 per family)**

**Planning Matters -**

- **Kirby Secure Dementia Unit :**  
F&WTC require the pavement and streetwork around the bridge and the creation of 2 new bus stops to be completed before the work on site commences (rather than the developer's preference for completing the work before the first resident is admitted). A Green Travel Plan as part of a Unilateral Undertaking is also required to satisfy Essex CC and FAWTC.
- **Local Plan :**  
The plan for the next 20 years is currently being reviewed across the area – details have been publicised in the Gazette and can be obtained from F&WTC and TDC.

**AOB**

- **Remembrance Sunday :**  
The names of those from Great Holland who gave their lives in the two World wars will be read out by John Poulten at a service held at the War Memorial in Rectory Road on 14<sup>th</sup> November. Wreaths will be laid.  
The Service will commence at 10.45am and will be followed by a Church service at All Saints, Great Holland.
- **Google :**  
A template letter will be published in the next Village Voice for anyone who wishes details relating to their property be removed from Google.

Denys Strich gave a summary of the need for securing home PC wireless networks. Anyone requiring advice / assistance should contact Denys.



- **No Cold Calling Zone:**

A reminder that anyone wishing to introduce a No Cold Calling zone to their street – requires consent from all of the residents of that street.

It was proposed that the reverse of a future GHRA Agenda could advertise the opportunity.

- **Civil Enforcement Officers:**

TDC had reported that 4 officers currently dealing with parking matters had been trained and empowered to levy on the spot fines. The intention was that additional officers would be appointed for the area, bringing the number to seven. Duties include addressing, dog fouling, littering and graffiti

- **Tesco at Walton on Naze :**

- Mayor Robert Bucke advised that TDC would shortly be considering the application for a Supermarket on the existing Martello Caravan Park and whether to arrange a public consultation.
- The development would not reduce the number of existing caravan pitches.
- The site is believed to be on Flood Zone 3 land and is likely to be in need of being raised before building could commence.
- The estimated turnover required for such a store would be £300,000 per week (£15.6m per annum). With this income being derived from existing local expenditure, it was the Mayor's opinion that most businesses would be against the development and residents evenly split, as had been seen at Sheringham.
- Tesco are planning a public relations event at the Frinton Triangle.

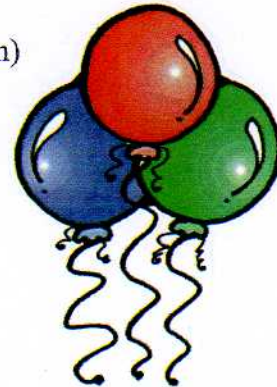
- **Great Holland Merchandise**

- The Cook Book has now reached its Second Edition and is available from The Village Store, Fruit Farm and Caxton Books (Frinton).
- Great Holland Christmas Cards are available from The Village Store, Fruit Farm The Churches and The Ship.
- Great Holland Tea Towels remain on sale at the Village Store and Fruit Farm



- **GHRA Christmas Social**

To be held at the Fruit Farm on December 11<sup>th</sup> (6.30 – 8.30pm)  
Tickets (£10) in advance from The Village Store, Fruit Farm.



Date of Next Meeting to be advised.



Dear Neighbour,

**CHRISTMAS**

May I first wish everyone in the Village a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year on behalf of the Committee of Great Holland Residents' Association.

The Christmas Cards are selling quite well but obviously we need to sell them all! They are on sale at the following places:

1. Village Shop
2. Farm Shop, Pork Lane
3. The Churches
4. Sheila Watts who will supply her usual contacts including Great Holland Friends
5. The Ship Inn

Please remember we support the Village Hall and our Churches. Last year's surplus was not as much as we would have liked. Our aim is to do better this year. As agreed at a GHRA meeting we have printed 2500 adult cards and 500 children's cards which have been priced accordingly.

**PLANNING and PROPERTY MATTERS**

**58 Bed Dementia Unit.**

The application to vary Condition 9 of the original appeal decision continues to be considered by TDC, FAWTC and ECC. The draft Unilateral Undertaking has gone to the applicants from TDC and appears to contain the relevant information about the transport arrangement and the Green Travel Plan. There are two matters that remain unresolved at the moment. The first is when the work should be done. As I reported in the last issue of Village Voice, the developers want to delay the work until the first occupant moves in. It is the view of GHRA and FAWTC that the work should be done before development commences. We continue to press TDC on this point. The second matter is a technical one. We are pressing to ensure that the Undertaking also contains a provision that Condition 9 can never be implemented. Under no circumstances do we ever want to go back to where we were when the Appeal decision was made and the threat existed of reducing the carriageway under Kirby Bridge and introducing permanent traffic lights.

**30 Bed Dementia Unit**

An appeal has been lodged to be dealt with by an informal hearing i.e. one which the public may not attend. The details are as follows:

Public Access Planning Reference	09/01326/OUT
Public Access Appeal Reference	10/00085/REFUSE
Planning Inspector Appeal Reference	APP/P1560/A/10/2139302/NWF
1 Holland Road, Kirby Cross, Frinton on Sea, Essex CO13 0HL	Erection of 30 bedroom Standard 2 Dementia Care facility and alterations to no. 5 Holland Road to provide ancillary staff accommodation (following demolition of no. 1-4 Holland Road), new vehicular access and associated works, as amended by drawing nos. 969.L.006D and 969.L.005D and Design and Access Statement received on 10 February 2010.

At the time of writing the exact details have not appeared on the Planning Inspectorate web-site. The previous application/appeal for a 35 bed scheme was rejected on appeal on amenity grounds. GHRA oppose this new scheme on the same basis as for the previous scheme and on Highway grounds as well. Please add your voice by contacting the Planning Inspectorate at Bristol.

### **Gypsy and Travellers Sites**

The consultant's report referred to in my last letter has still not been seen by Councillors.

### **Land adjoining 2 Tudor Cottages**

I believe that the owners have still not been located. We continue to monitor the situation.

### **Traffic in Pork Lane**

Since my last letter a lot of residents in Pork Lane have reported the use of that road by inappropriate vehicles. Any photographic evidence would be greatly appreciated, particularly if it could be emailed to Robert Bucke (Cllr.r.bucke@tendringdc.gov.uk).

### **GOOGLE STREET VIEW**

Google Street View is an extension of the mapping facility on the internet which enables anybody with internet access (many modern mobile phones have this) to look at an aerial map of Europe and zoom down not just to street names level, but to show the birdbath or bench seat in your back garden. Street View takes it even further and enables anyone to look at your street as though they were 12 foot tall and walking down it, looking all around, left or right and over any garden fence, zooming in where ever you wish. Your property is clearly identifiable to the extent that you can, in many cases, see people through the windows in their houses. You can search using town and street names and even post codes.

The Residents Association has been trying unsuccessfully to remove the houses of Great Holland from Google Maps Street View. Many people consider it is a gross invasion of privacy, others think it is wonderful. Not surprisingly it is now nicknamed the burglars' research tool!

Google claim that they respect people's privacy and will remove houses or blur out identifying images on Street View if specifically requested. They have provided a facility to enable you to inform them of your concerns. If you are happy with what is displayed of your property on Street View do nothing. Otherwise:

1. Use Google Street View and find the image of your house / garden etc that you want removed and then
2. Click "**Report a problem**" in the bottom-left of the image window.
3. Complete the form and click "Submit".

Google promise to review and remove the offending pictures. For further information see web page <http://maps.google.co.uk/help/maps/streetview/privacy.html>. Anyone who is concerned and wants images of their property removed but does not have access to a computer could go along to the local library where free use of a computer and access to the internet is available. Library staff tend to be very helpful especially at quiet times of the day.

### **CHRISTMAS SOCIAL**

Sandra Mooney has organised a Christmas Social at the Orchard Tea Rooms, the Fruit Farm, Pork Lane for Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December from 6.30pm to 8.30 pm. The emphasis is on informality and getting everyone into the Christmas spirit. Please see details elsewhere in this edition. The social is open to all residents in the Village, not merely members of the Association.

## **NEXT MEETING GHRA**

The next meeting of the Association and the last for this year will be held at the Orchard Tea Rooms, The Fruit Farm, Pork Lane on 29<sup>th</sup>. January 2011 at 10.30 am. Coffee will be available from 10am and excellent bacon rolls after the meeting. All are welcome, especially new members. Please see the Agenda below.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Talking of membership (yet again), the subs for 2011 are due at the end of this year. Anyone joining now will not have to pay anything for 2010. The subs will remain fixed for 2011 at £2.00 per head or £4.00 per household whichever is the cheaper. Please pay Denys and Lindy Strich at The Warren Church Lane CO13 0JS

Yours sincerely,

*JOHN POULTEN*  
*CHAIRMAN*

*P.S. The NAP meeting reported upon in the Minutes has been moved to the All Saints Parish Hall in Church Lane. It is still on 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## **Notice of a Meeting of the Members of the Great Holland Residents Association**

**To be held at**

**The Orchard Tea Rooms, Park Fruit Farm, Pork Lane**

**On Saturday 29th January 2011**

**At 10.30 a.m.**

**(Preceded by Coffee at 10 a.m.)**

## **AGENDA**

1. Apologies for Absence.
2. Approval of Minutes of Meeting 30<sup>th</sup> October 2010 (as published in Village Voice – December 2010/January 2011)
3. Matters arising (see Village Voice –December 2010/January 2011)
4. PCSO Report.
5. Treasurers Report.+
6. Planning Matters.
7. AOB

**NOTE. The meeting will close by no later than 11.30.am. Coffee and bacon rolls and other light refreshments will be on sale after the meeting.**

**NEW MEMBERS ARE VERY WELCOME. THE ASSOCIATION IS OPEN TO ALL RESIDENTS OF GREAT HOLLAND**

REFUSE AND RECYLING  
CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS  
2010/2011



**Normal Day of Collection**

**December 2010**

Monday 20<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>  
Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup>

Monday 27<sup>th</sup>  
Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday 30<sup>th</sup>  
Friday 31<sup>st</sup>

**January 2011**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup>  
Friday 7<sup>th</sup>

**Revised Day of Collection**

Usual Collection  
Usual Collection  
Usual Collection  
Usual Collection  
Usual Collection

No Collection  
No Collection  
Usual Collection  
Usual Collection  
Usual Collection

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup>  
Friday 7<sup>th</sup>  
Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>

Normal collections will resume week commencing Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2011



## Hedgehogs...

We would like to suggest that anyone seeing small hedgehogs in their garden should contact **Hedgehog Haven** in Frinton on **07709 767511**. We recently found one in our garden and took it to Hedgehog Haven, where it was found to be underweight for hibernation and a bit poorly. Apparently, you only see them in the daytime if they are sick or starving. Also, hedgehogs should not be given milk or fish.

**Alan and Jill Nash**

# Garden reflections ...



As we roll into the last month of the year, it is a joy to see the spread of heathers making a splash of colour on dull as well as sunny days.

Holly berries seem extra colourful this year, contrasting strongly against a more subtle background of evergreen shrubs, such as the Skimmia, Berberis and Euonymus varieties,



When thinking of Holly, one automatically links it to Ivy and Mistletoe. The present economic situation makes me recall an episode, a number of years ago, spending a month with my husband in another part of the country, as temporary staff. Such a relief to feel needed once again, whilst coming to terms with redundancy! We finished this assignment just before Christmas. A few days previously, a gale force wind freed a quantity of Mistletoe from the Lime trees in the grounds. We said our goodbyes with the car overflowing with numerous bunches, able to give generous handouts to family and friends on our return back home! This section of our lives leaving us with rich memories of, not easily forgotten, unusual experiences...

I recall Kerrygold in one of her philosophical moods one day in the garden. 'Don't you get tired of doing the same jobs over and over again?' she asked. I considered for a moment. 'Most work is repetitive. Take people who are expected to shake hands all the time as part of their job. Although willing, this can cause injury.' 'Well. I wouldn't want my paws shaken until they ached - why can't a friendly nod, bow or hand lick be greeting enough?!' she exclaimed. There's a thought...

Whether one approaches Christmas with a feeling of joy or perhaps deep sadness, a visit to our local Garden Centre to view the wide display of colourful plants cannot fail to raise the spirits - the pleasure of choosing a small or larger living gift in appreciation of a friend's kindness, or just to treat oneself. The welcoming atmosphere of special pre-Christmas get togethers.

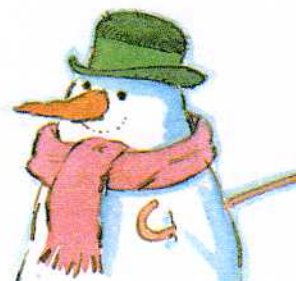
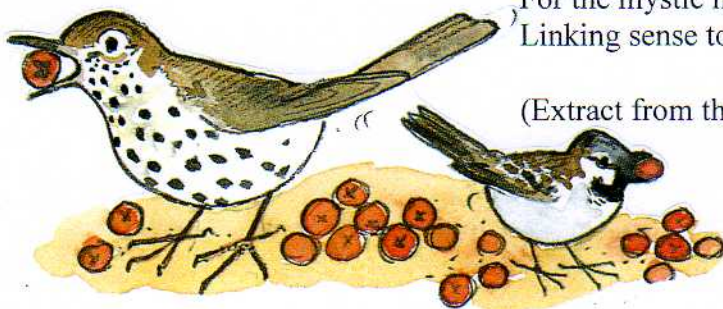
A little later in the month, a visit to one of our lovely old Churches, quietly appreciating the floral arrangements designed with such loving care for this special festival...

Listening to the bells ringing out and expert melodies coming forth from the newly refurbished organ.

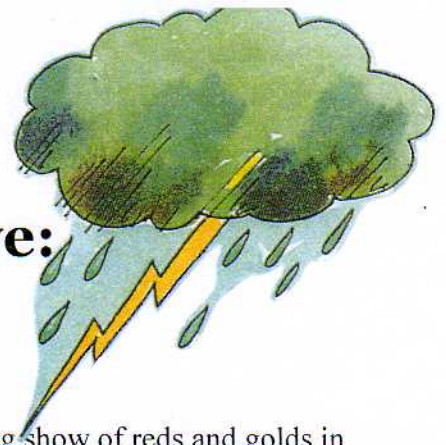
For the joy of ear and eye,  
For the heart and brain's delight,  
For the mystic harmony  
Linking sense to sound and sight.



(Extract from the hymn 'For the Beauty of the Earth'.)



Audrey Hill



# Great Holland Pits Nature Reserve:

## CLIMATE



The mild month of October gave rise to a pleasing show of reds and golds in the trees. Dogwoods were red, maples yellow, while some oaks still retained their green leaves. Now the strong winds of autumn have visited, the temperature has dropped, and the colour of autumn is decaying into shades of brown amongst the vegetation on the ground. The weather changes with the seasons, but does the climate?



I have been following the science since the 1960's. There is no doubt in those years that the hawthorn, which used to be called 'may', has usually flowered in April and other heralds of spring have likewise been earlier than before. Superimposed on this trend has been variations, place to place, year to year, which is always to be expected. Last winter Great Holland was colder and spring was later than we have been accustomed to, but nevertheless it is difficult to deny the general warmer trend. It is also possible that while our own locality has become warmer another may have become cooler. In fact in January 2010 when we were gripped by cold weather, some of the students I teach were returning from North Africa and central Asia with amazing hot winter weather.

To get a clear view on the true picture of climate, clearly measurements have to be taken over extended periods of time over the whole world. For the first time in 1978, it became possible to measure global atmospheric temperature by satellite, and this has indicated rising trends. Similar results have been noted in the oceans. These measurements are questioned by many, but not so much as the temperatures calculated indirectly from evidence of tree rings, and coral growth, which suggest the temperatures earlier in time.

It may be that any changes in climate may be purely unrelated to human activity in any case. Indeed there is evidence of climate swinging from ice ages to warm periods, long before humans had the capacity to affect the trends. There are people who argue that whether or not climate-change is happening, or whether it is caused by human activities, it would be a good thing in any case.



So how would a warming climate affect people in Great Holland, and the nature reserve? Scientific models indicate a range of possibilities, from manageable to drastic. The modest rise of average temperatures of a fraction of a degree we have recorded has coincided with early flowering of hawthorn trees, but anything approaching the two degrees that is the average scientific prediction for this century would be much more challenging for all of us, let alone for animals and plants.

We have already seen the near extinction of the Garden Tiger Moth in southern England along with the Wall Brown butterfly, both of which are doing well and extending their range in the north. We have at the same time become colonized by various new southern species such as the spectacular Wasp Spider, which was recorded for the first time this year at Great Holland.

The science has become more convincing over the last few years, though it is always developing, and much of the press has made muddled attacks on it. I would choose the view of science over vested interests?

**Bob Seago - Warden**



## GT. HOLLAND SCHOOL

According to the "Essex County Standard" on Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> September 1862, the "New Village School was formally opened in the presence of a large number of the Clergy & laity of the neighbourhood"; so the Village was full of visitors.

The school was situated on part of the Glebe in Rectory Road, opposite the War Memorial. It was a Public Elementary School for boys and girls. The school had 2 classrooms and a barn at the rear in which to store school equipment. The building was enlarged in 1900 to accommodate 120 children, but had an average attendance of 70. Considering the population of Gt. Holland in 1901 was 413 that was quite a high percentage of children. The master was Frederick Cottrell.



Gt. Holland School 1937

Back Row

*Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, Audrey Whipp, Betty Wringe, Eileen Page, ? Bugg, Daphne Moss, Rosemary Richardson, Pamela Nunn, Unknown, Beryl Mason, Unknown*

Middle and Front Rows

*All Unknown*

During W.W.11 the school was badly damaged by a bomb; after which a makeshift classroom was improvised at 11 Manor Road un til the end of the War when the children were transferred to Kirby School.

The school was left abandoned and in ruins until 26<sup>th</sup> July 1954 when it was demolished.

1<sup>st</sup> Gt. Holland Guides for a time was held in the School and organised by the schoolmistress, Miss Grandjean, who was the Captain of the Guides. The accompanying photo shows the girls who were Guides in 1940. As World War 11 was on they could not go camping but still worked towards obtaining various badges such as Homecraft, etc.



**1<sup>st</sup> Gt. Holland Guides**

**Back Row**

*Joan Wringe, Beryl Mason, Betty Wringe, Pamela Nunn, Barbara Martinali*

**Middle Row**

*Doris Martinali, Rosemary Richardson, Ruth Bugg, Miss Grandjean, Jean Marshall, Pamela Moss,  
Pamela Farthing, Unknown*

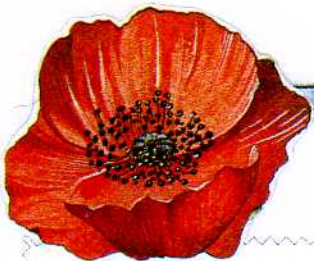
**Front Row**

*Unknown, Mary Mann, Ann Farthing, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, Unknown*

In this edition I have peeped into the world of Gt. Holland School. I have collated all the information that I have so far. If anyone has anything that they could add or can identify anyone in the photos, I would be very pleased to hear from you. My phone number is 01255 676960.

*Liz Bruce*

*Tendring Local History Recorder for Great Holland*



## **2010 Poppy Appeal**

John Knight reports that a total of **£426.53** was collected from the sale of poppies at Park Farm shop, the Village Stores and The Ship.



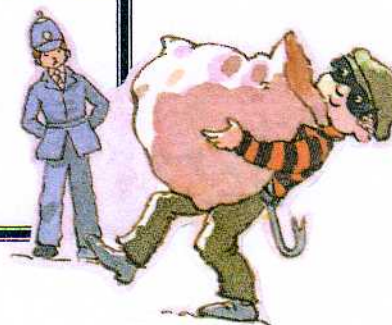
# POLICE SURGERY DATES

Come and meet Paul your local  
Police Community Support Officer for Great Holland  
at The Methodist Church, Rectory Road, Great Holland

Thursday, 9 December

Thursday, 20 January

(10.30 – 11.30)



## NEWS .....

First of all I would like to inform you that PCSO Michele Pittey has given birth to a 6lb baby girl called Sophie. Mother and daughter are doing very well.

As you will appreciate not all incidents can be reported in the magazine due to confidentiality. However, I can advise that the following incidents have been reported between 10 July and 14 November: a cow was reported stuck in the river again in Little Clacton Road; 2 seizures of vehicles for having no insurance (these were vehicles passing through the village); 4 concerns for welfare; 2 RTC; criminal damage in Main Road (paint sprayed on a wall); nuisance youth in Rectory Road; theft of a wheelie bin and a car fire.

Many of you will be aware that the Kissing Gate in Church Lane has been stolen (on or around 23 September). If anyone has any information please contact Walton Police Station. This gate has been part of Gt. Holland's history for many years and it would be nice to catch the culprits. On a more serious note a burglary occurred in Rectory Road on 8 November. Again if anyone has any information please contact the police.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Neighbourhood Action Panel

A meeting of the above Panel will be held in the Church Hall at the side of All Saints Church on Thursday, 9 December at 7.30 pm. If you haven't attended one before its worth popping along on the night. (Neighbourhood Action Panels, sometimes called NAPs, are regular meetings with members of the community where the issues raised by the community are discussed and prioritised.)

\*\*\*\*\*

## Is your purse safe?

Here are some key things to remember that will help to keep your valuables safe.

- Never let your handbag out of your sight. Carry it in front of you, especially if you are walking through a shop or town centre.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash and, if your purse or wallet is in a bag, ensure that the bag is securely zipped up.
- Don't leave your purse or wallet in your shopping basket or trolley, on a coffee table or on shop counters.
- Don't leave handbags on the back of buggies or prams as they can easily become a target for thieves.

- Always avoid keeping a copy of your pin number in your purse or wallet alongside a credit or debit card. If you must carry a pin number with you do make sure it is disguised and kept in a separate location.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Community Speed Watch**

#### *What is Community Speed Watch?*

It is a Traffic Monitoring Scheme that is co-ordinated by the Police but managed and run by volunteers in the community.

#### *What are the benefits?*

The chance to increase road safety; cut fatalities; increase road safety awareness by and for all road users; enhance the role of community members as volunteers; raise awareness of anti-social road use and increase Essex Police links with the wider community.

#### *Resources*

- A minimum of 6 unpaid volunteers with a commitment to monitor for a minimum of one hour a week.
- Volunteers to be 18 years of age or over with no upper age limit.
- Monitoring may take place during daylight hours subject to risk assessments at each location.
- Training session to be provided free by Essex Police.

For more information contact PC 70932 Rob Willmott at Walton Police Station on 0300 333 4444, Ext: 487550.

\*\*\*\*\*

Finally, I would like to wish all the residents a Very Happy Christmas and New Year, and good luck to you all for 2011.

**PCSO 70843 Paul Brassey**  
**Walton Police Station**  
**Martello Road, Walton on the Naze, CO14 8BP**  
**Tel: 0300 333 4444 (Ask for Ext: 487554)**

[Paul.brassey@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Paul.brassey@essex.pnn.police.uk)

**Community Phone No. 07850 631017**



## AOTEAROA



We set off for "*the land of the long white cloud*", New Zealand, in February 2009 to see for ourselves this paradise that so many people, including our globe-trotting gap year children, had enthused over. For several years we had been planning to go and had set aside almost seven weeks for our stay.

Arriving in Auckland via Bangkok and Sydney we were slightly ahead of a couple of our bags which turned up the next day having been loaded onto a different flight from Sydney! We had been warned to ensure that our footwear, especially walking boots, were clean because the NZ authorities are much concerned with keeping harmful pathogens out. Although scrupulously clean, (we thought), our boots were nevertheless taken away and returned to us after "proper" treatment!

We then bussed from the airport through the very busy city to our hotel which we had booked for three days. This was the only accommodation that we had pre booked from home and, for the rest of our time we merely arranged accommodation one day ahead. On only one occasion did we have difficulty finding somewhere to stay and this was principally due to our visit to the town of Napier coinciding with the popular Art Deco festival and our arriving on spec.

Throughout our visit we stayed in youth hostels, (where youths were in a minority), Backpackers, motels and hotels. The accommodation was always adequate and mostly very good and we catered for ourselves most of the time. Whilst we did not live off them, New Zealand fish and chips are thoroughly recommended being excellent in both quality and value!

Most towns have an information centre, referred to as the i-Site, where staff are very helpful and will phone and book accommodation for you. In the hostels and Backpackers we met many people of a similar age to ourselves, and of different nationalities, making our time far more interesting than had we stayed in hotels or motels the entire time. We joined the Scottish YHA before leaving home as the subscription is less than the English YHA but the benefits are the same! And Youth Hostels have a range of accommodation including en suite rooms so, the single sex dormitory days are over! Kitchens are communal but a good venue for meeting people and learning from their experiences.

Car hire was booked in UK and the details sorted by e-mail with the hire company in NZ. We were careful to ensure that our hire agreement covered us for travelling on the gravel roads that are common off the main routes. Without this we would have missed some extremely interesting drives. Driving is a pleasure with very little traffic outside the principal cities but journeys should be considered in time rather than miles due to the twisting nature of most of the roads. Road maps often show tables of distances with journey times. The main hire companies do not allow their vehicles to be ferried across the Cook Strait between North and South Islands but require you to leave your car at the ferry and pick up another the other side.

We had worked out a rough itinerary before arriving; taking in the places that we thought we might like to visit and the things we thought we might like to do. This was based on what we had been told by family and friends and what we had read. The Lonely Planet Guide is well worth studying for anyone planning a visit. Our "tour" included both North and South islands taking in

many of the popular tourist destinations and some walks and wildlife experiences that particularly appealed to us. There are always plenty of folk who have, "been there and done that", and are pleased to make recommendations.

Altogether we drove some 5,000 miles but the travelling was not tiring and was an enjoyable part of our adventure. The scenery everywhere is magnificent and there are countless attractions along the way. We particularly enjoyed many short trails that are so well signed and maintained and in many instances lead to something of interest, a waterfall for example, or simply provide a close encounter with the amazing flora of the country.

Friends had warned us of two drawbacks that detract from this otherwise perfect land, the Sandfly and the Kea. The first is a biting insect, akin to the Scottish midge, and possessing the same ability to drive grown men mad! The antidote is expensive insect repellent, a tube of which we bought in NZ but never used! On only one occasion were we mildly inconvenienced by these creatures. However that they constitute a real nuisance is witnessed by the fact that workers on the Manipouri hydro scheme were paid an extra \$2 per shift for having to "cope with sandflies and humidity".

The Kea is a large wild bird, a member of the parrot family, which has a very inquisitive and apparently, destructive nature, and a huge sharp and powerful beak. It delights in dismantling the cars of tourists and is particularly adept at pulling the rubbers from windscreens! We were very concerned that our car might fall victim to this bird but in fact only encountered them once, at Arthur's Pass, where four of them, on a roof, were engaged in a raucous exchange with a group of children, the latter goading the birds into a highly charged and excited state. But we saw no "Kealised" vehicles and understand that the authorities have discouraged tourists from feeding the birds thus enticing them back to their natural haunts rather than hanging around car parks.



The talk of paradise was not unreasonable, depending on one's definition of course! We loved the space – about 5million people in a country approximately the size of the UK, and the natural beauty. The range from rain forest to high mountains and glaciers was amazing. Active volcanic areas, thermal springs, the Southern Alps and Fiordland, where the annual rainfall exceeds 5 metres, the Maori history and culture, the fantastic museums the wildlife and the Kauri trees; so much of interest. Not forgetting the place with the longest name in the world! Where no one seemed to live!



We particularly enjoyed the wonderful walks and an overnight cruise on Doubtful Sound, but it is hard to point to any one thing that makes New Zealand such an attractive destination. The Country is indeed beautiful and our seven weeks was not really long enough to fully take it in.

What a pity it is so far away!

*Eddie Forrest*



# Frinton & District Floral Club

1952 - 2010



At  
The Parish Church Hall, Old Road, Frinton - on - Sea  
At 2.30 p.m.  
(New Members & Visitors very welcome)

December  
(No meeting)

On Friday, 28 January  
Penny Stone  
"Happiness Is"  
Monthly Stall

## Tendring Creative Sugarcraft

We are a friendly group of ladies and gentlemen who meet on the second Wednesday of each month (except August) at 7.30 p.m. in **Holland-on-Sea Methodist Church, Kings Avenue**. We enjoy demonstrations and workshops on a wide variety of sugarcraft themes which would suit both beginners and those with previous sugarcraft experience.

12 January 2011  
Demonstration  
How to royal ice a cake  
with  
Frankie Murphy



Everyone Welcome  
Visitors £3, including refreshments  
For further information please call Jane on 01255 814877

## VILLAGE HALL BULLETIN

### CAR PARK

We still await the money that was promised to us by Essex County Council. Perhaps they will eventually honour their monetary promise.

### THE COMMITTEE ITSELF

The Committee is quite a bit stronger than indicated in the last edition although we still need additional support.

### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

On a happier note the Committee are arranging for a children's party to be held on Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> December. Call Linda on 676363 for further details. Basically this will be paid for by the Committee, but if you feel you are able to contribute anything we would be grateful.

### BOOKINGS


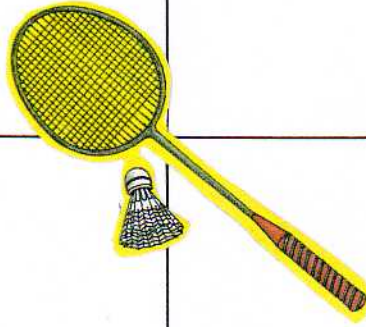

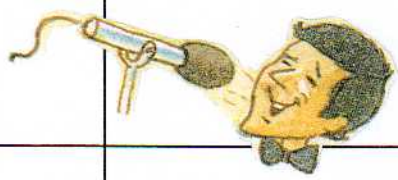
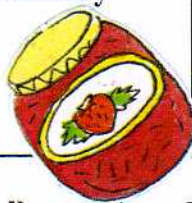


As from 1<sup>st</sup> December Mrs Coralee Harris has agreed to take over as Bookings Clerk. Her telephone number is 830136. Money will be collected in the same way as at present.

Tel: 01255 851370

John Knight  
Chairman to the Committee

# What's on in your Village Hall?



Day	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Sunday			Private Booking 7.00 - 9.00 pm
Monday		Private Booking 2.30 - 3.30 pm	Paul Rees Karate 6.30 - 8.00 pm 07793 597646
Tuesday		Carpet Bowls 2.00 - 4.00 pm Contact: Les Miller 671214	Links Karate 5.30 - 7.30 pm Contact: Paul Harris 07766 170848  Badminton 8.00 - 9.30 pm 671300
Wednesday			Aerobics 7.00 - 8.00 pm Contact: Claudine 862505  Dog Training 8.00 - 9.00 pm (as above) 
Thursday		Tai Chi 9.30 - 11.00am Contact: Des Exworth 679610	Great Holland Friends 2.00 - 4.00 pm (1st Thursday of the month) 677610  Circuit Training Fitness Class 6.45 - 7.45 pm Contact: Paul Hammond 677804  Phoenix Badminton 8.00 - 9.30 pm 224980 
Friday	Fitness Class 10.30 - 11.30 am		Links Karate 5.30 - 8.30 pm Contact: Paul Harris 07766 170848
Saturday	Home Made Hour 10.00- 11.00 am 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday in the month (NOT January, February, August or October) 		

### Rate for hire of Village Hall

All users (regular and casual): £9 per hour. Contact Mrs Coralee Harris on 830136 to book.

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