

ROUND ABOUT

OCTOBER 2020

GREAT TEY

NEWS, VIEWS AND EVENTS IN & AROUND GT TEY

EDITORIAL

Although with tough times ahead making social gatherings of more than six out of the question and therefore giving our clubs and organisations little chance of getting back to anything like normal, I have had many enquiries regarding when Round & About was going to come through the door again. After circulating our regular contributors along with the odd story waiting in the files, I have managed to put together just four pages, to give you an idea of how everything is fairing in and around our village.

However, reading through the contributions from the clubs and groups, generally very active within our village, the situation looks very much like it was when going into lockdown last April, making it likely that further issues will have nothing to report.

I had hoped we could start promoting plans our village organisations had for the Christmas/New Year period, but it is looking like there won't be anything other than personal gatherings of six or under family groups this year. If sufficient news comes in then we will publish up to December at least, because I have been given the impression a lot of our readers look to the R&A to see what is going on in and around Great Tey, but we have to consider the drain on our print fund should there be nothing much to say.

It's good to be back, let's hope we can stay that way. *Ed*

GREAT TEY WI

Dear Members,

We trust you are all well.

We had hoped to bring a little bit of joy into your lives by saying we could all meet up next month, but unfortunately due to Government Guide line rules regarding a maximum of 6 people, we have been advised by Head Office to cancel all meetings until further notice.

If by any chance the situation should change we will keep you informed, but at the moment we are looking, optimistically, to the New Year and the next meeting.

Take care and stay safe, WI. COMMITTEE MEMBERS

THAT'S ALL FOLKS!

Due to continued problems following a Total Shoulder Replacement, after 20 plus years of delivering mail to Great Tey, I've had to call it a day and find something else to do with my time. At the moment that consists of sitting in the garden drinking wine, an expensive but very enjoyable pastime!

I would like to say a great big Thank You for all the kindness and generosity shown to me over the years. I will miss it. As a resident, I will still be Roundabout Great Tey.

Many thanks, keep safe.

Keith (the post)

IRENE HOLLIDAY

My family and I would like to thank all those who supported Irene during the last months of her life and for the many cards received.

She was a popular lady and this was demonstrated by the many who lined the route to the church and by the 100 cards and numerous letters received. We also thank all those for the incredible donations received. This totalled £1546 split between St Helena Hospice and the Colchester Cancer Centre.

Irene fought her illness with great courage and maintained her dignity and humour throughout. She closed her eyes upon the light of the world the way she wanted to. At home with her family around her.

Once again, thank you for your tremendous support.

A memorial service will be held when the situation allows.

Michael Holliday

THANK YOU

We would like to say a big thank you to Penny for delivering our papers and to Marian for collecting our prescriptions during 'lockdown'. We are both very grateful.

Also to the wonderful Sarah and her 'little red tractor and trailer'. It has helped so many to maintain their independence in these difficult times and brought our Village together.

Beryl and Roger

PARISH COUNCIL MEET REMOTELY IN OCTOBER, PARISHIONERS INVITED

The parish council have not been able to meet in recent months because of the Coronavirus pandemic, and so have arranged for a remote meeting to be held on Tuesday 13th October at 7.30pm on Zoom. Parishioners are invited to join the meeting and speak at the allotted time for public questions and statements near the beginning of the meeting. It would be helpful if any questions could be sent by email to the clerk before the meeting if possible. His email address is :-

greatteyparishcouncil@outlook.com.

The agenda will be posted on the parish council web site, on the Facebook page and the notice board at the top of The Chase nearer the date of the meeting.

The details and the link for the meeting are:-

Topic: October Parish Council Meeting

Time: Oct 13, 2020 07:30 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/89958594185>

Meeting ID: 899 5859 4185

LITTER PICK POSTPONED UNTIL SPRING 2021

The Parish Council have decided that because of the uncertainties regarding the coronavirus pandemic, it is best to postpone the litter pick in Great Tey until Spring of next year. Further details will be given nearer that time.

SIGNAGE AT THE BROOK ROAD DEVELOPMENT

The Parish Council are seeking clarification from Colchester Borough Council on the signage at the Brook Road development as we have not been advised of the contribution to the village's community benefits that it mentions.

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE SHOWN COMMUNITY SPIRIT

The Parish Council would like to thank all those parishioners who have shown community spirit by helping neighbours with shopping and other help during the coronavirus pandemic, especially Sarah Barron, Peter Fairs and Penny Clayton.

NEW TOWNS & INFRASTRUCTURE

WITHOUT admitting the so called 'Garden Communities' were an expensive mistake, Colchester and Braintree Councils have agreed to withdraw West Tey and West of Braintree new towns from the Local Plans. Braintree have started a public consultation, rather than just following the Planning Inspector's guidance. To reduce risks of speculative planning attempts, Local Plans do need to be approved asap. Encouragement to councillors and MPs would be helpful.

North Essex Garden Communities Limited, the company set up by our local authorities and Essex CC, is being wound up. Papers presented to Colchester's Scrutiny Panel on 17 August show NEGC cost us all £6.88million. Colchester have asked for an external review of costs.

Does this mean we can relax, with our region no longer at risk from vast new development, unsupported by appropriate infrastructure? Apparently, not. The Ministry of Housing has started a consultation on planning reform with a new formula for housing targets. Colchester have stated this may result in doubling its house building from around 1,000 to 1,600 pa (60% surely?). In contrast, Braintree thinks it can reduce its numbers.

The suggestion is that land is zoned 'growth'; 'renewal' and 'protected'. Countryside is not given a category, so unless it's specifically designated it may not be protected.

The consultation period runs until late October – why not give your views?: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future>

On infrastructure, for the A12 widening between Kelvedon and Marks Tey, the 2019 routes through Copford have been eliminated and a preferred route was announced at the end of August: <https://highwaysengland.co.uk/our-work/east/a12-chelmsford-to-a120-widening-scheme/>

Sadly, the A120 has claimed another young life and there is no obvious progress on re-routing the road. It is in Highways England's pipeline for Road Improvement Strategy 3 - after 2025 - subject to funding being allocated.



FREE!
to a good home!

New "Redland Stonewold" roof tiles in Grey. Left over from my building project. A lot of properties in Great Tey are under these roof tiles, you may need some to replace a broken one on your roof! collection from Great Tey.

THE CHURCHES OF GREAT & LITTLE TEY

From the Churchwardens

A great deal of water has passed under the bridge since Revd. John Richardson last wrote his article for R&A back in April.

At the end of May, John and Jane retired after 30 years of wonderful ministry in our Parish and throughout the Benefice.

They are both much missed. In due course we look forward to John's farewell service at St Barnabas, Great Tey and the party afterwards at the Village Hall, which we hope won't be too many months away - all Covid-19 dependent.

Anyone who would like to contribute to the collection for the retirement gift for John and Jane, should please send it to Chris Percival, 260, Coggeshall Road, Little Tey, Colchester, Essex with cheques payable to 'Great Tey Golden Jubilee Fund', by 12th December 2020 please, so that we can give them the gift, plus the cheque, in time for Christmas. Thank you so much.

We have arranged a number of future services for our Parish and Benefice which will all be at 10.00 am.

For October and November these are as follows:-

4th October, Great Tey, Morning Service.

11th October, Wakes Colne, Benefice Holy Communion.

24th October, Great Tey, Benefice Holy Communion.

1st November, Great Tey, Morning Service.

8th November, Great Tey, Remembrance Sunday Service.

22nd November, Wakes Colne, Benefice Holy Communion.

Just to remind you that St Barnabas Church, Great Tey is open for private prayer, every day of the week 10.00 am - 4.00 pm.

With prayers and best wishes for everyone, from all of the Churchwardens.

FREE GCSE BOOSTER SESSIONS

With the start of the academic year now in full swing, my husband and I (both secondary school English teachers) are offering a free GCSE booster session on Saturday 3rd October; the session will run from 11.30-12.30 in Great Tey Village Hall.

The booster session is suitable for any student in Year 10 or 11.

We are both examiners in the subject and aim for students to leave with a handful of exam strategies and top tips to help boost both confidence and grades.

If your child, or someone you know, would like to participate, please do get in touch:

Becky and James Burrows 07791031928

THE GREAT TEY FRIENDSHIP/ BOWLS CLUB

Well what a strange summer this has been! We've missed our bowls meetings very much (more for the chat and gossip than for the bowls I suspect...) and had high hopes that, with the relaxation of the rules, we might at least have been able to get together for a chat and a cuppa! But this new "rule of 6" has put an end to that.

I'm still hoping that things will improve enough for us to have our usual Christmas lunch this year, but it does look unlikely.

However, as I write this, the sun is shining and we're promised temperatures of 28 degrees or so for the next couple of days, so at least for the moment I'm smiling!!

Here's hoping we can all stay well, and that things will settle into something resembling normal soon.

As ever, for club info the number is 01206210838



GREAT TEY FOOTPATH WALKING GROUP

Regrettably the group has not been able to meet up for local and away day walks since lockdown started in March. It looks like this will have to continue for the foreseeable future as the government has tightened the rules with the magic '6 group number' in place from mid-September which of course has become a legal requirement.

However, this does not prevent us from walking on the fabulous footpaths around Great Tey on our own or in small clusters, and as long as we do not exceed 6 people, we can do it within government guidelines. It does mean though we will need to know who is coming in advance so as not to disappoint anyone. We have started walking from the Village Hall car park each Wednesday morning at 9am for about 2 hours. If you are interested in coming along, then please call Peter Wakeling 01206 211887 or 07860 625325 to book your place.



GREAT TEY CALENDAR

Karen Delderfield and Yvonne Cooney have produced a second calendar based on sketches done in and around Great Tey. The calendars will be on sale very soon in The Chequers, at Chappel Post Office and from Sarah Barron, they are £8.50 each. All profits will again be donated to the charity The Compassionate Friends who were delighted last year to receive a cheque for £1000.

Thank you for your support last year and hoping you will enjoy looking at the 2021 calendar.

DROP IN & BINGO

We trust that everyone is well and managing to survive in this strange new world we are now living in.

We are afraid that this message will be a disappointment to some people, but we have decided NOT to restart either The Drop-In or The Bingo.

We had a message from the Village Hall Management Committee listing all the new requirements needed to use the Village Hall because of Covid, and they are numerous!

Plus also there is a limit on the number of people allowed in the Hall at any one time, the wearing of masks would be necessary, the use of coins/notes are advised against and so too are cakes and drinks.

Perhaps in the New Year sometime, when life, hopefully, is more straight forward we can rethink the situation. We realise that this is disappointing, but because everything is so uncertain at the moment we think this is the best thing to do.

Look after yourselves and keep safe,

Norma and Beryl.

MEMORIES OF OLD TEY

In these difficult days of lockdown one of Great Tey's oldest residents has been reflecting on what life was like in the village through the Forties and after the War.

The old school in Chappel Road was home to three classes for youngsters up to school leaving age of 14, with some pupils thinking nothing of a half hour walk each way to get to their classrooms from home.

The head at the time was Mrs Edwards who lived next door.

"Air raid drills were regular. The wardens would come round at home, knocking on the door saying they would see a chink of light"

At that time she lived in a cottage on the edge of the village. There was no electricity, with oil lamps in use.

She had moved to the village in 1942 with her parents, two sisters and three brothers. Her youngest brother was born six months later during a frightening air raid.

There was an army camp in Chalkney Wood, a searchlight powered by a generator on the edge of the village and a strip of landing lights that were used to guide allied planes into Earls Colne.

The Chequers was the main hostelry at the time and was popular with American servicemen.

Shopping was not too much of a problem in those days. As well as the old post office there was another shop in Chappel Road at that time selling a wide range of goods including bed linen. The blacksmiths nearby also sold petrol and cigarettes. There was also Mr Higgleton the shoemaker.

Just one bus on a Saturday enabled villagers to get into Colchester to shop.

An annual fete was held on what was the cricket field opposite the church.

The long-time resident can even remember the VE day celebration to mark the end of six years war in Europe. Wood, old boxes and anything that would burn were piled up near the Lych Gate by the 900 year old parish church for a celebration bonfire. Residents were in a celebratory mood. A teenager at the time, she recalled how the VE day bonfire was spontaneous but got out of hand.

"There was a hell of a fire going. It started to affect the overhead wires. Panic stations set in and they moved us all back."

There were street parties for youngsters later but leaving the old village school at 14 meant she missed out.

She was born near Dublin but came to Essex with her family. Her father originally worked with horses. Her first main job was tailoring with Hollingtons at Coggeshall.

Great Tey was used to military activity in during the War. At the time of D-Day she can remember lots of aircraft in the skies.

"They took off from Wormingford, the sky was black with aircraft with gliders behind. The aircraft all had black stripes."

FREE FLU VACCINATIONS

Dr P M Spowage
Dr S Taylor
Dr T J Cochrane
Dr J Joseph

The Pump House Surgery
Nonancourt Way
Earls Colne
Colchester CO6 2SW

01787 222022



If you are over the age of 65 or think that you are in an at-risk group (i.e. Asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Kidney Disease, Diabetes, Heart Disease, Stroke, Learning Disability and pregnancy) you are entitled to a free flu vaccination.

Clinics are bookable for 5th September, 19th September and 3rd October 2020. We also have weekday clinics available. Please contact us to arrange an appointment with one of our Nurses by telephoning 01787 222022.

Please support your local surgery by having your flu injection with us to ensure that your medical records are kept fully up to date. We will also be advising you of any other injections or reviews that you are due or eligible for. This will also support us to continue providing your local GP services.

We have made many changes to the way we are proposing to run our clinics to adhere strictly to guidelines in light of the Covid-19 pandemic. Please ask our team for more information if required.

Your support is much appreciated.

Please note copy deadline for the
November issue

(if sufficient news is forthcoming) will be:

Wednesday 21st October 2020

PLEASE send all copy **BEFORE** noon on this day
to the editor, David Edwards at

edwardsdj44@gmail.com

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