ARISH IGER PL GOOD PISTMAS

2015

120 Years of Goldhanger Parish Magazine

There has been a Parish Magazine since 1895 when the Revd. Frederick Gardner started it shortly after being appointed Rector at Goldhanger. There have been some breaks in publication, most notably during both World Wars, and in 2015 it is 120 years old.

Magazine Editors: Stephen & Chris 788369

parishmag@goldhanger.org.uk

Magazine Advertising: Morag Wood 788495

advertising@goldhanger.org.uk

NB - **December ONLY** - All copy to be submitted **by midnight on the 10th of the month** and advertising (including For Sale and Wanted) **by midnight on the 8th of the month** please. *Normal service will be resumed in January!*

To advertise For Sale or Wanted items in the magazine the minimum donation is £1 per advert. If you would like to donate more it would always be welcome.

Adverts and donations are to be delivered to Morag Wood, Advertising Coordinator, at Elms Bakery, Church Street (next door but one to the Cricketers).

This magazine is run entirely by volunteers and relies on donations and advertising to fund it. Please bear this in mind when submitting advertising and personal interest articles. Your donations will be gratefully received.

Goldhanger is also on the internet at: www.goldhanger.org.uk

What's on in Goldhanger in December					
Xmas Craft Sale	20 Head Street	Tuesday 1st	7pm	P. 12	
Bingo	Village Hall	Saturday 5th	7pm	P. 34	
Christmas Tree Festival	St Peter's Church	Saturday 12 th Sunday 13 th		P. 16	
Jubilee Choir	St. Peter's Church	Friday 18th	7:30pm	P. 10	

An extract from the History Archives... The Goldhanger Friendly Brothers

The Friendly Brothers annual dinner is traditionally held in the first week of December. Originally this was a form of working man's club offering mutual sickness benefit, and life assurance, with a registered address of The Chequers Inn, and in its present form is probably unique. It was once also associated with the Wesleyan Chapel in Head Street and has had other names: The Friendly Society, Society of Good Fellowship and The Good Intent.

In the 1800s Friendly Societies were regulated by an act of parliament and the House of Commons kept a register of societies. The 1850 register identified 87 friendly societies in Essex, with Goldhanger having 60 members, zero sick payments and 2 deaths were recorded. The register for 1863 lists 106 Goldhanger members with funds of £404 – a very large sum at that time.

In the 1900s the role of friendly societies was overtaken by government schemes, such as the state pension, unemployment benefit and the National Health Service, and similar societies progressively disappeared. Perhaps the nearest similar existing organisation is the Oddfellows Society which still claims to have 139 "Good Intent" branches nationwide.

An inventory of Goldhanger Church goods in 1552 included a dozen pewter platters, a dozen pewter dishes, and saucers of pewter. In a related article in the East Anglian Society Transactions of 1873 a writer commented "It is evident that there was a gild in this parish to which this pewter belonged".

There are some early local newspaper reports referring to the Society's activities. In 1842 the Essex Standard reported on a joint Parishes Friendly Society meeting with D'arcy held at Goldhanger, and a ploughing match at Falcons Farm and dinner in the Chequers. Amongst the prizes awarded was: "for the labourer who had brought up the largest family without parochial relief".

Dr Salter, the new local GP at D'arcy, in 1864 wrote in his diary...

"Drove to Goldhanger to attend the Hand-in-Hand Club Fest. The fellows were very jovial and drank the health of their new doctor most enthusiastically".

A printed rule book dated 1876 contains, for example: New members must be between 14 and 45 years old, in good health and sound of body. A member on allowances and found to be inebriated, gaming, riding a bicycle, or seen more than 4 miles from home without the committee's consent will be fined.

The Parish magazine of 1931 referred to the annual "Club Fest" at The Chequers attended by 70 members. At that time, a large wooden box with three locks containing china plates and cutlery was kept in The Chequers, but it was destroyed in the 1960's when the box became worm eaten and too many of the plates were cracked.

There can be no doubt that the continuing existence of this unique piece of village history is largely due to the determination and dedication of the late Cecil Chaplin, who was the society's secretary for over 50 years.

For more about the society, Google: goldhanger friendly brothers

David Newman (www.Churchside1.plus.com/Goldhanger-past)

RULES.

ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS,

A FRIENDLY SOCIETY,

HITHERTO CALLED A SOCIETY OF GOOD PELLOWSHIP, BUT HENCEFORTH

THE GOOD INTENT,

OF GOLDHANGER,

Established Pelcuary 1st, 1834, enrolled October 5th, 1836, and amended in the year 1847; and now held

AT A CERTAIN MEETING-HOUSE OR WESLEYAN CHAPEL,

GOLDHANGER STREET,

MALDON

In the County of Essex.

1876.

Note from the Editors:

Can whoever sent us the flags last year send us those for 2016 too, please?

Thank you



Goldhanger Church Services

Sunday 6th December Second Sunday of Advent

8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30am Holy Communion by extension (CW)

Monday 7th December

7.00pm Evening Prayer

Sunday 13th December Third Sunday of Advent

8.30am Holy Communion by extension (BCP)

10.00am Family Service

6.30pm Candlelit Carol Service

Sunday 20th December Fourth Sunday of Advent

8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)9.30am Morning Prayer (CW)

Monday 14th December

7.00pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 24th December Christmas Eve

4.00pm Christingle Crib Service

10.00pm "Midnight" Mass (It's midnight in Bethlehem)

Friday 25th December Christmas Day

11.00am Family Eucharist

Sunday 27th December St John the Evangelist

8.30am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Christmas Pick and Mix

* BCP denotes a service from The Book of Common Prayer using traditional language

The services at St Peter's church are for everyone. We are pleased to have children at all of the services. There is a family service once a month. We are also pleased to have people of other denominations worshipping.

Mother's Union meets on the fourth Friday of each month 1.45pm at Honeywood Hall, Hall Road, Great Totham.

Come along to our coffee morning in the new Community Room on Tuesdays between 11am and 12noon. Everyone is welcome. Pop along, bring your friends, and have a chat over coffee.

^{*} CW denotes a service from Common Worship using contemporary language.

Please get in touch with the Rector or churchwardens if you are considering baptism for yourself or your children, confirmation, weddings, funeral arrangements, Holy Communion at home or if you would just like a visit.

From the Parish Registers

Funeral and Interment

Frederick James Halls aged 86 yrs

Funeral and Cremation

Denis Walter Chaplin aged 86 yrs

ST. PETER'S GOLDHANGER

Rector of Goldhanger

Little Totham & Great

Totham

Reverend Jonathan Pearce

01621 893150

The Rectory revdjpearce@aol.com

1 Hall Road

Great Totham

CM9 8NN

Church Wardens: Mr George Bunting 788234

> Mrs Betty Abrey 01206 384894

Mrs Elaine Clark Flowers for Church: 788686

elaclark@me.com

Benefice website: www.totham-goldhanger-churches.org.uk

The Wednesday lunchtime Picnic Service for Parents and toddlers. Last Wednesday of the month in term time.

Please get in touch with the churchwardens if you are considering baptism for yourself or your children, for weddings, Holy Communion at home or if you would just like a visit.

Parish Prayers

If you would like someone, an event or concern included in church prayers please write your request in the book in the Lady Chapel.

Votive candles are lit at Sunday Services.

Make sure you collect your copy of The Monthly News Article Diary to find out what is happening in the Diocese of Essex. Available free in church each month.

Flags for December 2015

Thursday 24th & Friday 25th **December**



Christmas

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AND FAMILY RUN SERVICE
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One Year on

We've had a lot of fun in our first year as editors of the Parish Magazine. We've enjoyed editing the magazine and helping to keep a long-standing tradition alive. We have also had a lot of very good feedback from people, which is highly encouraging. At least we know we're heading in the right direction.

We'd like to say a big thank you for everyone who collects the magazine from the printers, those who share it out to the deliverers and to everyone who walks round the village every month and delivers it through your doors. Thank you all for a sterling effort. Thank you as well to all the regular contributors who help to make the magazine an interesting read.

We look forward very much to continuing next year and would like to wish everyone in Goldhanger a fabulous Christmas and a healthy and enjoyable New Year.

Chris & Stephen



CHRISTMAS CYCLAMEN

Would you like to have a cyclamen in church over Christmas in memory of a loved one?

We have found the small flowered varieties last longer in church.

You may bring your own and put them in church if you prefer. I will be going to Perrywood's. Please let me know if you would like me to get them for you. They are £2 each.

Elaine: 788686

THE Great Goldhanger Money Jar

I do hope you have been saving coins for the money jar. Please, if you have can you get them to me well before the Christmas Tree Festival if possible?

Greatly appreciated.

Elaine

Owers & Son

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St Peter's Church

present their



The Goldhanger Jubilee Choir

Songs and Music from the 40's



Fríday 18th December

7.30 pm

Bring your family and join us for an evening of pure nostalgia With songs from the 40's and a touch of Christmas too

There will be a short interval where you can enjoy your own Drinks and Nibbles

Admission (charitable donations) at the door



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SHOP LOCAL AT CHRISTMAS SALE TUESDAY EVENING 1ST DECEMBER

AT 20 HEAD ST GOLDHANGER FROM 7PM

IN AID OF MACMILLAN MALDON --- FIND SOMETHING TRULY DIFFERENT ----

Please come along and enjoy mulled wine, mince pies, teas and coffees whilst you browse.

CRAFTS ON SALE INCLUDE include Laudy MCB designs (Laura in Goldhanger) Wild Feather clothing (Heybridge) Patchwork from Jenny in Maldon plus The Maldon Soap Company; Crafty Jack Creations (Goldhanger) Mike Connel Cards (Goldhanger) Chris Smith calligraphy (Goldhanger) and Macmillan cards plus Macmillan raffle organised by Goldhanger ladies June and Kaye. DONATIONS TO RAFFLE WELCOME.

JACKIE 788432

LENT LUNCH



Friday 12th February Village Hall 12.30pm to 2.00pm

Home-made soups, bread, cheese, tea or coffee

All for a suggested donation of £3.50

Proceeds to Christian Aid

Hosted by members of Goldhanger, Little Totham & Tolleshunt Major WI

Denis Chaplin







Denis spent his entire life in the village. He was a born on the Maldon Rd. in 1929 to Agnes and Albert Chaplin and had three brothers, Herbert, Cecil and Kenny. Their father died when Denis was 3 years old and Denis was brought up by Teacher Lily Clark in Fish St. He spent most of his life working as a tractor driver at Joyces and Highams Farms, and lived on the farms.

Denis had a passion for sport and began playing cricket for Goldhanger in 1946. In 1951 he became the Secretary, Groundsman and Captain until the team lost the use of The Park in 1958. His love of cricket never left him and he was an enthusiastic member of the Essex County Cricket Club for many years.

He was goalkeeper for the Goldhanger Wanderers football team. In 1951 Denis qualified as a referee for local leagues, a role he held for over 20 years and was proud to be selected by the Essex Association to be a steward at the 1966 World Cup Final. He went on to manage the Goldhanger Club and became Registration Secretary for the Maldon Sunday League.

During the 1960's Denis was an active member of the Sailing Club taking part in races with his brother Herbert. In the 1980s Denis took up Carpet Bowls, was a founder member of the Goldhanger club, and more recently played with the Tollesbury Club.

Denis retired at the age of 65 but continued to work as a gardener in and around the village for many more years. He was a long standing member of the Friendly Brothers. Denis had a wonderfully wicked sense of humour and a sharp memory to recall his early life in the village. A celebration of Denis's life was held in St Peters Church on the 4th of November and was attended by a large congregation.

Fred Halls



Having "retired" from being a successful businessman in Southend and Rochford, Fred became well known in the village as the very helpful and last Post Master to run the post office with Coral his wife on the Maldon Road in 1990s.

Fred was born in London in 1929, and moved to Stamford le Hope when very young. He joined the RAF and trained as an electrical engineer to work on many of the famous bombers of the day. He later became a Lloyds underwriter and ran his own insurance business in Southend and then at Rochford. He was an accomplished artist and also had an arts and crafts shop in Rochford.

For over 60 years Fred was a keen freemason and was co-founder of the Eastwoodbury Lodge in 1963 and later its Master. He used his artistic and engineering skills to design, machine and paint many Lodge banners and artifacts, which he continued to do in his studio above the post office.

At Goldhanger Fred and Coral also continued to enjoy their love of sailing, using their boat Quilla on the Blackwater. When they retired for the second time they moved to Hales near Norwich, but sadly within days Coral had an accident from which she never recovered and was brought back to Goldhanger. Fred stayed at Hales, but his last wish was to be buried with Coral in Goldhanger churchyard, and the funeral and burial took place on the 2nd November at St Peters Church.

GOLDHANGER W.I.

December already and time to party. Our Christmas Party will be held on Wednesday 2nd December at 7.30 in the Village Hall. We will be having Christmas dinner with all the trimmings and coffee or tea with mince pies to follow. Please bring a glass and wine or soft drink to complement what promises to be an excellent meal. There will be a gift exchange as well. If you want to take part in this part of the evening, please bring a wrapped gift of approximately £5.00 in value.

The talk last month was an interesting insight into the Alexander Technique and ably delivered by our speaker Pat Kelly. Everyone amended their sitting posture as she warned us of bad habits we can so easily slip into and we learned quite a bit of self-help information. Barbara was a willing guinea pig for a demonstration of tension-releasing techniques and we all learned that our heads were much heavier than we thought.

Maria's pretty yucca stem took first place in the flower competition with Sandra's dahlia a close second. We look forward to seeing who has won the annual competition at our Christmas Party.

Refreshments were enjoyed and a board was passed round for the Maldon Pantomime, Aladdin on Friday 22nd January. This is always an enjoyable evening and a perfect way to support local amateur theatre. We thank all members who signed up for helping with setting up the hall for meetings. It will ease the task greatly as we now have many more members than in previous years. May we also thank Julie for her offer to host a Charity Coffee Morning in November.

Soon we will be entering the new year and we can look forward to our January meeting when we will have our Cheese and Wine evening with entertainment from some of our talented villagers.

CAROL AND THE LADIES OF THE COMMITTEE WISH ALL OUR MEMBERS A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A HEALTHY AND ENJOYABLE NEW YEAR.

Emergency Response in Rural Communities

The Parish Council and David Newman have been linvestigating ways to improving responses to Emergency Situations for Goldhanger residents.

- 1) Due to the rural location of our village we have to accept that it takes time for Emergency Services to reach Goldhanger, so the Parish Council are seeking funding for a defibrillator and volunteers for a Village Emergency Telephone System (VETS) who can fetch the defib after 999 has been called. (see article Goldhanger Community Defibrillator).
- 2) Secondly, how easy is it for Emergency Services to find your property when they reach Goldhanger? David Newman has kindly produced a schematic of house names and numbers to assist First Responders, and the First Responders have given advice on how residents can help the emergency services and their neighbours, (see article Advice from First Responders).
- 3) Whilst a defibrillator doesn't require any training to use, we are intending to host a First Aid course in the village, as often it is the care received in those vital first few minutes that make the difference. The cost will depend on numbers. If you are interested in booking a place, please contact;

Bree Back

Tel: 01621 788419

Email: breeback@hotmail

4) Additionally, as a village we do not have any First Responders and rely on them coming from either Heybridge or Tollesbury. On average, First Responders attend 3-4 emergency calls per month in Goldhanger, so it makes sense to have some volunteers in our parish. We intend to hold an information session for those who may be interested, this will cover what is involved and the commitment and training required, so please do come along before making your decision.

If you would like to know more about any of the above, please contact:

Julia Bourn – Goldhanger Parish Council

Tel: 01621 788298

Email: juliabourn@live.co.uk

Goldhanger Community Defibrillator

Goldhanger Parish Council will be seeking funding for a Village Defibrillator.

Community Defibrillators are designed to improve outcomes of patients suffering a sudden cardiac arrest, where time is critical.

After calling 999, the community automated defibrillator should be used, the defibrillator assesses the patients heart rhythm and advises if shocking is appropriate, so the defib can be used by anyone.

We intend to set up a 'Village Emergency Telephone System' (VETS) which would consist of up to 10 volunteers from the village, willing to be called in the event of an emergency to take the defib to the patient. This is done via a single telephone number, which is called after the emergency services have been contacted.

The parish council would like to raise awareness of their intent to proceed with a village defibrillator and will be planning to hold information events. Dates will be communicated via the Parish Magazine and village notice boards.

If anyone is interested in finding out more information at this time, volunteering for the 'VETS' system or making a donation (however small), please contact:

If you would like to know more about any of the above, please contact: Julia Bourn – Goldhanger Parish Council

Tel: 01621 788298

Email: juliabourn@live.co.uk



Tollesbury Surgery visits Goldhanger Village Hall on Tuesdays and Fridays between **13.30 to 14.00**.

Requests for prescriptions and/or medication can be left at the Village Hall from 12noon on the day of the Doctor's visit.

Services



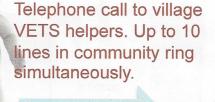


The Community Heartbeat Trust now provides a service to help villages install and run a Village Emergency Telephone System, or VETS. A *third* of all 999 calls are from lone rescuers, so getting help to them quickly is important. VETS is a community run system, and enables up to 10 neighbours to assist pending the arrival of the emergency services. VETS is provided at cost on an annual basis to the village, and uses a simple memorable number unique for the village. The system can also be used for any emergency where additional help is required from neighbours, whether Cardiac Arrest of not.

The availability of VETS helps villages whether or not they are using a CHT provided defibrillator project, and gives a level of reassurance to the elderly, those living alone, and to the infirmed, that there is always help on hand.



Helpers collect and bring defib to patient, and assist in CPR





The caller is played a simple message before VETS volunteers answer. If no answer, continue CPR until other help or ambulance arrives. VETS does not replace 999 calls.

The 'People-Heart' logo and CHT logo are trademarks of the Community HeartBeat Trust Registered charity number 1132824

www.communitvheartbeat.org.uk

Advice from First Responders

From recent experience we know that ambulance crews, paramedics and first responders have difficulty finding locations in our village for several reasons: some house numbers and names are missing or are very difficult to see from the road, some of the numbering does not follow the normal logical sequence, and the village has no street lighting. It has been pointed out to us that clear numbering not only enables the responders to find your property, but also saves vital minutes in finding friends and neighbour's properties nearby. NHS call handlers will normally ask the caller to open the front door and put on all the lights at night.

Sadly, as there are no volunteer first responders based at Goldhanger, the 999 service frequently ask first responders from Heybridge or Tollesbury to attend calls to the village but they are not as familiar with the village as they are with their territory. The Parish Council has contacted these local groups and offered to produce detailed maps indentifying the locations of all the house names and numbers. The offer was gratefully accepted and maps have been delivered.

However, maps alone do not solve all of the problems and the first responder team leaders have asked the Parish Council to encourage all residents to ensure that their house numbers are clearly visible.

Furthermore they advise us that properties with electric gates and with a key safe outside the front door often create a further inhibitor and delay. If access to a property cannot be immediately obtained it is ambulance service policy to call the police and wait for them to arrive and make a forced entry, which can cause a long delay. Therefore it is also recommended that those living alone ask a trusted neighbour to retain a key, and it would be wise to open electric gates after calling 999, or if this is not practical, the access codes should be given to the 999 call handler so that they can be passed onto ambulance crews and first responders.



Bellringing activities

Bells will be rung every Wednesday between 7.30 and 9pm, and for service on Sunday.

http://www.bellringing.org/learntoring/

Wheelchair available

A manual wheelchair is available which can be borrowed by anyone in the village.





If you would like a birthday or congratulations message included in the magazine then please let us know.

(See inside front cover for contact details)

Photos of village events are always very welcome.

Children's Quiz

1	How many times can an A4 piece of paper be folded in half?		
2	Which is the largest continent on Earth?		
3	Which reptiles camouflage themselves by changing colour?		
4	What is the capital of Norway?		
5	How many colours are in a rainbow?		
6	What is the name of Dr Who's time machine?		
7	Which author wrote the 1991 book 'The story of Tracy Beaker'?		
8	What is a group of lions called?		
9	The Eiffel Tower is in which European city?		
10	Welsh rarebit is another name for 'what' on toast?		

Answers on page 46

The village magazine is supported only by our regular advertisers and your donations. That's it!

Any articles about the village or for the benefit of the village will always be included free of charge.

Whilst we try to include all other submissions these increase the cost of the magazine, therefore any donation you feel able to make for your personal interest article will be gratefully received.

Workers Educational Association Tollesbury Branch

A new 10 week course starting on Tuesday, 12th January 2016

PLANTS THAT CHANGED HISTORY

Tutor - Francis Boardman

Throughout history the exploitation of plants has had a profound effect on our lives! plants have provided food, shelter, medicine, intoxication, myth and legend. But what are their stories?

Venue - Parish rooms
Start date - 12th January 2016
Tuesday mornings - 10.30 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Fee £48.00

Contact - Ann Jackson (01621) 868167

Goldhanger Art Society Meets in the Village Hall every second Thursday of the month 2pm to 4.30pm.

£5 non members - numbers are limited so please ring. Look forward to seeing you.

For details ring Jane 01621 892565

GOLDHANGER PARISH COUNCIL

Report on the Meeting held on 10th November 2015

Planning

Site at the junction of Church Street and Maldon Road: The Parish Council has contacted Maldon District Council's enforcement officer to report that large amounts of hedge have been removed at the site. There is also concern that the new access road is not in the position shown on the plans and is much lower than Maldon Road. The District Council will be asked why the development was allowed to commence and continue without clearance of planning conditions.

Councillors noted that the District Council has approved the application for side and rear extensions including demolition of existing structures: conversion of garage to residential accommodation at Padmalayam Church Street (HOUSE/MAL/15/00793). LDE/MAL/15/00682 - Gardeners Farm Maldon Road - Claim for Certificate of Lawfulness: existing self-contained dwelling. This application has gone to Appeal.

The following new applications were considered:

WTPO/MAL/15/00575 – T1 pine tree – fell. The Parish Council objects to this application as the pine tree has an important amenity value and was there long before the driveway was created.

TCA/MAL/15/01126 – T1 Macrocarpa, remove and reshape top of tree. Proposed height to be taken off 4.5m. T2 Walnut, no more than a 3m reduction resulting in a well balanced and well formed crown. Remove deadwood and branch stubs. Removal of largest lower branch to growth point nearest main stem. This application is supported.

Other issues

Councillors thanked David Newman who has produced an up-to date map of the village showing all house names and numbers. This has been passed on to Heybridge and Tollesbury First Responders to help them locate addresses when they are called out to an emergency. The map will also be posted on the village and Parish Council web sites. A separate article on the work of First Responders will be placed in the magazine. An article on the purchase of a defibrillator will also appear, with details of a volunteer scheme to help in emergencies.

Two incidents of fly tipping (Blind Lane and Chigborough Road/Sheepcoates Lane) have been reported to the District Council.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 8th December 2015 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. Members of the public and press are welcome to attend and the agenda will be published on the Parish Council web site prior to the meeting.

Vysian Banyard – Parish clerk

Goldhanger's lack of Broadband - Register your interest

The Parish Council have been advised by Senior Communications Officer – Superfast Essex as follows:

"Communications & Marketing that unfortunately the majority of Goldhanger parish is not currently in our plans to be upgraded to fibre, apart from a few postcode areas.

CM9 8AS is due to be upgraded to fibre before the end of Phase 1 (by summer 2016), however CM9 8AT is not currently due to be upgraded.

Anyone not currently in the plan to receive a fibre upgrade can register their demand for superfast broadband by completing the Make the Connection Survey on the Superfast Essex

website: www.superfastessex.org/getinvolved. We use this information to help inform future planning where possible.

We would also encourage you to contact ECC with any further questions, on the email below."

Email: make.theconnection@essex.gov.uk | www.superfastessex.org www.essex.gov.uk

Julia Bourn



Goldhanger bell ringers

The bell ringers held their AGM in October. Andrew Kelso (Tower Captain) began his report by remembering three dear friends who will be sorely missed – Ken Perry, Tower Captain for over ten years; Ron Cook, a key member of our band; and Christine Drake of Tollesbury, a strong supporter of our tower. The Essex Association of Change Ringers rang a peal in memory of Ron and Ken in September.

The year began in the traditional way by ringing in the New Year; practices were held every week and the bells rung for all the Sunday services. During the Open Gardens weekend demonstrations were given which attracted three new ringers to the team, who are all making good progress. Ringers have also participated in EACR training events, and visiting bands have been hosted on three occasions.

The band has rung at five weddings and nine funerals in 2015. Whilst charging for ringing at funerals is uncomfortable for many, it is now necessary due to maintenance costs of the bells and the need to bring in outside ringers to make up the team, especially for mid-week ringing.

The sound control policy has initially been successful, and written and verbal notification of extra ringing to church neighbours has been well received.

The ringers held their annual dinner in January, and a tower outing to Canewdon, Basildon, Downham and Little Baddow was also held. An EACR District Practice was held in June and well attended by local ringers.

Andrew concluded his report by thanking all the ringers for their support, enthusiasm and hard work throughout the year.



GOLDHANGER CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

St Peter's Church

Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th December 10.30 onwards

Come and enjoy the best Christmas

Trees in Goldhanger!

Bring your family and friends.



There will be trees entered by individuals and families, trees entered by local businesses, and trees entered by village organisations.

You will be able to hang small cards in memory of loved ones on our special Memory Tree.

And, we are asking you, villagers of Goldhanger; to vote for the prize winning Best Christmas Tree.

The Church will stay open on Saturday evening for everybody to see the trees by candlelight and enjoy a glass of mulled wine with mince pies.

AND

There is a candlelit Carol Service at 6.30 p.m. on the Sunday evening

Full details, Contact: Elaine 788686 or Kim 788698





Merry Christmas Colin & Hozel withbest mishes Nerry Pear of the agreet thanking.

Nerry New Year of the agreet thanking.

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Merry New Year of the last is all

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North Correlation North Season. for Christmas or the New Year Sue & David Merry Christmas py Christmean friends & XX to all orry friends Wark XX to all orry friends Wark XX Marry Christmas d Christmas, in Goldhanger a very Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year
to all my friends
in Goldhanger xxx Mary xx Jam Bank Janey
Have a joly time
ere all of lone time An peaceful 'tx tire New Year Jelly Pete Everyone and a Jabubos nevi

Page 26 of 52

Happy Christinas to Eventone 25 Season's greations Barry and Max; Hope its the Dest 2001 Bed Dishes O Love from jam. Skye a bolly Have a Good Merry Christmas Martyn, Julie Thomas + Jack Haveagal namy Christians 680 hanger friends Yule everyone Love to you all, noway year. BEST WISHES FOR 2016. and Hollis xx Menry Chust Mas Best wishes to you are Carry Mike xx Merry Christmas 23 30 Friends in Goldhauge to an our 2 2 30 Friends in Goldhauge remy christanas Have a Cool yole! to all our friends Hoppy Christin Mutin + Bue Tony, Julia, Ayrton & Charlie. Midrael a Cherry God Bloss Sith love and best wheel with love e best wishes Shelly + ++ whites to Anthony + Elain Seasons Greeking of apry Christmas / hove from & The your And Among Christmas everyone Tydrey have from ooldridge (Judyo poronts) to eventure mus Merry Christmas, Happy New Year to everyone With Seasons Creating with buch a Keithix too made us feel very welcome of The Cricketes, Wohn al Julie Merry Christmas Sarah & Chris



On Saturday 31st October we held a Halloween Party Night in the village hall which was not only well attended but also enthusiastically embraced with a multitude of Draculas, witches, skeletons and such other beings.

A total of £603 was raised towards the upkeep of the village hall and, according to feedback, a good time was had by all.

Thanks go to all those that attended this event and also '/ the committee members and helpers that made this event such a success.



The deadlines for the next issue are:

Advertisements - 8th of December

Articles - 10th of December



Planning a good Christmas this year?

Let's remember there are plenty of vulnerable people who will be dreading it. The more the lights shine and the TV advertises how wonderful this time of year should be, the more some people will feel alienated from it.

We've all probably done something for someone in need this year. Let's not forget our neighbours.

There are various ways you can help someone and it could be as simple as popping next door.

Loneliness and the elderly





Some charities you can donate to or ask for help.

AgeUK Essex - 01245 346 106 Shelter (Colchester) - 0344 515 1860 Crisis - 0300 636 1967 Barnardos - 01293 610 660 Campaign to end loneliness - 020 7012 1409

Chelmsford Foodbank - 01245 790769

You can find plenty more in a phone book or on the internet.

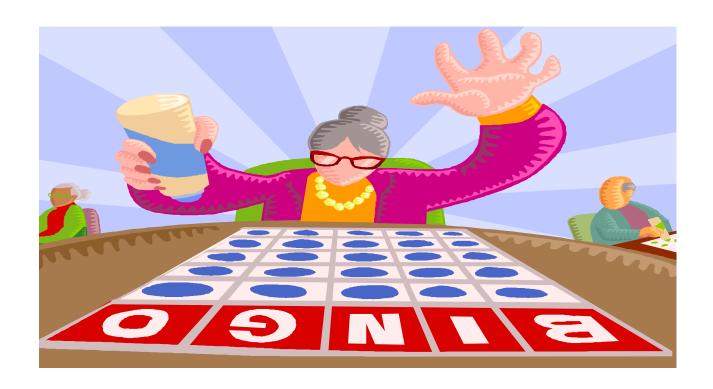
How does a Foodbank work?

Doctors, health visitors, social workers, CAB and police can all identify people in crisis and issue them with a foodbank voucher.

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Volunteers meet clients over a cup of tea or free hot meal and are able to signpost people to agencies able to solve the longer-term problem.

Some foodbanks also run a rural delivery service, which takes emergency foodboxes to clients living in rural areas who cannot afford to get to a foodbank.



Saturday 5th December 2015

Great fun for all the family - bring your children and grandchildren

Goldhanger Village Hall

Doors Open: 7.00pm Eyes Down: 7.30pm

Finish: 10.00pm

Raffle

Tea/Coffee and Cake available during the interval

NEWS FROM THE VILLAGE HALL

Chairman's Report at the AGM of the Village Hall Management Committee 18 November 2015

I am very pleased to be able to give my report to this Annual General Meeting which reflects on a very busy and rewarding year. It has been a year in which we have continued to maintain and improve the hall and its surroundings made possible through general hire income and the generosity of the village through donations and its support of our own fund raising activities.

Our social and fund raising sub committee has had another busy and successful year. The Dad's Army evening in April at the Village Hall suitably decorated inside and out, with entertainment by the "Bombshells", was enjoyed by all with the "home guard " showing up in force accompanied by land army girls, nurses and the never seen on television, Elizabeth Mainwaring. In October all manner of spooky characters joined in fun and games and dancing at the Halloween party in a transformed Hall. Meanwhile bingo has continued on a quarterly basis and has been very well supported. Thus the committee has achieved two of its objectives - to raise funds for improvements to the Hall and to help towards enhancing the spirit of the community which we could not have achieved without the wonderful support and enthusiasm of the village.

We have been very fortunate again in receiving donations and I will take this opportunity of thanking the History Group for not only hiring the Hall but donating some of the proceeds from its entertaining evenings.

We continue to promote the Hall and its facilities for hire by the community and beyond. The Hall is provided and maintained for the benefit of the village and of course hire charges are our main source of revenue. Importantly, we have, by way of the Parish Mag asked the village what it wants and expects from the facilities of the Hall. A pleasing number of completed questionnaires were received giving the committee most helpful guidance which we will be discussing later tonight and which we will be considering and acting upon in due course.

On the subject of maintenance, the property sub committee has had yet another busy year. Working closely with the Parish Council and in particular Mick Sargeant who worked and supported us throughout, we have installed new land drainage and resurfaced the car park. Much needed high level remedial work to the building has been completed; my thanks to Mike Webster for making a new high level louvre panel for us; external redecoration has been undertaken and my sincere thanks to all those villagers who helped, not only those who applied masonry paint to walls and quite a bit to themselves but to those who cleared and tidied the grounds. Also we have erected a new shed which houses the old plastic chairs which are available for use by the village – do speak to any committee member or caretaker Andrew Christy if you would like to borrow them.

A big thank you to Malcolm Kemp for mowing the grass in the Village Hall field throughout the season, to Keith Wilson and Mike Hood for looking after the electrical side of things, to Martin Seabrook for keeping an eye on our web site and to Andrew Christy our caretaker and bookings clerk.

We must also thank our auditor, Phil Bendall, who has worked with the treasurer for many years but who has decided that he will now stand down.

On the broader side of management and so that we can move forward on a sound basis, we have been working towards amending our constitution of 1936 such that it reflects the social structure of Goldhanger today and is fit for purpose in 2015 and some years to come. This is not quite as simple as it sounds and our particular thanks go to Sue Shepherd from the Rural Community Council of Essex who has been our guide and mentor throughout.

Turning to the management committee itself, tonight there are three long standing members standing down – Julie Cook who has given a great deal of enthusiasm and energy particularly on the social and fund raising committee, Martin Chellingsworth who has kept us in order when it comes to the all important health and safety side of things and last but by no means least Martin Gebel who has been our treasurer managing our financial affairs for so long that even he's not sure how long it is but it's about ten years. But also tonight we welcome Jill Crooks and Anton Jermy who have been working with the committee for most of this year. We also welcome members appointed by our constituent bodies - Kim Evans (PCC), Sandra Smith (WI), Steve Ellis (Parish Council) and Clive Cheeseman (Friendly Brothers).

And now to the forthcoming year. Responding to the comments made in the questionnaire we now have early design ideas to extend the building to provide modern toilet facilities with improved disabled access incorporating a much needed entrance foyer designed to improve the function of the Hall and to make it more appealing. In conjunction with these works we intend to re roof the whole of the building.

This is a major project and one which will take some time to achieve. Initially we will be seeking funding and we are under no illusions that this will be easy but we believe that with the guidance of Sue Shepherd from RCCE our aim is achievable. In parallel we will be developing the design, seeking estimates of cost and obtaining approvals. We will keep the village informed of progress

The social and fund raising committee is already planning an event to mark the Queen's ninetieth birthday in April next year in true Goldhanger style. Bingo will continue into the Spring. All our events will be publicised in the Parish Magazine, on our web site and on village notice boards well in advance.

My renewed thanks to the Committee – to Debbie, the two Martins, Kaye, Barbara, Helen, Julie, Steve, Andrew and Catherine and also to Jill and Anton for their energy and enthusiasm and also my thanks to the village for its support.

Chris Joslin, Chairman

Wildwatching News

Starlings are regular visitors to the Rectory garden at present, feeding on the underdeveloped grapes on our vine, which is so near to the French door that they seem to be playing a "Dare" game: Which one will risk being most exposed to human view, and get the best grapes? A Hedgehog out on the road in the early afternoon one day was unusual, as they are normally nocturnal.



A half-term visit to Thetford Forest in Norfolk produced a few surprises. There are Red, Roe and Muntjack Deer in the neighbourhood, but no sign of any of them during our visit, not even any tracks in the wet mud. However, there were were Coal and Marsh Tits coming to bird feeders, though, along with the more common and expected species – and Tree Sparrows, (Pictured). The familiar House Sparrows that we have around

here don't like woodland – in all the years we were living in Epping Forest we never had one in our garden. Tree Sparrows were present in considerable numbers in Southern Norway a few years ago, during a Great Totham church visit to Drammen, and there's supposed to be a population at Roxwell where I own a small bungalow, but I haven't seen any evidence of them there yet. The dark splodge on the side of the face immediately identifies Tree Sparrows.

A visit to North Norfolk would have been incomplete without going to Titchwell RSPB reserve where, among many other sightings, there was a Flock of Twite, (Pictured) on the beach. They are a small, heavily streaked Finch, about the same size as Goldfinch, but much less dramatically coloured. They are winter visitors to the East Anglian coast, and may turn up around here as the season deepens.



Second Thursday Wildlife Walks: December 10th and January 14th. Meet at 2.00pm at Goldhanger Church as usual, and we'll decide where to go. All welcome.

Jonathan

Recipe of the month

Bubble & squeak hamburgers

1 red onion

2 teaspoons cider vinegar

600g mixed leftover roast veg, including potatoes, swede, parsnips, carrots, sprouts

280g cooked ham

2 tablespoons unsalted butter

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 4 English muffins or rolls
- 1 handful of lettuce leaves, such as baby cos

Ketchup - optional



Peel and slice the onion, then place in a small bowl. Cover with the vinegar and set aside.

Mash all the veg well with a potato masher, then shred add the ham and season generously. Mix together well, then shape into 4 burgers and chill in the fridge to firm up, until ready to use.

Heat the butter and oil in a large frying pan over a medium heat and cook the burgers, in batches if needed, for 3 to 5 minutes each side or until crisping up and turning golden brown.

To serve, slice the muffins or burger rolls in half and fill with the bubble and squeak hamburgers, pickled red onion, lettuce and ketchup.

-		
Centigrade	Farenheit	Gas Mark
140°C	275°F	1
150°C	300°F	2
160°C	325°F	3
180°C	350°F	4
190°C	375°F	5
200°C	400°F	## 6
220°C	425°F	77
230°C	450°F	8
240°C	475°F	9
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If you have a recipe you would like to share, please send it in to us.

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The Vicar/Rector writes:

It's here again, that lovely but very busy month. For many of us it's basically about the lead-up to Christmas, and then enjoying it when it comes. Speaking for myself, I'm normally on a high through most of the month, but usually have a day or two of what Nina calls the "Bah! Humbug!" stage in the middle of December, when the pre-Christmas commitments are really piling in.

From the fourth Sunday before Christmas up to Christmas Eve is the church's season of Advent, the lead-up to Christmas. If we remember that the name Advent stems from the same root as our word "adventure," we will catch its drift. To set out on an adventure is both exciting and risky. Ronald Blythe has written about a walk over Pentire Head, a great headland in North Cornwall, in the half—light of a December afternoon:

"I didn't have to go very far before realising that I was engaged in an adventure. Acres of plunging bracken and gorse, alarming cracks in the rocky earth, farm dogs barking like the Hound of the Baskervilles, and the wild seas crashing many feet below. I felt unsafe, yet exhilarated, and this is how we are apt to feel in Advent. The air is filled with anticipation."

Preparations have to be made for Christmas! Forgive me for stating the blindingly obvious – in many households preparation will have been going on for weeks, and it will intensify as the festive season draws nigh. The collect, (The church's special prayer) for the fifth Sunday before Christmas, asks God to "Stir up" our wills as we begin to prepare for celebrating the birth of Christ once again. The birth of any child alters the home, alters the relationship between its' parents, alters the world. It's an adventure into uncharted territory! How much more so with the birth of Christ himself?

For Mary the mother of Jesus and Joseph themselves, all the excitement and looking forward to the birth of Christ ran side by side with the perilous eighty mile journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem, to fulfil the requirement of the Roman census. Blythe's adventure at Pentire would have captured something of what that journey would have been like.

The adventure continues into Christmas itself. A hard-bitten New York Times political journalist has spoken of an experience he had one Christmas Eve, when he was at a party at a friend's house. After the meal they gathered to sing "Silent night" around a traditional crib from Provence. There was the manger with the baby Jesus in, watched over by Joseph, Mary and the shepherds, and the ox and donkey standing by. There were many pathways to the stable from the surrounding village, cut through fields of moss, glass lakes, and silver foil waterfalls. Up the pathways, all heading towards the manger, were villagers all bearing their gifts, along with the wise men.

The journalist was deeply moved by the scene, and began to reflect on the tragedy of the past two thousand years. The simple and yet costly truth of loving our neighbour as our self was brought into the world by the child in the manger, and yet here we are today – teeming millions of humanity, bending our wealth, strength and ingenuity to the single task of Number One first. How different history might have been, the journalist thought, if the leaders of the nations had be stirred by the spirit of the birth of Christ to higher ambitions than personal power and national expansion.

The journalist began to list in his mind all the folk he would like to have seen changed by the simplicity, selflessness, and love of the scene: Friends, work-colleagues, family members. It seemed then as if a far greater Power than himself moved his thoughts on to less comfortable ones. It was almost as if a voice was saying to him "How can YOU help a world that's as selfish as hell, if you're as selfish as hell yourself? Your money, your future, your security, your comfort – aren't these the things you worry about most? You're indifferent to most of the people you know, and are critical of those you don't actively dislike. You want to see other people different, but there's only one place where you can make a start!" His next thought moved him even further out of his comfort zone: "Why not apologise to your wife? Why not get honest with her as well?"

I admire the journalist's honesty in telling his story, even though we don't all need to change in the ways that he did. Christmas 2008 will, I hope, hold for us all that we treasure from previous Christmases, but it's a new creation as well as we move into uncharted territory – and then into 2016!

A very Happy Christmas to you all, and a Happy New Year!

Jonathan

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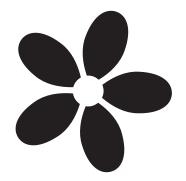
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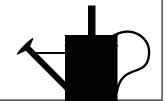
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A: Snowballs.

1 Seven (try it)
2 Asia
3 Chameleons
4 Oslo
5 Seven
6 TARDIS
7 Jacqueline Wilson
8 A pride
9 Paris

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Village residents are welcome to receive a digital copy of the current magazine in PDF format by emailing the magazine at parishmag@goldhanger.org.uk.

Alternatively it can be downloaded at the end of each month from **www.goldhanger.org.uk** and following the link under 'Community Stuff'.

Mobile Library dates & times

Thursday dates	Location	Stop name	Arrives	Leaves
Dec: 10	Ulting	Does Corner	9:40	9:55
	Ulting	Ulting Lane/Water Co. Houses	10:00	10:15
	Heybridge	Colne House	10:45	11:15
	Heybridge	Coopers Avenue	11:20	11:50
	Heybridge Basin	Bus Stop	12:00	12:15
	Heybridge Basin	Daisy Meadows car park	12:20	12:50
Goldhanger		Village Hall	14:00	14:30
Heybridge	Plantation Hall	14:45	15:15	
	Langford	Little Hills	15:30	16:00

What goes where?



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Tide Times for Goldhanger

December

	Morni	Morning		oon
	time	m	time	m
1 Tu 2 W 3 Th (4 F 5 Sa	03:39 04:22 05:10 06:06 07:10	5.5 5.3 5.0 4.8 4.7	16:08 16:56 17:49 18:49 19:56	5.4 5.2 4.9 4.8 4.8
6 Su 7 M 8 Tu 9 W 10 Th 11 F	08:20 09:24 10:18 11:03 11:43 00:02 00:38	4.7 4.9 5.1 5.3 5.4 5.6 5.7	21:01 21:57 22:43 23:24 12:21 12:58	4.9 5.1 5.3 5.5 5.6 5.7
13 Su 14 M 15 Tu 16 W 17 Th 18 F) 19 Sa	01:14 01:50 02:28 03:08 03:53 04:43 05:41	5.7 5.7 5.6 5.5 5.4 5.3	13:36 14:15 14:56 15:41 16:30 17:27 18:31	5.7 5.8 5.7 5.6 5.5 5.3 5.2
20 Su 21 M 22 Tu 23 W 24 Th 25 F	06:48 08:00 09:12 10:16 11:14	5.2 5.2 5.3 5.5 5.6	19:42 20:52 21:57 22:54 23:47 12:06 12:54	5.2 5.3 5.4 5.6 5.7 5.8 5.9
27 Su 28 M 29 Tu 30 W 31 Th	01:18 02:00 02:39 03:18 03:55	5.8 5.8 5.7 5.5 5.4	13:39 14:23 15:03 15:44 16:24	5.9 5.8 5.7 5.5 5.3



95 - BUS TIMETABLE BETWEEN TOLLESBURY & MALDON

This is an abridged timetable. Don't forget - if you don't use it, we will lose it!

→ Maldon	M-S	M-S	M-S	M-F SCH SAT	NSCH	M-F St	M-F
Goldhanger Square	09:10	11:10	13:10	14:40	14:50	17:57	19:50
Bentalls	09:20	11:20	13:20	14:50	15:00	20:00	20:00
TESCO	09:23	11:23	13:23	14:53	15:03		X
Maldon High Street	09:26	11:26	13:26	14:56	15:06	Set down only	X
Maldon Lesiure Centre	09:30	11:30	13:30	15:00	15:10		X

→ Tollesbury	M-S	M-S	M-S	M-F	M-F	M-F St
Maldon Lesiure Centre	08:55	10:00	12:00	14:00	16:30	17:35
Maldon High Street	09:00	10:05	12:05	14:05	16:35	17:40
TESCO	09:05	10:10	12:10	14:10	16:40	17:45
Bentalls	09:10	10:15	12:15	14:15	16:45	17:48
Goldhanger Square	09:20	10:25	12:25	14:25	16:55	17:57

What does it all mean?

M-F = Monday to Friday service M-S = Monday to Saturday service

M-F SCH = Monday to Friday (School term time)

SAT = Saturday service

NSCH = Non-School days only St = Stephenson's Buses

> Regal Busways run the Saturday service Stephensons run the weekday 17:35 service from Maldon

> More information at www.hedingham.co.uk/timetables/95

The Blackwater Link - 90

Runs from Morrisons in Maldon to Witham Ebenezer Close (passes Witham Station)

Take the 95 to Bentalls and pick up the 90 there.

For more details contact 01702-541511

HEALTH

Blackwater Medical Centre 876760
Longfield Medical Centre 876433
Tollesbury Surgery 869204
St Peter's Hospital *NHS* (Maldon - no A&E) 725323

Broomfield Hospital *NHS* (Chelmsford, has A&E) 01245 362000 Colchester General Hospital *NHS* (has A&E) 01206 747474

NHS Advice (non-emergency) 111

LOCAL PUBLIC SERVICES

Maldon District Council 854477

Job Centre Chelmsford 0845 606 0234

Local Police (non-emergency) 101 (puts you through to Essex Police)

HELP & ADVICE

Maldon Citizens Advice Bureau 841195

 Social Services
 08457 430 430

 Victim Support (charity for victims of crime)
 08 08 16 89 111

 Women's Aid
 01245 493114

 Alcoholics Anonymous
 01904 644026

 Childline
 0800 1111

Salvation Army 853942

The Samaritans

Gingerbread (Charity for single parents) 01245 352708

Outhouse East (LGBT Charity) 0345 123 23 88 (7pm-10pm weekdays)

ELECTRICITY & WATER

0345 909090

UK Power Networks 0800 783 8838

To report a Power Cut, find out who your electricity supplier is, report electricity problems, move your electricity supply or connect a new power supply.

Water 0845 782 0999

TRAVEL

National Rail Enquiries 0845 748 4950

Hedingham Omnibuses Ltd 869214

Regal Busways 01245 249001
First Eastern National Buses 0845 678 2977
Bus Station Chelmsford 01245 263859
Bus Station Colchester 01206 572478
Stansted Airport 0844 335 1803

SPORTS CENTRES

Blackwater Leisure Centre 851898

Witham Leisure Centre 0845 260 1535