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Great Holland Village Voice



Spring

February
&
March 2014



70p where sold



... to the February/March edition of **Village Voice**.

Included in this edition...

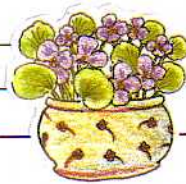
- **What's new at The Ship?**
- **Details of a fundraising event at the Village Hall on 22nd February**
- **News about Great Holland Residents' Association**

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 April or May 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 **852195** or Sandra on **672453** 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 25th March



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Village Contacts and Local Information

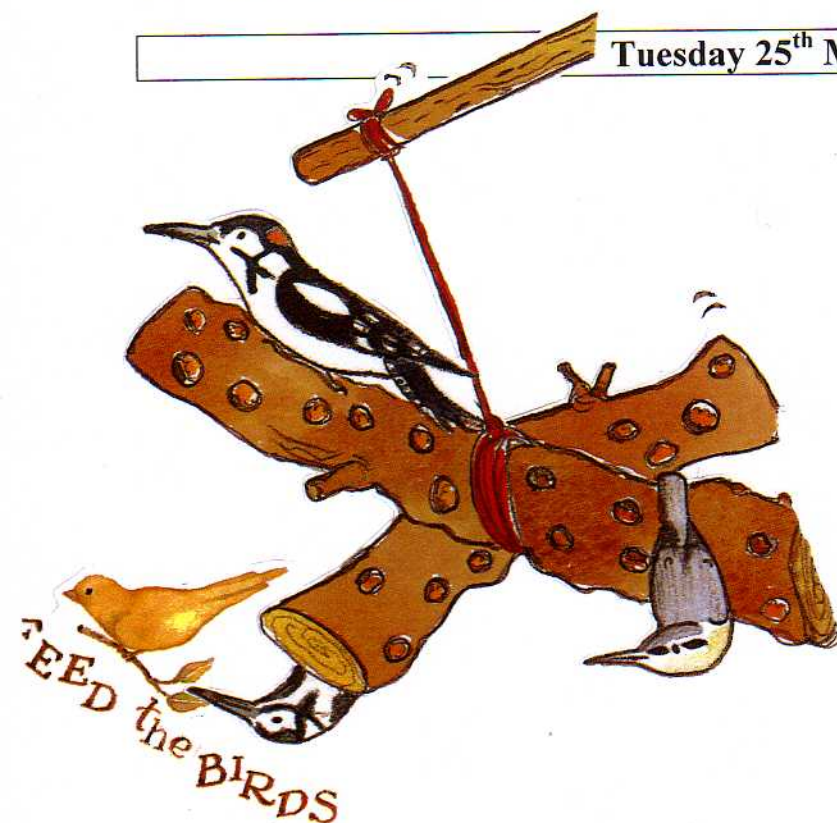
Dates for your Diary

All Saints' Church

Methodist Church

Village news & articles

Advertisements



Village Contacts and Local Information



Member of Parliament	Mr Douglas Carswell MP	423112
All Saints' Church Minister	Rev. Mark Holdaway	675997
Methodist Church Minister	Rev. Eva Walker	851179
Village Hall Committee	Ms Sue Jenkins (Chair) Mrs F Harris (Bookings)	850317 830136
Great Holland Village Stores	Main Road	674359
Frinton & Walton Town Council (Incorporating Frinton, Walton, Kirby and Great Holland)	Mrs Myrna Liles (Town Clerk) Cllr. Mr Christopher Keston	676666 850067
Tendring District Council	Town Hall, Station Road, Clacton CO15 1SE Cllr. Mr Robert J Bucke Cllr. Mr Mark A Cossens	686868 (Emergency/ Out of Hours: 2220220) 677495 861374
Dog Warden	(Tendring District Council)	0845 2417253
Essex County Council	Cllr. Mr Michael (Mick) Page	672410
Neighbourhood Watch Administrator	Please call 101 and ask to speak to Paul Teague.	
Crime Reduction Officer	Please call 101 and ask to speak to David Gillies.	
Crimestoppers	0800 555111	
Mobile Library	Calls fortnightly every other Thursday at Rosery Mews only. Arrives 10.00am, departs 10.30am - see Diary page for dates.	
Civic Amenity Tip	<p>Maltings Lane, Kirby-le-Soken.</p> <p>The Civic Amenity Tip opens at 9.00am.</p> <p><u>The Tip is closed every Tuesday and Wednesday.</u></p> <p>Winter opening times (until 29th February 2012): 9.00am- 4.00pm Summer opening times (1st March-15th October): 9.00am-5.00pm</p> <p>Late night opening during summer no longer takes place.</p>	

Dates for your Diary ...





January

Friday 31 st	TENDRING DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN - Public Consultation Exercise at Weeley Council Offices: Planning Officers will be available to meet with residents from 10.00am - 4.00pm. More details elsewhere in magazine Barn Dance: Methodist Church, 7.00pm. More details elsewhere in magazine.
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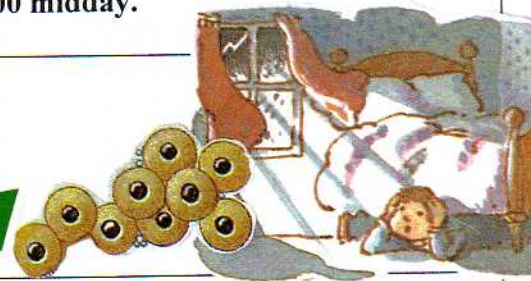
February



Saturday 1 st	NO HOME MADE HOUR
Monday 3 rd	TFL meeting: Frinton Methodist Church Hall, 2.30pm. AGM. More about this friendly social club elsewhere in magazine.
Thursday 6 th	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday
Saturday 8 th	 EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF GREAT HOLLAND RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION: Village Hall, 10.00 for 10.30am  More details elsewhere in magazine.
Thursday 13 th	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday Mobile Library visits Rosery Mews.
Thursday 20 th	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday.
Friday 21 st	'Call My Bluff': Methodist Church, 7.00pm. More details elsewhere in magazine.
Saturday 22 nd	Beetle Drive: Village Hall, 2.00-5.00pm. More details elsewhere in magazine.
Thursday 27 th	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday. Mobile Library visits Rosery Mews.



March



Saturday 1 st	HOME MADE HOUR: Village Hall, 10.00-11.00am
Monday 3 rd	TFL meeting: Frinton Methodist Church Hall, 2.30pm. Barry O'Connell will speak about 'Canine Care'.
Thursday 6 th	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday Meeting of Friends and Neighbours of Great Holland: 2 Great Holland Court (opposite Village Hall), at 2.00pm.
Thursday 13 th	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday Mobile Library visits Rosery Mews.
Thursday 20 th	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday
Thursday 27 th	Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday Mobile Library visits Rosery Mews.
Sunday 30 th	'Mother's Day' at The Ship. More details elsewhere in magazine.

PLEASE RING THE SHIP ON 674809 FOR DETAILS OF EVENTS PLANNED THERE DURING FEBRUARY AND MARCH

To include events for **April or May** in the Diary section of the next edition of **Village Voice**, please contact Linda on 852195 or Sandra on 672453 by **15 March** if possible.

All Saints' Church

Rector's article ...

At the moment the English Cricket team are in Australia losing, what has so far been, all of their games. It has been going on for months and has taken up many, many pages of newspaper print in both British and Australian newspapers.

Unsurprisingly, the Australian papers have seen it slightly differently from those here! The English players have been reviewed and assessed and commented upon for their faults, heart, lack of form or whatever for what seems like eternity.

Yet, not everything that they've done has been reported. Last week, two of the English players were on the way home from a charity event in Sydney and found a man on one of the Sydney bridges preparing to commit suicide by jumping off. The 2 players talked to the man for an hour, persuading him to step back. They then sat with him while waiting for the police to arrive.

"We just did what anybody would do," they said afterwards. That may be true, but surely it deserves as much coverage as a report from one of their practice sessions?

The point is that often what we hear is often not all that's going on and very often is not even the most important bit, or the heart of the matter.

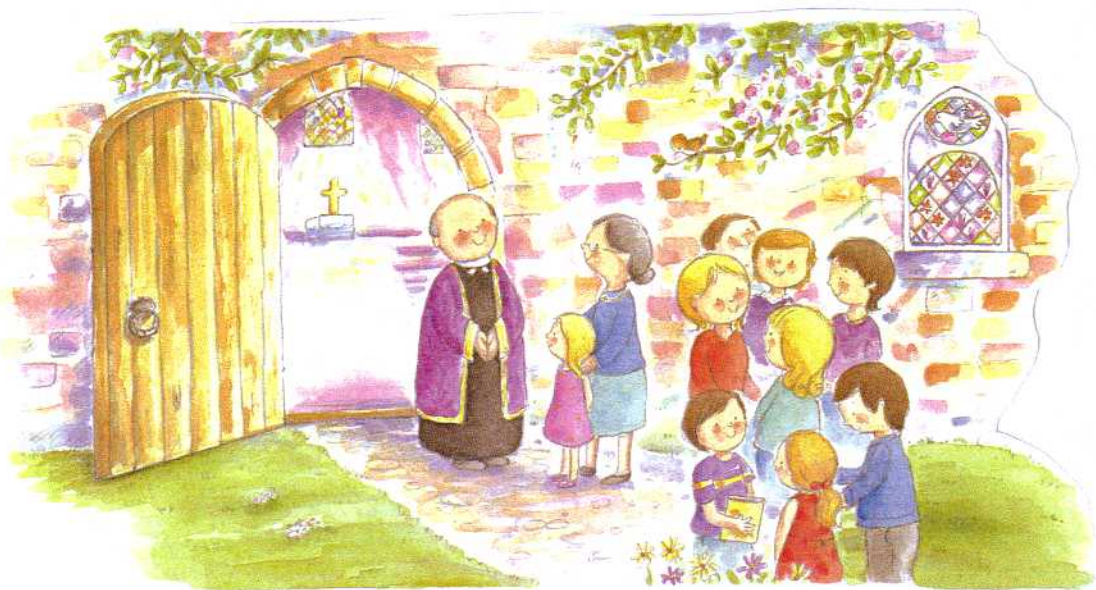
The point is the same for the Christian faith. Much seems to be said about it in news and comment. It may be you don't know what to make of it because you don't like what you've heard either from coverage of church issues, the dreaded radio phone-in or even from those around you.

But let me assure you that the heart of the matter has, more than likely, gone "unreported".

This verse sums it up, "the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all."

The heart of the Christian faith is Jesus Christ, who is God and Lord of all. And the good news is that he offers a chance of peace with God his Father.

Mark



From All Saints' Diary - FEBRUARY:

Sunday	2nd	11.00am	Morning Service
Wednesday	5 th	11.00am 2.00pm	All Saints' Bible Group in the Parish Room Friendship & Interest Group at St Michael's Church Hall
Sunday	9th	8.00am	Joint Holy Communion with our friends from St Michael's
Wednesday	12 th	11.00am 7.30pm	Morning Service All Saints' Bible Group in the Parish Room PCC meeting in the Parish Room
Sunday	16th	11.00am	Holy Communion
Wednesday	19 th	2.00pm	Friendship & Interest Group at St Michael's Church Hall
Thursday	20 th	1.00pm	Parish Lunch at St Michael's Church Hall
Sunday	23rd	11.00am	Morning Service
Wednesday	26 th	11.00am	All Saints' Bible Group in the Parish Room



From All Saints' Diary - MARCH:

Saturday	1 st	10.00am	HOME MADE HOUR
Sunday	2nd	11.00am	Morning Service
Wednesday	5 th	11.00am 2.00pm	All Saints' Bible Group in the Parish Room Friendship and Interest Group in St Michael's Church Hall
Sunday	9th	8.00am	Joint Holy Communion with our friends from St Michael's
Wednesday	12 th	11.00am	Morning Service All Saints' Bible Group in the Parish Room
Sunday	16th	11.00am	Holy Communion
Wednesday	19 th	2.00pm	Friendship and Interest Group in St Michael's Church Hall
Thursday	20 th	1.00pm	Parish Lunch at St Michael's Church Hall
Sunday	23rd	11.00am	Morning Service
Wednesday	26 th	11.00am	All Saints' Bible Group in the Parish Room
Sunday	30th	11.00am	Mothering Sunday: Morning Service

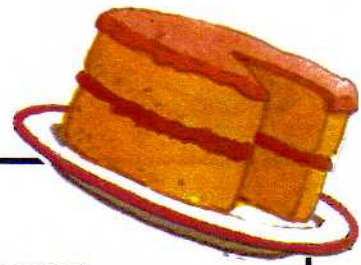
FROM THE REGISTERS:

FUNERALS:

We offer our condolences and prayers to the family and friends of:
Mrs B Fox (91) Baynards Crescent, Frinton-on-Sea

Weeley Crematorium





Home Made Hours

Our friendly Home Made Hours help to raise funds for All Saints' Church. **THANK YOU** to everyone who supports these events, particularly those who regularly donate home made/home grown produce for us to sell.

Are YOU able to provide any items for our Home Made Hours, please? We would be particularly grateful for donations of home made cakes, which are always popular. We also welcome home made preserves and any surplus fruit, vegetables or plants from the garden. **If you want to find out more about our Home Made Hours, please contact Nickie Stack on 677984.**

ALL SAINTS' PARISH CHURCH WHO'S WHO

RECTOR: Rev. Mark Holdaway, The Rectory, 10 Thorpe Road, Kirby Cross CO13 0LT, (675997)

CHURCHWARDENS: John Beale, 5 Malting Lane, Kirby le Soken CO13 0EH (676472) and Judith Little, Lambourn House, Little Clacton Road, Great Holland, CO13 0EY (813645)

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL: Churchwardens (ex officio), Sheila Watts (ex officio), Don Osler, Jamie Wright, Vanessa Giles and Ilze Robertson

HON. SECRETARY TO THE PCC: Judith Little

VICE CHAIR TO THE PCC: John Beale

HON. TREASURER TO THE PCC: Sheila Watts c/o The Rectory, 10 Thorpe Road, Kirby Cross CO13 0LT, (675997)

SIDESPERSIONS: Wilf Barnes, Rose Batten, Don Osler and Jamie Wright

MAGAZINE PRODUCTION TEAM: Sandra Mooney and Linda O'Reilly (Joint Editors), Mim Wilson, Irene Lightowler, Michele Frere, Ingrid Harding, Judith Little, Eric Elsworth, Audrey Warren, June Forrest, Charmian Goundry, Iain Bell, Eileen Derrick, Pauline Knight, Christine Oxford and Chris Crispin (Distributors)

Church Hall - All Saints' Great Holland

The Church Hall is situated next to All Saint's 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 dozen people, a small kitchen with tea/coffee making facilities and microware, entrance hall and two toilets (one disabled). The cost of hire is £5 per hour from May - September and £7 per hour October - April (to cover extra heating and lighting costs). To hire the Hall please contact **Judith Little on 813645.**



Home Made Hour

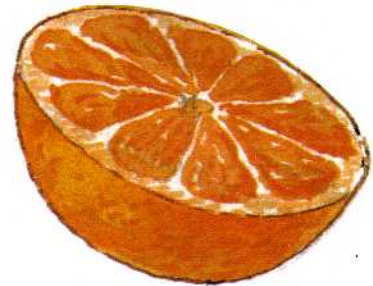
Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Special Home Made Hour and for the donations of home made goods and produce.

As usual, there will be NO Home Made Hour in February.

Our next Home Made Hour will take place on **Saturday 1st March** from 10.00-11.00am in the Village Hall. Please come and join us for tea, coffee, friendly company, and the sale of home made cakes, jam, marmalade, trifles, savouries, scones etc, occasional plants/garden produce and hand crafted greetings cards. Refreshments are available and we also have a raffle.



Blood orange tart



Ingredients

- 200g/7oz sugar, plus extra for dusting
 - 3 blood oranges, juice and zest
 - 2 eggs, plus 6 yolks
 - 200g/7oz butter, cubed
 - 25cm/10in sweetened shortcrust pastry tart shell, blind baked (you can use ready-made)
 - 3 blood oranges, peeled, sliced into rounds
 - 1 tbsp demerara sugar
 - double cream or custard, to serve
-
- Preheat the oven to 180C/350F/Gas 4.
 - Whisk the sugar, orange juice and zest, eggs and egg yolks together in a bowl until well combined
 - Add the butter and set over a pan over simmering water. (Do not let the base of the bowl touch the water.)
 - Cook for 15-20 minutes, stirring regularly, until the butter has melted and the mixture has thickened.
 - Pour the mixture into the cooked pastry case, cover with clingfilm (to prevent a skin forming) and set aside to cool.
 - Arrange the orange slices on the cooled tart and sprinkle over the demerara sugar.
 - Using a cooks' blowtorch, heat the sugar until caramelised.
 - To serve, slice the tart and serve with double cream or custard.

ENJOY !

Karen Withams





Whispers and truths

In a season of new resolutions, in a season of January blues, in a season of cold, what message does God want us to hear?

In a season of post-Christmas excitement, in a season of new promises and new hopes, what message does God want us to hear?

Several days back when I was feeling a bit under the weather, my young son said to me: 'Mommy can I whisper in your ear?' 'Of course you can' - I said.

And he whispered: 'You're my girl, mommy!'

The most beautiful words that I have ever heard....Words full of love....in that stillness I knew who I was, I experienced love amazing once again.

And today, God says to each one of us: 'You are my child' - No matter what, the Creator of the universe, whispers to you and says: 'You are my child' - you take your value not because of your success, or looks, or profession, you take your value in the fact that you are my child.'

Because in the Bible we read: 'What marvellous love the Father has extended to us! Just look at it - we're called children of God! That's who we really are.' (1 John 3:1)

And that is the truth. There are other voices in life that try and deter us from hearing God's whispers, but those voices do not change the truth.

And, whenever we hear those voices, be it our voice, or the voice of others, let us again hear the words of 1 John 3: 18-21: 'My dear children, let's not just talk about love; let's practice real love. This is the only way we'll know we're living truly, living in God's reality. It's also the way to shut down debilitating self-criticism, even when there is something to it. For God is greater than our worried hearts and knows more about us than we do ourselves. And friends, once that's taken care of and we're no longer accusing or condemning ourselves, we're bold and free before God!'

So let's not forget to remember that the truth comes in whispers....after we have shut out all of the other voices around us. Let us keep hearing the words of God to each one of us: 'You are my child!'

Amen!

God's blessings,

Rev. Eva Walker



REMINDER!

Just a reminder that we hold weekly 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 the chance to make new friends. We also have donated goods for sale.

NEWS FROM GT. HOLLAND METHODIST CHURCH

We had a busy, but enjoyable time over the Christmas period and would like to thank everyone who came along and supported our events.

On 11th December the church was packed for a Christmas concert by the 'Music Makers'. It was a most enjoyable evening and a retiring collection enabled us to send a cheque for £124 to the Philippines Disaster Relief Fund.

The Christmas Flower/Decorations display, which portrayed the Christian meaning of 'The Twelve Days of Christmas', was stunning and we were pleased that lots of people came to see them on the two open weekends. Numerous coffees, teas and cakes were served!!



Forthcoming Events

Friday, 31st January – 7 p.m. – Barn Dance

Tickets still available from : Liz on 676960 or
Anne on 675065

Friday, 21st February – 7 p.m. – 'CALL MY BLUFF'

Please join us for a fun evening. Tea, coffee and cakes will be served. Phone Anne on 675065 for more information.

POLICE NEWS

There are no Police Beat Surgeries until further notice

NEWS

I hope you all had a great Christmas and I wish you all A Very Happy 2014.

I am unable to include all incidents that have been reported due to their sensitive nature....

- 1 x Obstruction
- 2 x Reports of a horse on the loose
- 5 x Road traffic accidents
- 2 x Highway disruptions (fallen trees)
- 1 x Abandoned vehicle
- 1 x Concern for welfare



ADVICE

There have been a few burglaries in Kirby Cross – please be vigilant. Access has been gained by smashing windows or patio doors around the back of the properties. Please think before you leave your home. Is it secure? If you require any advice on security please contact us.

I have now been trained in the training of volunteers for the Community Speed Watch. This is a scheme where members of the public go out in three's and use a speed gun and record offending vehicle details which are then sent to the Safer Roads Bureau. Offending vehicles then get sent a warning letter.

The Training lasts about 1.5hrs and I may even make you a cup of tea. If you are interested in joining the scheme, please contact myself for details. The scheme does make a difference and slows traffic down.

WITHDRAWAL OF PCSO MATCH-FUNDING

Essex Police has decided not to continue match-funding police community support officers (PCSOs). From Monday, March 31, the funding will be withdrawn; however this will not lead to any redundancies. Local authorities which have current match-funding agreements have been advised.

Essex Police is fully committed to the valuable role PCSOs perform within the force. Chief Constable Stephen Kavanagh and Police and Crime Commissioner Nick Alston have pledged as one of the key principles of the Evolve Programme that the future policing model of Essex Police will include PCSOs as an integral part.

The withdrawal of match-funding will mean more flexibility for the force in the deployment of staff to meet operational requirements. It is envisaged this will lead to a more effective and efficient workforce, allowing us to get coverage right instead of being constrained by funding dictates.

(From the Essex Police website)

Keep Safe

PCSO 70843 Paul Brassey
PCSO 6477 Michele Diss
Community Phone No. 07850 631017
or 101, ext. 487553

paul.brassey@essex.pnn.police.uk
michele.diss@essex.pnn.police.uk

LOCAL NEWS

THE SHIP INN SETS SAIL WITH A NEW LANDLORD

New landlord Bernard Smith takes the helm of the Ship Inn as from Monday 20th January and is set to open for business on Tuesday 21st January at 11am.

Bernie has been in this industry for the past 16 years and, only being 33 at the moment, has been the head of quite a few operations with a great reputation behind him with experience in many venues ranging from social clubs, bingo clubs, pubs, restaurants and nightclubs. Being an Entertainer himself he will surely be able to fulfil all roles.

He plans on keeping the Curry Nights on Tuesday's; the Steak Nights on Wednesday's, but with a twist where the customer gets more of a choice, especially with his love for food with a great executive chef running his kitchen.

Executive Chef Tim has worked with Bernie for the past 4 years and brings a brand new and exciting menu for you all to enjoy.

There will be many nights and events planned for the future so just keep an eye out for what's coming up Just to give you a sneaky peek he says, "Mothers Day on the 30th March will be very special and Mum's will get to eat for FREE based on a family of four booking - not only that I am very much looking forward to the bank holidays we have this year, the first being in Easter, when we will be celebrating both Sunday and Monday of that weekend with some great outside entertainment and lots more beside."

The Ship will be open 7 days a week with food operating every day too – so no more closed Mondays!! There will also be a takeaway service available for fish and chips - this service will be available every night.

If sport is your thing then rest assured you have not been forgotten. Bernie has installed 3 sky HD boxes so 3 separate matches could be watched at once. He is even thinking about putting a large screen outside in the garden for big matches, especially with the major sporting events we have coming up this year.

Bernie is looking forward to exciting and new times at The Ship so let's give him and his staff great support for our very much loved village local.

To book at table for the restaurant call 01255 674809

ANNUAL EVENT HOPES AFTER CAROL CONCERT SUCCESS

More than 60 residents from Great Holland braved the cold on December 19 to belt out some Christmas carols. They gathered around a Christmas tree outside the old village Post Office, arranged by Great Holland councillor Chris Keston. It is hoped that this can become an annual event.

Deputy Mayor Jack Robertson and Reverend Mark Holdaway were on hand to thank everyone for attending.

HOW SAD THAT A FEW CAN SPOIL IT FOR THE MANY IN GREAT HOLLAND

At the request of the Great Holland Residents Association committee, and following the last meeting, I have been looking into the situation whereby a barrier had been erected to the left of the head of the footpath which goes north off of Church Lane, Great Holland and which in turn had enabled users to walk the field margin which terminated in The Close.

In an attempt to try and amicably resolve the situation I contacted Adam Brown, the farmer concerned, whereupon my efforts were somewhat hampered when someone subsequently removed the posts in question on two occasions and threw them in the hedge. Despite this Mr Brown has sent me an e-mail which I attach below and which sets out his side of the story.

Dear Mr Hughes,

'We leave the margins all around this field and the corner nearest Church Lane to naturally regenerate with minimal mowing and no spraying to create a dense habitat particularly suited to insects and ground nesting birds.

For years we have turned a blind eye to people using these areas. However, recently there has been an increase in the volume of walkers and in particular those who allow their dogs to run out of control through this habitat. It came to a point about 10 days ago when I noticed a man with a number of dogs running loose along this margin. He then proceeded to greatly cut a corner by walking across the freshly planted field. At this I decided to approach him and request he put his dogs on a lead and turn back. This particular resident was extremely rude, uncooperative and had zero respect for the land. During the 'discussion' another walker arrived who he knew well. This walker supported the first man and they both continued to walk in the opposite direction I requested and would not control their dogs. I had explained where the footpath runs and how we are pleased to see people using it.

We appreciate the current situation is not ideal, but we do need to gain control. In the past any walkers we have approached on these areas have been polite and understanding.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions from the residents.

*Kind Regards,
Adam Brown.'*

I had personally walked these margins on a very regular basis ever since moving to the village and have often thought of the fantastic privilege it is to live in such an attractive part of the country and had been able to enjoy the diverse scenery, fauna and flora throughout the seasons.

Just to emphasise the abuse of this privilege by one or two thoughtless individuals, The Close end of the walk has been marred by fly tipping and a substantial quantity of dog fouling for which there is no excuse.

I feel we should all remember that despite what we might otherwise wish the field margins in question are neither a public footpath nor a statutory right of way. Generations of Great Holland residents have enjoyed the privilege of walking these margins with the good will of the successive farmers concerned; regrettably this is yet another example of the few spoiling it for the many!

Graham Hughes.

DOG FOULING IN CHURCH LANE, RECTORY ROAD AND MANOR ROAD

As soon as the nights start to pull in the proliferation of dog fouling shows a marked increase, I guess these irresponsible dog owners think that they are less likely to be caught out in the dark.

Dog faeces stuck to car tyres or on shoes make a disgusting mess and just to emphasise the point our next door neighbour's eighteen month old granddaughter fell in a pile of dog muck outside of their house which resulted in the child having faeces stuck on her hands, face, trousers, coat and shoes. I hope the person concerned is pleased with their handiwork.

These occurrences have been reported to the Tendring District Council dog warden who will make additional routine patrols of the areas in question and has urged all residents to be vigilant and report any individual allowing dogs to foul without picking it up.

Most right minded people I am sure will consider the practise of leaving dog faeces in the road or on paths as a disgusting action; there is no excuse for not picking it up and placing it in the bins dotted around the village.

Graham Hughes



ACCIDENT SURVIVOR RAISES MONEY TO REPAY AIR AMBULANCE

Adam Brown, who runs Dairy House Farm in Great Holland was saved by air ambulance paramedics when he had a near-fatal accident with an angle grinder in 2009. He was taken to Romford Hospital to be attended by specialist surgeons.



(Courtesy of Clacton Gazette)

Luckily, Adam managed to make a full recovery and pledged to raise cash to support the air ambulance. Last year he completed the 'Three Peaks Challenge' with a group of friends and fellow farmers. They scaled Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon in 22 hours, raising £13,000 by way of sponsorship. The fundraising total was boosted to more than £17,000 following a successful charity ball held by the Tendring Hundreds Farming Club.

TENDRING DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN

In view of various objections to the proposed new Local Plan, and revaluation of the situation in light of updated technical evidence, the Council has approved a series of 'focussed changes'. These changes were published for public consultation on 6th January. The consultation exercise will end at **5 p.m. on Monday, 17th February** and any comments received after that time will not be accepted. For any residents who receive their magazine in time, the Planning Department Officers will be available at Weeley Council Offices on **Friday, 31st January between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.** to meet with residents to look at the revised plans, discuss any issues arising from the focussed changes and answer any questions.

IMPORTANT UPDATE - SLADBURY'S SOLAR FARM APPLICATION

To date, in response to the planning application, (13/01292/FUL), Tendring District Council have received around 70 objections and about 10 support comments. There was also the resubmitted opposition petition with over 100 signatories.

Thanks to all of you who submitted objections, either by commenting via the TDC website and Planning Portal, or by compiling your own letters or by sending in the suggested letter which was distributed with the last issue of the magazine. If you have not done so, it is not too late to register your opposition and I urge you to do so NOW. Opposite is a further suggestion for a general letter which you might use, or use the insert issued with the last edition of the magazine. You can also lodge your opposition via the TDC website. A little effort now could well make the difference and save the Holland Brook valley from this blighting development and our local landscapes from the consequences of the precedent that an approval would set.

On 17th January the planning office told me:-

"The application will NOT be on the agenda for the 4th February Planning Committee meeting and it looks like it will not be determined before 12th February deadline, unless it is refused."

If the planning officer's conclusion is to refuse planning permission there will be no need for it to be put to the PC.

If no decision is made by the 12th February and there has been no extension to the deadline then the applicant has the right of appeal.

If there is an extension to the determination deadline and the recommendation of the officer is to approve, then it will go to the PC. The earliest date for PC consideration would be the meeting of 4th March.

If you require any information or assistance contact me on 814790.

Eddie Forrest

Planning Services
Council Offices
Weeley
Essex
CO16 9AJ

Dear Sirs,

PLANNING APPLICATION 13/01292/FUL Sladburys Solar Farm.

I/we oppose this application for a solar farm in the valley of the Holland Brook. The Landscape Character Assessment concluded that the policy in respect of the Holland Valley System should be to *"conserve the rural, undeveloped character..... and resist the encroachment of urban or suburban development into the valley"*

Introducing such industrial development in that location is wholly inappropriate it would be visually intrusive, incapable of adequate screening and would ruin a beautiful and valued landscape and contravene planning policies intended to preserve our local landscapes. National and local planning policies, whilst supporting renewable energy projects, do not do so at any cost but seek to protect local landscape character, valued landscapes and good agricultural land. Particularly relevant are 109 & 112 of the NPPF, EN1, EN4, EN11b, EN11c, EN13a of the current Local Plan, PLA5c & PLA10 of the draft Local Plan, the Landscape Character Assessment, Natural England Technical Information Note TIN049 and The Great Holland Parish Plan & Village Design Statement,

The site is good productive agricultural land and should be retained for that purpose. 25 years given over to 46,000 PV panels cannot be regarded as temporary and a few sheep imported to graze the area cannot be regarded as a meaningful agricultural use. The applicant claims improved biodiversity but at what cost, and such change is not the purpose of the scheme. We believe it would simply change the established balance, cause considerable disruption to and displace some significant well established species.

Existing guidelines seek to place solar farms on brownfield or low grade land, which this site is not, but if good agricultural/arable land is to be used then there are better suited locations than this.

The disruption to traffic during construction would also be significant. The access is on a very dangerous corner which is hidden from East bound traffic by the hump-backed railway bridge. And it will not generate any significant local employment, and may diminish agricultural employment.

Planning policies lean toward approval of renewable energy schemes and ask planning authorities to recognise the responsibility of local communities to contribute to such "green" production. But that should not be construed as a licence to agree to schemes that do not themselves show responsibility to the community and its environment; this proposal shows no sympathy for the community or the amenity of this local landscape. Furthermore this area has already made a substantial contribution to green energy through marine and land based wind power projects.

Yours sincerely

FROM THE ARCHIVES

RE GREAT HOLLAND GARRISON

In the last issue there was an article with some pictures of soldiers etc. taken in Gt. Holland during World War 1. The soldiers were billeted in Gt. Holland from 1915; they were the 8th Essex (cyclist) Territorials and the 8th Essex Regiment.

During the same year King George V and Queen Mary visited the troops who were in trenches in the woods behind the Parish Church and Great Holland Hall. The troops were billeted mainly in the Village Hall, but those with horses stayed at the Rectory where there were stables. The row of four cottages in the Street next to the Village Hall were named 'Barrack Cottages' because of this.

The ladies in one of the photographs are probably the Green family, taken at the rear of the Manor House where they lived.

Of the other photographs (to be found on www.greatholland.com) there are various views of: All Saints Church; 'Woodcote' and cottages in Church Lane; the Village School, Rectory Cottages (now Tudor Cottages) and Martinelli's Confectionery Shop (now Ivy Cottage) in The Street (now Rectory Road); the farmyards of Gt. Holland Hall and the Manor House (Manor Farm). Larges Farm House can also be seen in one photograph and Holland Brook and Marshes appear in several.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD WAR II

Not only is this the year celebrating the Centenary of WWI, but it is also the 75th Anniversary of the start of WWII. From the end of January 1939 National service guides were distributed and preparations began for the A.R.P.s and evacuation.

At the beginning of July that year a special Committee was set up by Frinton & Walton Urban District Council and Councillor Beckwith was elected as Chairman. The Committee reported to the F.W.U.D.C. concerning the Government Evacuation Scheme. A recent survey had revealed that 2,103 unaccompanied school children and 150 teachers and helpers could be accommodated in 'willing' accommodation and that there remained 1,818 to be accommodated elsewhere, possibly compulsory, in addition to 945 persons to be accommodated by private arrangement.

The Committee recommended that certain premises in Walton, Frinton, Kirby and Gt. Holland should be earmarked for the initial reception of evacuees. In Gt. Holland the Council School and Village Hall were proposed. It was necessary to have responsible persons to control each centre and it was recommended that the headmasters and teachers of the schools in the district should be invited to undertake such work.

A circular letter was submitted from the Ministry of Health forwarding cards to be exhibited in windows of those persons willing to accept evacuees.

Problems arose regarding the Village Hall as, in emergency, it was to be used as a first aid post.

A Ministry of Health circular was also submitted dealing with the emergency provision of blankets and overlays. The first deliveries were expected within the following two weeks. Proper storage accommodation was necessary and was provided for in Frinton at the old Public Hall in Old Road.

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In the Autumn there will be a continuation: **THE ARRIVAL OF THE EVACUEES.**

Liz Bruce, Local History Recorder
January 2014

Great Holland Pits Nature Reserve:

Hibernation: Sleeping off the winter



The shortest day of the winter is past, though it is probable that we will yet see colder weather. It is a good time to watch the birds and mammals that continue to function through our winter, now that the leaves have finally dropped. Look for Gold-crests, which usually give away their presence by a weak high pitched whistle, and the Woodcocks that stay on the ground, making them notoriously difficult to spot unless flushed.

But some mammals, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates do not risk being vulnerable to predators in winter when there is little cover, and indeed little food for them. Reptiles and amphibians can't function at very cool temperatures so all of our species hibernate, though frogs can function by staying in water that effectively goes no lower than 4 degrees in the bottom layer of a pond. Some of our moths such as the Herald and the butterflies, Small Tortoiseshell, Peacock, Comma and Brimstone hibernate, often in crevices in trees, ivy clumps or sheds and dry cool buildings. A warm day can waken them; one year I saw a Peacock on January 1st.

Mammals on the other hand are warm blooded, so in order to go into hibernation their body has to go into a special state of torpor. In some animals such as Hedgehogs, hibernation occurs every winter independently of the temperature. Some species enter dormancy as a result of weather or in some cases of adversity such as drought or lack of food, but this is not the case for mammals in the UK. However, even when hibernating, animals periodically wake up for short spells of activity, and it is not clear exactly what the cause is.

I have not seen Hedgehogs at Holland Pits; has anyone observed any in their garden? They are generally more common in suburban gardens than in the wider countryside. The hibernating species we have at the reserve are Dormice and a number of types of bat; badgers and squirrels do not hibernate.

Last spring, I noticed a little woven ball of dead grass and shreds of Honeysuckle stem, lying on a heap of sand, under some loosely tangled bramble. Observing it closely it was clearly the winter nest of a Dormouse, and it was occupied. It was a very cool and prolonged spring and the nest that was close to perfectly spherical was inactive. However it did not look as though the occupant was dead. Three weeks later when it was warmer I took another look at it and this time it definitely contained a live dormouse. Anxious not to disturb it the work party and I left it fidgeting inside its woven shelter.

Bats hibernate in a variety of cool dry places. A few seasons ago on a very warm April day, the warmest there had been that spring, a friend noticed two tiny feet protruding above the hatch frame of the hide. A Brown Long Eared bat had probably warmed up rather quicker than was ideal, and it needed to get ready to fend for itself very quickly. It obliged me with a suitable pose for a photograph several times while prostrated against the outer wall of the hide.


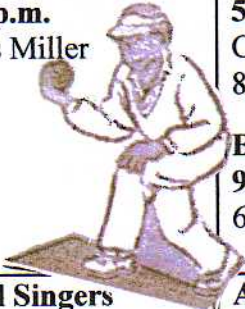





Research is going on to look at the life processes of hibernating animals. Some agents present in their blood have been used to protect the cells of organs destined for transplant in humans. At a much earlier stage of research, attempts have been made to induce a lowering of body temperature in humans without inducing hypothermia, as this ability could be useful in treatments when the nervous system needs to be protected.

Bob Seago - Warden



WHAT'S ON IN YOUR VILLAGE HALL?



Day	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Sunday			
Monday		Tendring Male Voice Choir 3.00 – 4.30 p.m. Contact: Ilze 813909 	Cardio Vascular 6.45 – 7.30 p.m. Pilates 7.30 – 8.30 p.m. Contact: Claudine 862505
Tuesday	Gentle Tai Chi with meditation 11.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. Contact: Ruth 07724 133702	Carpet Bowls 2.00 – 4.00 p.m. Contact: Les Miller 671214 	Links Karate 5.30 – 7.30 p.m. Contact: Paul Harris 830136 Badminton 9.00 – 10.30 p.m. 671300 
Wednesday		The Coastal Singers (mixed voices) 2.30 – 4.30 p.m. Contact: Ilze 813909	Aerobics 7.00 – 8.00 p.m. Contact: Claudine 862505
Thursday	Tai Chi 9.30 – 12.30 a.m. Contact: Des Exworth 679610 (additional classes are available)		Circuit Training Fitness Class 7.00 – 8.00 p.m. Contact: Paul Hammond 07932 371476
Friday			Links Karate 6.00 – 8.00 p.m. Contact: Paul Harris 830136
Saturday	 Home Made Hour 10.00 – 11.00 a.m. 1 st Saturday in the month (NOT January, February, August or October)		

Rates for hire of Village Hall

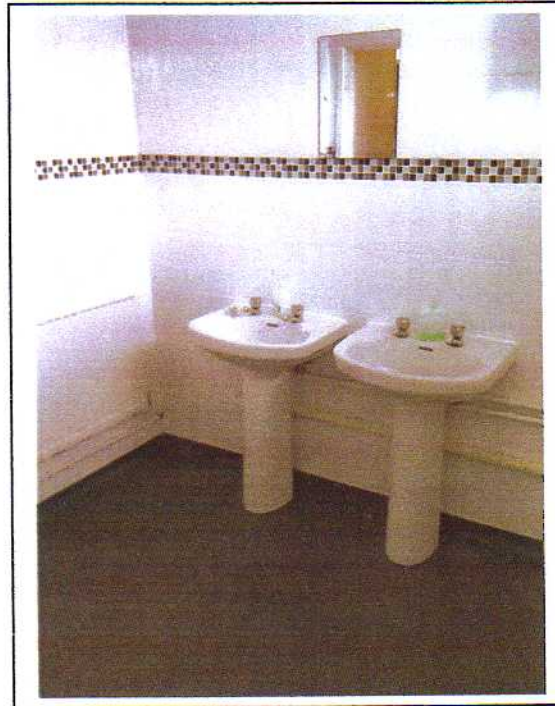
All users (regular and casual): £9 per hour. Please contact Coralie Harris on 830136 to book. (Email: coralieh@live.co.uk)

Updated March 2013

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VILLAGE HALL NEWS

As you can see from the photo below, following refurbishment the men's toilets at the Village Hall are looking all clean and fresh.



Sadly at this time we did not have enough money to do the ladies toilets as well. Therefore, we are having a fundraising event on **Saturday, 22nd February 2014** to raise money to get these done too. Please come along to our **Beetle Drive and afternoon tea between 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.** Don't worry if you have not played before as the rules are really easy and simple to follow. Please come along – it is guaranteed to be a fun and social afternoon.

Tickets cost £6 and are available from 1st February as follows:

The Ship Inn
Park Fruit Farm Tea Room
or Sandra on 672453

Look forward to seeing you there!

Sue
Chairman
Village Hall Committee

TFL LADIES MEETINGS

We welcome **everyone** to this group that usually meets on the **first** Monday of each month - although this can vary due to Bank Holidays - at the Methodist Church Hall, Frinton (corner of Ashlyn's Road/Fourth Avenue). **Meetings start at 2.30pm.**

A payment of £2.00 is required at each meeting to cover the cost of the room hire. We have a speaker who talks for about 30 minutes and then tea and homemade cakes are served. There is also a raffle.

OUR NEXT MEETINGS IN THE CHURCH HALL WILL BE:

Monday 3rd February: AGM

Monday 3rd March: Barry O'Connell will speak about 'Canine Care'.

For more details please contact **Fiona Robertson:**
01255 679006 or e-mail fiona348@btinternet.com



Friends and Neighbours of Great Holland

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday 6th March** at 2 Great Holland Court (opposite the Village Hall), at 2.00pm

Everyone is welcome for tea, a chat and to plan activities for future meetings. You can bring your knitting or sewing if you wish.

Phyllis Margetts
851118

Frinton & Walton Postcard Club

Please telephone Margaret Wilsher on 674134 for details of forthcoming events.

