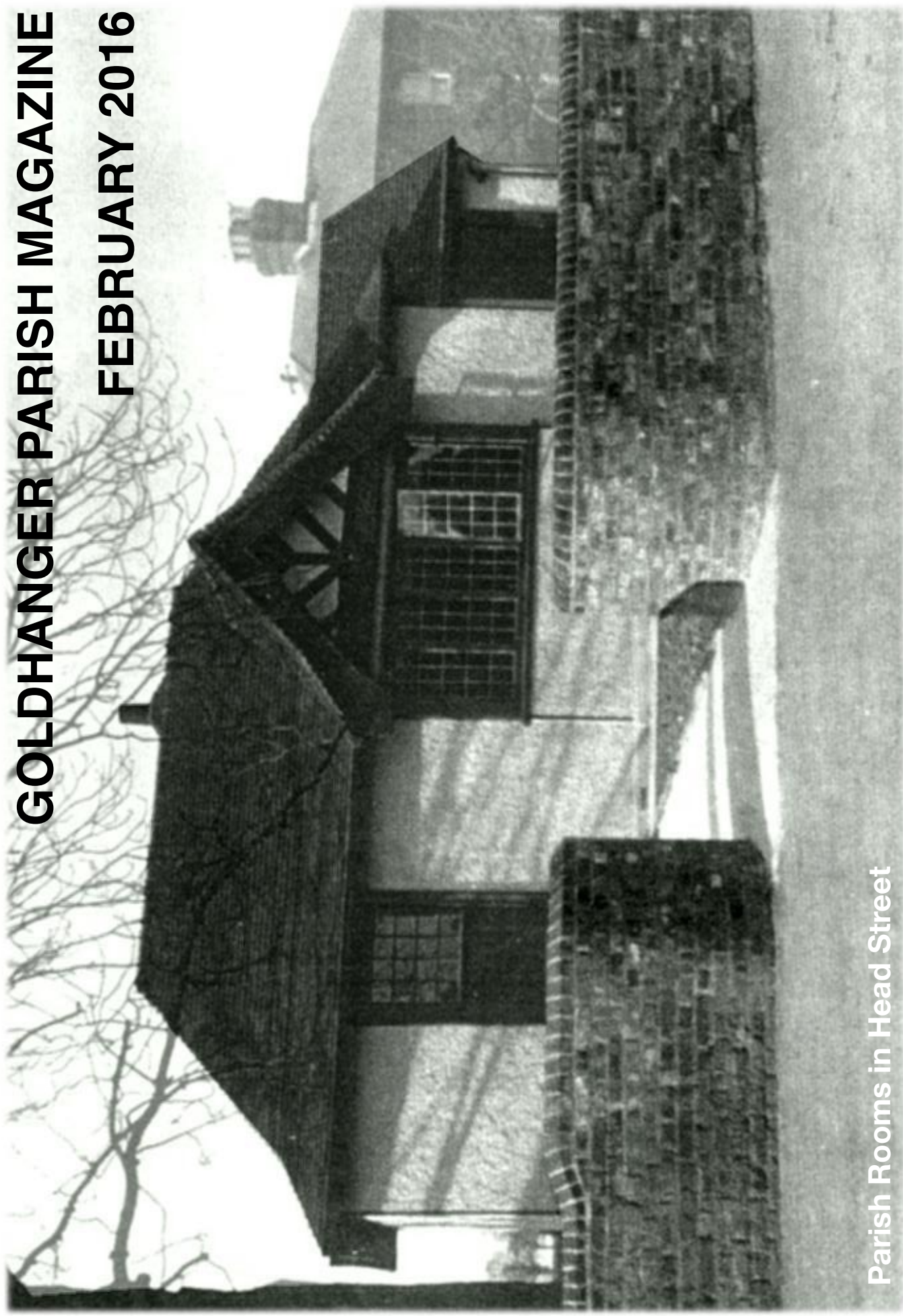


GOLDHANGER PARISH MAGAZINE
FEBRUARY 2016



Parish Rooms in Head Street

121 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. In 121 years there have only been a few breaks in publication, most notably during both World Wars.

Magazine Editors: Stephen & Chris 788369
parishmag@goldhanger.org.uk

Magazine Advertising: Morag Wood 788495
advertising@goldhanger.org.uk

NB - All copy to be submitted **by midnight on the 15th of the month.**

All advertising (including For Sale and Wanted) to be submitted **by midnight on the 13th of the month** please.

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

* **Please note:** We cannot guarantee the delivery date of your magazine. Please bear this in mind when advertising functions at the beginning of the month.

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.

This magazine is run entirely by volunteers and relies on donations and advertising to fund it. It costs approximately £1 per issue to produce. Please bear this in mind when submitting your personal interest articles.

Donations can be made at any time by dropping them in to Morag (details above) or you can go to the Goldhanger website and click the PayPal button (you don't have to have a PayPal account - you can use a debit or credit card).

Your donations will be gratefully received.

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

Goldhanger in February

Italian Evening	The Old Rectory	Fri 5th @ 7pm	P. 15
Shrove Tuesday	Your kitchen	9th @ whenever	P. 17
Lent Lunch	Village Hall	Fri 12th @ 12:30pm	P. 10
Chinese Feast	Rose Lodge, Church St.	Fri 12th @ 7pm	P. 15

An extract from the History Archives...

“Electrophants” at Follyfaunts in Goldhanger

In the mid 1960s electrically driven mechanical elephants called Electrophants were developed and marketed from Follyfaunts House. Here is an extract from a 1968 USA magazine called “Road and Track”...

ELECTROPHANT

Six years have been spent in the development of the Electrophant and we understand that Electrophants, Ltd. have now set up a production line at the factory located at Folly Faunts House, Goldhanger, Maldon, Essex, England.

...Shrouded in secrecy these past six years, no one is quite sure of the names of the key figures behind this remarkable breakthrough in the field of transportation but it is suspected that the Colin Chapman of the Electrophant is a certain Lord Hillingdon, mainly because his name appears on the letterhead... ...When you want one, you simply call Lord Hillingdon at Folly Faunts House (Goldhanger 213) and presumably his lordship will be pleased to fill your order.



The Lord Hillingdon referred to above was probably Charles Hedworth Mills (1922-1978) the 4th baron, who is buried in Feering churchyard. The Colin Chapman mentioned may have been the well known founder of Lotus Cars.

The original developments of a full and half size machine using petrol engines was in the late 1940s and early 50s at Thaxted. They were used to give rides to children at holiday resorts around the UK during the summers of the 1950s and 60s, including at Maldon. However they suffered from the drawback that the exhaust fumes emitted from the elephants trunk caused the children to choke!

A later version developed at Follyfaunts used several standard 12-volt car batteries as the means of power. This overcame the problem of fumes and had the advantage that they could operate indoors and were used for children's rides in departmental stores. Only a few of this version seem to have been built before the company went bankrupt, probably the result of an incident in the USA when one fell over. It probably toppled due to the weight of the batteries in the body combined with the weight of the children being carried on top.

Electrophants were shipped worldwide to the USA, Australia and Sweden, and there are videos on YouTube showing them in use in those places, the most recent is dated 2014. They also appeared in many television programmes such as Blue Peter in 1967 and in 1975, the ITV programme 'The Way We Were' in 2006 and in the BBC Top Gear programme in 2008. In 2011 one was auctioned on the Channel-4 programme “Four Rooms”.

For more, and to see the videos, Google: Goldhanger Electrophants
David Newman (www.Churchside1.plus.com/Goldhanger-past)

Goldhanger Church Services

Sunday 7th February Quinquagesima Transfiguration Sunday

8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am Parish Communion by extension.

Monday 8th February

7.00pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 10th February Ash Wednesday

7.30pm Holy Communion at St Peter's, Great Totham

Sunday 14th February Lent 1

8.30am Holy Communion by extension (BCP)
10.00am Family Service (CW)

Sunday 21st February Lent 2

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

Monday 22nd February

7.00pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 24th February

12.30pm Picnic Service

Sunday 28th February Lent 3

8.30am Holy Communion by extension (BCP)
9.30am Parish Communion (CW)

* BCP denotes a service from The Book of Common Prayer using traditional language
CW denotes a service from Common Worship using contemporary 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.

ST. PETER'S GOLDHANGER

Rector of Goldhanger
Little Totham & Great
Totham

Reverend Jonathan Pearce 01621 893150
The Rectory
1 Hall Road
Great Totham
CM9 8NN
revdjpearce@aol.com

Church Wardens: Mr George Bunting 788234
Mrs Betty Abrey 01206 384894

Flowers for Church: Mrs Elaine Clark 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.

Wildwatching group meets 2nd Thursdays

Meet at Goldhanger church as usual, and we'll decide where to go.
All welcome.

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.

Bloodwise

Beating blood cancer since 1960
bloodwise.org.uk

Deborah Kemp
The Saltings
Church Street
Goldhanger
Essex
CM9 8AR

10 December 2015

Dear Deborah

Thank you so much for a further donation of 153.00 that we received in memory of your dear father, Ron Cook.

Please pass on our sincere thanks and gratitude to everyone in the village who has contributed to this very generous amount in lieu of sending Christmas cards, your father must be missed by so many.

This valuable donation will act as a lasting legacy to his loving memory and will certainly help to ensure that we can continue our vital work to one day beat blood cancers.

Thank you for helping us to move that little bit closer to our vision of beating blood cancer. We want to get to a point when no other family has to lose a loved one and we will not stop until everyone affected by blood cancer survives and survives with the best quality of life.

Once again we are truly sorry that this donation is a result of your very sad and sudden loss of your father and our thoughts are with you and all your family especially over Christmas, which I can only imagine will be a very poignant time.

Please be assured we will not stop until we have totally beaten all blood cancers.

With our warmest wishes and thank you



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Bellringing activities

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

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

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

(See inside front cover)

Photos of village events are always very welcome.

Wheelchair available

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

Please contact Andrew Christy on 01621 788432 for details.



Children's Quiz

- 1 Who picked a peck of pickled pepper?
- 2 In Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, what is Charlie's surname?
- 3 Which artist painted a number of pictures of sunflowers?
- 4 What is the name of Peter Pan's pirate enemy?
- 5 What kind of animal is Beatrix Potter's Mrs Tiggy-Winkle?
- 6 In a nursery rhyme, how much are the bells of St Martin's owed?
- 7 What was the name of Harry Potter's pet owl?
- 8 Who is the son of Widow Twankey and brother of Wishee Washee?
- 9 Which character in Alice's Adventures in Wonderland muttered "Oh dear! Oh dear! I shall be late"?
- 10 Who has a dog called Snowy and is friends with Captain Haddock?

Answers on page 35

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

What's on at The Chequers

Monday & Tuesday nights in January & February - 'All the 2's' offer

Sunday 14th February PM - Valentines' Night Menu - Bookings being taken between 6.30 & 8.30 pm

Sunday - 6th March - Mothers' Day Lunch - Bookings now being taken from 12.00 onwards

Saturday 5th March to Sunday 13th March - Our 14th Annual Beer Festival - Full details coming soon

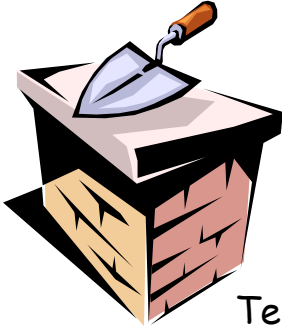
Goldhanger Art Society

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



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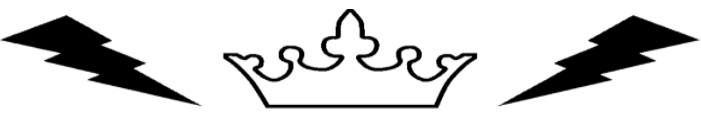
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I am sure you all remember the Maldon Blackwater Rotary Club visiting Goldhanger at Christmas in their Sleigh collecting for local charities.

We now desperately need a NEW HOME for their Sleigh.



At present it is in a temporary home, but has to be removed in the very near future.

The sleigh is built on a small caravan chassis and measures approximately 8'x14'. (2.43mx4.26m)

Do you have an empty Barn or Shed - or perhaps a spare corner where the Sleigh can be stored?

If so

Please contact Pam Cook - 01621 788635

As a charity fund raising organisation we can only offer a small storage fee.

GOLDHANGER PARISH COUNCIL
Report on the Meeting held on 12th January 2015

Repair work to the rear access road at Hall Estate has now been completed.

Wilkin and Sons has generously agreed to sponsor new parking restrictions in Fish Street, and the Parish Council will now investigate ways of enforcing these restrictions.

A work party will be held in Marigold Wood in April or May of this year. Details will be published in the magazine at a later date.

Councillors approved the draft budget for the year to 31.3.2017, and the precept has been set at £7,800. Issues in the budget include: repair work in the play area, provision for parking enforcement in Fish Street, and improvement of the access to Marigold Wood.

Two very generous donations have been received from the Blackwater Show and the Goldhanger Classic Car Club towards the cost of purchasing a defibrillator for the village. The Parish Council is also investigating sources of grant funding for this.

Following the recent inspection, some repair work has been carried out in the play area in the playing field. Further work will be done shortly, and any offers of help to paint the play equipment will be gratefully received.

Recently there was an incident of hare coursing in fields adjacent to Blind Lane, and a vehicle was set on fire and abandoned.

Planning

Maldon District Council has approved an application for various tree works at Churchside, Church Street (TCA/MAL/15/01151).

New application ESS/MAL/ 15/01317. Proposed washing plant for use during the construction of an agricultural reservoir, previously approved under planning ref: ESS/35/14/MAL – Cobbs Farm Maldon Road Goldhanger. The Parish Council has no objections in principle to this application, but feels that the washing plant should not be in use beyond May 2017, and that restrictions should be placed on the amount of noise from the site. It also raised concerns that existing conditions are not being adhered to with regards to the cleaning of vehicle wheels, unsheeted vehicles leaving the site and reversing beepers being clearly audible.

... continued

Gardeners Farm Maldon Road: two Appeals have now been made to the Planning Inspectorate concerning this site. FUL/MAL/14/00753 change of use of former farm shop to dog grooming parlour, and LDE/MAL/15/00682 Claim for Certificate of Lawfulness: existing self contained dwelling.

Maldon District Council's planning enforcement officer is investigating issues at the building site on the corner of Maldon Road and Church Street. The Parish Council has raised concerns about the removal of hedges and drainage at the site.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 9th February 2016 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. Minutes of meetings can also be found on the web site.

Vysian Banyard – Parish clerk

Two Enjoyable Evenings for your Diary

In aid of local charities and St Peter's church

Friday 5th February 7.00 p.m.

At

Old Rectory Goldhanger

An Italian evening

For the Essex Air Ambulance

Friday 12th February 7.00

At

Rose Lodge Church St

A Chinese Feast

For Farley Hospice

And St Peter's Church Goldhanger

£7.00 a head.

Bring your own drinks.

Raffles and Quiz

Becky 788 225

Elaine 788 686

The Chequers' Inn

Valentines' Night Menu 2016



Homemade Roasted Tomato, Red Pepper & Goats' Cheese Soup
With Cherry Tomato & Basil Focaccia



Home Cured Beetroot Salmon Gravlax with a Shredded Beetroot Salad
Dill & Mustard Seed Dressing

Somerset Brie Baked with Honey & Toasted Caramelised Nuts
Served with Toasted Sour Dough Bread

Homemade Duck, Fig & Pistachio Terrine Wrapped in Parma Ham
With Red Onion Chutney & Onion Bread

Pan Fried Tiger Prawns in Chilli & Lime Butter
In a Crispy Tortilla Shell with Our Guacamole

Chicken Breast Stuffed with Wild Mushroom Pate Wrapped in Local Bacon
On Leek Mash with Stir Fried Savoy Cabbage & Bacon, Madeira Sauce



Char Grilled 8oz Sirloin Steak with a Gorgonzola Sauce
Served with Sauteed Potatoes & Asparagus Wrapped in Parma Ham



Pan Fried Fillets of Sea Bass with Paprika Butter
On a Chorizo & Sundried Tomato Risotto, Rocket & Pine Nut Salad

Slow Cooked Lamb Hind Shank in a Port & Orange Gravy
Dauphinoise Potato Cake & Braised Red Cabbage

Butternut, Gruyere & Quinoa Roulade with a Red Currant Gravy
Root Vegetable Mash & Buttered Green Beans



Peanut Butter & White Chocolate Blondie, 'Farmer Bill's' Vanilla Ice Cream



Lemon Posset with Fresh Raspberries & Brandy Snap Biscuits

Honey, Apple & Pecan Croissant Bread & Butter Pudding with Creme Anglaise

Dark Chocolate Cheesecake with Black Cherry Coulis & Kirsch Whipped Cream

Mature British Cheeses with Biscuits, Celery & Wilkins Organic Onion Relish

Tea or Coffee with Chocolates

£27.00 per person inc. Vat.

Why not have a Dessert and Cheese & Biscuits? £32.00 for 4 courses!

Recipe of the month

Something for pancake day or to impress a loved one for breakfast on Valentine's Day.

Dairy and egg-free banana pancakes

- 1 banana
- 1 tbsp sunflower oil, plus extra to oil the pan
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 100g (3 1/2oz) plain flour
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 400ml (13 1/2fl oz) soya milk
- maple syrup, to serve



Mash the banana with a fork and whisk in the oil, lemon juice and cinnamon. Add the flour and baking powder. Stir while gradually adding the soya milk. The batter will take on the consistency of yogurt.

Place a frying pan on a medium heat. Oil it using a little sunflower oil on a scrunched piece of kitchen towel. Drop tablespoonfuls of batter onto the pan and swirl so it spreads across the surface. When bubbles pop and the glossiness of the pancake becomes matte (about two minutes), flip over. Cook for a further couple of minutes.

Place the finished pancakes on a plate. Repeat the process until the batter is used up. Serve hot with maple syrup.

If you have a recipe you would like to share, please send it in to us.

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	7
230°C	450°F	8
240°C	475°F	9

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(all day Sat) Sun 12-8pm with food being served 12-5 pm.*



Follow us on  or 
See You Soon!





Saturday 12th March 2016

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

Christmas 1945 Concert



Goldhanger Jubilee Choir



George Bunting



Theresa Paddon



Martin Gebel & Margaret Salmon



Andrew, Michael & Dominic

BELLS AT St. PETERS CHURCH GOLDHANGER



‘HOW BORING’ was the reaction from my family when I said I had been asked to write notes on the maintenance of the Church Bells. Well, if you’ve read this far that’s a good start.

The picture shows four of the bells in our Bell Tower. In all, there are eight bells on this frame, which makes the area very congested and very dynamic when all eight are ringing. The bells weigh up to half a ton each, so you can imagine a lot of vibration forces when all are being rung enthusiastically.

This presents the first major maintenance problem. That of fatigue of the steelwork, their fixings (nuts and bolts) and indeed the tower brickwork itself. All these have to be checked regularly for any fatigue fractures, loose nuts and crumbling structures. The photo shows extensive brickwork repairs in the corner. Indeed, three local towers have had to stop ringing recently for tower repairs. St Mary’s and All Saints in Maldon, and St Mary’s Tollesbury.

The bells are shown in the UP position, that is with the open mouth facing up. They are held there by a wooden Stay. The bell rope is attached to the large wheel that rotates the bell. When pulled firmly, the bell rotates down and round 360 degrees back to the UP position where again it can be held by the Stay. The skill of the bell ringer prevents the Stays being hit too hard, but we’ve all broken Stays at some time during our learning! Maintenance ensures a ready stock of Stays for speedy replacement.

When the bells are in the UP position it is extremely dangerous as they are unstable and could easily cause serious injury. The bells are almost always left in the DOWN position for safety. Before we start ringing we have to get the bells UP. This involves pulling the ropes to get the bells swinging more and more until they reach the UP position. Hence you will often hear a rather ragged bit of ringing before proper ringing starts.

Health and Safety is a top priority in the bell tower. This is the first consideration with all maintenance work and also with the training and conduct of all ringers, especially learners. So any newcomers are welcome to come in the confidence they will be handling well maintained and safe equipment to enjoy the pleasure and challenge of Bell Ringing.

Bob Christy

Entertainers at the W.I. Cheese & Wine Evening



Kim as Marlene Dietrich



Andrew on the cello

GOLDHANGER, LITTLE TOTHAM and TOLLESHUNT MAJOR W.I.

Our next meeting will be held in Goldhanger Village Hall on February 3rd at 7.30p.m. The speaker is Jess Jephcott and the subject of the talk is 'PUB SIGNS'. Please bring a single stem flower for the competition if you wish to take part.

The January CHEESE and WINE EVENING was very well attended and proved to be most enjoyable. Members and guests were royally entertained by a motley crew of villagers resembling Marlene Dietrich, Elvis, Don Estelle and Windsor Davies, all skilfully accompanied by our very own Ray Evans on guitar. A touch of real class was added by Andrew Kelso on the cello. We are so fortunate to add his mastery of Bach's compositions to our programme of entertainments in the village. May we thank all those who took part for a good finale to the Christmas season in Goldhanger.

May we also thank all the members who prepared and served the food so well. Special thanks to Patsy Holdsworth for her generous contribution of a selection of delicious home-made pates for the buffet table. May we also thank all those who helped to set up the hall and clear it afterwards. The teams worked well together.

Our extra activity in February will be confirmed at the meeting and programme booklets for 2016 will be available for members.

Christmas tree festival



Now that Christmas is over and we have had time to collect our thoughts we want to thank every one again who contributed in any way. It was all very much appreciated and enjoyed by many.

All the trees were winners, they were superb.

Goldhanger PCC

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The Vicar/Rector Writes:

Last Year, This Year.

The early days and weeks of the New Year invariably involve some reflection on last year, and looking forward to what the coming one holds for us. What will you remember 2015 for? A holiday or a family joy or sorrow perhaps. The beginning of the massive migration of refugees may also come to mind, as may ISIS and other terrorist activities. Once again, flooding has affected parts of the UK. What do we have to look forward to this year? Here again, family holidays may well be at the top of the list. As a nation, we have the Queen's 90th birthday. (Why are so many of us coy about our age, while the whole World knows how old the Queen is?!). What will the economy and work situation continue to bring, for individuals, for families, for nations and for the western world?

Last year, yet another old friend of ours died of cancer. Following a battle with it which lasted for some years, it finally went to her lungs. I particularly remember her as a member of a party who scaled the three highest peaks in the British Isles with me during one amazing week of my sabbatical, ten years ago now. Can faith in God encompass all of our human experiences, in their entirety? I believe it can, but not in any simplistic way. I hope that the following thoughts are at least pointers in the right direction.

- I don't ever try to stop people being angry with God, if they need or want to be. You can't be angry with someone who doesn't exist, after all! He's big enough to deal with it himself, and doesn't need me to stand up for Him. I have felt anger with God myself in times of personal suffering, and such feelings normally burn themselves out in due course. In any case, isn't the crucifixion of Christ about God taking responsibility for the anger and suffering of the world, and taking it all upon himself? I believe this to be one of the many elements of what the cross of Christ is all about.

- The human element of blameworthiness must surely also be considered. Inadequately built homes in places that are liable to flood or earthquake damage, for example. In the developing world, it's the poorest people who are likely to be living in places that are most vulnerable to disaster, but this doesn't necessarily carry over into the western world. In his Christmas address of a few years ago, the then Archbishop of Canterbury drew attention again to the world of high finance – and those at the other end of the scale who pay the ultimate price for their speculation.

- The hand of God is surly to be seen in the response to suffering. Jesus himself said "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." Many people in need feel that comfort is mediated to them by means of a human agency, a loved one, a friend or a complete stranger. The appeal launched by Stephen our Diocesan Bishop, to welcome and resettle Syrian Refugees in East London and Essex, closed at the end of the 2015 having reached nearly £100,000. The first refugees are expected to arrive immanently, and updates made on how the money is being spent.

- There are also the 'Miracles', the rays of light shining in the darkness. Many of us will know someone who is in long-term remission from cancer, as that is thankfully becoming more commonplace today. There are those who are found alive and well days after a disaster, when hope for them had faded. I guess many of us will have news-footage pictures in our minds of people, especially children perhaps, being pulled out from a pile of rubble several days after the disaster has taken place.

We wish each other a "Happy New Year," and mean it sincerely, while at the same time we recognize that it probably won't all be good. When the good times do come in 2016, let's remember to thank God for them, and share them with him. Some of us are very good at telling him about our bad times, after all! It's been said that while we are in this life it's like looking at the back of a tapestry: something of the great design can be made out in the coloured thread, but it can be vague, indistinct and has many faults. We can only hope to see the proper picture, the front of the tapestry if you like, when we are in the nearer presence of the Lord in the life to come. In the meantime, though, we can be working on straightening those threads as it were, trying to make things as good as we can for others as well as ourselves, in 2016.

Village Hall Social Media

Search for the Village Hall on Facebook (search Goldhanger Village Hall) and on their Twitter account (@Goldhanger_VH) for upcoming events & news at the village hall.

Please use these to raise awareness of events and to share your views & comments. And don't forget to share to spread the word!



Maldon District Council Monthly Surgeries Saturday 6th February 2016 from 12 noon to 2pm.

Tolleshunt D'arcy Ward District Councillors Elaine Bamford and Maddie Thompson plus Tollesbury Ward District Councillor Andrew St Joseph will be holding their second monthly council surgery at the Queen Head Tolleshunt D'arcy on Saturday 9th January 2016.

Residents are welcome to come along between 12 noon and 2pm to meet the councillors and/or raise issues or problems relating to local council matters. Come along to meet us.

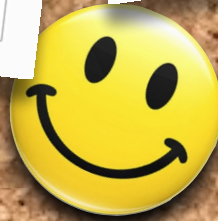
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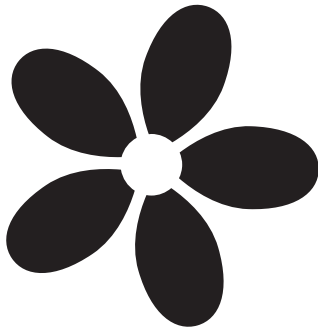


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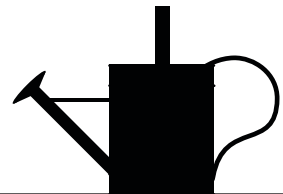
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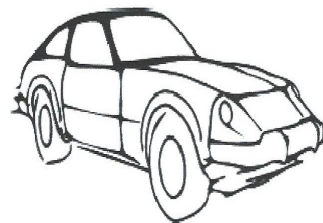
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Wildwatching News

I should probably take a break from trying to predict the weather – I thought it was going to be a cold winter this year. I may yet be proved right, of course (huh!). At the time of writing, New Year week, it's a bit more like the seasonal average, following an exceptionally mild December. Some Daisies have been out, and Pussy Willow buds breaking.

Some Fieldfares have made the North Sea crossing from Scandinavia, despite mild weather in western Europe generally. A very alert-looking Mistle Thrush on the top of a bush near to Great Totham church was evidence of their presence – Fieldfares tend to use mob tactics to feed on berries that are being jealously guarded by resident Blackbirds and Thrushes. The Fieldfare's deep, throaty chuckling calls as they fly around in groups epitomises farmland in winter. What was a bit more unexpected was the Smooth Newt taking refuge in a corner of Honywood Hall just before Christmas, to the delight of the Totham School KS2 Choir who were entertaining at the Lunch Club.

A birdwatching session on Boxing Day produced wintering ducks at Abberton, including Goldeneye and Goosander, from the Layer Breton Causeway, and six species of wader at the Strood included a female Curlew. If the down-curved Curlew's bill is just large, it probably indicates a male bird. If it's enormous, it's a female! The distant sound of Brent Geese at the Strood epitomises the estuary in winter – and a fly-past by a male Marsh Harrier as dusk approached completed the day.

Mammals have been well represented in the area of late, with a Hare picked up in car headlights being my first for a year or two. A Badger has been seen pre-dawn one day at Wickham Bishops. Muntjack Deer tend not to be seen in daylight hours in places where people like me walk their dogs, but their tracks in wet mud indicate they are present. In the countryside around Roxwell, where I have a "Bolt hole," this extends to include the much larger tracks of Fallow Deer as well.



"Commuting" between Great Totham, Little Totham and Goldhanger has produced several Barn Owl sightings recently, along with Buzzards which can often be seen at some point. One morning, a Red Kite was quartering fields, looking for prey, and on another occasion, a Snipe, (Pictured) was flushed up out of a roadside ditch. They are probably more common around here in winter than is immediately obvious. The Snipe is a tiny wader,

with a distinctive erratic, zig-zag flight when flushed.

Whether or not we get some icy, arctic weather this month, it should bring some of the best of winter wildlife watching...

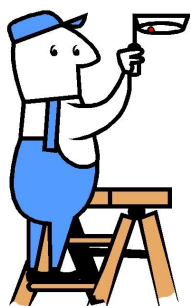
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Tollesbury Surgery visits Goldhanger Village Hall on Tuesdays and Fridays between **13.30 to 14.00**.

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

Note from the editors

Courtesy

When submitting articles for the magazine please include a brief message with it.

Blank emails with attachments feel a bit impersonal and don't really tell us much about what you want us to do with the article.

A simple *please* and *thank you* goes a long way too.

Thank you.



Donate Now!

You can now make donations to the Parish Magazine through the village website.

You can pay using a PayPal account or your credit card or debit card.

www.goldhanger.org.uk



To advertise *For Sale* or *Wanted* items in the magazine, the minimum donation is £1 per advert, though if you would like to donate more that would be very welcome and helps the magazine's funds.

The donation should be given to Morag Wood, Advertising Co-ordinate when dropping in the advert.

Her address is Elms Bakery, Church St. (Next door but one to The Cricketers)



DID YOU KNOW?

An Octopus has three hearts.

Goldhanger Correspondent

For your news articles about the village for inclusion in the Maldon & Burnham Standard and the Essex Chronicle.

Contact:

Kaye Shrubbs

01621 788639

07891 677157

kayeshrubbs@btinternet.com



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Answers to Children's Quiz:

- 1) Peter Piper
- 2) Bucket
- 3) Vincent van Gogh
- 4) Captain (James) Hook
- 5) A hedgehog
- 6) Five farthings
- 7) Hedwig
- 8) Aladdin
- 9) The White Rabbit
- 10) Tintin

GOLDHANGER PARISH COUNCIL

List of Councillors and Officers

Parish Council web site: www.essexinfo.net/goldhanger-parish-council

Parish clerk: Miss V Banyard
21 D'Arcy Way Tolleshunt D'Arcy CM9 8UD
01621 860265 or 07986 611660

Chair: Councillor Michael Sargeant
Wencis 15 Head Street Goldhanger CM9 8AY
01621 788484 family@sargeant100.freemove.co.uk

Vice Chair: Councillor Julia Bourn
17 Church Street Goldhanger CM9 8AS
01621 788298 juliabourn@live.co.uk

Councillors: Bree Back
Thatch End 36 Fish Street Goldhanger CM9 8AT
01621 788419 breeback@hotmail.co.uk

Clive Cheeseman
3 Maldon Road Goldhanger CM9 8BG
01621 788433 cheeseman3@sky.com

Stephen Ellis
Charity Farm Cottage Maldon Road Goldhanger
01621 788739 Stephen.ellis@talk21.com

Christopher Joslin
15 Fish Street Goldhanger CM9 8AT
01621 788578 chrisandjilljoslin@gmail.com

Hugh Reynolds
21 Fish Street Goldhanger CM9 8AT
01621 788307

DIGITAL COPIES OF THE MAGAZINE

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.

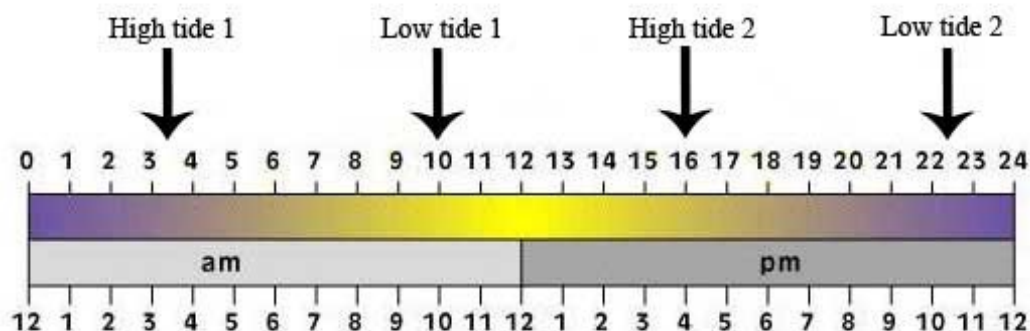
Alternatively it can be downloaded at the end of each month from **www.goldhanger.org.uk** and following the link under 'Community Stuff'.

Tide Times for Goldhanger

February

		Morning		Afternoon	
		time	m	time	m
1 M	☾	05:13	5.0	17:43	4.8
2 Tu		06:06	4.7	18:42	4.6
3 W		07:15	4.6	19:55	4.6
4 Th		08:33	4.6	21:12	4.8
5 F		09:43	4.9	22:16	5.1
6 Sa		10:41	5.2	23:10	5.3
7 Su		11:31	5.5	23:57	5.6
8 M	●			12:17	5.8
9 Tu		00:42	5.8	13:02	6.0
10 W		01:24	6.0	13:45	6.1
11 Th		02:06	6.1	14:30	6.2
12 F		02:48	6.1	15:13	6.0
13 Sa		03:30	6.0	15:57	5.8
14 Su		04:12	5.9	16:44	5.6
15 M	☾	05:00	5.6	17:37	5.3
16 Tu		05:57	5.3	18:41	5.0
17 W		07:10	5.1	19:59	4.9
18 Th		08:33	5.0	21:22	4.9
19 F		09:52	5.1	22:33	5.2
20 Sa		10:58	5.4	23:27	5.4
21 Su		11:48	5.6		
22 M	○	00:12	5.6	12:30	5.7
23 Tu		00:48	5.7	13:05	5.7
24 W		01:21	5.8	13:39	5.8
25 Th		01:54	5.8	14:12	5.7
26 F		02:27	5.8	14:45	5.7
27 Sa		02:59	5.7	15:15	5.5
28 Su		03:30	5.5	15:45	5.3
29 M		04:00	5.3	16:17	5.1

24 hour clock



12 hour clock

Mobile Library dates & times

Thursday dates	Location	Stop name	Arrives	Leaves
Feb: 4, 18 Mar: 3, 17, 31	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?



Essex Police Contacts

Call 999 (emergency) if:

- A crime is in progress
- Someone suspected of a crime nearby
- There is a danger to life
- Violence is being used or threatened

For any non-emergency contact with the police, call 101 which covers the whole of England and Wales. *If you call 101 but are reporting an emergency, you will be directed to the 999 service.*

Our neighbourhood officer is PCSO Carol Gladman and when she is on duty a contact number is **0797 084 4179**.

The neighbourhood constable for our area is police constable Leah Keene..

Ivy Sharman collects stamps for the Guide Dogs ~ 16 Head street telephone 788268.

Crimestoppers

0800 555 111

Contact them anonymously with information about crime

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

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Stephensons run the weekday 17:35 service from Maldon

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

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Longfield Medical Centre	876433
Tollesbury Surgery	869204
St Peter's Hospital <i>NHS</i> (Maldon - no A&E)	725323
Broomfield Hospital <i>NHS</i> (Chelmsford, has A&E)	01245 362000
Colchester General Hospital <i>NHS</i> (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 (<i>puts you through to Essex Police</i>)

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
The Samaritans	0345 909090
Salvation Army	853942
Gingerbread (Charity for single parents)	01245 352708
Outhouse East (LGBT Charity)	0345 123 23 88 (<i>7pm-10pm weekdays</i>)

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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