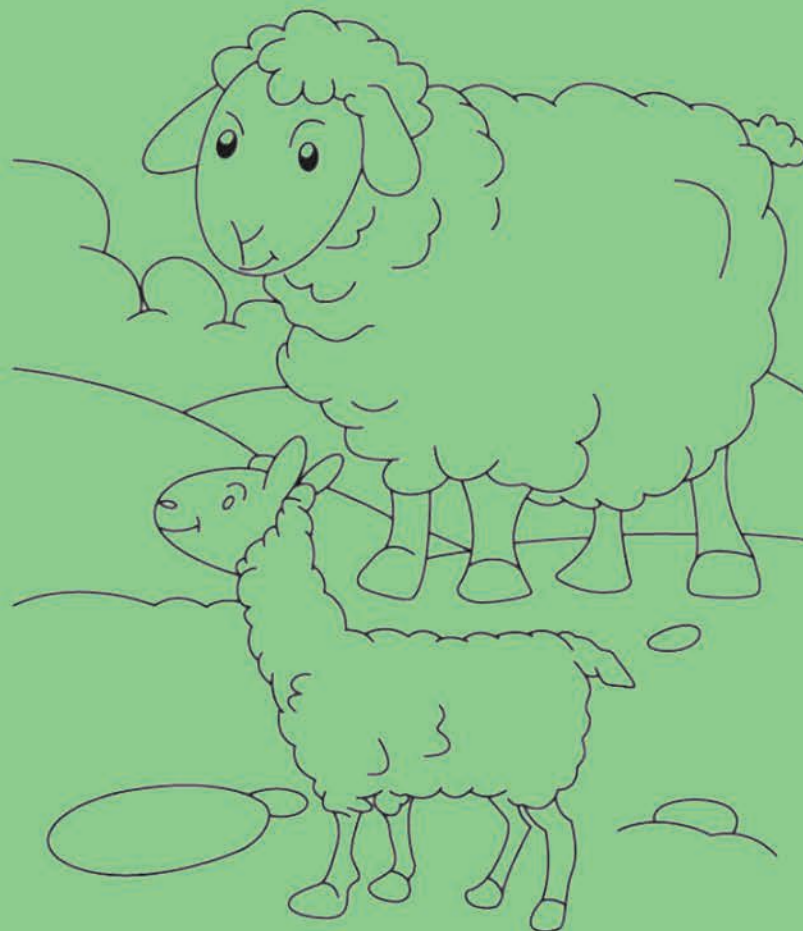


Great Holland



April 2020 and May 2020



70p where sold

FROM THE EDITOR

As I write this editorial the effects of coronavirus are starting to make themselves felt in all areas of society. By the time you receive this magazine the situation will obviously have developed further and let's hope that the outbreak is able to be contained as far as possible.

Please see the page opposite for the generous help offered by the Great Holland Residents Association and All Saints' Church.

The knock-on effect of the virus will be that most village events will be cancelled or postponed. The GHRA Annual General Meeting on Saturday May 9th is one such casualty and has been deferred for the time being. Please check the Village Facebook page and the Village Website for details of other events.

On a brighter note, Spring is becoming apparent and the daffodils on Main Road are as beautiful as ever. The blossom on the trees is also earlier and there are some glorious displays to be seen.

I wish you all a healthy April and May.

Vanessa

Magazine Production Team:	Vanessa Giles (Editor), Hazel Martin (Production), John Beale (Advisor), Campwood Press Ltd Printing, Pauline Batten (Distributor) Assisted by Mim Wilson, Irene Lightowler, Judith Little, Phyllis Margett, Audrey Warren, June Forrest, Charmian Goundry, Robert Caines, David Bavister, and Anne Lott (Distributors).
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We hope to continue printing and delivering the magazine during these difficult times but, whatever happens, we will at least produce an online version on the village website and resume normal service as soon as possible. In the meantime, please keep sending articles and notices to me for the May 10th deadline.

If you are self-isolating help is at hand

GREAT HOLLAND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

We have local contacts for you: Ring any of these:

- Paul Fletcher-Tomenius 675268
- Eddie Forrest 814790
- Graham Hughes 676144
- Sue Jenkins 07884 472998
- Liz Oakley 674682
- Lindy & Denys Strich 677821
- Sheila Watts 851855

We will try to get you help for:

- Picking up shopping
- Posting mail
- A friendly phone call
- Urgent supplies

THERE IS NO CHARGE. WE CAN'T GUARANTEE HELP BUT WE WILL DO OUR BEST.

CALLING ALL RESIDENTS UNDER 70:

Please contact one of us and offer your name and telephone number to help with this scheme. Most of the above names are over 70 themselves so we must have younger residents who are not self-isolating to do the running about. We need quite a few as most will only be able to help from time to time.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

A number of the congregation at All Saint' Church are also willing and ready to help.

Please contact rector@stmichaelskirby.org.uk OR ring 01255672044

Welcome To the April/May edition of the



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

- Are there any events happening in June 2020 or July 2020 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?

All contributions for the next Village Voice should be received by 10th May. Please contact Vanessa on 670165 with articles and details of events (email: vanessaagiles@icloud.com). Please note that Hazel (671767) deals with the advertising side of the magazine

DISCLAIMER

The information contained in 'Great Holland Village Voice' is published in good faith. Neither the Rector, Church Warden, Parochial Church Council nor the Editors accept any liability in respect of the content of any article, photo or advertisement contained in the magazine. Nor is any culpability accepted for work done by advertisers.

**IF YOU CONTACT ANY OF OUR ADVERTISERS,
PLEASE TELL THEM THAT YOU SAW THEIR ADVERT IN VILLAGE VOICE!**

**The proposed date for the Village Hall AGM is
midday on Saturday June 9th**

**Please pop in and see what is happening with our
hall.**

VILLAGE CONTACTS & LOCAL INFORMATION

Member of Parliament	Giles Watling MP Email: giles.watling.mp@parliament.uk	678334
Residents' Association	Paul Fletcher-Tomenius, Myrna Lyles and Jane Kurzewiel	675268
All Saints' Church	Rev. Mark Holdaway	675997
Methodist Church	Rev. Chris Preece Email: chris.preece@methodist.org.uk	851179
Village Hall Committee	Ms Sue Jenkins (Chair) Mrs Coralie Harris (Bookings)	850317 830136
The Manor	Rectory Road, Great Holland CO13 0JP	440310
Frinton & Walton Town Council (incorporating Frinton, Walton, Kirby & Great Holland)	Jerry Wedge (Town Clerk) Cllr. Mr Christopher Keston	676666 850067
Tendring District Council	Town Hall, Station Road, Clacton CO15 1SE Cllr. Mr Dan. Land	686868 Emergency/out of hours: 2220220 07590034305
Essex County Council	Cllr. Mr Mark Platt Email: cllr.mark.platt@essex.gov.uk	672551
Dog Warden	(Tendring District Council)	686787
Cats Protection	Tendring District Branch	744014
RSPCA	National contact number: Charity Shop, Frinton	0300 1234 999 674926
National Rail Enquiries	National Line	03457 484950
Essex Police	Non-Emergency	101
Crime Reduction Officer	David Gillies	101
Crimestoppers	National Line	0800 555111
Citizens Advice	(Clacton)	0844 4770808
Tendring Dial-a-Ride	Hurlingham Chambers, 61-65 Station Road, Clacton on Sea, CO15 1SD	436962
Colchester General Hospital	Turner Road, Colchester CO4 5JL	01206 747474
Civic Amenity Tip	Maltings Lane, Kirby-le-Soken. Winter opening times (16 th October – end Of February): 9.00 am – 4.00 pm Summer opening times (1 st March – 15 th October): 9.00 am – 5.00 pm <u>Closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays</u>	

All Saints' Church Letter

Vanessa, our esteemed editor, has kindly let me change my article for this edition at late notice.

I wrote it initially when there was "a bit of concern" over the approaching corona virus. This evening it is a national emergency and the country is in lockdown.

But, and here's where I take a change from my normal tone of these articles, the most shocking phrase in Boris Johnson's statement was "*But at present there are just no easy options. The way ahead is hard, and it is still true that many lives will sadly be lost.*"

At a time like this there are many questions to ask. Why? What next? What's right? What's next?

But can I suggest that there's an even more important question?

In the Bible in Luke's Gospel, people asked questions like these, and asked them of Jesus, when disaster came. Why?

But Jesus replied that there's an even more important question.

"What about you? Are you ready?"

With all respect and much love, let me at least pass on Jesus' question to you. "What about you? Are you ready?"

In a time like this, yes, we pull together, yes, we work hard, and yes, we look out for others. But also we prepare for what is to come.

I think my favourite story in the whole Bible is that of the thief on the cross in Luke chapter 23. Hanging on the cross next to Jesus, he knew what was coming and he turned to Jesus.

"Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

In the knowledge that "*many lives will sadly be lost*" including his own, he turned to Jesus as his only hope, trusting nothing of his own, but putting his life in the hands of the king.

Please do think more. Please see our website for what we're doing as a church and please also see our website for "*Hope beyond Coronavirus*" an explanation about more of this.

STOP PRESS

All regular Church Events and Services are now cancelled until further notice and All Saints' building is CLOSED

Please see:

www.allsaintsgreatholland.org.uk and

Facebook @stmichaelsandallsaints for updates and news.

If you'd like to be in touch or would like help in any way, please contact Rev. Mark Holdaway on 01255 851235 or rector@stmichaelskirby.org.uk

ALL SAINTS' PARISH CHURCH WHO'S WHO

Rector:	Rev. Mark Holdaway, The Rectory, 10 Thorpe Road, Kirby Cross, CO13 0LT (675997)
Churchwarden:	John Beale, 5 Maltings Lane, Kirby le Soken, CO13 0EH (676472)
Parochial Church Council:	Churchwarden (ex officio), Sheila Watts (ex officio), Jane Carter, Rethna Flaxman, Vanessa Giles, Ilze Robertson and Ann Peters.
Hon. Secretary to the PCC:	Vanessa Giles
Vice Chair to the PCC:	John Beale
Hon. Treasurer to the PCC:	Sheila Watts c/o The Rectory
Sidespersons:	Maggie Whitlock

Methodist Church Letter

Dear friends,

As I write this the world has significantly changed in the last week. The spread of the Coronavirus has made a real difference to the way in which we live and work. Schools, pubs, restaurants and the rest of the hospitality industry have closed and we have all had to make major changes to the way our days look and the things it contains. Social distancing and, for some, self-isolation have meant that the way the communities in which we live now look very different.

The social distancing and self-isolation is intended to stop the spread of the virus as we know. The move towards separation is one that leads to a huge amount of fear and anxiety for us all. As we face the coming weeks with uncertainty and distress we need to find new ways of supporting one another.

Social media and the TV/radio media are reporting the information that we need to know but we are also seeing the ways in which communities are supporting one another. Streets and communities pulling together to make sure that shopping is completed, prescriptions collected as necessary and other practical support are all popping up in so many places. This is wonderful to see recognising the amount of thought and preparation that is needed for these sorts of initiatives to be done safely.

As we reflect on the increasing physical distance that is in place it is a time for us to remember the closeness of God. Jesus Christ came to earth to be with people in the good times and the difficult times and God is with us now through the power of the Holy Spirit. God works for good in all things and we are reminded in the book of Romans that 'nothing will be to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord.'

In these anxious times please be assured of my prayers for your village and feel free to contact me if I'm able to support you in any way.

God bless
Chris

Notice from the Methodist Church

Coronavirus

Due to coronavirus the Methodist Church has suspended all services and regular activities at this current time. We will resume as normal as soon as we are able to do so. In the meantime, if you would like to make contact with anyone, then please get in touch with Rev. Chris Preece on 01255 851179.



PUZZLES

Muddled Groups

The following names are the opposites of real band names. Can you identify the real bands they are based on?

- Red Night
- Hotwork
- King
- The Black Spots
- The Herb Boys
- The White Locks
- The Windows
- The Stationary Sticks
- Videotail
- Yes Certainly

Street Signs

All vowels have been removed from these street signs and the spaces rearranged. Can you restore them?

- SP DLM T
- MR GLNS
- R DW RKS
- G VWY
- D DN D
- SL WDW N
- ST PNC N

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLES

1 Anagrams

The words are: DEARTHS, HARDEST, HATREDS, THREADS, TRASHED

Making Words

The completed words are:

CADAVER, CARPETED, CARJACKING, CATALANS, CUSTOMS, ENVIRONED, PARLIAMENT, REMARKED, RUFFIANS, SESAME.

GREAT HOLLAND VILLAGE FETE 2020



Due to the virus, unfortunately there will be no Great Holland Village Fete this year.

Please keep a look out to see if we are able to run something at short notice.

We intend to come back stronger next year.

In order to do that we will need new committee members.

Please look out for details of the first meeting of the new committee.

Surgery Newsletter April 2020

Hello again from everyone at the surgery. In my last newsletter I wrote about the corona virus (Covid-19), since then we have had cases crop up in the UK and I daresay by the time this newsletter is published there will be many more. The advice remains the same, do not attend any healthcare setting but call 111 for advice, the call handler will ask some pertinent questions and then may advise that testing is required and where you should attend for it. The symptoms are very similar to the common cold however can lead to breathing difficulties in severe cases.

At the surgery we are used to managing patients health conditions however there is lots that can be done by individuals to keep as healthy as possible-this starts as soon as we are born by eating the right food, having a good sleeping pattern and staying active. We are so lucky in this part of the country to enjoy the driest UK weather and have some fantastic opportunities to be active in the outdoors; we have excellent indoor facilities like the Piers, leisure centres and activity clubs. There are lots of ideas at www.livewellcampaign.co.uk Folk should take very seriously that good health is underpinned by good choices made individually rather than waiting for a diabetic or COPD review, and there is plenty of evidence to prove that being active has a positive effect on mental health conditions as well. I would urge anyone of any age to get fitter-that doesn't mean you need to run marathons or compete in races but to build fitness into a weekly routine. A great way to get motivated, meet other folk and have fun is to get involved in Parkrun, it's free and anyone can join in. The course at Clacton can be run, walked or a combination of both. All sorts of people do Parkrun each week including young people, pram pushers and even dog-walkers; it's a great way of seeing your fitness improve as you get quicker week on week. Find out more at <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/clactonseafont/>

Staff morale at the surgery has been a bit low since we had an unpleasant incident a few weeks ago. There was a patient who was genuinely unwell in the carpark and needed emergency treatment, two clinicians went to attend but had their way blocked by the relative of another patient who thought that their own issue was more important. There was a lot of swearing, shouting and kicking of surgery property by this relative who subsequently left the scene before any treatment was given. Obviously this matter was reported to the Police who later investigated it and the offending patients have been removed from our list. Wouldn't it be a nicer world if we were all a little more aware of the needs of other people, if we had time for a few words or encouragement or a nod of understanding? Our young people are exposed to so much negativity on-line, wouldn't it be great if we countered that by offering our young people the chance to participate in activities that boosted their confidence and built them up as individuals instead?

As we look forward to warmer, brighter weather I challenge you all to be nice to each other, get more active and enjoy the company of friends and relatives and spare a few minutes for the person who looks like they need cheering up! It's a challenge I have set myself and frankly it does feel better to be better.

Best wishes to you all from everyone at the surgery.

Karen Austen

Spring 2020

There was a roaring in the wind all night; the rain came heavily and fell in floods;
But now the sun is rising calm and bright; the birds are singing in the distant woods;
Wordsworth.

This year the rain has certainly lived up to the Norfolk saying “February full Dyke” and the ditches and low meadows are likely to be slow to dry out. We must be thankful that the underground aquifers are being replenished and there is no doubt that all my water butts are full to overflowing. I was looking at my front garden this week and the grass area, where the primroses are already blooming and there will soon be flowers on the fritillary, and I was glad that quite a large part of the area is still left as moss, grass and wild flowers. The whole area was under water for a while and had it been “hard standing” of any sort, the road would have been even more flooded than it was! A lesson to the planners who allow building on flood plains and water meadows although I fear that they would not listen to such simple common sense.

The winter months, although not very cold, have been long and quite depressing with the strong winds so prevalent and damaging; however we must be very thankful that most of us have not suffered from flooding in the way that some parts of the country have. The many signs of spring are becoming more evident; my mimosa has been flowering since January and continues with an amazing display of delicate yellow flowers that withstand the worst of all weathers. Purple prunus is another tree that in spite of its delicate flowers is blooming bravely along with forsythia, the early daffodils and crocus and there is so much more to come.

This year my shed, which houses tools, a mower, garden chairs and an immense amount of paraphernalia, has decided to spring several leaks and show signs of major rot; just the thought of emptying it out makes me feel exhausted but I have finally bitten the bullet and work will start soon to remove the old shed and install a new one, I just hope it is worth all the hassle!

This morning brought real delight as a pair of green finches appeared on the bird feeders followed later by a brightly coloured chaffinch, joining the faithful blue tits, great tits and occasional long-tailed tits and coal tits, as well as the constant robins and blackbirds. What joy all these birds bring with hope of chicks to come to fill the air with song and the fluttering of wings.

Rethna Flaxman



APRIL IN HISTORY

1st April

Today in 1854 *Hard Times* by Charles Dickens began to be serialised in the magazine *Household Words*. It appeared in weekly instalments (as many of his novels did) between April and August of that year.

Hard Times is the only one of his novels to be set away from London, in a fictional northern mill town. It also deals with a new class of people: an industrial working class, treated by owners as mere commodities – “hands” - rather than as people. Children in the novel are educated in useful facts at the expense of the imagination. With his character Gradgrind, Dickens satirised those utilitarians who saw what he described as “figures and averages and nothing else”.

The novel has never lost its relevance. We are still having the debate on how we soften the impact of revolutionary technological change on those whose lives it destroys.

8th April

It was the defining sound of early mornings in suburbs across Britain and further afield – the whirr of the float, the clink of the empties, the rattle of crates of bottles. Today in 1879 the British were able to buy milk in glass bottles for the first time.

No longer did people have to take earthenware jugs to fill with milk. Now they could buy glass bottles, or the milkman could go around neighbourhoods, first with a horse and cart, and from the 1930s with electric milk floats, dispensing the milk and collecting the empties.

15th April

On this day in 1916 Shackleton and his men managed to land on Elephant Island near Antarctica, after enduring 497 days on board their wrecked ship, “*Endurance*”. They had been trapped on the floating ice, unable to escape until a deep chasm of ice ruptured, allowing them to launch their three lifeboats. “it is sublime to feel solid earth under one’s feet,” said Frank Hurley, the expedition’s official photographer, having trod, “but heaving decks and transient ice for 18 months”.

Their adventure was far from over and Shackleton and some of the men set out on the 820 mile voyage to South Georgia in an open lifeboat to get help. The men who remained behind built a rudimentary hut on the wild and desolate land to protect them against the elements. Over four months later Shackleton returned to rescue them.

MAY IN HISTORY

8th May

Today in 1945 was VE (Victory in Europe) Day – one that remained in the memory of all those who witnessed it. It meant an end to nearly six years of a war that had cost the lives of millions; had destroyed homes, families and cities; and had brought huge suffering and privations to the populations of entire countries.

Millions of people rejoiced in the news that Germany had surrendered, relieved that the intense strain of total war was finally over. In towns and cities across the world, people marked the victory with street parties, dancing and singing.

However, it was not the end of the conflict, nor was it an end to the impact the war had on people. The war against Japan did not end until August 1945, and the political, social and economic repercussions of the second world War were felt long after Germany and Japan surrendered.

11th May

Spencer Perceval would be one of our most forgettable (and forgotten) prime ministers, if it were not for the fact that on this day in 1812 he became the only UK Prime Minister to be assassinated. Subsequent attempts – such as the IRA bombing of Margaret Thatcher in a Brighton hotel – have not achieved their aim.

That afternoon Spencer had opted to walk to Parliament. John Bellingham was a regular attendee, unlikely for that reason to raise concerns. However, he was obsessed with earning revenge for the government's failure to compensate him for his treatment a few years previously when he had been imprisoned in Russia for a trading debt. As Perceval entered the lobby he was confronted by Bellingham who drew a pistol and shot him in the chest. Perceval staggered, shouted, "I am murdered!" and then fell face down. By the time a surgeon arrived he was declared dead. Bellingham was hastily charged and tried, then imprisoned and hanged.

24th May

On this day in 1844, Samuel Morse sent the first ever telegraphic message over an experimental line strung alongside a railroad between the American capital in Washington, DC, and the city of Baltimore forty miles away. In addition to helping to invent the telegraph, Samuel Morse developed a code (bearing his name) that assigned a set of dots and dashes to each letter of the English alphabet and allowed for the simple transmission across telegraph lines. By 1866, a telegraph line had been laid across the Atlantic Ocean from the US to Europe. Although the telegraph had fallen out of widespread use by the start of the 21st century, it laid the way for the communications revolution that led to the telephone, fax machine and internet.



GREAT HOLLAND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the meeting held on

SATURDAY 25th January, 2020 at 10.30 am in the Village Hall

Chair Jane Kurzweil

Apologies for Absence

Apologies have been received from Vanessa Giles, Daniel Land and Brenda Cox.

Minutes of the Meeting of October 19th 2019

The minutes were approved by the meeting

Matters Arising from the Minutes

Thanks were given to Sheila Watts for presenting the 100th Birthday card to Nellie Spencer and the GHRA Remembrance Day Wreath which had been laid by Myrna Liles and Jane Kurzweil.

Treasurer's Report from Liz Oakley

Bank total @ 31/12/19 was £3022 and Cash £197 after £20 donation for the Wreath.

Annual Accounts for 2019 are being prepared ready to be audited next week.

17 membership renewals have been received by Standing Order at the end of January and numbers are likely to be increasing, thanks to a good turnout and renewals paid today. Thanks were given to members completing Membership forms today to keep their details up to date.

Planning Report from Alan Rusbridge

There had not been any major Planning applications since the last meeting.

Outline planning permission had been granted for a further 5 bungalows on land behind Hollyoak in Pork Lane as the owner has now made the necessary financial contribution for the mitigation of Habitat disturbance.

The owner has been refused permission for two further bungalows as the Council now maintains the application must be considered a single 'Planning Unit' which will require a contribution towards social housing through a Section 106 Agreement. The Agent contests this position and an Appeal is expected.

Outline planning permission has been granted for one dwelling on land adjacent to Larkswood on Kirby Road. Three years ago the identical application was refused.

It is concerning that both these recent approvals are outside the development boundary of Great Holland and have been permitted because the Inspectors are currently operating with no Planning Policy. The new Local Plan is still at the enquiry stage and it is hoped, will be adopted in late 2020 or early 2021. This leaves an open door to further property development in the village until that time.

An application is pending for the conversion of a garage/playroom to residential use at Holland Cottage, Kirby Road. It is likely to gain approval.

Concerns were raised by an Orchard Lane resident regarding the Copse in Pork Lane. When the first Hollyoak site was cleared by the owner, the burning of the vegetation had been potentially hazardous to neighbours bungalows and the Fire Brigade were called. She asked whether anything could be done to prevent it happening again.

Gus said this was not a Planning issue per se, as clearance usually happens prior to the Application process and it was a matter of Environmental Health. Anyone could log in to the Tendring Planning website and follow the progress of applications.

Gus confirmed he would report back on these developments.

PCSO Report from Rob Diss

Unfortunately Rob was absent and his report has been held over until the next meeting. December incidents will be reported in the next Village Voice.

ECC Update from guest speaker Mark Platt Councillor for Great Holland.

ECC Collective Energy Switch scheme is currently running please refer to the website.

Essex Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner had recently been awarded additional monies which have resulted in 368 additional officers being put in place across Essex. These were 'local, community-based roles'.

A **Speed Consultation Exercise** is currently underway and Mark encouraged residents to take part online to hopefully increase rural speed policing and Speedwatch activities especially along Little Clacton Road and Kirby Road. This might also reduce carbon emissions and improve air quality for residents and children using the playground.

Mark apologised for the recent '**fiasco**' in **Pork Lane when Kirby Road was closed**. Despite an official diversion having been pre-arranged, the Contractor failed to carry it out which resulted in general chaos and buses using Pork Lane causing damage to verges. County Hall is aware and has taken steps to prevent a reoccurrence. Mark explained how similar failures were not just in Great Holland and unfortunately local car drivers can use any familiar routes and this cannot be prevented.

Residents experiencing similar issues in future should contact him direct and that he will clarify what has been arranged centrally. He also welcomed residents using their initiative, such as placing rocks along their verges to prevent further erosion.

An observation was made that speeding at 60mph down Pork Lane is being done by local drivers and not always by non-locals and sought to raise awareness of the difficulties this causes to other drivers, who are being forced to give way, as well as causing damage the road surface, edges and verges. Mark suggested these personal experiences could be shared as part of the Speed Consultation Exercise.

Mark and Mr Newton will be meeting the relevant Council 'decision maker' about reducing the remaining 40mph stretch of Kirby Road to 30mph. Mr Newton circulated a petition in support of his long campaign.

Mark provided leaflets for **"Resorting to the Coast"** including the Frinton Heritage Trail and the **Harwich Haven Authority**.

He reminded residents that a **Village Litter Pick** will be starting from the Village Green on Sunday 9th Feb at 10am and residents are invited to participate or to come and give participants a good send off. Mark thanked the recent team effort clearing along the Kirby Road pavement for their camaraderie and the doughnuts.

Paul (GHRA Co-chair) expressed his concern that incompetence by the Contractor had caused the 'Pork Lane fiasco' and that from his correspondence with ECC two years ago he had established Contractor licences were not being monitored.

Mark requested details to ascertain what happens currently and report back.

Paul commented how the recent resurfacing of Pork Lane already was in serious need of repair and the pot holes were dangerous, again due to the incompetent private sector Contractor responsible and the apparent lack of Contractor monitoring by the Council.

Mark responded by stating plans were already in hand to restore the size of the road surface and restrict HGV traffic in Pork Lane. He added some monitoring does take place and the Council has expectations as to how long the work is expected to last which he believes is two years. He agreed to find out in detail and report back.

The observation was made that the Council needed to be more proactive and local residents need to report problems as they arise for any action to be taken. Mark added that ECC vehicles used to survey road surfaces were only used on major roads.

Also that it was still intended to pursue 'Quiet Lane' status for Pork Lane despite not having been successful to date.

The promised **signage for Pork Lane as "Unsuitable for HGV"** has not yet been installed but Mark confirmed this was likely before April, and that the Police had been notified not to divert traffic down Pork Lane in future.

Comments were made about damage specifically caused by skip lorries and whether proposed signs would be effective. It was anticipated that without accompanying weight restrictions 'Unsuitable for HGV' signage alone will not be enforceable by rural policing or local residents and was therefore unlikely to have any effect whatsoever.

The Chair thanked Mark for his report and answering questions.

Agenda item - Save our Village Green - Tony Gull standing in for Brenda Cox

Chair introduced this next item by saying the GHRA committee had discussed how it might proceed with the contentious issues arising from the Council proposals to put a car park on the Village Green and that it respected residents opinions were divided.

Tony referred to the last GHRA meeting and the Village Voice article by Brenda where it had been proposed a vote would take place today to decide whether or not GHRA should provide support to campaigners in an official capacity. He said that by campaigning against the Planning application, a six month delay had been granted.

During the summer the Green had been very popular with families using the playground, tea parties, family picnics and dog walkers.

One campaigner clarified that 'Saving the Village Green' was not a political issue, rather an attempt to protect the village for everyone. Concerns were expressed that the Village Green is the only communal green space left and a small car park could be just the beginning of future Council proposals. Great Holland village culture was felt to be at risk and no one wanted precious green spaces being replaced by concrete.

Another resident said he had been unable to use his drive when cars visiting the playground were parked outside his house and he was in favour of a car park.

It was also noted that the parking issue is being exacerbated by villagers using cars to bring children to play when the healthier alternative would be to walk or use public transport.

Gus said GHRA would not be taking sides but instead present a balanced view and at the moment there were many unknowns which were leading to much speculation.

He assured residents he would be more than happy to attend meetings to see what the proposals are and once a firm Application has been made, hold a local meeting to arrive at a unified village submission to the Council through GHRA.

All residents were also able to submit their individual views to the Council.

Paul said it would be informative to know how many residents have asked for a car park and whether alternative solutions eg Parking Restrictions would be acceptable.

He suggested that a petition of all village residents would be a way to canvas views.

Tony called for the vote on whether GHRA should provide support and be involved in future discussions with the Council, which was taken and overwhelmingly carried.

Gus fully supports a petition and that GHRA needed to know the numbers 'for and against' any Car Park and any reasonable alternatives.

Tony said he and Peter would arrange a petition of all Great Holland residents to find out what the general consensus is ready for future discussions. Also he would let Gus and residents know on GH Facebook when the initial Council meeting is.

Vote of thanks

A vote of thanks was given to Dan Land for arranging the Kirby Road Project and all the volunteers for their hard work including Matt Hull, Miles Hill, Sam at Frinton Farm Partners, Jon Lott and the lads at Green End Garage, Mark Platt, Tony Gull, Victor Kurzweil, Alan Rusbridge, Trish Caines, Colin Brett and The Manor PH for refreshments.

Date, time and venue of the next meeting

This will be the GHRA AGM on May 9th 2020 at 10.30 am in the Village Hall.

Agenda items for the next meeting are requested by 28th April please.

Any Other Business

A complaint was made about the speed of vehicles in both directions along Church Lane and adjoining roads which were hazardous to pedestrians and dog walkers.

The Chair asked for a volunteer to come forward before 9th to make the teas and coffees at the AGM. Thanks were given to Sheila, Sue and Nickie for their help today.

The Village Litter Pick will take place on Sunday Feb 9th leaving from The Village Green at 10am – all are welcome to participate.

The meeting closed at 12am

STOP PRESS

GREAT HOLLAND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

The Committee has taken the decision to cancel the Annual General Meeting which was to have taken place on 9th May. We will notify residents of the re-arranged date for the meeting once the COVID19 situation has become clearer and would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone well during this period of uncertainty.

Paul, Myrna, Liz, Gus, Vanessa and Jane.

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MEET ME AT THE MUSEUM by Anne Youngson This month our book club book was Meet Me at the Museum. This book was nominated for the Costa First Novel Award. It has been a joy to read and of the many books we read as a bookseller, only a few stand out each year, for me this was one of those books. I can thoroughly recommend it. The story begins when Tina Hopgood writes a letter of regret to a man she has never met, she doesn't expect a reply. When Anders Larsen, a lonely museum curator, answers it, nor does he. They're both searching for something, they just don't know it yet. Anders has lost his wife, along with his hopes and dreams for the future. Tina is trapped in a marriage she doesn't remember choosing. Slowly their correspondence blossoms as they bare their souls to each other with stories of joy, anguish and discovery. But then Tina's letters suddenly cease, and Anders is thrown into despair.



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POLICE REPORT

Relevant incidents which have occurred from 1st January onwards:

January 16th 2020 – Roundabout on junction with Little Clacton Road, Great Holland – Road Traffic Collision involving three vehicles – one female taken to hospital and one driver reported for driving offences.

February 7th 2020 – Green Lane, Great Holland – Alarm activation at Business Premises – false activation.

February 9th 2020 – Green Lane, Great Holland – Alarm activation at Business Premises – false activation.

February 14th 2020 – The Close, Great Holland – Report of suspicious small grey car with three male occupants seen to drive off at speed towards the Main Road.

February 20th – 23rd – Great Holland Methodist Church, Rectory Road – Between these dates some roof tiles were damaged and glass stolen from the “Rose Window”. Unfortunately, no suspects were seen.

February 29th 2020 – Little Clacton Road, Great Holland – Theft of a trailer from a driveway. This occurred at 8.05pm and there was CCTV image of one male suspect. This investigation is on-going.

March 4th 2020 – Clacton Road Marshes, Great Holland – Road traffic Collision involving one vehicle. Elderly driver lost control and went into a ditch. Driver was not injured and a close relative attended to check on well-being of driver.

If you are either a victim of crime or a witness, please phone 999 if it is an emergency or 101 for non-urgent crime.

Michele is aware of one incident which was mentioned on social media but never reported through the appropriate channels.

Many thanks,

PSCO Robert Diss 42074651

PCSO 6477 Michele Diss

Direct dial: 101 ext 487552

Email: michele.diss@essex.pnn.police.uk

Website: http://www.essex.police.uk/my_neighbourhood.aspx

FROM THE ARCHIVES...

With all the rain we have had lately, it was interesting looking back over the past years at ways flooding has been tackled locally.

NOVEMBER 1928 the Tendring Level Commissioners gave their surveyor's general report which stated:

The whole of the Lower River had been cleaned and brushed. Should the water level keep low there were several bad places which should be dug out.

Picquets Ditch - The whole of Picquet's Ditch area had been cleaned and brushed, and some shallows in the lower part dug out. The men were now digging out some of the worse shallows and narrow widths between the main Holland Brook and Valley Farm.

Kirby Brook was brushed early that autumn but, owing to the extensive growth, part would need brushing again.

Upper River – The main upper river had been cleaned and brushed to Weeley bridges, and to just beyond Church Lane, Weeley. There was a tree across the brook on that length which was too big for the Commissioner's men to move. Other parts of the upper river were being brushed and cleaned.

JANUARY 1937 – The Council Clerk reported that there had been an interview with a Mr T England in respect of his land at Great Holland which was liable to flooding. The proposal was a minimum of ten acres to be "released" if and when remedial works were carried out and that he would be prepared to accept a minimum limit of one acre.

Again in **February 1937** it was reported in a letter to The London Times that had been received from Mr Peachey of Great Holland Nursery: "Flooding is largely due to lack of trees in America. May I suggest that the same applies in this country? Large trees have been, and are being cut down and comparatively few planted to make up for this deficiency. Therefore, any surplus water, instead of being sapped by the trees and drained away by the deep roots, floods the countryside.

Coronation time is near, and planting large rooting trees, such as oak, beech, etc. will serve not only as a remembrance of such an occasion, but also help to drain away the water and protect England from dangerous flooding.

Coniferous types of trees are doubtless very beautiful, but the roots do not require so much moisture, neither do they penetrate nearly as deeply as the oak. Also,

people should bear in mind that within 25 years all elm trees will be killed by a disease that it is impossible to check. This will make the danger considerably greater unless large deep rooting trees are planted at once.”



Vast area of land inundated by the floods at Holland Marches. A lorry taking the plunge on the Clacton to Walton Road.

Maybe we should think on this.

Liz Bruce. History Recorder.
March 2020

Daniel Land's Blog

Spring 2020



Time flies...

Hope you are all well in Great Holland and beyond, lots of water about which is proving to be tricky to shift, regardless of where it lands.

Litter pick

Thanks to those who turned out on what will likely be one of the windiest days of the year. It was literally blowing a huge gale and apart from collecting over 30 bags of rubbish along Pork Lane, someone did lose their hat sadly. Thanks for the delivery of cake which kept us going nicely. I'm appalled at how irresponsible people can be when disposing of their litter and the situation appears to get worse which is sad. Miles helped immensely by supplying a light vehicle to put the rubbish in as it was collected.



Low pitch humming noise

Some will have read my mutterings about this in this blog, but also in the local paper. Since the articles went out there has been a dozen or more people contact me about a noise they can hear. I think hearing it is one thing, not knowing what it is appears to be is the most troubling point for people and I sympathise with that.

I was contacted by someone local who had heard this noise back in 2009 from Great Holland. The noise persisted and they went to some lengths to measure the direction and level of the noise with some **expensive equipment**. The results amounted to the fact that the noise was all around, rather than from one direction.

This person's conclusion is to date, that the humming sound is potentially from

underground water courses, there are many springs located beneath us all over the district and the routes change over time from various natural and manmade occurrences. This person does not now hear the noise, as quick as it came, it then went after some time.

There is another train of thought that the noise could be tidal and the recent sea defence works in Holland-On-Sea could have brought about a change to the dynamics of the coast line and tides.

I prefer to go with a natural idea but of course electrical and signal noises still come up when I talk to people. Let it be known that there are people from not just Great Holland but also Clacton, Frinton and Jaywick who contacted me with their stories, this would keep the mystery close to the coast and in line with potential natural causes.

I have personally contacted Affinity Water who manage the storage facility down Pork Lane and they categorically tell me there is nothing that creates any sound of the continued nature some hear.

I keep listening and asking questions – there was a similar case in the Bristol Channel some years ago which can be found via Google.

Pork Lane

Thanks to Cllr Mark Platt, who has had some signage installed on Pork Lane, advising the road is not suitable for HGVs.

Finally...

As Chairman of TDC this year I am very proud to represent you all and champion the good work that goes on not only in Great Holland but across the district.

I love contributing to the Village Voice and I also update my activities on the village Facebook group as well as a Facebook page I set up two years ago
www.facebook.com/greatholland

If there is anything you need then please do get in touch.

Speak soon

Daniel Land

District Councillor for Beaumont, Great Holland & Thorpe

Thanks for your support; you can contact me in the following ways

01255 861116 / land_daniel@hotmail.com

Trees: To plant or not to plant

During the recent general election, the parties competed to be the one that wanted to plant most trees. They argued correctly that trees will absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, but less clearly that they will mitigate against the emissions from cars, homes and agriculture, in addition to all that occurring in other countries to grow soya to feed our livestock and palm oil to include in foods, soaps and biofuels. However, the politicians are aware that tree planting is popular with people.

Britain has a smaller proportion of woodland than almost all European neighbours, the forest having been largely removed by Neolithic farmers some 5,000 years ago. In the last 70 years we have experienced a steadily increasing coverage of trees, chiefly as a result of national forestry, public campaigns, such as: 'Plant a tree in 73', its successors, and a general withdrawal of agriculture from the poorest land.

I was involved in 1995, with the establishment of the 4-hectare plantation adjacent to Holland Pits, Holland Mill Wood, formerly arable land and planted with suitable trees by a group called TWIG, the Tendring Woodland Initiative Group. It has been successful, 25 years on having a good population of Dormice and rides full of flowers.

In my view trees are good, planting has a place, but I am not wholly enthusiastic:

- Trees have a remarkable capacity to colonise open ground, unaided.
- Trees that are planted are far more susceptible to browsing from deer, voles, rabbits and drought.
- The tree guards are ugly and take many decades to break down, and general maintenance is expensive; self-establishing trees are more robust.
- Trees are often planted on low grade land, which is often of more value to nature left as open grassland.
- There are now many acres of young plantations, and these will not have the value of ancient woodlands for hundreds of years.

Having said that, I have planted a limited number of trees at Holland Pits. Elm trees have been suffering of a disease since the 1970s, Dutch Elm Disease. They regenerate from suckers but usually die off again after about 10 years, so I have planted resistant strains. I have planted Buckthorn trees, to attract the beautiful Brimstone butterflies, and I have propagated one or two rare Black Poplar trees from cuttings, one of these now being the tallest tree at the pits. This started life as a cutting on my windowsill.

Goat willow



Black Poplar

I am about to plant another few trees, which I hope will attract another charismatic butterfly. The Purple Emperor is large and beautiful, sporting a royal purple iridescence, and they are beginning to appear in the Tendring area. They lay their eggs on Goat Willow. These trees are scarce because for centuries they were regarded as a worthless weed in our woodlands being useless for timber or firewood. I hope to establish some more this spring.

So I remain a supporter of tree planting but only in places where trees are not displacing other plants and animals, and I favour natural regeneration over planting wherever possible.

Bob Seago

Outdoor events

April 5th Barnes Spinney Plant Sale, CO14 8HN.

April 26th Weeleyhall Wood, Bluebell Open day, CO16 9AT

May 24th Great Holland Pits Open Day, Pond Dipping, CO13 0EU

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Download the guide from www.tsplegal.com/planningahead or contact us on 01255 221919 and we will send you a hard copy in the post.

Robert Ashworth, who is based in our Clacton office, can provide you with advice on the full range of private client matters listed above.



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robert.ashworth@tsplegal.com



Marcus Price
Director, Solicitor
Family and Divorce
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Laura Finnigan
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Residential Property
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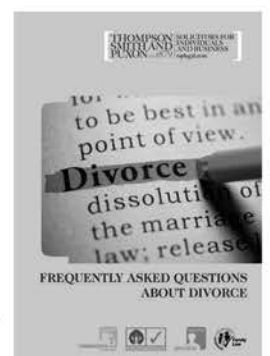
have put together a comprehensive guide to Moving Home. In the guide you will find lots of useful information on the buying and selling process.

The guide can be downloaded from www.tsplegal.com/movinghome, alternatively contact Laura Finnigan, Residential Property solicitor, for advice.

Family Problems?

The Family Law team at TSP advise on all aspects of Family and Divorce Law including relationship agreements, relationship breakdown, children issues and financial orders. They have also put together a comprehensive guide to Divorce in which they outline the main points to be aware of and answer some frequently asked questions. The guide can be downloaded from www.tsplegal.com/divorce.

Marcus Price, is able to offer a free initial telephone chat to assess your circumstances and provide general information.



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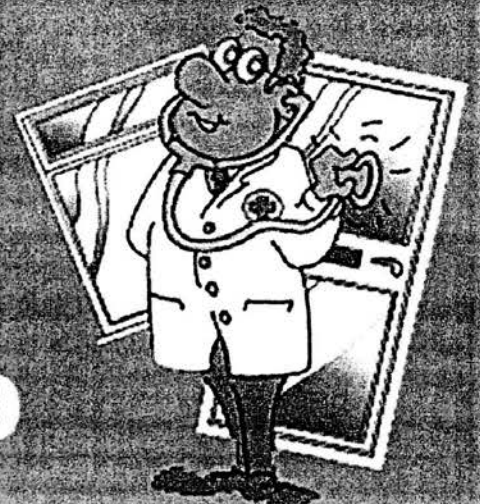
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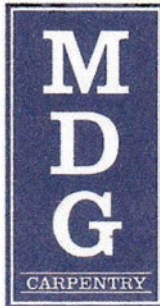
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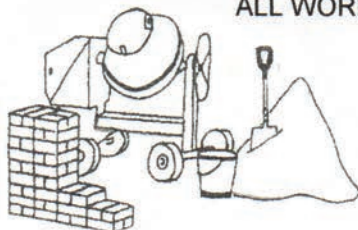
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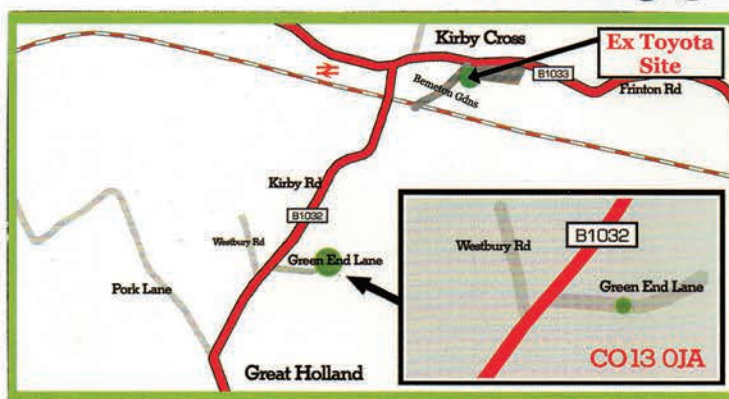
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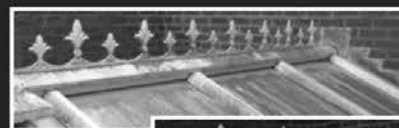
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