

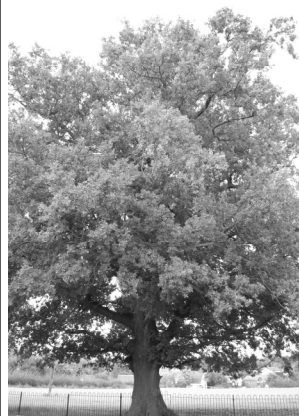
Woodham Walter 2012-13

WOODHAM WALTER 2012-13

APRIL 2013

Woodham Walter Parish Council

From the Chairman...



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Woodham Walter Parish Council
Chairman James Bunn

Welcome from me, for the first time as Chairman of Woodham Walter Parish Council.

This year we have had no changes in the line-up of Parish Council members and I have been lucky to have Peter Warren as my vice Chairman.

As always, the smooth running of the council is largely down to the good work of Jacky Bannerman, in her difficult role of Parish Clerk which involves trying to manage all of us as well as the day to day administration of the Parish Council. This really is a significant undertaking and I thank her for her unwavering support over the last year.

This is our fourth set of published reports which are circulated prior to our Annual Parish Meeting. We started to use this report format in order to reach a far wider audience than just

those who attended our annual meeting. We hope that the report continues to fulfil that function.

We welcome parishioners to the annual meeting (Tuesday 30th April at 8pm) and indeed to all our regular monthly meetings which are held in the Women's Club on Top Road at 8:00pm on the second Monday of the month.

We continue to donate to village organisations where we feel that they benefit the village community.

Annual Parish Meeting - Tuesday 30th April

All Woodham Walter residents are invited to attend the

Annual Parish Meeting

On Tuesday 30th April 2013 at 8pm

At Woodham Walter Village Hall, Rectory Road.

- Matters Arising from Annual Parish Reports
- Public Forum

Woodham Walter Parish Council - Chairman, James Bunn

The Parish Council consult neighbours on planning applications and we make our recommendations to Maldon District Council for inclusion in their deliberations. Although we only have a limited voice it is an important one and the whole planning process forms an important part of our function. In 2011/12 we had 17 planning applications to consider of which 3 decisions were contrary to our views.

"ONLY ONE OF THESE DECISIONS WAS CONTRARY TO THE PARISH COUNCIL VIEW"

In 2012-13 there have been 21 applications.

Of these applications, 3 were withdrawn; 4

were refused and so far 12 have been given approval by Maldon District Council. Only one of these decisions was contrary to the Parish Council view.

Apart from the usual garages and extensions these also included:

2 x Claims for Lawful Development Certificate

4 x Change of Use of land

4 x Demolition of existing and replacement with new build

2 x New Build

It is always helpful with our deliberations if the applicant is present at our meeting. We

offer a public forum at the start of the meeting where representations can be made and at the discretion of the Chairman, if councillors have any queries it is useful to be able to open the meeting up to the public during deliberations to clarify certain points.



On a related note, the village is starting to develop a "Village Design Statement". This is a document that helps to set out the design characteristics of the village and will help both the Parish council and Maldon District Council in determining planning applications. A separate committee has started in order to develop this document and we look forward to seeing the results.

Last year we have tendered for a new grass cutting contract and the new contractors have been doing a good job of keeping the village looking neat and tidy. We have to put out to tender every 3 years in order to ensure that we are getting value for money for the parishioners.



I have to thank our previous chairman for a couple of important continued contributions to the village. Firstly, Bell Meadow continues to be cut by Mark Durham and the Warren which is a large task in its own right and would certainly cost us a significant amount of extra money if he were not prepared to continue



doing so. Secondly, since the Warren have purchased a salt spreading machine, Mark has very kindly been salting some of the worst junctions and areas of our village which Highways still feel unable to tackle. I saw him several times out working in the cold while I was sitting in a warm car enjoying the benefits of his efforts!



Woodham Walter Parish Council - Chairman, James Bunn



Moat Housing Association have agreed to take on the maintenance of the footpath down at the Rectory Road end of the Village. Following our lobbying we successfully managed to get the section of path at the far end of the village completely replaced.

Councillor Joanna Symons has taken on the role of Community Governor of the School which should give the Parish council closer links to them and we of course welcome this.



On a national level, we have had the Olympics last year and although it had no direct impact on our village I know a lot of people who went to the venues to watch different events. It was gratifying to see that far from the amateur and slightly less than impressive event that the press seemed to have forecast a truly world class event both organisationally and competitively unfolded of which I think we can all be proud. In a poor economic climate a few weeks of uplifting optimism certainly helped me.



For the Queen's Diamond Jubilee we had both local and national celebrations. It was fantastic to see so many people

on Top Road enjoying a street party despite the fact that the weather was typically British for such an event! Many people put in a lot of hard work to make the afternoon a success and there was an enormous spread. All the village children received a Commemorative Woodham Walter Diamond Jubilee Mug.



I would like to end with the traditional but heartfelt thanks to all of the other councillors, I look forward to working with you all in the year to come.

Councillor James Bunn
Chairman,
Woodham Walter
Parish Council

Keeping in touch

Woodham Walter Parish Council works hard to keep the community informed of issues and information which affects residents.

As well as this annual printed report and our Annual Parish Meeting (Tuesday 30th April at 8pm in WWVillage Hall) we include notes from our meetings in the monthly parish magazine. All our Parish Council meetings are open to the public and you are warmly

invited to attend on the second Monday of the month at 8pm in Women's Club Room.

Full copies of the minutes are available from our clerk and on our website. www.essexinfo.net/woodhamwalter-pc

As well as this we provide information on the noticeboard outside the village shop and there is lots of other information on our website.

Our clerk sends out an email with any particular news which is useful such as when the refuse and recycling days change after bank holidays or during poor weather.

To be included on the group village email for such information just send our clerk your email address:
jacky@wwparishclerk.co.uk

Woodham Walter Parish Council - Diamond Jubilee



The Woodham Walter Diamond Jubilee Event on 4th June 2012 was organised by Joanna Symons and Jacky Bannerman, plus a dedicated team of people on the

Diamond Jubilee Committee who worked for weeks to plan and organise a memorable village occasion.

Top Road was closed to traffic and everywhere looked wonderful with homes, the Womens' Club, and the school and pub all decked out with bunting and flags. Dedicated villagers got stuck in to putting up the 5 party tents down the middle of the road.



Tables and chairs arrived from various locations like the School and our Village Hall and straw bales were delivered and put in place. Before we knew it, everything was taking shape and once the bunting was put up in the tents, it began to look really fit for a party!

The ladies from the Womens' Club organised by their President Jean Newton, had arrived early and were literally surrounded by piles of wonderful sandwiches and were receiving a steady stream of visitors armed with the most beautiful red, white and blue cakes, which they had all kindly donated for the party, and which must have taken them hours to make.

Finally the tables were laid out with Union Jack cups, plates and serviettes and the most beautiful red, white and blue flower arrangements. Everything looked really splendid and everyone involved at that point, felt a bit of a sigh of relief that it had all come together so well, but also felt really excited and proud that all

this had been achieved by such a super bunch of volunteers.

Wally Hicks' organ had arrived from the Cats pub, and was playing merrily outside the shop, a very regal Angela



Beighton went to ring the church bells and we were ready to begin. Everyone took the patriotic dress code very much to heart, and red, white and blue was very much in evidence with some impressive outfits to be seen.

Councillor James Bunn, the Chairman of the Parish Council, welcomed everyone to the event. Guests stood and sung the National Anthem, and then got stuck into the important task of making a dent in the huge piles of sandwiches and cakes.



There was a real sense of friendship and community spirit allowing people to catch up with old friends and to meet new people. It had all been made possible by the grant from the Parish Council and generous donations of food, flowers and trophies received from other village organisations, businesses and other individuals.

A book was passed round for everyone attending to sign, which would provide a permanent record for the future, and many people took photos, the best of which have been in-

cluded in a commemorative scrap book which is available to borrow from Jacky Bannerman.



When everyone had finished eating Cllr Bunn presented the younger village children with a specially printed Diamond Jubilee cup.

The sun really began to shine and then everyone crossed over the road to Woodham Walter Primary School, where there was a wonderful choice of free ice creams kindly donated by Diane Lodge available to everyone on the field.

There were competitions for fancy dress, best portraits of the Queen, Best Decorated Buckets and Wheelbarrows and Houses. Tadpoles staff provided face painting and crown making in the School Hall, and there was an exhibition of Royal memorabilia with various books and other articles from the Queen's 60 years on the throne.

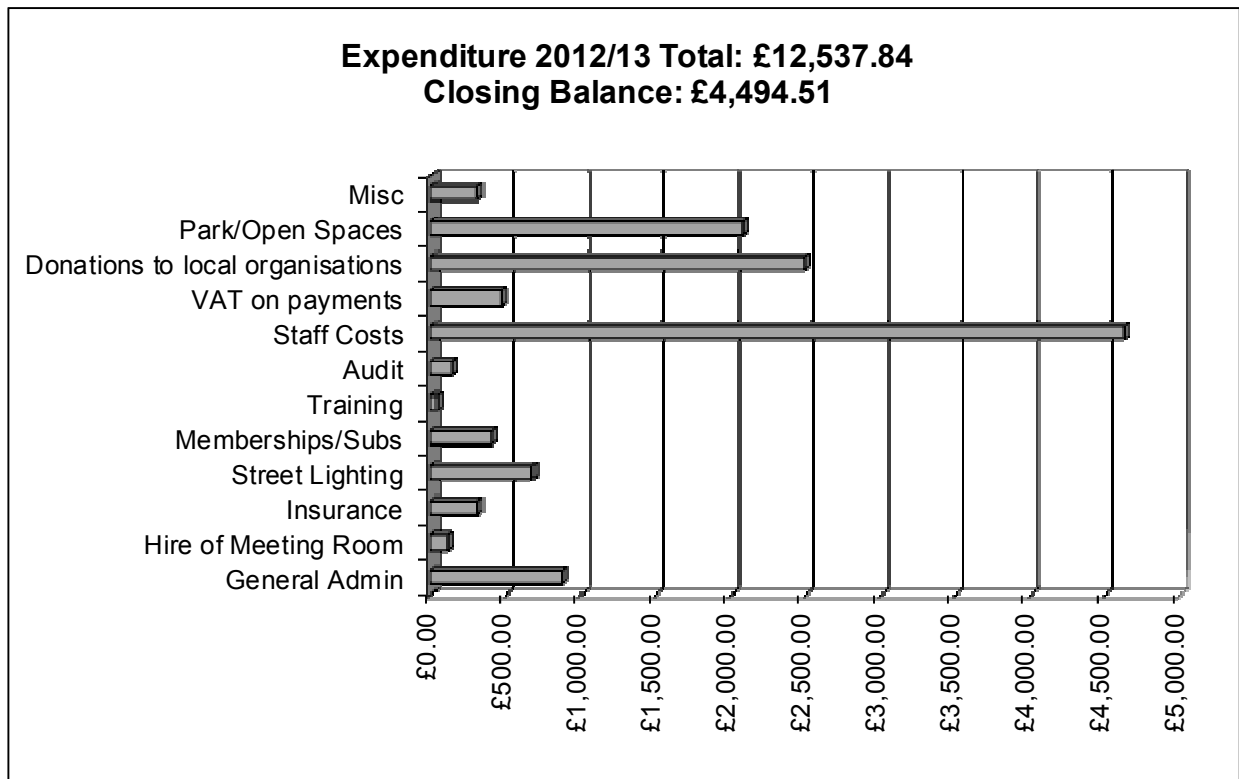
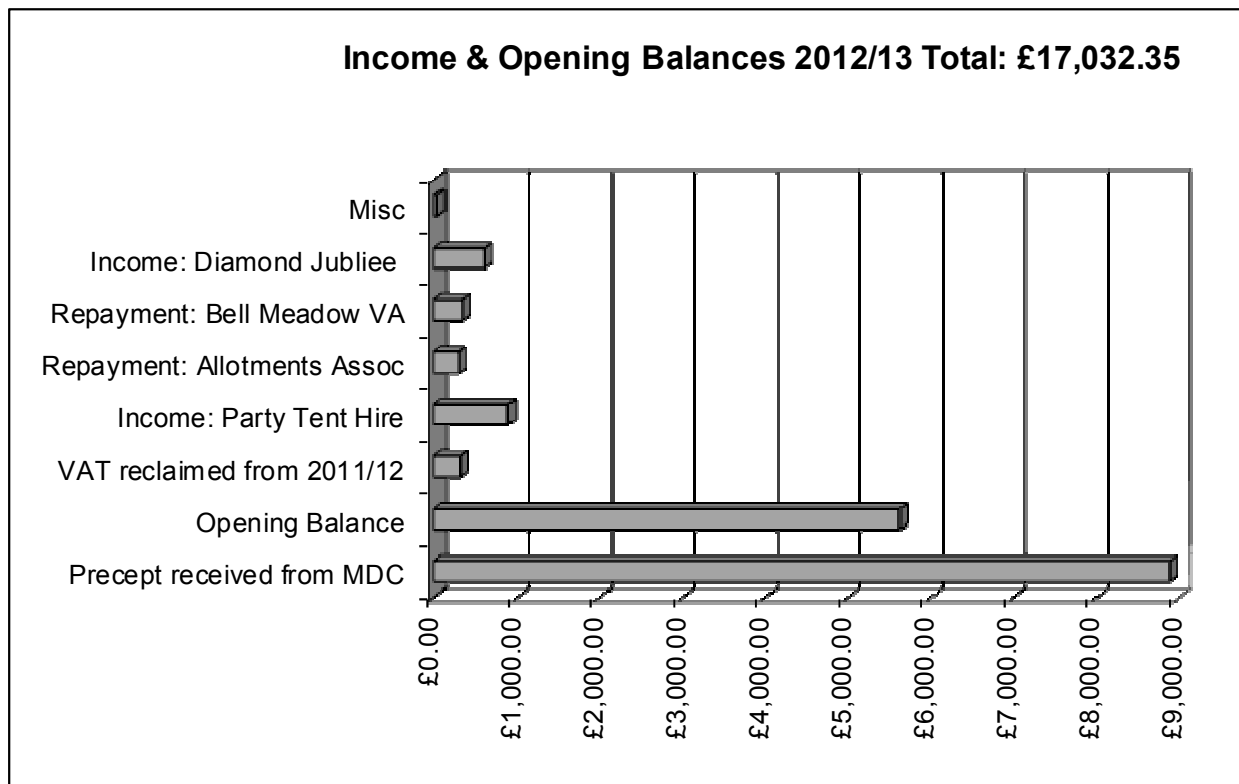


Angus and Sue Neale organised lots of fun races including the egg and spoon, child leading the blind-folded parent and the dressing up race. Graham Bannerman provided the commentary as each race took place and as the winners of each race were presented with their Diamond Jubilee medals.

The event came to a close with a treasure hunt around the school field, and the sun continued to shine right through to the very end of the event.

The event really did show what a very special community we have here in Woodham Walter, and how lucky and privileged we are to live in such a very special place. Thank you to everyone who helped achieve this momentous village occasion.

Woodham Walter Parish Council - Financial Overview



Diamond Jubilee Event:

Parish Council:	£503.90
Donations:	£170.00
Repayment of Mugs from School & Tadpoles:	£336.60
Other Mug Sales:	£102.20
Total Cost:	£1112.70

What do Parish Councils do?

Powers and duties

Parish councils have a large range of powers and activities. Woodham Walter Parish Council is involved in planning consultations, managing Bell Meadow, the care and upkeep of the village, liaising with Highways, street lighting, allotments, promoting the village and any other local issues.

During 2011/2 we provided community funding to local organisations to help with maintenance including Woodham Walter Women's Club (£147), Woodham Walter Village Hall Association (£200) and St Michael's Church (£189). We regularly contribute to the Parish Magazine (£154) and also make an annual

grant to Silver Threads Club (£236). We give an annual grant to the Essex Wildlife Trust (£105) towards their work managing Woodham Walter Common.

How parish councils work

Parish councils are statutory bodies. Members are elected for a term of four years. The next elections are in 2015.

Parish Councils are funded principally by an annual precept. Income and expenditure for the next financial year are calculated in the form of estimates. The net amount (the precept) is added to council tax, collected by Maldon District Council (the principal authority) and paid to

Woodham Walter Parish Council annually. Parish councils can apply for other funding such as grant and funding awards, but they do not receive funds direct from central government, as principal authorities do.

Woodham Walter Parish Council also receives income from the hire of the Party Tents. During 2012 we raised £900 in hiring income.

Councillors have agreed that the precept requirement for Woodham Walter in 2013/14 will remain the same as last year at £8882 which works out at £31.24 per Band D property for the year.

What do Parish Councillors do?

As a councillor you become a voice for your community. Parish Councils are the most local part of our democratic system and closest to the public.

Councillors have three main areas of work:

1. Decision-making: through attending meetings and committees with other elected members, councillors decide which activities to support, where money should be spent, what services should be delivered and what policies should be implemented. Woodham Walter Parish Council meets on the 2nd Monday of the month at 8pm for approximately 2 hours.

2. Monitoring: councillors make sure that their decisions lead to efficient and effective services by keeping an eye on how well things are working.

3. Getting involved locally: as local representatives, councillors have responsibilities towards their constituents and local organisations. This often depends on what the councillor wants to achieve and how much time is available.

The work of a parish councillor may include:

- Neighbour consultations for planning applications
- Representing the views of the Parish Council at District

Council meetings.

- going to meetings of local organisations
- going to meetings of bodies that affect the wider community, such as the police, the Highways Authority, the local Council and schools
- taking up issues on behalf of members of the public.
- Inspections of Bell Meadow and the Community Playground at the school.

Being a parish councillor is an enjoyable way of contributing to your community and helping to make it a better place to live and work.

Essex Highways

One of the roles of the Parish Council is to report Highways issues. There have been a number of problems in Woodham Walter over the year and these have been reported by the Parish Clerk and councillors directly to Essex County Council Highways. Specifically over the year there have been a number of pot holes which have been reported and repaired along with various other issues.



We are currently working hard to try and get work done to alleviate the drainage problem along Little Baddow Road which has now “met the criteria for repair” and we hope that it will receive the required attention soon.

It is worth noting the following information from the Highways department. Please do report problems yourself directly to Highways and also let me know so that I can also report it from the Parish Council. If they get lots of reports regarding the same problem it might just speed up the inspection if not the repair!

Jacky Bannerman
Parish Clerk
jacky@wwparishclerk.co.uk



TAKING DECISIVE ACTION ON POTHOLES

Essex Highways is carrying out an intensive programme of pothole repairs to improve road conditions following recent prolonged spells of bad weather.

So far this financial year Essex Highways has fixed in excess 55,000 carriageway defects, with another 4200 inspected and scheduled for repair shortly.

Recent extreme weather conditions, including the wettest year since records began (2012) and another freezing cold winter, have caused damage to the county's road network, increasing the need for repairs.

Up to 44 specialist gangs are currently working across the county, focusing specifically on pothole repairs. Additional gangs will also be mobilised when weather improves to carry out repairs using jet patchers – a high pressure patching system that allows repairs to be carried out quickly

with minimum disruption to traffic. It is not possible to use jet patchers during winter months as they require dry conditions to work effectively.

County Councillor Derrick Louis, Cabinet Member for Highways & Transportation said: “Maintaining and improving the condition of our road network is one of the County Council's absolute top priorities. Over the next four years we will be spending £180m on highways maintenance, including an additional £35m investment over the next two years.

Recent bad weather will inevitably cause damage to our road network, and we are doing everything we can to repair potholes as quickly as possible. This work will intensify over the coming weeks as weather conditions improve, so I ask residents to report them to us so that we can inspect and carry out required repairs as quickly as possible.”

Residents can report potholes by using the ‘View It, Track It, Report It’ function at www.essex.gov.uk/highways or by calling 0845 603 7631.

MORE INFORMATION ON POT HOLE REPAIRS AVAILABLE ONLINE

Essex Highways is putting more information online to help residents find out how potholes are inspected and repaired across the county.

A new section on the Essex County Council website features video content detailing the fixing process, and useful information on the criteria for repairs.

The webpage is available to view at www.essexhighways.org/Potholes.aspx.

County Councillor Louis said: “We understand the frustrations that potholes cause for residents, which is why we are putting more information on our website about how they are being inspected and repaired. The video content details the work our engineers are currently carrying out across the county on a daily basis.”



District Councillor, Mark Durham



I cannot believe that I have been your District Councillor for almost two years and am nearly half way through my current term, which ends with elections in 2015. Last year I was appointed as Vice Chairman of the Community & Leisure Services Committee and Vice Chairman of the North West Planning Committee. This increased my workload quite a bit, but meant that I had more responsibility for things that affect the area, such as refuse collection, leisure centres and the promotion of tourism in the district. I have a particular interest in Maldon's Promenade Park, as I believe that this council owned asset could be vastly improved to become a significant tourism



and leisure venue for the district.

In terms of planning business, we have monthly meetings at which applications are decided by the committee and at this time, Maldon District Council is in the process of formulating The Local Development Plan which will become the blueprint for housing provision in the future. This is probably one of the most important documents that a local authority has to produce and it involves a considerable amount of work by planning officers and members. A draft preferred options plan was put out for consultation recently and the results of this will be used to fine tune the plan in its later stages. Once the plan is completed, it has to be assessed by HM Planning Inspectorate before it can be adopted and at this stage, we envisage this to be in late 2014.

I am asked quite a lot what a District Councillor does and I thought that now I have a couple of years experience, I am in a better position to shed some light on the subject. Councillors represent a ward within the Maldon District, this one being Wickham Bishops & The Woodhams. I share the ward with my colleague Cllr. Henry Bass with whom I have a great deal of contact and in fact we share duties across the parishes in our ward. These parishes are Wickham Bishops, Little Braxted, Ulting, Langford, Woodham Walter, Woodham Mortimer and Ha-

zeleigh. Wherever possible we attend parish council meetings and try to keep abreast of everything that is happening in the villages.

As members we have to sit on at least one council committee as well as the planning area committee for the ward we represent. I sit on North West Planning as Vice Chairman, Community & Leisure Services as Vice Chairman and the Overview & Scrutiny Committee. We are also required to sit as substitute members on other committees if another

member cannot attend and we are of course able to sit in on any other meetings that may be of interest.

"I BELIEVE THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO ATTEND AS MANY COMMITTEES AS POSSIBLE SO THAT I CAN GAIN AN APPRECIATION OF OTHER AREAS OF THE COUNCILS WORK"



District Councillor, Mark Durham



I believe that it is important to attend as many committees as possible so that I can gain an appreciation of other areas of the councils work. With parish meetings, training sessions and other seminars this does quite often mean that I am out four nights a week. There is at least one meeting almost every week of the year and most weeks, I am at MDC two or three evenings and quite often once or twice a week during the day. This means that I have to have an understanding wife and employer, fortunately I am lucky enough to have both!

One of the most difficult aspects of the role is in respect of planning matters. Every month we have to make decisions about planning applications that can have both a personal and financial impact on the applicants. We are obliged to be impartial and attend the planning meetings without predisposition or predetermination towards any case. This can sometimes place us at odds with Parish Councils, individuals and businesses, but it is vital that we make our own decision based on planning law, district planning guidelines, national policy as well as

our own individual feeling about how an application may enhance or damage an area or community. This will inevitably mean that both I and the committee may make decisions that some people don't agree with or like, but this is one of the things that we as members have to accept. There are many occasions when there is disagreement within a committee, but decisions are ultimately decided by a vote and this is the right and democratic way.

In the last year we successfully resisted an application for gravel abstraction in the village and this is in no small way as a result of the united support of the parishioners. Fortunately things with this potential local impact do not come along that often, but when they do, it is most important that the village and their representatives work together. I do hope that we will not be faced with a similar project in Woodham Walter, but I am of course involved with other matters affecting other villages in my ward.

I can safely say that being a district councillor is much more time consuming than I thought at first with the schedule of meetings and huge volumes of papers that arrive in the post daily, plus at least 100 emails per week to deal with. It is however much more rewarding than I initially thought and it is a very great honour for me to represent this village of Woodham Walter. I rely on the help and support of the parish council, of which I am still a

member and fellow members of Maldon District Council and officers of the authority. I am also truly grateful for the support of our Member of Parliament, Priti Patel MP. On many occasions, I have needed to contact her for help or advice and I can honestly say that she has always been available by email or phone whenever I needed her. With her assistance we have managed to oil quite a few wheels in the background for matters relevant to this village.

I am sure that this coming year will be at least as busy as last year and I look forward to representing not only the ward, but particularly the village of Woodham Walter, where I was born and live today.

Cllr. Mark FL Durham
Member of Maldon District Council

For more information on Maldon District Council :
www.maldon.gov.uk



Woodham Walter Women's Club - Jean Newton



My goodness what a lovely busy year 2012 was and Women's Club participated with enthusiasm in all the village events.

The Diamond Jubilee Street Party at the beginning of June was such a special day, I would like to thank everyone who donated such beautifully decorated cakes, and helped us prepare the mountain of sandwiches. There was such a lovely community spirit in the village and it was all such fun, a huge thank you to two special ladies Joanna and Jacky who worked so hard to make the day so successful.

Fund Raising Events The Flower Festival all I can say about the weather was - it was wet, but it didn't seem to put people off visiting the church and the tea tent. We produced Ploughman's Lunches for four different groups - not all on the same day thankfully, the rambles made a return visit, and three U3A groups. Advance warning is appreciated to cater for larger groups so that the necessary preparations can be made, thank you to the ladies who prepared and laid out the lunches in not ideal conditions. Thank you also everyone who donates cakes, scones and preserves your efforts are much appreciated, and to everyone who

gives their time so freely to help in the Tea Tent thank you.

Bell Meadow Day is a fun family day and enjoyed by the village and visitors from afar,

surprise surprise it was a warm sunny day. Our cake stall proved popular and Penny who runs our tombola stall equally popular. The winners of the flag design competition and our own club member Angela who designed and stitched in fabric the detailed village elements which made up the design were on hand at the opening ceremony to see the raising of the flag.

Our final fund raising event was the annual Jumble Sale in Danbury Village Hall at the end of October. Thank you to everyone who helps out at this event. We also have to thank the team from the Danbury Village Hall who also help to make the event run so smoothly.

The Founders Day outing at the beginning of August was celebrated with a short trip to Tiptree for a visit to Perrywood Nursery, eighteen members met up there - and it was lovely to see and catch up with Queenie a past member who now lives in Kent. We enjoyed a little shopping and convened in the tea rooms for tea and chat, a most enjoyable afternoon.

Other Activities include performing at The Village Revue costumes this year sequins, frills and bright just right for a dark winters evening. The routine was a little

more complicated this year as we were a larger group, but with the aid of boxes and steps we all managed to find room to wave our arms and move our feet. At the Christmas 'do' in December, Father Christmas made his annual visit with much hilarity, after light refreshments we finished the evening with carol singing and good wishes to everyone for a happy Christmas and New Year. In the New Year we had a post Christmas Lunch at the Bell which was enjoyed by twenty one members this proved to be very popular, and I think it will become an annual item on our calendar. At the end of February a group of us went to the Civic Theatre to see a performance of 'Annie' presented by the Chelmsford Amateur and Operatic Dramatic Society, a very enjoyable evening out.

Finally I would like to thank the ladies on the committee who without their support I wouldn't function and to all members who attend our monthly meetings and give unstinting support to all our activities, thank you.

Women's Club meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm in the Club Room in Top Road. We always welcome new members and visitors to our meetings our speakers and activities always have a mention in the Parish News, look forward to perhaps seeing you at one of our meetings.



Silver Threads - Ann Mulley

Not a great deal to put in the report for Silver Threads this year. We still meet on the first Tuesday of each month but no longer in the village hall as our numbers are too small to need such a large space..

Christmas Lunch was held as usual at Tollesbury and was enjoyed by all.

The rest of the year we have lunches out during the winter months at local pubs, our meetings for the rest of the year are mainly finding new tea shops to sample.

Unfortunately we have lost two valued members in the last few months which has depleted our numbers still further, but we carry on with only

five regular attendees and three helpers. We would welcome some new faces to join us if anyone feels brave enough.

Silver Threads Club (Over 60's) meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 2.30pm. For the current programme please contact the President Ann Mulley

01621860451

Woodham Walter Village Hall Association - Sarah Maxted



It has been another successful year for the village hall. Bookings have continued to be reasonably high especially during the week.

Thanks to the Bell Meadow committee for a very generous donation which replenished our funds after a big spend on new curtains.

We are about to install a new water heater which will provide hot water to the kitchen as well as the hand basins in the toilets.

Once again we owe a great deal to June Chandler and her band of volunteers for the Art Show which raises a considerable sum for the hall.

The annual revue continues to be successful due to much hard work from Andrew Jasper and the many people who create routines to entertain us.

I would like to thank the committee for the time spent maintaining the hall - especially Ivor who does many odd jobs!

As always any new committee members would be very welcome - it is not an arduous task and many hands make light work.

Sarah Maxted
Chair

To book Woodham Walter Village Hall please contact Andrew Ritchings
Tel: 01621 811733 or email:
caretaker_wwvh@btinternet.com

Bell Meadow Village Association - Mark Durham



The year running up to Bell Meadow day 2012 was very busy for me as chairman of the organising committee, with business issues and an increasing commitment with duties as District Councillor which prevented me from attending as many meetings as I would have liked. On more than one occasion, I did offer to step aside, but for some reason the committee was happy to put up with my absence and keep me in the chair. This would only have been possible with the current members of the committee who carried on regardless and got everything organised for the event. Bell Meadow Day 2012 was the eighth year that we have held the celebration and it just keeps getting bigger and better every year. We are fortunate that there seems to be an established formula that works and visitors keep coming, even though we do much the same things every year.

It doesn't matter how much hard work is done to arrange everything in advance, there are always last minute panics and of course the weather is one of the key components to a successful day. I recall that during the week before last year's event, we were pretty sure that we were ready with almost everything tied up. The day before the event is always a stressful time, trying to get tents and stands erected and doing the last

minute preparations for the day itself. Last year, by lunchtime on Saturday we were well on the way when someone asked what time the stage was arriving. By mid afternoon, being unable to contact the scaffolder, we came to the horrible realisation that we had been let down. That meant that we had no stage for the band which is one of the highlights of Bell Meadow Day. By this time on a bank holiday weekend, we had no chance of getting another scaffolder or portable stage and were just about to cancel the band when one of the committee made a phone call and found a lorry that we could hire for the day. This would make an adequate stage, if a little smaller than the band are used to, but it saved the day. This is a perfect example of how everyone pulls together on the day to make the event the success that it is. Thanks to Kerry, the day went off without another hitch, the weather was fine



and 'For Funk Sake' played on the lorry with a crash mat of straw bales until late into the evening.

A few people have 'advised' us to change the formula this year or get another band. We get a greatly discounted rate from Andy and his band so it would be very difficult to find a band that will give us an equivalent show for the same money. It is also notable that so many people come specially to see For Funk Sake and love to dance the evening away on the meadow. For this reason, we have decided to keep things much the same this year and with the hard work already being done by the new committee, it is sure to be another great day.

The association that was convened nine years ago to run the first Bell Meadow Day was a sub-committee of Woodham Walter Parish Council and we received a grant from the council every year to help with the overheads. A couple of years ago, we were lucky to be sponsored by Hire Plus of Maldon who gave us a very generous contribution to our funds. We owe a great debt of thanks to Robert Lee for this sponsorship as it has meant that the association is now financially independent. With the help of this money and the funds generated in previous years, we found ourselves to be sitting on a healthy balance after last year's event. Bell Meadow Day was never intended to be a fund raising opportunity even for charity. Our aim was simply to provide a great day out for everyone and the income we collected was to cover overheads and ensure that we had enough in the bank to fund a complete wash out in any year. In 2012 we decided that we could use surplus funds for causes that were specific to Woodham Walter and we created a scheme that is now known as The Bell Meadow Legacy Fund. The plan is that after every event, we will see how much money has been generated and donate an amount to whatever cause is decided on by the committee.

Bell Meadow Village Association

It will however be restricted to either organisations or individuals in the village who may have a real need for help and who would benefit by a grant from the fund. To launch this Legacy Fund, we gave £1000 to Woodham Walter Village Hall and £1000 to The Friends of St. Michaels Church and the cheques were presented at the Autumn Review.

As I have already stated, my commitments are getting more and more dependent on Maldon District Council so I have been forced to leave the organisation to the very able commit-

tee and my Vice Chairman Gill Orford without whom the event would not happen. With the support of the committee, I intend to stick it out for at least another year so that I will have done the job for ten years. After this, I think that it is time to hand over to some new blood. Bell Meadow Day has become one of the highlights of my year and I am sure that it is the same for many other people. It is a rather special event held in a very special village.

This year Bell Meadow Day falls on August 25th and details about what you have to make and cook for the competitions will be in forthcoming parish magazines. We always need more help, particularly over the week-end, so when the notices appear, please volunteer even a little time to help make Bell Meadow Day 2013 the best yet.

MFL Durham
Chairman Bell Meadow Village Association

Bell Meadow Day - Sunday 25th August 2013



As the spring turns into summer, Bell Meadow Day will soon be upon us. The event is just getting bigger and bigger with more to see every year. Now in our 9th year!

This year the village is celebrating the Church's 450th Birthday with lots of categories in the competition tent.

There is a church tent, along with Essex small holders, pony rides, local crafts and of course the all important beer tent. We have some cracking raffle prizes and the ever popular barrow of booze. A variety of food - Pizza's, Hog Roast and Katies Kitchen will keep us fed and watered.

Will the Woodham Walter girls beat the Woodham Walter boys in the tug

of war? (possibly with help!) We are also going to have a general tug of war pull too so if you are up for a pull, just come along.

There will be a gun dog display, dog beauty, and dog agility all

to keep your faithful hound amused. Also a falconery display and egg throwing in the arena so a busy time will be had by all.

Live music in the evening with For Funk Sake with their new 80's set getting us all up to dance. It is just fantastic that so many people dance the night away on a meadow! Country life!

Well, hopefully we will see you all again this year with your friends and relatives to support our wonderful village and great community. Wristband entrance remains the same price of £3. Children under 15 free.

See you on Sunday 25th August from 1pm.

For more information please e mail: bellmeadowday@gmail.com or call Gill on 01245 226721. See you there
Gill Orford

Here are a few of the competition categories to whet your appetite and get your creative thoughts going... there will be more to come in the official competition booklet which will be published in the coming months.

Cookery: Cake Decorating - with the theme: "The 450th Anniversary of St Michael's"

Floral Art: A message in a bottle
Arts & Crafts: An original painting, drawing or collage with the theme "Gardens of Woodham Walter".

Produce: Heaviest marrow; A collection of 3 closely matched beans; A selection of at least 3 different berries/currants.

Photography: "If you go down to The Wilderness today".

Miscellaneous: A limerick with a Woodham Walter theme.

Miscellaneous: A bucket of compost

U16's: A cress creature

U16's: A decorated wooden spoon.

Woodham Walter Allotment Association - Gill Orford



The allotment scheme has now been running since 2009, with the kind permission of the land owners Peter and Bryony Maynard, the scheme is thriving. Woodham Walter is extremely lucky to have such a wonderful facility in our village.

We have 14 plots of which only one is currently available so if you fancy to growing your own fruit and vegetables please contact me for details.

We have had a tricky year, what with potato blight and a rather wet summer, but the plot holders have excelled themselves as always. Winning most of the rosettes in the Bell Meadow Day competition tent and taking part with gusto.

We all got together for our annual barbeque and enjoyed a few drinks and shared food in sunshine so that was very special.



Tadpoles have a plot and regular working parties, which is lovely to see the children planting and growing and enjoying being outside, working together. Allotment holders of the future!

Here is to a warm summer and plenty of rosette winning produce with maybe just a tad of rain.

Gill Orford
Chair of Woodham Walter
Allotment Association.



To be eligible for a plot, one must be a Parishioner of Woodham Walter or be an Educational establishment within the Parish.

For more details contact

Gill Orford : 01245 226721

Email: gill_orford@hotmail.co.uk

Footpath Officer - Peter Warren



I'm still walking the parish paths every day, making sure that our public rights of way are clear and problem-free. I try to cover a couple of paths each day and attempt to check all 28 footpaths and 5 bridleways every 2 or 3 months. My assistant, Bella the labrador, has only recently returned from sick leave and can't walk too many miles so I'm afraid the paths furthest from home have been neglected a little.

Due to all the rain over the past 10 months several paths have been flooded and many others scarcely passable due to the boggy mud. With weeds at head height the ECC cutting schedule was brought forward to June and was completed over a couple of weeks in between downpours. In the past year there have been 7 fallen trees obstructing paths. All the landowners have been very cooperative and prompt in clearing the paths. Also, due to

the waterlogged ground, a lot of trees have sagged over, leaving branches hanging across the footpath. Most of these I have removed myself.

With the request to check for Chalara Fraxinea (Ash Dieback) in the parish, and the Parish Council's responsibility for trees on WW Common and those surrounding Bell Meadow it was decided to appoint a Tree Officer. It made good sense to combine this with my footpath duties so I was duly appointed at our January meeting.

Several changes affecting rights of way have occurred at ECC. Long term contractors Balfour Beatty have been replaced by Ringway Jacobs but luckily the existing workers for WW have been retained so our maintenance jobs and grass cutting were not too badly affected. Last autumn 2 bridges were

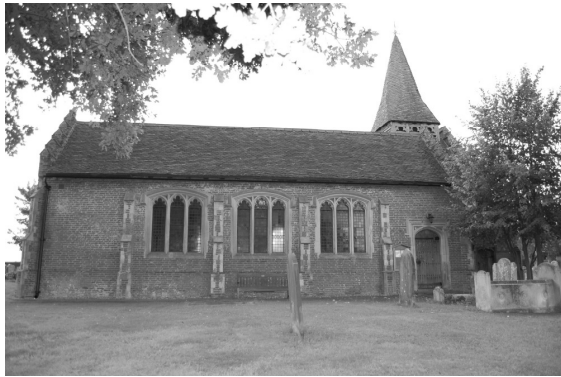
replaced. On FP36 the old concrete bridge had to go due to the handrail being rusted through. Also the bridge at the Curling Tye end of FP19 was widened and a handrail added. With several bridge improvements last year we've certainly done well despite the financial cutbacks. Integral to this was our Rights of Way Officer Nicky Coleman who unfortunately has recently been transferred to Braintree parishes. The post is now a job-share, the new incumbents being Rob Boulton and Shirley Clayton-Anglin. I hope to meet them both as soon as possible so that we can continue to get good service in Woodham Walter.

Please help me to keep our paths in good shape. When you're out walking take your secateurs with you! If you see anything that needs attention or any improvement that you could suggest please let me know.

Peter Warren
01245 221326



St Michael's Church - Kathy Tompkins & Arthur Razzell



2013 is a really exciting year for our church. Not only will we be celebrating the 450th Anniversary of St Michael's on its present site, but also work will start on the tea-point, disabled access, opening the south door and toilet facilities.

We would therefore like to start by acknowledging the efforts, sacrifices and sheer determination of everyone who has contributed over the years to facilitate this. Our thanks go to those who have run coffee mornings, teas, Easter Egg Hunts and Scarecrow competitions. To supporters of the annual Flower Festival, we thank you for your loyalty, year on year, when the goal seemed to be slipping away. To the Friends of St Michael's thank you for organising church working parties that have saved significant sums in maintenance costs. Thanks too, to Woodham Walter School, whose money raising efforts have all added up. Thanks also to the Bell Meadow Association, for making Bell Meadow Day this year so special for St Michael's. To all those who have succumbed to our Fabric Officer's winning ways, this

was the final push we needed. To all those with Standing Orders, we don't thank you nearly enough, but we do truly value your regular contributions. Thank you to everyone; this could not have been achieved without you. Please refer to The Friends Report for further information on these projects.

We have not forgotten, however, that the true purpose of St Michael's is to spread the love of God and care for all who live here. Over recent years this too has not been an easy task and periodically we do receive harsh criticism for our shortcomings. The Church of England is however very different today from the one many of us knew in our childhood. Rev'd Stephanie, together with the majority of parish priests within the Diocese, is not full time and does not receive a stipend. The Benefice of Woodham Mortimer with Hazeleigh and Woodham Walter is a 'house for duty appointment'. The laity is now expected to carry out duties that at one time would have been the sole responsibility of the priest. We know that at times we fall below expectation, but we are on a huge learning curve with limited personnel, and resources of time and money.

Despite this, we have main-

tained and improved our presence at the village school, with representatives on the Governing Body, and leading assemblies both in school and when the children attend church. Rev'd Stephanie can often be seen at school reading to the children and as a regular visitor to Tadpoles. We are delighted with the continuing Diocesan Link with Kenya and look forward to welcoming the Deputy Head Teacher from Mutira in the near future.

In 2012 there were 48 people on the Electoral Roll. Baptisms, thanksgivings for the gift of a Child, renewal of marriage vows and marriage blessings were held. This year there will be five weddings. Rev'd Stephanie also runs marriage preparation evenings that not only help prepare couples for married life but also help to make their wedding day more meaningful.

There were five funerals in church and three at the Crematorium. Whether these resulted in burial in the churchyard or in the memorial garden, there can be few places to equal the beautiful and peaceful surroundings in which to remember a loved one.



St Michael's Church



Outreach projects have included a new prayer group, pastoral visiting, and continuing social occasions for a 'Care & Share' fund. Courses in a range of Christian studies take place at The Rectory catering for all age groups. Rev'd Stephanie is also available at The Rectory on Tuesdays between 10am and 11am for all parish related enquiries.

We support various charities during the year including Ride and Stride in aid of Essex Churches, The Children's Society, The Royal British Legion, the Kenyan Link and various cancer charities amongst others. We actively support village events, in particular the village weekend in July and Bell Meadow Day in August. The Flower Festival this year will celebrate the 450th anniversary.

Unlike many rural churches nationwide, services are held here every Sunday, alternating

with Holy Communion, Morning Prayer and Family Services. We owe much to Ken Hay our



organist and to the choir who regularly accompany services. Through the generosity and commitment of the congregation we provide hospitality following every service and keep our church open every day of the year.



We were very sad this year at the death of Arthur Harlow, a resident of The Robert Henry Faulkner Alms-

houses, he will be greatly missed. Work will begin at No. 1 shortly to update the kitchen and bathroom before the arrival of a new resident. Our thanks, as always, go to the Honorary Clerk Malcolm Bunn and his wife Iris, who take care of the buildings and keep a friendly eye on the residents on behalf of the Trustees.

So please note 29th September 2013, St Michael's Day. We will be celebrating the weekend with a concert on 28th and a special service on the morning of 29th followed by a lunch. Celebration events have already begun, and will continue for the rest of the year. Please join us whenever you can. This is your church and only by your involvement and support both physical and fiscal, can it fulfil the purpose for which it was built – a centre from which God's love emanates to everyone without exception. Its doors are always open; there is no admission charge, no age barrier, colour or sex discrimination. You can come on your own, or with family and friends. You can attend weekly, monthly, once a year or only for family occasions, such as baptisms, marriages or funerals. We remain committed to the continuance of a Christian presence in Woodham Walter.

Churchwardens
Kathy Tompkins &
Arthur Razzell

Wood Corner Caravan Site - Steve Andrews



Wood Corner - news from the corner

Another year, another move – after reporting Alec Baker's appointment as live on manager, Essex County Council and Gypsy/Traveller Service do not stand still for long, and Alec's skills were needed back in HQ as we venture into a new partnership unit – more on that later. However, the strength of the service is a dedicated and experience team of site managers working across the whole of Essex, who have stepped into the breach and continue to manage the site seamlessly. We are already in the process of lining up our next live on site manager.

As ever, we have settled site, although slightly more changes than in previous, with us welcoming 4 new families on to the site, many of these have been family moves. Our various good works continue, with a joint project with the Childrens Centre to be run on Wood Corner around Child Safety and Oral Health – both running alongside national campaigns of Child Safety Week, and National Smile Month. I'll report on these in the next newsletter along with some pictures.

In the last newsletter, I was writing to you as manager of Gypsy & Traveller Services. Now I right to you as the Essex Countywide Traveller Unit Manager. We have been operational since October 2012, and are a partnership operation joint funded by our partners, including ECC, Maldon DC plus 6 other district/borough/unitaries, Police, Fire and Health services. We will continue with our site management responsibilities, but have expanded our service to include tackling inequalities in health and education, carry out site and home fire safety visits on local authority and private



sites, and ensuring unauthorised encampments across all partner areas across Essex – including Parish's in those partner areas - are managed in a consistent, firm but fair way. Amongst the many early successes of the unit was to receive Highly Commended at the recent Local Government Chronicle awards in the Public Sector Partnership Category.

Steve Andrews
Essex Countywide Traveller Unit Manager
Essex County Council



Mobile Library

The Mobile Library visits Woodham Walter fortnightly as follows:

Woodham Walter, Wood Corner 1530-1600
Woodham Walter, Queen Victoria 1610-1630

Tuesdays 9th & 23rd April, 7th and 21st May,
4th & 18th June.

For more information visit:
www.essex.gov.uk



Woodham Walter Common - Chris Wheadon



I am pleased to report that there have been no major issues of concern on the Common in the past twelve months. The adverse weather has made the majority of Bridleways/Footpaths and tracks extremely wet.

Woodland Fern and Sphagnum Moss now establishing in the Bog Areas.



Heathland Regeneration

Heather is positively thriving in the newly created Heather upland area (1/3 acre. 0.15 ha) initially seeded by me in 2011, with many young plants flowering in

2012. This has proved a to be a very successful project and ultimately could herald the re appearance of Heathland butterflies to the area.



Brushcutting, carefully leaving the establishing Heather plants.



The new larger area seeded in Spring of 2012 has already produced some new Heather plants, was recently brush cut, and is due to be extensively re seeded by me in the Spring when the weather permits.

Himalayan Balsam This invasive non indigenous pink flowering plant grows in the stream and margins upstream of "Twitty Fee". We are actively attempting to remove it all by a combination of brushcutting and pulling it out by hand when in flower to reduce the possibility of it spreading its seeds downstream.

Waymark Posts Minor issues still exist with Waymark Posts, as previously reported we have had instances of posts being physically removed. Peter Warren aware, as are the ECC Footpaths Dept.

Deer Management A small number of Mountjack deer have been culled, this will obviously reduce the amount of foraging damage to the area of woodland coppiced in 2010/2011 and afford the new young tree growth much needed protection.

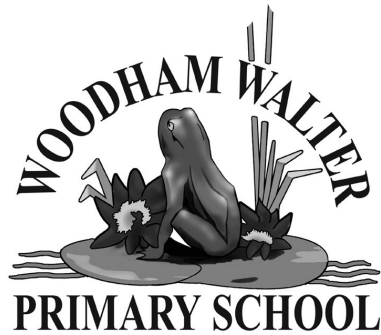
General Management/Repairs

The Bridge across the stream near "Twitty Fee" has been repaired.

Chris Wheadon
Volunteer Warden.



Woodham Walter Primary School - Headteacher



LEAGUE TABLES

We are very proud to announce that we have been recognised for having achieved one of the top scores in Essex (joint 4th) and in the country in the National League Tables.

"THE CHILDREN AND STAFF OF OUR SCHOOL REALLY DO WORK INCREDIBLY HARD TO ACHIEVE THE VERY BEST FOR EVERYONE."

The children and staff of our school really do work incredibly hard to achieve the very best for everyone.

"The overall percentage of your pupils achieving Level 4+, combined with excellent rates of progress in both English and mathematics place you amongst the top performing primary schools this year." - Rt Hon David Laws, MP Minister of State for Schools.



WORLD BOOK DAY

Frank Herrmann, author of 'The Giant Alexander' visited our school during World Book Day.



SPORT

Our Gymnastics, Hockey, Netball and Football teams have enjoyed a fantastic season. They gave their all, exemplifying our school values by working as a team and playing fair.

SCHOOL CHOIR

After an exhausting rehearsal schedule Woodham Walter School Choir opened the Village Revue, performed in Chelmsford Cathedral and took part in a concert at the Royal Albert Hall in aid of Barnados. Their singing was magnificent and they were a credit to the school.



A VISIT FROM THE BISHOP



We were honoured to have a visit from Bishop John of Bradwell who led a special assembly at our school.

Sue Dodd
Headteacher
www.woodhamwalter.essex.sch.uk
01245 223264

Parent & Teacher Association - Paul Freeman-Hacker



This year brought a change of faces for our PTA and Paul Freeman-Hacker took over as Chair, with valued support from Vice-Chair Eleanor Bacon, Secretary Samantha Woodcraft and a trusty team of other parents, teachers and school staff.

Thank you to all the team for their hard work and enthusiasm and to all the other staff, parents and local residents who have supported us this year.

The annual fundraising year kicked off with our ever-popular Race Night. An evening of gambling and revelry (all in a good cause!) which raised £400.



Everyone enjoyed being spoilt at The Christmas Shopping and Pamper Evening. There was a selection of stalls selling unusual gifts and produce and we raised almost £700. Continuing in the festive theme, children loved making Christmas puddings with Mrs Dixon and Mr Freeman-Hacker. Sales from the puddings raised an amazing £134.75.

The school discos were well attended and lots of fun. It was also nice to see some of our old year 6 pupils. The Christmas Bake & Take raised £245 for the school and all the children loved visiting Father Christmas as well as meeting Rudolph.

Funds raised by the PTA are used to subsidise transport for school trips, to purchase vital resources for the school, to rejuvenate the school grounds and for treats such as the Peter Pan Christmas Pantomime.

This year we have supported the schools literacy focus by funding reading resources in each classroom. These include books, magazine subscriptions, puppets, reading rugs and display cabinets.

We look forward to several more events this year including:

Jumble Sale,
Saturday 15th June from 1.30 p.m. at Danbury Village Hall

Summer Fete,
Sunday 14th July
1.30p.m.-4.00p.m.

Thank you for all your support this year.



Friends of St Michael's Church - Brian Cumming

The Friends of St. Michael's Church is a non-religious group which was formed in 2005 to support the maintenance and development of this important historical building and its grounds.

The 'Friends' organisation is well supported within the village and we are very grateful for the skills, knowledge, people power and financial support that our Friends (and sometime their friends too) provide. Our membership currently stands at 138 people and we would welcome anyone who might like to join us.

Very sadly in May last year we lost one of our founder members, Moyna Carnell. Moyna was an



enthusiastic supporter of our working parties and fund raising events; full of ideas and drive and she is greatly missed.

In this last year we ran three working parties during which we conducted extensive work in the churchyard; we planted a new yew tree, pruned the lime trees, applied a coat of preservative to the wooden boundary fence, tidied the shed and we had a big, end of season, clear up, grass cutting and leaf clearance session.



We ran fund raising activities at the Flower Festival and the Rural Celebration and these both generated welcome additional sums for our coffers.

During the year we have received other generous donations from a number of sources including, the Bell Meadow Village Association, the Cats public house, individuals in memory of Moyna and from Moyna herself who remembered us in her will.

This year will see the 450th anniversary of the Church and we are actively supporting some exciting improvements that are planned for the coming year. These improvements include:-

- The provision of a tea point at the back of the church to include hot running water and washing up facilities.
- Improved access to the main church entrance.
- Re-opening the south door
- A porch to the re-opened south door which will include toilet facilities

There are a number of potential sources of funding for this work and the Friends are pleased to be able to support these actions both financially and physically where ever we can.

Beyond these activities there is work to be done to solve a damp problem associated with the south and west walls, repairs to the exterior brickwork pointing and redecoration of the interior; this work will follow on in subsequent years.

With your support we look forward to a very interesting and important year for St. Michael's Church.

Brian Cumming
Chairman and
Membership Secretary



Tadpoles Nursery - Pam Seear



We have had another very busy and enjoyable year at Tadpoles. We enjoyed celebrating the Queens Diamond Jubilee closely



followed by the Olympics. We celebrated the Jubilee by dressing up, face painting and joining in the Street Party. At our Annual Teddy Bears Picnic we all received medals just like the athletes in the Olympics!

In September the Aunties went to London to attend The Nursery World Awards in which we were very proud to be finalists in Nursery of the Year, and Pam was finalist in Manager of the Year. The awards were held at The Lancaster Hotel in London and we all had to put on our best dresses for the very grand affair, it was all very exciting, we all had

an amazing time enjoying the fine dining and dancing the night away. Thank you to everyone for their support.

As is our policy at Tadpoles we freely access our outdoors whatever the weather. We dress appropriately for the weather and we especially enjoyed playing in all the snow we have had this year. We loved making snowmen. We dressed one of our snowmen up as a Fireman.



Our project for this spring term has been 'People who help us' We have enjoyed lots of exciting visits from Policemen, Nurses, Lollipop men and Firemen. They talked to us about their jobs and answered all our questions. They also brought in lots of things to show



us. The Firemen came in their Fire Engine, they parked over at the school and we were able to look all around the engine, and climb inside the cab. A fireman told us what the different items on the engine were for and we got to try on the firemen's helmet. The firemen dressed up Aunty Ella in their uniform. It was very funny.



We continue to work hard on our allotment and enjoy regular trips there with the children during the day as well as our allotment working parties at the weekends where we are joined by the children, Mums, Dads, Grannies, Grandads etc. We have saved up our Morrison's and Sainsbury's vouchers to use for seeds and equipment for our allotment, this year we used our vouchers to purchase a poly-tunnel to help protect our seeds as they grow. We are looking forward to planting lots of new produce this year.

We are still operating Monday to Friday Term times only, offering both all day and sessional care. As always any questions please contact Pam Seear 01245222046.

Neighbourhood Watch - Brian Cumming



During the year I attended a number of Neighbourhood Watch meetings in Maldon as the Woodham Walter representative, in addition to these meetings I receive regular information from the local police with summaries of crimes that have been conducted in the Maldon area. From this information I extract items that may be of relevance to us and publish related advice and guidance in the village magazine; this year I have published four such articles. We are lucky to be living in a low crime area but the area is not entirely

crime free and we all need to take sensible precautions to protect our property. We are subject to two main kinds of criminal activity, theft and phone and internet based fraud. Items under the theft category include:-

- House, garage and shed break-ins and most recently two break-ins at the school when computer equipment was stolen.
 - Items stolen from cars and agricultural vehicles
 - Oil stolen from heating oil supply tanks
 - Purses stolen from bags in Maldon and the supermarkets
- Items in the fraud category include:-
- Claims to fix computer issues
 - False tax refunds
 - Claims for overdue bills
 - Sales attempts falsely claiming to have 'official' backing

I have previously written about all of these issues, and more, and the advice remains the same - keep valuables out of sight and locked away whenever possible and don't give any personal or financial details to people you don't know.

During the year a new Maldon and District Neighbourhood Watch website has been established; follow the link www.maldondistrictnhw.co.uk. This website contains a lot of useful information on crime prevention, it provides police and Neighbourhood Watch contact details and includes the regularly published local crime reports.

Finally, as always, please keep your eyes and ears open and your mobile phone handy.

Brian Cumming
NHW Co-ordinator

no excuse for speeding

If you commit a driving offence anywhere in Essex and at any time, you could be caught and either fined, prosecuted or re-educated.

www.drivingcasualtiesdown.org

Essex Works. For a better quality of life.

Essex County Council

Community Speed Watch

The aim of the Community Speed Watch initiative is to address the problem of either real or perceived speeding. This is done in partnership with the community and police.

Woodham Walter Parish Council support the scheme and organise Community Speed Watch members who are not Police or County Council employees but members of the local community who want to make a real difference to the speed of vehicles through the village. Using a hand-held radar gun, they capture the speed of offending vehicles, record the necessary data and send it to the

police. This information is logged on the police computer where further checks can be made into insurance, tax etc. The police then send the registered keepers a warning letter explaining the dangers and problems caused by speeding. Persistent individuals may then be targeted by the police who will prosecute them if they are caught.

In Woodham Walter during 2012 we carried out several sessions resulting in vehicle details being forwarded to Essex Police- this included vehicles with speeds in excess of 50mph. Essex Police also carried out enforcement sessions in the village.

More volunteers are needed in Woodham Walter in order to make the initiative even more successful. The commitment required only needs to be an hour every two or three weeks. Full training will be given on how to use the detecting equipment, how to record the data, health and safety etc. If you are interested in volunteering as a CSW member please contact our Parish Clerk, Jacky Bannerman for more information.

jacky@wwparishclerk.co.uk

Police - Inspector Chris Kilgallen



The last year has seen some major changes for Essex Police. The police stations at both Maldon and Southminster remain

open with police officers and PCSOs operating from both stations. Both stations are open to the public between 1200-1800 Monday to Saturday inclusive. The Maldon District remains a very safe place to live. Maldon Policing District has a year on year all crime offence reduction of 0.5% April to January 2013 when compared to the same period last year. Comparative figures for the period April to January show a decrease in 2013 to 1967 offences compared to 1977 offences for the previous year.

The past year has seen an increase in the number of dwelling burglaries in the Maldon District. Comparative figures for the period April to January show an increase in 2013 to 88 offences compared to 77 offences for the previous year. Essex Police continue to focus heavily on detecting and preventing dwelling burglaries as the increase in offences is a trend across the whole of Essex.

There has also been an increase in the number of vehicle crimes over

the past year. Comparative figures for the period April to January show an increase in 2013 to 365 offences compared to 342 offences for the previous year. Thefts of catalytic converters continue sporadically across the area.

However, it should be noted that many thefts from vehicles occur when vehicles are left insecure. Please remember to lock your vehicles and ensure no valuable items such as sat navs are left on view.

Similarly Maldon District continues to suffer a number of thefts of heating oil. If you do have such tanks then please contact your supplier who will be able to provide you with some information as to what you can do to reduce the likelihood of becoming a victim of crime.

The area also continues to suffer thefts of metals, whether it be items stolen from gardens, sheds or from the side of the road. All residents are asked to remain vigilant and to report anything they think may be suspicious to the police immediately.

It is pleasing to note that there have been significant decreases in both criminal damage and anti-social behaviour incidents for the Maldon District.

The Essex Police website contains details of when community engagement events are taking place in your area.

The year ahead will continue to present challenges for Essex Police as budgets continue to tighten. However, as an organisation Essex Police remains committed in its intention to serve the local community well.

Insp Chris Kilgallen
Maldon and South Woodham Ferrers
Neighbourhood Policing Team
Internal Extn 412001
Direct dial: 101 ext 412001
Mobile 07855 781393
Email:
chris.kilgallen@essex.pnn.police.uk
Website: www.essex.police.uk/my_neighbourhood.aspx
Maldon, South Woodham Ferrers
and Southminster Police Station
Opening hours:
Mon - Sat 12:00 - 18:00, Sun Closed
To find out what is happening in your neighbourhood and all about your local neighbourhood policing team visit www.essex.police.uk/yourarea and enter your postcode.

One Place on Wheels



One Place on Wheels visits the 24 rural parishes across the **Maldon District** in the **Mobile Police Vehicle** on a bi-monthly basis. **Maldon District Council** has lent its full support to the initiative

The One Place On Wheels vehicle

visits Woodham Walter Village Hall bi-monthly in June, August, October, December. The vehicle is manned by representatives from Essex Police and the One Place Team offering information and advice on policing, tourist & community information, social care, healthy living,

benefits and housing advice, volunteering opportunities and access to IT and training. It is open to all.

One Place on Wheels is due to visit Woodham Walter on Thursday 13th June from 3.15-4.15pm



Village Agent - Christine MacDonald



Thank you for inviting me to submit an article for your Parish Council Annual Report.

Last year was a busy year for the Village Agent project, with continued investment in training to meet the diverse needs of people wishing to live safer, healthier and more independently.

It has been a privilege to meet residents and discuss your needs

giving me the opportunity to put forward suggestions of how they can be best met. The range of activities has been extremely varied, from arranging home support and shopping, to setting up a creative writing group; from dementia support to electrical appliance testing.

Sometimes what seems to be the most bizarre enquiry turns out to be something one of the other 12 Agents has already experienced. For example, information on dog training tips for an unruly pet that was turning his owner's life into a misery. Result - fulfilled dog and happy, relaxed owner!

In most cases, I visited people in their own homes (and enjoyed tea and biscuits, thank you!) but have also met people in supermarket

cafes when more convenient.

If you are not sure if a Village Agent could help, why not try me?

YOUR LOCAL VILLAGE AGENT CHRISTINE MCDONALD

Tel: FREEPHONE

0800 977 5858

Mobile: 07540 720608,

Email:

christine.mcdonald@vaessex.org.uk

Your local Village Agent can help you with:

Mid-Essex Pilot

Your local Village Agent is available to discuss:

- “ Early interventions to improve your health
- “ Aids to independence
- “ Personal and home safety and security
- “ Access to services and carers' support
- “ Advocacy
- “ Life records and funeral plans
- “ And lots, lots, more!



Easy access to services and information

www.villageagentsessex.org.uk

FREE, CONFIDENTIAL, INDEPENDENT INFORMATION, SIGNPOSTING AND REFERRALS

phone FREE on 0800 977 5858



Village Agents are employed by The Rural Community Council of Essex

Registered Charity No. 1097009, Company Limited by Guarantee No. 4609624

Bus Services for Woodham Walter

Regal Busways

CHELMSFORD - SANDON - DANBURY - LITTLE BADDOW - WOODHAM WALTER - MALDON

Mondays to Fridays	5	31A	31A	31A	31A
	Th				
Chelmsford Bus Station (Stand 2)	-	-	1240	1600	1715
Chelmsford Railway Station (Stand 11)	-	-	1241	1601	1716
<u>Great Baddow, The Blue Lion (opp)</u>	-	-	1252	1612	1727
Sandon, The Crown (o/s)	-	-	1257	1617	1732
Danbury Common (opp)	0910	-	1305	1625	1740
<u>Danbury, Eves Corner (N-bound)</u>	0913	0914	1307	1627	1742
Little Baddow, North Hill, adj Spring Close	0920	0922	1315	1635	1750
Woodham Walter, Spring Elms Lane, adj Bassetts Lane	0927	-	-	-	1758
<u>Woodham Walter, The Bell (o/s)</u>	0933	-	-	-	1801
Woodham Walter, Council Houses (opp)	0936	-	-	-	1804
Beeleigh, Brook Farm (opp)	0941	-	-	-	1809
Maldon, All Saints Church (o/s)	0946	-	-	-	1814
Maldon, Tesco Store	0949	-	-	-	-
Maldon, Morrisons	0955	-	-	-	-

MALDON - WOODHAM WALTER - LITTLE BADDOW - DANBURY - SANDON - CHELMSFORD

Mondays to Fridays	31A	31A	5	31A	31A
	Th				
Maldon Morrisons	-	-	1145	-	-
Maldon, Tesco Store	-	-	1150	-	-
<u>Maldon, White Horse</u>	-	-	1154	-	-
Beeleigh, Brook Farm Corner	-	-	1159	-	-
Woodham Walter, Council Houses (adj)	0725	-	1203	-	-
<u>Woodham Walter, The Bell (opp)</u>	0728	-	1206	-	-
Woodham Walter, Spring Elms Lane, adj Bassetts Lane	0731	-	1212	-	-
Little Baddow, North Hill, adj Spring Close	0738	0925	1217	1318	1638
<u>Danbury, Eves Corner (SW-bound)</u>	0746	0933	1219	1326	1646
Danbury Common (adj)	0748	0935	1222	1328	-
Sandon, The Crown (opp)	0756	0943	-	1336	-
<u>Great Baddow, The Blue Lion (o/s)</u>	0801	0948	-	1341	-
Chelmsford Railway Station (stand 12)	0812	0959	-	1352	-
Chelmsford Bus Station (Stand 2)	0813	1000	-	1353	-

CHELMSFORD - SANDON - DANBURY - LITTLE BADDOW - WOODHAM WALTER - MALDON

Saturdays only	31A	31A	31A	31A
Chelmsford Bus Station (Stand 2)	0730	0845	1105	1515
Chelmsford Railway Station (Stand 11)	0731	0846	1106	1516
<u>Great Baddow, The Blue Lion (opp)</u>	0739	0857	1117	1527
Sandon, The Crown (o/s)	0743	0903	1123	1533
Danbury Common (opp)	0750	0910	1130	1540
<u>Danbury, Eves Corner (N-bound)</u>	0752	0912	1132	1542
Little Baddow, North Hill, adj Spring Close	0800	0920	1140	1550
Woodham Walter, Spring Elms Lane, adj Bassetts Lane	0808	0928	1148	1558
<u>Woodham Walter, The Bell (o/s)</u>	0810	0930	1150	1600
Woodham Walter, Council Houses (opp)	0813	0933	1153	1603
Beeleigh, Brook Farm (opp)	0817	0937	1157	1607
Maldon, All Saints Church (o/s)	0822	0942	1202	1612
Maldon, Tesco Store (Stop 1)	0827	0945	1205	-

MALDON - WOODHAM WALTER - LITTLE BADDOW - DANBURY - SANDON - CHELMSFORD

Saturdays only	31A	31A	31A
Maldon, Tesco Store (Stop 1)	1000	1210	1530
Maldon, The White Horse (o/s)	1004	1214	1534
<u>Beeleigh, Brook Farm (o/s)</u>	1009	1219	1539
Woodham Walter, Council Houses (opp)	1013	1223	1543
Woodham Walter, The Bell (opp)	1016	1226	1546
<u>Woodham Walter, Spring Elms Lane, opp Bassetts Lane</u>	1019	1229	1549
Little Baddow, North Hill, adj Spring Close	1026	1236	1556
Danbury, Eves Corner (SW-bound)	1034	1244	1604
<u>Danbury Common (adj)</u>	1035	1245	1605
Sandon, The Crown (opp)	1042	1252	1612
Great Baddow, The Blue Lion (o/s)	1047	1257	1617
Chelmsford, Railway Station (Stand 12)	1059	1309	1629
Chelmsford, Bus Station (Stand 2)	1100	1310	1630

Woodham Walter Parish Council

Burnt House
Burnt House Road
Woodham Walter
Maldon
Essex CM9 6RS



Parish Clerk: Mrs Jacky Bannerman
Phone: 01245 222595 (Before 6pm)
E-mail: jacky@wwparishclerk.co.uk

**The Woodham Walter Parish Council website is:
www.essexinfo.net/woodhamwalter-pc**

Here you can find information about the Parish Council, agendas, minutes and other village information.

Who's Who and What They Do

Parish Councillors

James Bunn - Chairman & Bell Meadow Village Assoc.

Peter Warren - Vice Chairman & Footpath Officer & Tree Officer

Mark Durham - Parish Councillor & District Councillor & Bell Meadow Village Assoc.

Gill Orford - Parish Councillor & Allotment Association & Bell Meadow Village Assoc.

David Potter - Parish Councillor

Andrew Newland - Parish Councillor

Joanna Symons - Parish Councillor & Primary School Community Governor

Parish Clerk

Jacky Bannerman

Parish Council Meetings

Woodham Walter Parish Council meets at 8pm on the second Monday of the month, usually at Women's Club room, Top Road. Members of the public are very welcome to attend and can address the council on agenda items or any issues relevant to Woodham Walter. The agenda for the meeting is displayed on the notice board outside Old Chapel Stores and on the website during the week preceding the meeting.

Diary Dates 2013/14

8th April	14th October
13th May	11th November
10th June	9th December
8th July	13th January
12th August	10th February
9th September	10th March



Party Tents

**8m x 4m White
Party Tents**

£50 for one

£75 for two

Woodham Walter Parish Council raised £900 hiring the tents during 2012.