





Minutes of last GHRA meeting inside!

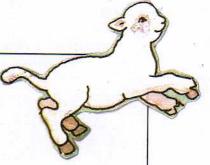
February & March 2016

70p where sold



to the February/March edition of Village Voice.

Included in this edition...



- Details of 150th Anniversary Songs of Praise Service at All Saints'
- A letter from GHRA's Chairman
- Minutes of the recent GHRA meeting
- A tribute to Phyllis Joan Hammond 'A Daughter of Great Holland'

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:

Monday 21st March Happy Easter I

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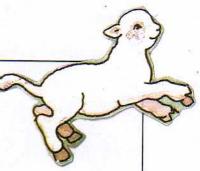
Dates for your Diary

All Saints' Church

Methodist Church

Village news & articles

Advertisements



Village Contacts and Local Information

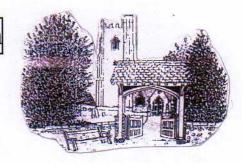
Member of Parliament	Mr Douglas Carswell MP	475384	
Residents' Association	Paul Fletcher-Tomenius (Chair)	675268	
All Saints' Church Minister	Rev. Mark Holdaway	675997	
Methodist Church Minister	Rev. Eva Walker	851179	
Great Holland	Construction of the state of th		
Village Hall Committee	Ms Sue Jenkins (Chair) Mrs C Harris (Bookings)	850317	
Frinton & Walton Town		830136	
Council (Incorporating	Mrs Myrna Liles (Town Clerk)	676666	
Frinton, Walton, Kirby and Great Holland)	Cllr. Mr Christopher Keston	850067	
Essex County Council	Cllr. Mr Michael (Mick) Page	672410	
Tendring District Council	Town Hall, Station Road, Clacton	686868	
	CO15 1SE	(Emergency/out of	
		hours: 2220220)	
	GW A4 D		
	Cllr. Mr Robert J Bucke	677495	
and the second second second	Cllr. Mr Mark A Cossens	861374	
Dog Warden	(Tendring District Council)	0845 2417253	
Cats Protection	01255 744014	DEVELOPMENT OF	
RSPCA	0300 1234 999		
Neighbourhood Watch	Please call 101 and ask to speak to Paul Teague.		
Administrator			
Crime Reduction Officer	Please call 101 and ask to speak to David Gillies.		
Crimestoppers	0800 555111		
Essex Police non emergency	101		
Essex Fire & Rescue	01376 576000		
non emergency			
Citizens Advice Bureau	0844 4770808		
Coastguard Service	01255 675518	THE SHIP IS TO	
Colchester General	01206 747474		
National Rail Enquiries	08457 484950		
Fendring Dial-a-Ride	01255 436962		
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	Opening times:	0.00	
Maltings Lane,	Winter (16th October - end of February): 9.00am- 4.00pm		
Kirby-le-Soken	Summer (1st March-15th October): 9.00a		
	Late night opening during summer no los	nger takes place.	
	The Civic Amenity Tip is closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays		
	All day closing: Christmas Day, Boxing Half-day closing: If Christmas Eve and day the recycling centre is usually open,	New Year's Eve fall on a	

Dates for your Diary ... FEBRUARY Frinton & Walton Heritage Trust Winter Lecture - Great Holland Farmer Adam Tuesday 2nd Brown on 'How Farming Life has changed over the years at Dairy House Farm': Frinton Methodist Church Hall, Fourth Avenue at 7.30pm. More details inside magazine. Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday Thursday 4th Meeting of Friends and Neighbours of Great Holland: 2 Great Holland Court (opposite Village Hall), 2.00pm. Friday 5th Street Meets by Essex Police - Come and meet your PCSOs to discuss issues/concerns you may wish to raise: Great Holland Village Hall, Manor Road, 10.00-11.00am Songs of Praise Service: All Saints' Church. Tea and cake at 4.00pm, followed by Service Sunday 7th at 4.30pm. More details inside magazine. Thursday 11th Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday Mobile Library visits Rosery Mews. Street Meets by Essex Police: Great Holland Village Hall, Manor Road, 10.00-11.00am Friday 12th Thursday 18th Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday. Friday 19th Street Meets by Essex Police: Great Holland Village Hall, Manor Road, 10.00-11.00am Kirby & Great Holland Book Club: Church Parish Room (next to All Saints' Church) Monday 22nd 10.00-11.am. More details inside magazine. Fun evening with 'The Sequence Board Game'. Free event with light refreshments: Wednesday 24th Great Holland Methodist Church, 7.00pm. More details inside magazine. Thursday 25th Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday. Mobile Library visits Rosery Mews. Friday 26th Street Meets by Essex Police: Great Holland Village Hall, Manor Road, 10.00-11.00am Great Holland Folk Club: Church Parish Room (next to All Saints' Church) 7.00-9.30pm Monday 29th Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday Thursday 3rd Meeting of Friends and Neighbours of Great Holland: 2 Great Holland Court, 2.00pm. Friday 4th Street Meets by Essex Police: Great Holland Village Hall, Manor Road, 10.00-11.00am Saturday 5th Home Made Hour: Village Hall, 10.00-11.00am Thursday 10th Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday Mobile Library visits Rosery Mews. Friday 11th Street Meets by Essex Police: Great Holland Village Hall, Manor Road, 10.00-11.00am Thursday 17th Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday Friday 18th Street Meets by Essex Police: Great Holland Village Hall, Manor Road, 10.00-11.00am Fun evening - 'Call my Bluff' (or True or False?). Free event with light refreshments: Great Holland Methodist Church, 7.00pm. More details inside magazine. Thursday 24th Coffee Morning: Methodist Church, 10.30am-12.00 midday Mobile Library visits Rosery Mews. Street Meets by Essex Police: Great Holland Village Hall, Manor Road, 10.00-11.00am Friday 25th Monday 28th Kirby & Great Holland Book Club: Church Parish Room (next to All Saints' Church) 10.00-11.am. More details inside magazine.

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.

Great Holland Folk Club: Church Parish Room (next to All Saints' Church) 7.00-9.30pm

All Saints' Church



Rector's article ...

First of all, a welcome and an invite

I recently heard a radio discussion on whether England should have its own national anthem. There's God Save the Queen for Britain, while the other home nations have their own as well.

One suggestion was "Jerusalem", which people seemed pretty keen on, but only because they liked the tune.

I wonder what your favourite is?

I like a good tune and love good words, but also I enjoy the story behind the hymns.

Let me briefly tell you the story behind "What a Friend we have in Jesus."

Irish born Joseph M. Scriven was 25 years old, in love and to be married. The day before his wedding his fiance died in a tragic drowning accident. Heartbroken, Joseph sailed from his homeland to start a new life in Canada. While in Canada working as a teacher, he fell in love again and became engaged to Eliza Roche, a relative of one of his students. Once again, Joseph's hopes and dreams were shattered when Eliza became ill and died before the wedding could take place.

Around the same time that Eliza died, Joseph received word from Ireland that his mother was ill. He could not go to be with her, so he wrote a letter of comfort and enclosed one of his poems entitled What a Friend We Have in Jesus.

A man familiar with sorrows was able to find comfort himself and send comfort to others because he was a Christian and knew Jesus as his friend. He wrote:

What a Friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!

O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear, All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere? We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer. Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share? Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care? Precious Saviour, still our refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer. Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer! In His arms He'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.



Blessed Saviour, Thou hast promised Thou wilt all our burdens bear May we ever, Lord, be bringing all to Thee in earnest prayer. Soon in glory bright unclouded there will be no need for prayer Rapture, praise and endless worship will be our sweet portion there.

Whenever you read this, I hope you'll find the story interesting. <u>If you read it before Sunday 7th February then can we invite you to our Songs of Praise at All Saints. Come and sing our favourite hymns. If you'd like to send in a request for a hymn before, please do. There's tea and cake at 4.00pm and a 4.30pm start.</u>

Mark







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



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



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Our next Home Made Hour will take place on **Saturday 5th March** from 10.00-11.00am in the Village Hall. Please join us for tea, coffee, friendly company, and the sale of home made cakes, jam, marmalade, trifles, savouries, scones etc and occasional plants/garden produce. Refreshments are available and we also have a raffle.

Our friendly Home made Hours help to raise funds for All Saints' Church. THANK YOU to everyone who supports these events, 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.



From All Saints' Diary - FEBRUARY:

Wednesday	3^{rd}	rd 2.00pm Friendship & Interest Group at St Michael's Church Hall			
Sunday	$7^{\rm th}$		NO MORNING SERVICE but		
			150th Anniversary Songs of Praise.		
			Tea and cakes at 4.00pm, start at 4.30pm.		
Wednesday	10 th	11.00am	All Saints' Bible Group in the Parish Room		
Sunday	14 th	8.00am	Joint Holy Communion with our friends from St Michael's		
		11.00am	Morning Worship		
Wednesday	17^{th}	2.00pm	Friendship & Interest Group at St Michael's Church Hall		
Thursday	18 th	1.00pm	Parish Lunch at St Michael's Church Hall		
Sunday	21st	11.00am	Holy Communion		
Tuesday	23^{rd}	2.15pm	TeaPot at the Baker Hall		
Wednesday	24 th	11am	Lent Course in the Parish Room		
Sunday	28 th	11.00am	Morning Worship		

From All Saints' Diary - MARCH:

Wednesday	2"	10.15-11.00	Lent Course in the Parish Room
		2.00pm	Friendship and Interest Group in St Michael's Church Hall
Saturday	5 th	10.00am	HOME MADE HOUR in the Village Hall
MOTHERIN	NG SU	NDAY	
	6 th	8.00am	Joint Holy Communion with our friends from St Michael's
		11.00am	Mothering Sunday Service with the Sunday School
Wednesday	9 th	11.00am	Lent Course in the Parish Room
Sunday	13 th	11.00am	Morning Worship
Wednesday	16 th	11.00am	Lent Course in the Parish Room
Canadaaj		2.00pm	Friendship and Interest Group in St Michael's Church Hall

PALM SUNDAY

Thursday

20th 11.00am Morning Worship
 Tuesday 22nd 2.15pm TeaPot at the Baker Hall

1.00pm

EASTER SUNDAY (Clocks go forward)

 17^{th}

27th 11.00am

All-Age Holy Communion

Parish Lunch at St Michael's Church Hall

FUNERALS:

Our prayers and thoughts go with the family and friends of:

Percival Flaxman (91) Greenway, Frinton-on-Sea All Saints and Weeley Crematorium

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, Vanessa Giles, Ilze Robertson, Graham Hughes and Ann Peters

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)

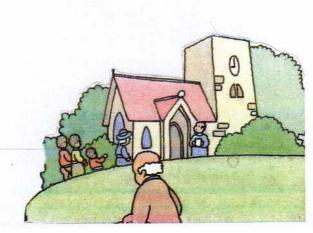
SIDESPERSONS: Rose Batten, Don Osler and Sheila Watts

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

The Parish Room - All Saints' Great Holland ...

... situated next to All Saints' Church in Church Lane, 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 microwave, 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.



TRIP TO SOUTH AFRICA

In 2010 when the LionsRaw SA Charity looked at leaving a legacy in South Africa, they came across a school in Inchanga and were told that some of the children had to walk 10 miles to get to school in the morning. About 5 children a year were being killed as they walked along the dangerous roads (no pavements). LionsRaw decided to build a primary school which would stop the children having to walk such a long distance, hence the Steve Davidson school was built. This started with 50 children a day in 2010. There are now 412 attending and there was the clear need for more classrooms to be built. This was where the trip in 2015 came in.

On 17th October 2015 I left the cool weather of the UK for the warmer climes of South Africa. As you will be aware many of you helped us raise money through a balloon race at our Village Fete, to help the charity LionsRaw build further classrooms for the children at the Steve Davidson Primary school in the Valley of a Thousand Hills.

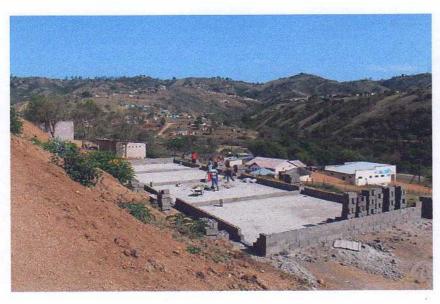
We arrived in Durban late on Sunday evening and there was just time for a quick briefing before we headed off for something to eat and then bed.

Our days started at 7am, due to the 45 minute drive to the site and it is much cooler at the beginning of the day.

When we arrived on site, the children were already in their lessons as they start school at 7am. As I was not one of the people helping on the build I spent a lot of time with the children, reading and teaching first aid.

I was very impressed with the children's keenness for knowledge, the majority of whom spoke good English. Some children from school in Worksop had written about their lives and their school.

Some Steve Davidson school children were asked to write about their lives and school day. It was harrowing to read some of the children's stories and one in particular will always remain with me. Her mother, father and Grandfather had died; she lived with her Grandmother and sister. Her sister was at a school in Inchanga, and her Grandmother was sick a lot of the time. She always had such a bright smile and talked about how much she loved her family and her teacher as they had helped her through some tough times. My last memory of the school was the Classroom nearly finished and the kids all singing and dancing a traditional song as a big thank you to all the helpers. To be fair some of the girls would give the X factor a run for their money, beautiful.



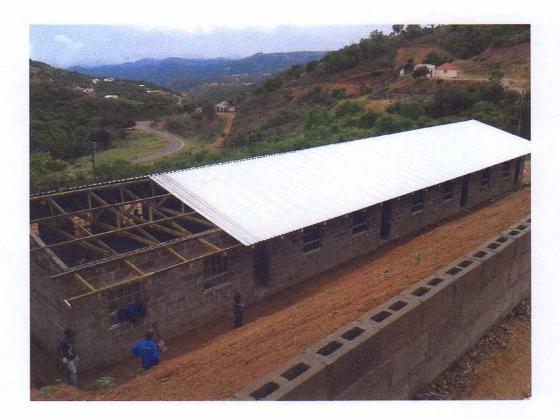
Day 1 - Steve Davidson Primary School, New Classrooms to be built.

School children - 451 daily.

Feeding programme, twice a day.

All children supplied with Toothbrush & Toothpaste.

Below is a picture of the classrooms as of last week. They are hoping to move into them in the next couple of weeks.



Whilst we were in the Valley we also had the opportunity to help at a small Orphanage by painting the outside of their home. It was lovely to see some of the older children wanting to help and I am not sure which had more paint on them at the end the building or the children but it was great fun.

We also had a chance to help at the White House community home. This is run by Precious and Russell. They had opened their home to help older members of their community with medical care. Needless to say the health care within South Africa is good in the main towns but the rural areas seemed very neglected and people were left to fend for themselves. LionsRaw were so impressed with Russell and Precious commitments they built a specific building which they could use as a ward rather than everyone crammed into their small home.

We spent two lovely evenings there. Last year they had been lucky to have local charity build ward. The guys all helped with the hard of work moving the beds, while the girls grabbed the paint brushes.

My Goddaughter and I finished the trip off with a few days in Dubai on the way back - it was lovely to have a lay-in.

Thanks to everyone who supported me and the charity. The girls' dresses we took out were very well received and once handed out the children did not want to put their uniforms back on.

Thanks again,

SUE JENKINS

Great Holland Methodist Church



What are you thirsty for?

As we start our journey of Lent towards Easter, I hope we find ourselves in a place where the hunger and thirst of our souls and the heart of God meet.

There is this story my friends, of a woman that comes to the well at midday to draw water.

There is a story of a woman that is thirsty, but is also ashamed. A woman that deems herself not worthy of others' acceptance, or love, or fellowship.

A woman that recognises her need for water, but fulfils it in an uncomfortable manner, by going out in midday.

What would a thirsty person avoid? Walking under the hot, beating sun. And yet, that is exactly what she does, because the fear of facing her shame, of being rejected, is greater than the fear of walking in the heat of the day, thirsty as she is.

And in this uncomfortable place, this place of fear, she meets Jesus who offers to quench a thirst that she didn't even know existed.

He comes to her and offers her fellowship, when she has tried to avoid it.

He offers her love, when she thinks she is not worthy of love.

He offers her something impossible, offering to satisfy her needs at this well without a bucket.

I wonder if we can be the woman at the well. I wonder if there are places in our lives, where we feel embarrassed, or uncomfortable?

I wonder if we have midday wells in our lives?

And if we do, maybe at this Lent time, we might find some courage to allow Jesus to come to those places.

And as we stop for a moment, as we are brave enough to be near Jesus, instead of saying: 'I don't have time' or 'My life is too complicated' or 'I don't know how to find you in this mess' we might find the strength and the peace to say: 'I have time, I will stop and listen'.

And we might be surprised to find that Jesus is bigger than our complicated life, he is there with us, in the mess, in the dirt, and he has never let us go.

George Herbert put this beautifully, as he wrote:

Love bade me welcome: yet my soul drew back. Guilty of dust and sin.
But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack
From my first entrance in,
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning
If I lacked anything.

"A guest," I answer'd, "worthy to be here:"
Love said, "You shall be he."
"I the unkind, ungrateful? Ah, my dear,
I cannot look on thee."
Love took my hand, and smiling did reply,
"Who made the eyes but I?"

"Truth Lord, but I have marred them: let my shame Go where it doth deserve."

"And know you not," says Love, "who bore the blame?"

"My dear, then I will serve."

"You must sit down," says Love, "and taste my meat:"

So I did sit and eat.

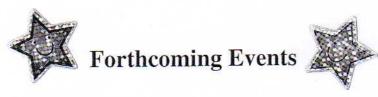
May we find our thirst quenched this Lent and Easter time, and may we know love like we have never known before!

God's blessings,

Rev. Eva Walker

Thank You to all those who supported the "All things Christmas" concert on 22 December. The Church was full for the lovely evening which was organised by Mrs Sally Vincent and led by Rev. Eva Walker.

Thanks must go to 'St. Phils School Choir' and 'St. Phil's Connexion' who sang so beautifully – it was a really enjoyable evening. The generosity of the congregation enabled us to send a donation of £80.00 to the children's cancer charity CLIC Sargent.



Friday 29th January: 7.00 pm

There are still a few tickets available for the BARN DANCE and Bring & Share Meal. Cost £5.00.

Wednesday 24th February: 7.00pm

Please join us for a FUN EVENING and play 'The Sequence Board Game'. FREE EVENT with light refreshments.

Friday 18th March: 7.00pm

Please join our FUN EVENING and play 'Call my Bluff' (or True or False?). FREE EVENT with light refreshments.

WEEKLY COFFEE MORNINGS

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 friendly company. We also have donated goods and hand made cards for sale.



GREAT HOLLAND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Chairman: Paul Fletcher-Tomenius Vice-Chairman: Robert Caines

Treasurer: Denys & Lindy Strich Secretary: Louise Goodwin & Hazel Martin:

Planning Officers: John Poulton, Tom Sandy & Eddie Forrest

Dear Friends,

The application to build a house in the front garden of The Cottage in Church Lane was approved by the Planning Committee. Of course, we have to accept the outcome, but there are some details of the process that you all need to know.

There were many objections lodged by local residents and there was a unanimous decision of Frinton & Walton Town Council to recommend refusal. Councillor Robert Bucke and I addressed the meeting on the reasons for objection. As always with this process, not all the public objections were elaborated or expressed in the 'correct' language of the planners. So let us accept the reality for a moment that you will not be listened to if you fail to express yourself in the language approved by the professionals! This should not be the case, of course, because it kills any democratic process if the 'professionals' decide whose views to take into account. However, in this case, a number of the objections were indeed framed in 'appropriate professional terms' by a number of local residents who are former professionals involved in the planning process for many years. So, naturally the politicians and the professionals duly ignored protests from the ignorant public and just took note of the articulate ones, didn't they?

Oh no they didn't!

The planning officers made no mention of the objections at all in their report to the planning committee. They just recommended approval. Our local representatives, the politicians on the planning committee did not discuss the objections of their community either, but just voted **UNANIMOUSLY** in favour.

Was I dreaming? Was I there? Well, I hoped I was dreaming, but the owner of one of the neighbouring properties was sitting next to me and assures me absolutely that this is what happened!

Let me make it clear that I know we lose fights sometimes and just have to live with it. The problem with democracy has always been that sometimes you lose and I think we all prefer that to the alternative. But what do you think about politicians only recently elected and professional planners who serve and are paid by the community who feel confident enough to be so utterly, brazenly arrogant as to just ignore local opinion.

Why did the planners feel no need to make mention of the objections?

Why did the Planning Committee feel no need to ask why our objections received no comment? Why did not a single member feel the need to discuss even a single one of the objections? If you can think of an explanation other than brazen arrogance, I would be relieved to hear it.

I must repeat to you that I am not discussing here the merits of the decision. The planners and the politicians disagreed with our view and that is their prerogative. Their prerogative does not extend this far, however. All of them have claimed repeatedly that they respect localism. That does not mean that the loudest shouts win the day, but surely it means that all the shouts, the loud ones and the whispers of the shy, are shown respect? No respect, not even basic politeness was shown.

There are other applications pending that involve identical issues, building outside the settlement boundary (some people call it the village envelope), building in the Great Holland Conservation Area and building on back land (creating new buildings behind an existing row and intruding on established privacy). The planning officers here dismissed the first issue by just stating that the new building would be "adjacent" to the boundary! So, of course, will the next application after this one is built! They dismissed/ignored the Conservation Area by just stating that the new house will be "well screened"! So, they think that screening is the only issue! Such an area is established, of course, to retain its essential character and screening is a minor issue. The back land issue was totally ignored.

This means that the three principles of planning that underpin the character of Great Holland and are incorporated also in the Village Design Statement, approved by Tendring District Council, will simply be ignored if planners consider them inconvenient. These are proper, central planning principles. Yet, the Planning Committee and the planning officers feel no obligation whatever to treat them seriously.

It appears we have lost, ladies and gentlemen, not because we have failed to fight or because our views have been incompetently or inadequately expressed, but because we have been treated with arrogance and disrespect bordering on contempt.

More encouraging is the pace of renovation works by the new owners of The Ship. They hope to re-open by Easter. We wish them well.

Finally, please will someone volunteer for Secretary at the AGM? Our existing ones are unable to continue. You will not just be left to get on with it and it is not difficult or burdensome. Please help.

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Paul Fletcher-Tomenius

Chairman GHRA



GREAT HOLLAND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES of the MEETING on

SATURDAY 16th January 2016 at 10.30am in the Village Hall

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Wendy and Jim Drake, David Martin, Birgitta Fletcher-Tomenius, Chris Keston, David Bavister, Mrs Hosking, Judith Little and David Masters.

2. Minutes of the Meeting of 3rd October 2015

These had been published in the Village Voice magazine and were accepted as a true record.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

4. PCSO Report

PCSO Michele Diss again kindly attended, to report on matters which had been brought to the PCSOs' attention since the last meeting. Thankfully there was not a lot to mention.

On 3rd October 2015 a motor vehicle was stolen from Kirby Road. The vehicle was recovered and seized for forensic examination. No update as yet.

In October there was criminal damage to the street name plate in Hamilton Road, which had been removed and cut in half.

On October 18th Travellers set up an unauthorised encampment on the Marshes. This was the same group which regularly appears in Clacton.

On 17^{th} November Pork Lane was blocked by a fallen tree. Highways attended and removed the obstruction.

On 28th November it was reported that eggs had been thrown at a car in Rectory Road. No one was caught.

On 30th November there was an RTA in Little Clacton Road. The car lost control and ended up in a ditch, but there were no injuries.

Also on 30th November, a confused elderly male was reported as having knocked on a door in Little Clacton Road; he was later found to have gone missing from a Clacton Care Home.

On 3rd December a car was reported as having pulled into the driveway of Hodgnells Farm, the driver of which purported to be lost and looking for the A12!

On 19th December there was an attempted theft from a milk float at 2am in the morning, but nothing was stolen.

Lastly, on 6 January 2016 there was a non-injury RTA in Kirby Road.

A member also mentioned to PCSO Diss that there are unlit Crossing Island signs at the junction of Halstead Road and Frinton Road, plus another in Elmtree Avenue, that are a serious danger to motor vehicles, especially at night. Despite these being reported, nothing had been done to date. PCSO Diss will email the Highways Department in an attempt to get these repaired.

A resident also mentioned the serious state of potholes in Pork Lane, where a number of cars have been damaged and horses injured because the potholes are so deep. Also, the signage stating the height of the railway line has been knocked down and not repaired or replaced. Councillor Bucke will contact the Highways Department in the hope that they will repair them as soon as possible. Councillor Bucke also stated that despite his repeated requests for signage, potholes, etc, to be repaired, he is being ignored by the Council and has been asked by them not to write regarding such matters. A resident suggested that we as an Association should invite our County Councillor along to our next meeting to answer questions regarding these matters, and why they are not being responded to. It was noted that the Association would invite the County Councillor along to our meeting in May.

5. Planning Report

Ray Enever, Chairman of Kirby Residents Association, attended the meeting to update us on the pending Planning Inquiry regarding the proposal to build 240 houses off Halstead Road, and on the additional 220 plus houses that may also come up for development in other areas of Kirby Cross. The inquiry has only been called because of the number of objections to the Halstead Road development by local people. Ray has asked for Great Holland residents' assistance in objecting to the proposals when they go to inquiry, which may be as soon as the end of March this year. Ray stated that he needs additional evidence to support the objections already lodged; he especially needs evidence from local residents who have not been able to get their child into a local school due to lack of available places, especially Kirby Primary and Hamford Primary Schools. The developer is claiming that there is space available within these schools for children of any new residents of this development. Ray is also looking for residents of areas other than Kirby Cross to speak to the Inspector when he visits, to put forward their objections personally.

Kirby Residents Association would welcome letters of objection to the development from residents of Great Holland, Kirby le Soken, Frinton, Walton and Holland on Sea, lodging their objections to the massive amount of building which would result in Kirby Cross joining up with Kirby le Soken and the green gap between the two totally disappearing. Letters should be written to the Planning Inspector in Bristol; however, since the address of the Inspector was not available at the meeting Ray said they could be sent to him or via Hazel Martin or Louise Goodwin, who will ensure that they get sent on to the correct department. Points to raise within such letters are:

- a) What infrastructure will be put in place to support such a massive amount of building? New houses have been built in Kirby for years – Bemerton Gardens, Woburn Avenue, Buckfast Avenue and also Freituna Estate, which stretches almost to Kirby le Soken now. Kirby cannot sustain any more building on this scale, and lack of infrastructure is a paramount argument against it.
- b) Habitat assessments have not been carried out: no one knows the extent of the wildlife such development will destroy without such surveys being undertaken.
- c) A major worry is also that the developer is proposing that traffic lights should be installed at the junction of Holland Road, Thorpe Road and Frinton Road. Anyone who knows this area will be only too aware of the chaos that this would cause, not only in the summer months but at all times of the year.
- d) No one seems to have thought about the effects such development will have on the area of natural outstanding beauty known as Hamford Water, and drainage systems, surface water, highways and increased traffic can only have a detrimental effect on such an area.

At the moment there is no date or venue for the enquiry; however, as stated earlier, it is expected to be quite soon, perhaps as early as March 2016. It was noted that objections can also be lodged via the TDC website, where there is a direct link to the Planning Inspector's department in Bristol.

The second matter of concern is the approval of outline planning permission to build in the front garden of The Cottage, Church Lane, Great Holland. The major reason for concern here is the way in which permission was granted: there were many objections lodged against this development, all setting out valid planning reasons for rejection of the proposal. The decision for approval was made by the full Planning Committee (as GHRA had called for it to be decided by Committee rather than by the Planning Officer alone), and the Planning Officer's report recommended acceptance but made no mention of the objections, or to the nature of the objections, received against the development, just as he had made no mention of the many objections received regarding the Halstead Road development when it came before Committee. The Planning Committee and Officers passed the proposal without any reference to the objections lodged.

The Chairman suggested that we as an Association pass a formal resolution regarding this matter, in an attempt to change the Planning Committee's approach to planning objections and register our view that such objections should not be ignored. A resident stated that it should be a Planning Committee Member's duty to read such objections before making any planning decision. The other major concern regarding the passing of this application is that it was rejected by Frinton and Walton Town Council; however, this fact was not discussed at the Planning meeting either.

The Chairman proposed that we as an Association pass the resolution and send a copy individually to all members of the Planning Committee plus other higher ranking officers. The resolution was seconded by Denys Strich and was passed unanimously by the members present at the meeting.

6. Treasurer's Report

Prior to the meeting the balance in the bank account stood at £2,772.00, and there was a cash float held of £97.00. At the end of last year membership stood at a total of 108 households; however now, at the start of the New Year, with membership due for renewal at the meeting, membership stood at 55 households, 15 of which had paid by standing order. Membership fees will be collected again at the AGM, on 14th May 2016. Should anyone wish to set up a standing order they can do so by contacting Denys Strich at The Warren, Church Lane.

7. The Ship Inn (The Manor)

The Chairman had asked the owners of The Manor to address the Meeting but they were unable to attend. However, a message was received saying that renovations were going ahead quickly and that Olivia and her husband, who will run the pub, hope to move into the Manor shortly. There is no firm opening date as yet but it was hoped that the pub will reopen in March or at least by Easter.

A member questioned why the pub had been renamed. The owners felt that a change of name was needed because of several other pubs named The Ship in the area, and also, in effect, that their business model required a change of image.

8. Pork Lane Parking

Sandra Mooney mentioned that cars parking in Pork Lane very close to the junction with the main road pose real problems for people turning into the lane, and also for residents at the end of the Lane trying to turn into their own driveways. The Chairman asked the PCSO whether this was an issue which could be looked into by the police. It was believed that the law was that there should be no parking within 10 yards of a junction. Cllr Bucke mentioned that cars are being sold from premises opposite the Pork Lane junction, and could be the reason for people parking so close to the junction whilst they inspect cars; he is looking into this matter at present.

9. Date. Time and Venue of next Meeting

The next meeting of the Great Holland Residents Association will be the Annual General Meeting, which will be held on Saturday 14th May 2016 at 10.30am in the Village Hall.

10. Any Other Business

A. Tendring Residents Lobby Group (TRLG).

Linda O'Reilly spoke about the TRLG, which is an organisation set up with Ray Enever's support for Residents Associations in the area to come together as one group, as issues affecting one village can affect all the others in the area - e.g. planning issues which can lead to increased volume of traffic area wide. It was set up so that representatives from each Residents Association could meet and let other groups know what is happening in their own area and find out what is happening in other areas. Originally Douglas Carswell, the local MP, was involved, but he dropped out as he felt it should not be a politically led group. TRLG is presently led by Alan Eldred from Frinton Residents Association, who is extremely effective, and Linda has been the GHRA representative on this group; however, she is no longer able to continue to represent GHRA as the meetings are now going to be on the third Wednesday of the month, in the evening, when she has other commitments. Linda asked if anyone would be willing to take over as GHRA representative (or perhaps two people to share the position). The meetings are held at the Yacht Club in Mill Lane, Walton on the Naze. Linda has a list of the dates of future meetings and minutes of past meetings, if anyone is interested in taking her place. There were no volunteers, but Ray Enever said he would keep GHRA informed of what went on at meetings if nobody stepped forward. The appeal for a volunteer will be mentioned in The Village Voice magazine, which will be printed and distributed shortly and will reach everyone in the village, but if no one comes forward then we will take up Ray Enever's kind offer. The Chairman made a heartfelt appeal for someone to consider taking up this role.

B. The Queen's 90th Birthday

Sue Jenkins mentioned that it is hoped to arrange an afternoon tea in the Village Hall to mark the Queen's 90^{th} birthday; this will take place on either the 4^{th} or 5^{th} of June. It is hoped to put together a Committee to help organise this, and if anyone is interested in helping then please can they let either Sue or Sandra Mooney know.

C. Position of Secretary

The Chairman informed the Meeting that the position of Secretary to the Association will become vacant at the AGM, as Louise Goodwin and Hazel Martin are relinquishing the joint position as from that Meeting, and appealed for a volunteer to take up this post (or two volunteers to share the post as has been done for the past two years). The Chairman pointed out the difficulties of continuing with the Residents Association without a Secretary.

11. Vote of thanks for providers of the Raffle Prizes.

Hazel Martin gave a vote of thanks to Louise Goodwin for organising and running the raffle at each GHRA Meeting and also for providing raffle prizes. Donations of raffle prizes are always welcome from members and the money raised contributes to GHRA funds.

The Meeting closed at 11.45 am.



MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

A Date for your Diary - Sunday, 12 June

Come and celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday by joining in an afternoon tea at the Village Hall. Further details will be given in the next edition of the Village Voice. (If you would like to help on the day (or even better perhaps "bake a cake") please get in touch with Sandra on 672453.

The Manor (formerly the Ship)

As anyone passing by The Manor will appreciate things are rather hectic at the moment. Work is taking longer than expected due to some unforeseen issues that have come to light.

Jonathan, Olivia and Edward will be moving into the premises this month and would take this opportunity of apologising for all the coming and going.

(Glass Recycling - has been moved to make it easier for everyone to get to.)

Local Plan

New moves are being introduced in a bid to help Tendring residents get the answers they need regarding the District's Local Plan. The public are to be allowed to ask questions of TDCs Local Plan Committee at meetings for the first time.

Neil Stock, Leader of TDC and Cabinet Member for Planning advised that every effort is being made to give residents and others, such as developers, the chance to be more involved in the process. Individuals will be required to put their questions in writing three days before the meeting is held so that the Committee can provide full and researched answers. Residents will still be able to make statements concerning the content of the agenda on the night and will have three minutes to do so. A set time of 45 minutes is also being brought in for public speaking at the start of the meeting.

Future Local Plan meetings are also being moved from Clacton to Weeley

Obituary for Mrs Phyllis Joan Hammond 'A Daughter of Great Holland'

Mrs Joan Hammond died on 14 December 2015. She was 97 years old, having been born on 14 August 1918. Her father, mother and an uncle owned and ran the Great Holland Iron Foundry, founded by her grandfather in the 1850s, in Manor Road, opposite the Public Hall. Much has been written about the 'Ratcliffe Family' and the Forge in past 'Village Voice' newsletters and Joan contributed articles herself.

The Ratcliffes were famous for designing and developing a lawn mower and one of these can be seen at the Frinton & Walton Heritage Trust's *Crossing Cottage Museum*. Joan's other uncles, Telford and Claude, owned and ran *Ratcliffe's Garage* in Connaught Avenue, Frinton, from 1898, and were early dealers in bicycles and then cars from 1906, whilst their wives Norma and Barbara ran *The Esplanade Hotel* from about 1925 until the Second World War. The hotel was demolished in the late Sixties so that the three blocks of flats, *Frinton Court*, could be built on the site at the bottom of Connaught Avenue next to the old Parish Church.

Ratcliffe's Garage was large enough to garage the cars of visitors to the town with up to 50 garages at the rear of the property, backing onto Old Parsonage Way. Joan married during the Second World War and her husband, Ted Hammond, took over the garage business when the Ratcliffe brothers retired. Most of us can remember Hammond's Garage which was in competition with at least three other garage businesses in the town and others in the towns and villages around. After her husband died quite young, her son Richard Hammond took over running the business with his mother, who was a hard-working and astute business woman. Eventually the garage site was sold and Hammond Court flats complex was built there.

Joan lived a very full life and was an active member of many local organisations including the Inner Wheel, the Frinton & Walton Postcard Club, and Frinton & Walton Heritage Trust. She was well known for filming her experiences and local activities on her cine camera and she especially enjoyed sailing. She was often seen around Frinton 'whizzing' about on her mobile buggy. In the last couple of years she even went on an Architectural Walk of the Frinton Edwardian Avenues for Trust Members in her buggy, driving between the various houses. Joan was still regularly 'Skyping' her daughter, Verity, in Australia and managed her computer very well and was always interested in all the activities of her grandchildren and great grandchildren. More recently her decreasing health was a great burden to her as she liked to be so independent and active and Richard was looking after her during the last months.

Joan's daughter, Verity, returned from Western Australia for the funeral on 29 December 2015 at Weeley Crematorium, to join her brother, Richard, and many family members and friends.

Joan was a fount of local knowledge and enjoyed talking to researchers about the businesses and people of the area. She will be sorely missed as a friend and acquaintance to many as one of the last matriarchs of old Frinton and Great Holland.

John Barter



WHAT'S ON IN YOUR VILLAGE HALL?

Day	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Sunday	1 (6)		4
Monday		Tendring Male Voice	Cardio Vascular
M 3		Choir	6.45-7.30pm
7	STEP	3.00-4.30pm	
A	To Vol	Contact: Ilze	Pilates
	78/11	813909	7.30-8.30pm
	E 1		Contact: Claudine
	109	mas	862505
Tuesday	Fantari Dance and	Carpet Bowls	Links Karate
	Fitness	2.00-4.00pm	5.30-7.30pm
	9.30-10.30am	Contact: Les Miller	Contact: Paul Harris
	Contact: Sarah-Jane	671214	830136
	688740		
			Badminton
			9.00-10.30pm
	Gentle Tai Chi with		671300
	meditation		
	11.00am-12.30pm		
	Contact: Ruth		
	07724 133702		
Wednesday		The Coastal Singers	Aerobics
		(mixed voices)	7.00-8.00pm
		2.30-4.30pm	Contact: Claudine
- 7		Contact: Ilze	862505
		813909	
Thursday	Tai Chi	12:3	Belly Dancing
and the state of t	9.30am-12.30pm		7.00-8.00pm
	Contact: Des Exworth		Contact: Almeira
	679610	Q 3 1 1 1 1 3 5	Carmichael
	(additional classes are	1000	07900 241630 /
	available)		01255 678297
Friday	Beginners Tap	100	Links Karate
	11.15am-12.15pm		6.00-8.00pm
	Contact: Ester Altin		Contact: Paul Harris
	07785 728920		830136
HW 1	Signal Cartinuan Control	We C	
Saturday	Home Made Hour	No.	
	10.00-11.00am	12.11	
FA	1st Saturday of the month		and the same of th
58/11	(NOT January, February,		
	August or October)		
	August of October)		COLUMN TO THE PARTY OF THE PART

£10 per hour. Please contact Coralie Harris on 830136 to book. (Email: coralieh@live.co.uk)

Updated January 2015

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Neither the Rector, Church Wardens, Parochial Church Council nor the Editors take responsibility for the information given in, or views expressed in, the "Great Holland Village Voice". Nor is any culpability accepted for work done by advertisers.



Friday 8th January saw a new beginning for Tendring District U3A when the first monthly meeting of the Frinton, Walton and District satellite group met in the McGrigor Hall, Frinton, with over 53 members enjoying a talk entitled Latin Connections by Janet Wheatley.

The Tendring District University of the Third Age has been in existence now for just over 20 years, providing a programme of monthly speaker meetings, regular interest and activity groups as well as the occasional social events. Its aim is to provide informal learning and social contact for those people who are either retired or no longer in full time employment.

The recently formed satellite group, covering the area Great Holland, Kirby, Thorpe, Frinton and Walton, provides further opportunities for members to attend the monthly speaker meetings and take part in local study groups.

Details about Tendring U3A may be found on our website, www.u3asites.org.uk/tendring

Brian Stephens (Chairman)

U3A Table Tennis

A new group is starting in Walton, at the Red Triangle (YMCA Hall).

We shall meet on a Tuesday for a session of two hours. There will be a morning session from 10.00am-12midday and, on alternate weeks, an afternoon session from 2.00-4.00pm. All equipment will be provided. Players should wear non slip shoes such as trainers.

The weekly cost is £1.50 per person paid at each session.

Members also need to join the U3A in order to participate each week but anyone is welcome to attend a session to see if it suits them before becoming a U3A member.

For any further information please contact:-

Wendy Armstrong on 01255 317806 or email: armssuff@talktalk.net

Frinton & Walton Heritage Trust

On Tuesday 2nd February Great Holland Farmer Adam Brown will be talking about '*How Farming Life has changed over the years at Dairy House Farm*'. <u>Venue</u>: Frinton Methodist Church Hall, Fourth Avenue at 7.30pm. Admission is £2 members, £3 non-members.

The Wildwood of my Imagination

by Ben Eagle



This article came about as a result of a walk, just after Christmas, at Weeleyhall Wood near Weeley. If you haven't already done so I encourage you to explore our local Essex Wildlife Trust reserves and discover more about our local wildlife – despite increasing pressure for development we are lucky to still have many areas that are rich in diversity and, whilst they may not be as remote as the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, the forests of the Welsh borderlands, the moors of northern England or even the marshes of south east Essex they all have special features that we should cherish.

27th December 2015

This afternoon I went for a walk at Weeleyhall wood, an eighty seven acre ancient woodland in north Essex, owned by Essex Wildlife Trust. It was quiet and peaceful, apart from the odd rumble from a car on the road about four hundred metres to the south. For a Sunday afternoon I met remarkably few other walkers. In fact a solitary dog walker was the only other person I came across in an hour and a half of walking. Although the woodland receives most of its visitors in the spring, who come to experience the carpets of bluebells and yellow archangel, it is a place of majesty throughout the year where the imagination can run wild and the subtleties of this special environment can be appreciated.

Most of the trees are Oaks but there are also areas of Hazel and Sweet Chestnut coppice, Alder glades and an area of Scots and Corsican Pine. Some Birch and Field Maple can also be found. Paths meander through the woodland, leading the walker gently on and tempting us to escape our own reality in to its woody throngs. Today I was able to achieve this and empty my mind of the day to day. Not even the birds interrupted my wanderings (to my disappointment). The essence of winter hung over me and both the woodland and I were transported to a moment where time itself didn't seem to matter. Circa 4500BC this part of the world would have formed part of the great Lime wildwood, interjected by sections of Hazel, Oak and Elm. Even though the species may have changed, my mind was still able to retreat to the wildwood of my imagination.

I have recently been rereading Oliver Rackham's *History of the Countryside* and in my efforts to understand past landscapes I am increasingly relying on clues within ancient landscapes to decipher past events. Historic landscapes are like a foreign country and in order to understand them one so often one has to imagine oneself as being part of that landscape. Today's visit to Weeley was a lesson in Rackham's practice.

For a few minutes I left the relative structural safety of the path to immerse myself in the wildwood and tried to imagine how this part of the world might look if in years to come the agricultural landscape were to revert to woodland. It is always enjoyable to experience what I call 'minority' landscapes within 'landscapes of the status quo'. That is to say, in this case, experiencing small pockets of woodland, set within the common agricultural landscape that dominates this part of England. Thousands of years ago, when Neolithic men and women were establishing early agriculture, the landscape of food production was a minority landscape within the wider woodland paradigm.

Within Weeleyhall Wood there is an area set aside following the significant storm in October 1987 which is now managed on the basis of non-intervention. In many ways this was an early experiment of rewilding and it is fascinating to see the results as they unfold. The storm of 15th-16th October 1987 affected large areas of southern and eastern England and northern France and led to the deaths of 22 people. The strongest gust (of 122mph) was recorded at Gorleston in Norfolk. Critically, weather forecasters had not foreseen the severity of the storm or the scale of the area it would affect meaning that many people were unprepared. Many specimen and ancient trees were lost during the night, including at Weeleyhall Wood. Indeed, it is estimated that 15 million trees were lost in total across the country. Nonetheless, without the storm the fascinating non-intervention experiment at Weeleyhall would not have been carried out.

As an agriculturalist as well as an environmental writer, the soil environment fascinates me and the multiple layers of leaf litter are clear to see on the woodland floor. They have formed a dense mat of organic matter on the surface. I dug down through this leaf matter to find a crumbly, fertile humus that is not often a common sight in the claylands of arable Essex. This soil environment is home to millions of microscopic organisms which form the basis of the woodland ecosystem. My eyes were then drawn to the fallen trees themselves (and there are many) which play host to numerous invertebrates and will gradually be broken down themselves by detritivores and form part of the woodland floor. It was a strange feeling that this area is being managed by nature itself, devoid of human intention. Conservation today is dominated by a mentality of control and managing succession but here we see an environment where the managers are quite happy to let nature take its course.

Retreating in to our imaginations is not an easy task but environments such as ancient woodlands make it easier to achieve. In order to understand our own place in the historic landscape and to truly value our current landscapes it is vital that we learn how to access the wildwoods of our imagination.

References

Rackham, O., The History of the Countryside (London, 1986)

This article was originally published on Ben's blog - www.thinkingcountry.wordpress.com

Ben's recently published book, 'Pushed to the Edge: A History of the Naze and Walton Hall', is still available to buy at Walton Community Project in Walton High Street, Caxton Books in Frinton or online at amazon.co.uk



STREET MEETS BY ESSEX POLICE

(Come and meet your PCSO and discuss any issues you may have)

Every Friday Morning at Gt. Holland Village Hall Manor Road, Gt. Holland 10.00 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.

INCIDENTS

I am unable to include all incidents that have been reported due to their sensitive nature (Reports from 16/11/15 - 18/01/20156.

Tree down – Highways contacted
Concern for welfare of young adult – found/all in order
2 Road traffic accidents

Electric cable down in Pork Lane – Fire/Police attended. Electric company made safe Concern for a gentleman who was confused – local resident picked him up and took him home. Police advised.

Suspicious vehicle reported (white van) – On attendance no trace/incorrect index given

As you can see a very quiet few weeks in the area.

OTHER

It has been brought to our attention that some dogs in the area are not being kept under control off the lead. If your dog is excitable and tends to jump up at people, please keep it on a lead when members of the public are about. Dogs must be under control at all times.

A reminder also to please pick up after your dogs - don't leave a mess for others to step in.

For those who may not be aware, as from 1st April, 2016, all dogs must be micro chipped.

Burglaries in the area seem to have stopped, but please still be vigilant and keep your property secure, including your garage. I still see many a garage door left open in the area when on my patrols.

You can contact either me or Michele by calling 101, Extension 487553, or by email (see below).

Keep safe.

PCSO 70843 Paul Brassey PCSO 6477 Michele Diss Walton Police Station Martello Road Walton-on-naze paul.brassey@essex.pnn.police.uk michele.diss@essex.pnn.police.uk

Moving the earth

Visitors to Great Holland Pits may well come across some recent rather unsightly muddy patches at the reserve. Before Christmas a digger was hired and seven limited areas were excavated, in an operation which buried the top soil under the sub soil extracted from beneath it. This has been an operation I have long planned and will hopefully develop into a research project, about which I intend to publish a scientific paper.

The soil was previously greatly disturbed creating a lot of sticky mud and exposed earth, some fifty to one hundred years ago, when sand and gravel was quarried and the resulting aggregates used for building. The usable materials were removed from the site while the mixed up clay and claggy gravel was partially flattened and became a seedbed, for what are now amongst our rarest plants and insects. These have gradually been lost as soil fertility has built up and coarser grasses have smothered the more delicate plants. Though our climate is warming, the temperature is still rather too low for many invertebrates, which in at least part of their life cycle need the warmth of patches of bare soil, rather than the cool damp spaces between coarser vegetation. To address these issues I have planned the soil inversion to see if we can create better conditions for some of our declining species. I will also monitor the composition and height of the sward over the coming years, to see how long any potential benefits may last.

While the machine was present we also did some preparatory work to build a bank for Kingfishers. We usually have one or two present from about July until cold weather drives them to coastal creeks, but they do not breed as they require vertical banks with suitable soil to tunnel into. Despite efforts in the past to create suitable places we have always failed because the soil was too hard and damp. However there are several examples of artificial banks with fibre glass nest boxes being successful, including in cities such as Cambridge. We won't be able to complete this bank until September after the next nesting season, but I see no reason why it should not succeed.

Over the autumn we had the four Exmoor ponies returned to our two enclosed areas and they moved the earth in a different way. They grazed off much of the dry summer vegetation, browsed some of the scrub and poached the soil creating lots of bare muddy paths in which there is scope for some rarer plants to germinate and possibly to create basking spots for the larvae of some insects. The site became muddy but the warm weather right through till January caused a new flush of green grass there. We expect to have a group of Shetland sheep again for a few weeks in April to further improvements in the sward.

Despite so much of the country being flooded this winter, we have had below average rainfall with all of the ponds being lower than usual for the time of year. We hope that the levels will be sufficient for our pond dipping and open day, in early June.

Look out at his time of year for Woodcock, brown mottled waders that usually spend the day beneath trees and scrub, and tiny Goldcrests, which sometimes travel around with flocks of Blue, Great and Long tailed tits. Any warm sunny day now could bring out Adders which sit on open sunny banks to bask. Finally, if you look out on to neighbouring fields you may possibly see a Brown Hare.

Bob Seago Warden



FROM THE ARCHIVES

THE CRESCENT

This issue we are looking at the development of not one, but a row of ten houses.



(The Crescent - houses on the left of the photograph)

At the end of the First World War there was a need to build more houses. When Tendring Rural District Council met on 14/12/1918 the Rev. Dr. R.B. Tollington (Chairman of the Committee, having in hand the inspection, etc. of the houses in the district under the Housing Act) said they could hardly do anything until the return of their inspector from the Army.

The Clerk suggested that in the meantime a good preliminary step to take would be to ask the Parish Councils & Overseers to furnish the District Council with the numbers of working class dwellings they considered necessary to be provided in their particular districts, and whether the sites were available. The Rev. Dr. Tollington agreed, and it was decided that the Committee should meet when the replies were to hand.

In connection with this subject, the Council considered letters from the Frinton Urban District asking whether, in view of the price of land and the smallness of Frinton, there would not be some joint action in the matter with the District Council and the Urban Council in the provision of houses in the neighbouring parishes of Kirby and Great Holland to meet the requirements of those who worked in Frinton. The suggestion did not find favour, and the Clerk was instructed to reply.

By 1921 things had begun to move. In April, at the Parish Council annual meeting, acting on the instructions of a letter received from the Clerk of Tendring Rural District Council, the meeting

dealt with several of the applications received for the new houses, the most necessitous cases being forwarded to the Housing Committee for prompt approval.

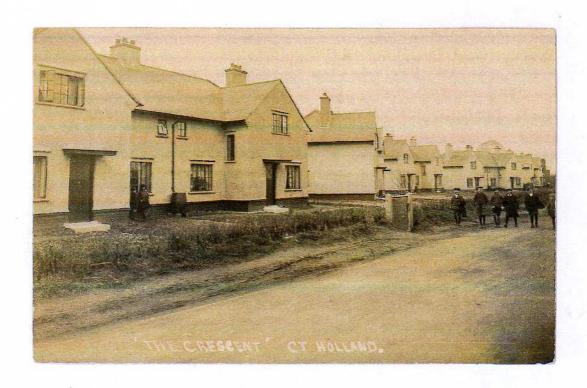
Of the ten houses that were being built under the new housing scheme four were expected to be ready for occupation in a month's time, while the others were making satisfactory progress towards completion. Up to then there had been eleven applications for the ten residences. The Parish Council, at their meeting on that Monday, considered the question of a name for the block of buildings and it was decided to call in "The Crescent".

At last, by the end of July, after over twelve months undulating labour, four of the ten houses being built in the village were occupied while another four had been completed, with the probability of the final two being completed in a further month's time. Progress had been remarkably slow, due to many reasons, but it had come as a great relief to those who had been waiting in the queue for a brick home, to know that the Holland contract was on the verge of completion.

Finally, in December 1921, the ten new Council houses which now formed the part to be called "The Crescent", and which was going to make a vast improvement in the appearance of the village, had been completed, eight being occupied whilst the remaining two were expected to be inhabited in the very near future.

January 2016

Liz Bruce, Local History Recorder



Frinton & District Horticultural Society

Our meetings take place at Frinton Methodist Church Hall in Fourth Avenue 7.15 for 7.30pm



Thursday 4th February Gardeners' Question Time

Thursday 3rd March
'Beeleigh Abbey'
An illustrated talk by Chris Cork

If you are interested in joining the Society, please come to one of our meetings or contact the Membership Secretary (Linda O'Reilly) on **852195** for further details. The annual membership subscription is £7.

The following article was originally written for Frinton & District Horticultural Society's recent Newsletter

A magical experience ...

Sitting in dazzling September sunshine with my two dearest friends, enjoying the silence of the white shell sand beach and looking out onto sparkling, turquoise sea beneath wide blue skies, we could have been on a Caribbean island. Thankfully, we were not - not our kind of thing at all! We were at Calgary Bay, during another wonderful stay on our favourite of all the Hebridean islands we have visited over the years - magical Mull.

We were back on Mull to celebrate my 60th birthday. We never expect good weather there and had taken the usual woollies and waterproofs, but it was hot and sunny throughout with temperatures up into the seventies - the locals told us that the island was enjoying its best weather of the year. There is something about the light on Mull that seems to intensify the colours of nature anyway, but even more so in that glorious September sunshine. Flowers were abundant and particularly colourful at that time of year. Everywhere we went we saw huge heads of hydrangea flowers, sometimes bright, bubblegum pink but often a really beautiful, deep lavender colour, and also masses of vivid orange crocosmia that were growing wild. Just stunning against deep blue sky ...

We were out and about every day, exploring rugged, mountainous scenery and enjoying the vast variety of flora, fauna and bird life to be found on the island.

Highlights included a guided wildlife day tour of northern Mull, during which we enjoyed sightings of Golden and White-Tailed Eagles - including a juvenile chick still on the nest - lots of Buzzards, various Dippers, Grebes, Waders and Divers, seals and wild deer. We could easily have missed some of the tiny wild flowers that were pointed out to us, including several unusual wild orchids. We were taken to areas where otters had been seen that week but sadly, they were not out to play that day. It is not unusual to see Bottelnose Dolphins, Minke Whales and Basking Sharks in the surrounding waters. We didn't see any that day, but there are trips that take you out to sea to look for them - top of the growing list for one of this year's visits! Also on that list is a trip to the Treshnish Isles for 'Puffin therapy', where you spend a couple of hours surrounded by hundreds of Puffins, popping in and out of their nesting holes just inches away.

After a long, stomach-churning sea crossing to Staffa, with its dramatic basalt columns, we had a superb view into spooky Fingal's cave. Mendelssohn's Overture was played as we arrived, which added to the atmosphere. Although we had time to explore the cave and climb up the island, I was too wobbly even to stand up - a missed experience. We then sailed to colourful Iona, with its iconic Abbey, spectacular scenery, Heritage Centre (with unmissable tearoom!) and tiny corrugated iron Post Office. We saw lots more hydrangeas and crocosmia, and colourful plots where the island's hotels grow a large variety of vegetables and salad crops to feed their visitors. (The gardens of Mull's Glengorm Castle also produce a wide range of vegetable and salad crops, some of which we bought at Tobermory's weekly Producers' Market.)

There were lots more highlights: listening to the choirs that had sailed to Mull to compete in the annual Gaelic-speaking competition; attending a ceilidh, where some of the competition winners entertained us; a delightful walk to the picturesque farm that makes the tasty Mull cheddar (available by mail order); a concert in the tiny school conversion that now houses an Arts Centre; meeting 'Tobermory Cat', who is famous for being famous; a challenging climb up to the dramatic Aros Falls; and after all that exercise, sampling Mull's numerous culinary delights!

There is a thriving Gardening Club on Mull. Maybe one day ...

Linda O'Reilly



Ladies Coffee Morning at Frinton Golf Club

Thursday 11th February 10.00am – 1.00pm

Various craft and trade stalls Raffle Lunches available

£2 entrance (includes coffee & biscuits)

Kirby & Great Holland Book Club ...

... meets in the Parish Room (next to All Saints' Church, Church Lane, Great Holland) on the 4th Monday of the month, from 10.00-11.00am. The Club has space for two or three more members. Men would be particularly welcome!

For more information, please telephone Jenny Wills on 673647.



Frinton Community Centre Soken House The Triangle Frinton-on-Sea

Matinee Club

Matinee Club is a Friendly, Social Club which is non-profit making and organised & run by volunteer members. A variety of different events are run throughout the year including: Theatre Shows (West End & Local) Holidays (Home & Aboard) Outings to places of Interest Social Events Matinee Club Members meeting held on 1st Thursday monthly

If you are interested in joining or require any more information do call in on Monday morning 9.30-12.00pm

Or Contact:

LORRAINE 01255 678 507 01255 670 583 01255 671 977

PAULINE

PETER

ROSEMARY 01255 671 776

Cats Protection

We need loving homes ...

Minnie is a 6 year old female cat who is looking for a nice quiet home where she can relax on her own. She lived with another cat who domineered her, so now on her own she is developing into a more confident cat.



Mouse is 2-3 year old superb looking tabby cat, who was found as a stray eating the hedgehog food. She was taken in by a kind gentleman, but because of health issues he could not keep her. She is a very talkative cat and we think she should have been called tiger. She does not like any other animals and would suit a family home but with older children only.



If you can give either of these cats a home please contact the branch on **01255 851440** or email <u>tendringcats@btinternet.com</u> where more details can be found of other cats needing homes. All our cats are neutered, vaccinated, microchipped, vet checked, have current flea and worm treatments and come with 4 weeks Petplan Insurance.

We are always looking for items for our tombola/raffles throughout the year so if you have anything that you think would help, please contact the above and we can arrange collection of any items, cat related ornaments, goods, or food.

A POTTED HISTORY OF PARK FRUIT FARM

BY THE LATE ERIC ELSWORTH

Early days

My father badly injured his knee playing football for the army in 1914 and was discharged, probably saving his life. He lost two brothers in WW1. He then took a job managing a rubber plantation in Malaya until 1919 when the price of rubber collapsed. He next was employed by the Chinese Civil Service. There, he met my Mother, the daughter of Quaker missionaries; they married, had four children and left China just before the Japanese invaded in 1937. My Father had bought the farm while there, but the family stayed in Clacton for a few weeks while renovations were being made to the farm house.

When we moved to the farm house there was a corrugated iron roof over a lean-to extension which served as our kitchen and a small bedroom where I slept called the pump room as there was a hand pump which we used to pump up our water from the well.

War years

My brother Jim was born after we came to England and three of us, including my youngest sister Molly, went to Great Holland school while my eldest sister went to CCH. My second sister, Wendy, had died just before we left China, in circumstances which scarred my mother for life. Sometimes Jack, our mongrel dog would accompany us, as we cycled to school, and curl up in front of the Tortoise solid fuel stove until time to go home.

There are some in the village even older than me, and with a far more accurate memory, but these are mine, inaccuracies and all.

I remember one night my father coming into the 'pump room' during the night to check if I was OK during an aircraft dog fight. I was standing by the window enjoying the 'fire-work display'. Another night the house was shaken by three bombs which had landed in the field opposite and left massive craters. The next morning, when cycling to school, we were stopped by fellow pupils who told us the school had been bombed and we had no school to go to. After a short time we were sent to Kirby school where we stayed for a year while the Village school was being rebuilt. I believe the only casualty that night was a cow.

On one occasion, an ack ack gun was parked on the corner of Pork Lane; the soldiers manning it slept on the floor of our kitchen, my Mother cooking eggs for their breakfast was very much appreciated, as eggs were on ration. We were up very early that morning to see them on their way.

Other incidents included a Flying Fortress crash landing off the Clacton road, and Americans building a makeshift runway for it to take off. One night a German bomber dropped a canister of incendiary bombs over the farm, most did not ignite, but one lit a pruning fire, saving us the trouble. I remember

my sister and I unscrewing one of these bombs (they were lying around all over) and painting a wall with the magnesium powder we found inside. When my father saw us, he was not best pleased!

Occasionally a target (towed behind a plane for shooting practice) fell down having been severed by a shot in the tow rope. Everybody would jump on their bikes to run it down for the material to make clothes which were on ration.

Towards the end of the war we had V1s or doodlebugs flying over, a bit frightening when their engines stopped, but my father said, "Don't worry if the engine stops overhead, it will glide for several miles before crashing." Next came the V2s, one of which came over while we were in the playground at Gt. Holland School. The flash through the sky and the flash of the explosion were followed by the sound. My teacher said "I'll bet that's broken a few of my windows". It had in fact brought a beam down on her husband, who later died from his injuries.

The farm had been planted up with fruit trees by contractors before we arrived and my father tended them as we grew up. Fruit prices were good during the Second World War; we were sending fruit to the London markets by train from Kirby Cross station, taking it across Prospect Park by tractor to load onto goods wagons which stood in a siding. We used to get many complaints of underweight boxes because of pilfering by the many handlers, so road transport soon took over.

At this time many villagers were employed in seasonal work. We had apples, pears, plums, gooseberries and red and white currants all of which needed picking and packing for market. We used to start picking the main apple crops at the beginning of September, and would lose our pickers when the farmers started lifting potatoes, but they soon came back, because although apples paid less, it was much easier work.

Prices after the war dropped and at one time we were receiving one (old) penny a pound for plums, which did not even cover the picking costs. So the soft fruit and the plums were replaced by apples. They in their turn began to lose money, being sold on commission in the wholesale markets, and sometimes after a year's work we ended up with a loss, although that would not be known until most of the fruit was sold. The farm during that period was supported by my wife who was teaching, otherwise we would probably have disappeared together with 80% of fruit farms which were bulldozed.

Supermarkets were emerging and buying direct rather than through the wholesale market, and that proved a better outlet for a short while, until they started cutting the price, paying late and sometimes placing an order and then changing their minds, leaving the fruit to be dumped. So gradually the farm shop came into being, cutting out all middle men. This changed many things, instead of growing large quantities of 3 or 4 varieties, we needed to grow small amounts of a large number of varieties, and space the time of maturity out as wide as possible, so now we are harvesting from July to November, with around 40 varieties of apples. This of course often means different treatment and timing, so adding to expense, but also adding to interest.

My son Stephen, now runs the farm while his wife Rosemary runs the tea room, the third generation over 80 years, so very much a family business.

Tendring First Ladies

We welcome everyone to this friendly 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 charge of £2.00 is made at each meeting to cover the cost of the room hire. A speaker talks for about 30 minutes and then tea and homemade cakes are served. There is also a raffle.

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

Friends and Neighbours of Great Holland

Our next meetings will be on **Thursday 4th February** and **Thursday 3rd 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

Our meetings take place at St Cedd's Hall, Old Road, Frinton-on-Sea at 7.30pm

Although this Club was started for those who collect, or are interested in, postcards, you do not have to have this as a hobby to join our friendly social evenings and enjoy the talks/presentations given by guest speakers on a wide variety of subjects. Visitors and potential new members will be made very welcome. The entrance fee to our meetings is £2, which includes refreshments.

Tuesday 9th February
Holland on Sea in the Twentieth Century

Roger Kennell

Tuesday 8th March Spend a Penny Barbara Faulkner

Please telephone Margaret Wilsher on 674134 for further details

BIRCH HOE SOUTHDOWNS

Well our lambing started this year on 28th December and the lambs have been arriving very quickly. We have our ewes scanned to get an idea of what they are going to produce. This year, for the second year running, on New Year's Day quads arrived despite the scan showing the ewe was to have twins. However, there followed a third and then a fourth! They are not from the same ewe and ram that had quads last year so as things go this is quite rare and an unexpected surprise. There are three rams and one ewe lamb and they are all doing really well.



When the weather allows they will be out in the front field hopefully enjoying the sun and grass along with the rest of the ewes and rams.

Birch Hoe Farm, Pork Lane

Tendring Residents Lobby Group (TRLG)

TRLG provides an opportunity for representatives of local Residents Associations to meet regularly. It was formed in 2015, principally to enable Residents Associations to share information regarding planning matters and support each other as necessary, as planning issues seemingly affecting one area can have a significant impact on surrounding towns and villages.

TRLG's meetings will now take place on the third Wednesday of the month at the Yacht Club in Mill Lane, Walton-on-the-Naze. I represented Great Holland at TRLG's initial meetings, but cannot attend future meetings due to other commitments on the relevant dates. To ensure that the village continues to be represented another volunteer is needed, please (or perhaps two people could share the position). I have the dates of future meetings and minutes of past meetings. If anyone would like to take over this role, please contact me on 852195.

Dr Carla Mahmoud Dr Mathew Kattukaran

Tel: 01255 861850 Fax: 01255 860330



Thorpe-le-Soken Surgery
High Street
Thorpe-le-Soken
Essex CO16 0EA

Thorpe-Le-Soken and Kirby Branch Newsletter January 2016

Our new Practice Matron will be starting in March and we very much look forward to welcoming Zoe Evans to the team. This will mean we will have 3 Healthcare assistants, 2 practice nurses and 2 matrons working alongside the doctors to provide healthcare to our patients.

I am sure you most of you are aware by now that Mr Leslie Doherty no longer works with us, he has a new position in Colchester and we wish him all the best with his new job and we have already appointed his replacement. Ms Zoe Evans is also an experienced Nurse prescriber, she is currently working her notice so will not be starting until March 2016. This has put some pressure on our appointment system so we have booked a series of locum doctors and nurses to see us through this period.

Our new Practice Nurse Nancy is already proving to be an asset to the surgery and is a valuable addition to our staff. Car parking at both surgeries continues to be a big issue, unfortunately there is nowhere to expand the facilities at Thorpe and there is very little street parking at Kirby. We do ask all patients to be mindful of other cars in the car park as there has been an incident at Thorpe involving two cars, please also give consideration to nearby residents.

At the start of a new year a lot of us make resolutions about how we can improve things for ourselves either financially, health wise or maybe even make a job or home change. There is always help available at the surgery if you would like to make a concerted effort to improve the health of your family and yourself. We have a selection of leaflets that give dietary and lifestyle advice and the nurses are available of you need more complex advice, most of us will be at least looking to drop a couple of pounds after the seasons excesses so I hope that you will all get more active as the weather improves.

At the time of writing we are still expecting our Care Quality Commission report after the inspection that was carried out in December. I will update the Patient Participation Group as soon as it is available when I expect the PPG will hold a meeting in order to discuss the CQC findings in full. The PPG are an essential part of the surgery and their ideas and recommendations are acted upon by the management team. Each and every patient has a right to have their thoughts heard at these meetings so if you would like to be involved in any way or even just kept up to date via e-mail contact the PPG at ppg.thorpesurgery@nhs.net.

It would be great to see more of our patients at the very informal PPG meetings, details of which are displayed in the reception at Thorpe and Kirby. They are usually held mid-week and last between 60-90 minutes.

So until February when I hope to have the CQC report available I wish you a happy and health 2016.

Karen Austen

88 Frinton Road, Kirby Cross, Essex CO13 0HJ

Branch Surgery:

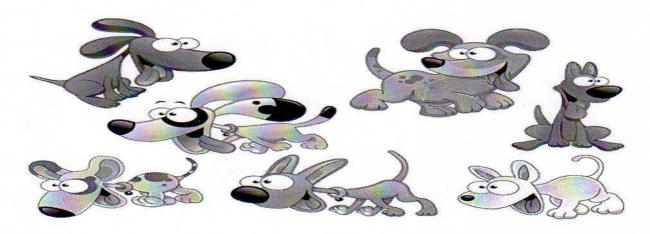
Email: thorpelesoken.surgery@nhs.net Website: www.thorpe-le-sokensurgery.nhs.uk

VAT No: 879 1018 03

DOG SHOW

Great Bentley Village Hall Plough Road, Great Bentley CO7 8LD

Sunday 28th February 2.00pm



BRING YOUR DOGS AND PUPPIES ALONG AND SHOW THEM IN THE CLASSES BELOW. £1 PER CLASS

PUPPIES UP TO 18 MTHS, ADULT 18MTHS TO 7YRS, MATURE 7YRS AND UP, BEST RESCUED, THE DOG WITH THE WAGGIEST TAIL,

ALL CLASS WINNERS ENTER BEST IN SHOW.

RAFFLE, BRIC A BRAC, NEW GOODS, REFRESHMENTS.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS TEL: **07939 878508** OR EMAIL: <u>KOZYKATZ@OUTLOOK.COM</u>.

WWW KOZYKATZ.ORG.UK

Local events

News of forthcoming local events is often given to us some time in advance. Details are printed in good faith in Great Holland Village Voice, but circumstances can change.

To avoid possible disappointment may we suggest that if you plan to attend an event mentioned in Village Voice, you might like to use any contact number given to check in advance whether the event is still taking place.

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The Editors