

Foulness Island

July 2018

Off on your holidays soon? Then you'll be looking for the appropriate information.

HEAVEN – Latest Travel Information

Accommodation: Arrangements for first class accommodation have been made in advance. (John 14:2)

Passports: Persons seeking entry will not be permitted past the gates without having proper credentials and having their names registered with the ruling authority. (Revelation 21:27)

Tickets: Your ticket is a written pledge that guarantees your journey. It should be claimed and its promises kept firmly in mind. (John 5:24)

Customs: Only one declaration is required when going through Customs. (I Corinthians 1:3-4)

Immigration: All passengers are classified as immigrants, since they are taking up permanent residence in a new country. The quota is unlimited. (Hebrews 11:16)

Luggage: No luggage whatsoever can be taken. (I Timothy 6:7)

Air Passage: Travellers going directly by air are advised to watch daily for indications of imminent departure. (I Thessalonians 4:17)

Vaccinations: Injections are not needed as diseases are unknown at this destination. (Revelation 20:4)

Departure Date: Has not been announced. But travellers are advised to be prepared to leave at short notice. (Acts 1:7)

In Memoriam

In July and August we remember

*Karl Arnold
Bob Glover
Jack Hume
"Jeff" Jefford
Cyril Nicholls
Annie (Nancy) Payne
Joyce Pedrick
Derek Shuttlewood
Reg Tillbrook
John Willmer*

Gone but not forgotten

Sunday Worship

Our worship this month is on Sunday 22nd July, at 9am at Hall Farm. Our church on Foulness has been dedicated to St Mary, St Thomas and All Saints and on that day we shall be celebrating Mary's life. You will be very welcome if you would like to join us.

Parish Council

Due to an issue regarding the recording of meetings the Parish Council has had to restructure its monthly meetings. We are now holding an informal meeting with QinetiQ, the DIO and the MOD which commences at

7.00pm on the night of Council meetings. This is for the Parish Councillors and the Parishioners of Foulness Island only. This is usually followed at 7.30 pm by a Parish Council meeting.

QinetiQ Report

Foulness Residents' Meeting Report – June 2018

Operational Impacts: None to report.

Electricity: No works planned in the next four to five weeks that will affect the tenanted estate.

Severn Trent Services - Fire Hydrant Testing: 14 June, 08:30-16:30: You may experience discoloured water and/or low water pressure during the duration of testing. Discoloured water of this nature is unlikely to pose a health risk. However, we understand that while your water is discoloured you may not wish to drink it. If you have a chronic medical condition please contact us on 08450 340 864 at least 48 hours in advance to discuss the provision of bottled water.

Apart from this, there is nothing planned for the next four to five weeks that will affect tenants.

Roads – 7 July: Eurovia are doing some roadworks on the spine road between Churchend and Tree Farm on Saturday 7 July. The work is focussed on resin joint repairs. A traffic management system will be in place and this is expected to be complete within a day.

Crane delivery: A large crane is being delivered this Saturday 16 June, between 07:30 and 09:30.

DIO update

Elsa Kite reported: We've had a fantastic response and a lot of applications for the 5 houses we have to let on the island. I am currently sifting through the applications and will be informing the successful applicants in the next couple of days. I am delighted to say that it looks as though there will be some lovely people moving into the community who will be a positive asset. I am next down on 3 July.

Parish Council

The Parish Council held its meeting on 13th June 2018 commencing at 7.30 pm.

Reports were received from County Councillor Mike Steptoe and District Councillors Daniel Efde and Neil Hookway.

The meeting approved the payment requests for April/May/June 2018. The Council also noted the receipts in April/May/June 2018. Copies of these documents can be found on our website.

The Clerk reported that no progress had been made re transferring the lease in respect of the Play Area from the Parish Council to a Charitable Trust.

Discussions regarding the possible provision of Post Office facilities on the Island continue to be ongoing.

The Clerk gave a brief update on the new Data Protection regulations which came into force on 25th May 2018.

The meeting then went into private session to discuss the proposal that a gift be given to the Island's First Responder who had recently retired after over eighteen years service. It was agreed that, subject to the EALC confirming that this could be

done under Section 137, a voucher for £50 should be purchased.

The next meeting of the Council will be on Wednesday 11th July, commencing at 7.30 pm. This will be preceded by an informal meeting with QinetiQ which will commence at 7.00 pm.

All documents presented to Council can be viewed on the Parish Council website

John Watson
Parish Clerk
Foulness Island Parish Council
86 Southchurch Boulevard
Southend on Sea
Essex, SS2 4UZ

Tel: 07757 484225
e-mail foulnessparishcouncil@gmail.com
Website: www.foulnessislandpc.org.uk

Children's Society Boxes

I'm grateful to those of you who have managed to get your boxes to me. We have been able to send off to Headquarters the sum of £567.07 – thank you.

I'm pleased to say that when it came to banking the money, the bank was able to accept the nine old-style £1 coins that were

found lurking in various boxes. I didn't try to bank the two farthings that had been slimmed down to try to pass as 1p coins, nor did I offer the token marked "Sutton Road SOS" – any ideas on where that came from?

Unfortunately we are losing some of our box holders, so if anyone feels they could have a box indoors in which to drop the occasional coin to help children less fortunate than those we know here, I would be very happy to hear from you.

Denise

Thank you

Sheila and family wish to thank all who attended Norman's funeral. It was a great help to see so many familiar faces. Thank you also for the generous donations you gave – they amounted to £500. Half will go to Diabetes UK and the other half to Coeliac Disease.

Thank you – Sheila

Help on Offer

If you were one of our community who visited the recent

Essex Young Farmers' Show, you may have seen around the various stands the Revd Janet Nicholls, who is the Agricultural Chaplain to the Diocese of Chelmsford. Coming from a rural and farming background herself, she is much aware of the problems that may arise from living in a rural community.

As Agricultural Chaplain, she works alongside the rural community, providing a confidential listening ear and pastoral support. Her farming background gives her an understanding of the issues involved in living and working in a relatively isolated community. She has links with agricultural support agencies and charities that can provide practical help in a range of situations.

If you ever need a sympathetic, non-judgemental ear, her contact details are

☎ 01371 851317

Mob: 07590 929499

jnicholls@chelmsford.anglican.org

Foulness Newsletter

The Editorial Committee is grateful to those who have shown their appreciation of the

newsletter by making a donation towards the printing and postage costs. If you've been meaning to drop an envelope through the door of 23 Churchend it's never too late. Thank you.

Rotary Club Bike Ride

We understand from the *Echo* that the Bike Ride is scheduled to take place on September 9th this year, following the same route as last year.

We also understand from the *Echo* that we have *traffic-free roads*, that *the event has been a mainstay in the island's diary for 20 years* and that the unique event will take place with *no cars on the roads*. This may not be the same place as you know, with carers trying to get here to look after their clients, with residents going to get their newspaper, with bird watchers likely to come to a dead stop in the middle of the road with no thought for traffic behind them ... we could go on with examples of potential problems.

It is unfortunate that these cyclists have been fed the idea of traffic-free roads. We know from experience that they have

come for a jolly day out, or a mad race, and have no intention of keeping to the 'single file please' exhortation. There's bound to be someone who thinks that their two wheels give them a divine right over your four.

If you have visitors coming that day, please warn them about possible lengthy queues at Landwick. Your children will need to be even more vigilant if they are out and about in the villages, with more traffic than usual.

Each participant should be wearing a number; you may need to note it in case of any incident. If they are not wearing a number or are using binoculars this could be a case for concern.

Safety First in the country

We make no excuse for repeating our annual reminder now that the school holidays are approaching. None of us wants to learn of an accident involving any of the island's children.

Do you know where your children are? It's wonderful that they may roam reasonably freely on here, nearly as much as we used to be able to do as kids

ourselves, and in the way you cannot do in any urban environment these days, but there are some safety first rules that your children need to keep in mind nowadays to ensure their personal safety.

However attractive barns, fields, combines, tractors and trailers may look to them, there is enormous danger for the unwary, and when children are lost in the world of play they are rarely aware of outside matters.

May we please ask you to remind your children that, especially at this forthcoming very busy time of year on the farms, the fields and farmyards are a place of work and not a playground for your children?

No doubt children brought up in this area will be aware of the dangers if they stop and think, but a reminder from you never comes amiss, as it is all too easy to forget danger when you are playing. If you would kindly stress that they should not be playing in what one might call 'tenanted areas' that will go a long way to reducing the risks they might otherwise run.

If you have children visiting or staying with you from more urban areas, please take the opportunity to have a word with them about safety in the countryside.

Foulness Tide Times July 2018

	AM	height	PM	height
Sun 1	02.50	5.6	15.05	5.5
Sat 7	06.58	5.0	19.21	5.0
Sun 8	08.04	5.0	20.31	5.1
Sat 14	01.29	6.2	14.00	5.9
Sun 15	02.20	6.3	14.49	6.0
Sat 21	07.34	5.2	20.00	5.2
Sun 22	08.37	5.0	21.05	5.1
Sat 28	01.20	5.6	13.38	5.6
Sun 29	01.57	5.7	14.13	5.6

August

Sat 4	05.29	5.2	17.44	5.3
Sun 5	06.18	5.0	18.38	5.2
Sat 11	00.26	5.9	12.59	5.8
Sun 12	01.18	6.1	13.47	6.0
Sat 18	05.56	5.3	18.14	5.3
Sun 19	06.47	5.0	19.12	5.0
Sat 25	00.22	5.5	12.41	5.5
Sun 26	01.00	5.6	13.17	5.6

The curse of the commentator

'First of all, a standing ovulation.'

Vincent Simone, BBC2

'By the time I turned off my mic last night Celtic were 1-0 up. By the time I got home they were 4-0 down.'

Gordon Duncan, Radio Clyde

'I know there are a lot of people looking forward to the series and sitting behind their televisions for the next seven weeks.'

Joe Root, BT Sport

'The West Ham fans are not particularly enamelled by David Moyes.'

Craig Burley, ESPN

'Rangers are a unique team, just like seven or eight others.'

Ally McQuoist, Radio 5 Live

Foulness – Did you know?

Hall Farm

One of the first mentions of Hall Farm comes in the early 15th century when Foulness Hall Marsh is recorded as comprising 525 acres.

Parts of the house itself date from around 1800 though no doubt there was a building on the

site earlier. Records suggest that it served as the manor house, and that courts were held there in earlier years. It is said that after the courts were over the officials retreated to the King's Head (CourtsEnd?) perhaps to await a suitable period of tide for return to the mainland, there being no bridge until much later.

For very many years the house has been inhabited by Isaiah Belton and his descendants. There is a photo in existence, taken outside Hall Farm Cottage, of four generations of Beltons together. In 1910 when three of Isaiah's sons married in a triple wedding in Foulness Church, the reception was held in one of the Hall barns – for further details visit the Heritage Centre.

Like other farmhouses on the island, it was built on a slight mound (often the spoil from the creation of a nearby pond) and floodwater did not rise above the floorboards in 1953.

It was through Isaiah's generosity that Foulness acquired its first village hall, a former army hut, well-remembered by the older generation.

Foulness Conservation and Archaeological Society

The next opening of the Heritage Centre will be on Sunday 1st July from 12 till 4pm and we look forward to seeing you there. If you have visitors over the weekend the Centre is certainly somewhere to take them.

Our next Committee and Friends meeting will be on Tuesday 10th July in the Centre at 7.30pm. Do come along and join us if you are interested – you don't actually have to be a committee member to have any input and any offer of help, however small, will be welcome.

Have you tried ...

The Angel, North Shoebury,
SS3 8UD
01702 589600
www.angelinnpub.com

We've been there a couple of times recently, and not regretted it. In the past we have found the restaurant a little overwhelming, but have used the bar and its menu on several occasions. On our recent visits, we found the bar menu to be much better than we had remembered, with a wide range of choices from the

'specials' offers, so that you could have as much or as little as you fancied on the day.

We skipped the 'starters', though there are several to choose from on the printed, 'available every day' menu, and an even better choice on the special offers displayed on boards hanging on the wall. Our first recent visit was on a Thursday evening and the kitchen was already busy at 6.15, as was the car park.

Two of us plumped for the skate and chorizo, with new potatoes and seasonal vegetables. Too often that latter is an overcooked or wildly-undercooked mish-mash of odd vegetables, but the sensible choice that came with the fish was such that the conversation carried on without me once moaning about 'lousy vegetables'. The third one in the party went for the steak and ale pie, on the grounds that he doesn't get pastry dishes at home, and thoroughly enjoyed it, especially as it was a section cut from a large pie, rather than one of the ubiquitous 'pub pies' that's in a dish with a circle of puff pastry plonked on the top.

When it came to desserts, we couldn't resist: there were two

knickerbocker glories (well, they don't call them that, but that's what they were) and they were a real treat. The only drawback was that they were so generous that one had to take care to rescue the delights of the dish that tried to cascade down the outsides of the glass. The third member of the party opted for strawberries and cream, and we heard no complaints at all.

As far as drinks are concerned there are two guest beers, and apart from that there is always a good range of 'proper' beers.

There were four of us on the second recent visit, and again we were all happy with what we chose. On a Friday night the car park was even busier, and we were lucky to get a space; at times people were queuing for a possible place. If there's no parking place, one wonders where one could put the car; as it is, the allotted spaces are on the narrow side, so they obviously cram in as many as they can, and it's to be hoped the available space is next to someone who has 'parked prettily' – too often a car can seem to have been 'abandoned' in a car park, not taking notice of the white lines.

The other difference we found was that the chef doesn't start cooking till 6.30; they don't mind taking the orders before then, but you'll wait a bit for the food. This time the skate had gone from the specials – drat! – and I chose mussels. These came with a garlic bun/bridge roll, rather than garlic French bread, so you ended up with proportionally more crust than normal, but it was tasty, nevertheless. I imagine the chef must have been as disappointed as I was with the size of the mussels when he saw the contents of the opened shells – I've certainly been served larger ones than that on plenty of occasions.

The two men in the party went for the chicken pie, and there was a murmur of disappointment there too, as the pie turned out to be the individual sort with the added puff pastry topping. Still, there wasn't a lot left, and nor was there of the chicken piri-piri on the fourth plate, though if you choose that do please watch where the sauce goes: at one stage our friend looked as if she had Dracula blood oozing from the corners of her mouth. Portions were very generous and although I hankered after a

knickerbocker glory or a sticky toffee pudding I was shamed by the reticence of the other three. I shall be back there one of these days, making sure that the company is hungry and I can have a dessert!

Understandably the round tables in the bar are not conducive to more than two people eating off them, but there are some bigger rectangular tables that could comfortably seat six. If piped music's not to your taste, watch where the speakers are in relation to your table – otherwise sit up nicely and move to the restaurant.

And finally ... Have you read these books?

'Synthetic Clothing' by Polly Ester

'Utter Failure' by D Bacche

'Choose a Lucky Number' by Tom Bowler

'It's a Puzzle' by Dee Lemmer

'Supporting the Crown' by Roy Allist

Items (articles, adverts, 'free to a good home', opinions) for inclusion in the newsletter are always welcome. For the September newsletter (no August newsletter) these should be dropped in the letter box at Old Hall Farm by 18th August.