

Weeley History Recorders Report 2022

January

The New Year was very mild with strong winds night frosts and low rainfall.

Parish Council plans the Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, funding available towards this village event, the council will liaise with Weeley in Bloom and the Residents Association to plan the event.

The Crematorium forced to close temporarily due to technical reasons.

February

Weeley Parish council invitation to Village Hall to watch presentation of the Oxford Archaeological Dig on the Barrack Fields soon to be the site of 280 new homes, suggested that road names on the development reflect the history of the site.

Storm Eunice with 70 miles an hour caused problems uprooting trees along the bypass. A need to survey the ageing poplar trees along the bypass.

March

Village Hall in need of help running the hall which is in constant use by local clubs and organisations the daffodils and spring bulbs planted over the years by Weeley in Bloom were again a welcome sight around the village. Proposed erection of 7 bungalows in Connaught Road. A memorial bench for the Jubilee has been ordered at a cost of £680 to be opposite Loop Green at the entrance to the street railway side. The 50 year lease on the Scout hut has terminated a new one to be prepared.

Weeley Residents continue their monthly coffee mornings at Hilltop Garden Centre.

April

Weeley Residents first outing of the season by coach to Horning Broad where they enjoyed a trip on a Paddle Boat Steamer followed by lunch at Wroxham Barns.

Weeley in Bloom hold the first fundraising event at Reed Pond an all age event very well supported. Weeley Speed Watch logged 200 drivers in 30 mile an hour zones around the village. Proposed erection of dwelling Reedlands, Gutteridgehall Lane. Plans for coppicing on land adjacent Hillside House.

May.

The first monthly cake stall selling homemade cakes was held at Rainbow nursery Colchester Road by invitation of Mr and Mrs Phill Norris organised by Sarah Hutchby and Liz Hubbard in aid of St Andrews Church. A Confirmation Service was held at St Andrews with seven candidates being presented to the Bishop of Colchester the Rev Roger Morris over 80 friends and families were present, cakes and coffee was enjoyed after the service. A well supported Weeley Petanque group continue to play twice a week on their rink on the playing field.

June

The Picnic in in Park organised by the Parish Council had to be cancelled due to the heavy rains in the week making the playing field unsafe.

St Andrews Church were able to hold the concert by the Clefhanger singers in the Church with over 100 people attending in the evening.

Weeley and Lt Clacton Scout group celebrate 50 years of scouting in Weeley. Weeley in Bloom and the scouts together organise a very successful Weeley Fest on the playing field the weather was perfect with visitors from outside the village attending.

Weeley WI hold a garden party to celebrate the Jubilee in the garden of Robin and Maureen Stock at Bushwood Rectory Road.

Weeley in bloom had planted many attractive containers in the colours of Red, White and Blue around the village these were watered daily by the team and kept tidy, they are also busy preparing for the Judging in July.

July

Plans for wilder Wider Towns and Villages. Spencer Way was proposed for a natural style area with wild flowers and grass cutting twice a year. Proposed wooden sculpture of a Scottish Solider to show the history of the barracks in 1805 when Weeley was a strategic place for the troops enabling them to sail from Harwich to France.

August

Weather very hot and no sign of much needed rain with temperature of 32 degrees. Petangue players are increasing thanks given to the WIB for planting the tubs with flowers much admired

The monthly litter pick continues around the village

September

The news of the sudden death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11 brought much sadness to the village. The Parish Council arranged for a book of condolence to be placed in St Andrews Church on the Saturday afternoon the Church was then open every evening and week ends for people to offer their condolences and appreciation, over 100 families signed the book now at Essex Records Office.

The New Veterinary Centre opens in Colchester Road Weeley after many months of planning by Dr April Young MRCVS a much needed addition to the village.

Congratulation to WIB who have been awarded a silver gilt certificate for displays around the village and a gold certificate for displays to celebrate the Queens Jubilee.

St Andrews Church hold the last cake stall of the season at Rainbow Nursery providing much needed money for the Church and also a meeting place for villages.

October

A proposal to commemorate the Christmas tree on Loop Green to the memory of Nick Alexander a Weeley Resident since birth who lost his life in the Bataclan shooting in 2015.

Planed development for Tudors in Wenlock Road replacement of a former dwelling on the site.

Parish Council to organise a Warm Hub in the village Hall in November for villages.

St Andrews School hold a Harvest festival Service in Church

November

Weeley and Lt Clacton Royal British Legion disband owing to dwindling numbers first formed in 1921

Weeley held the Annual Service of Remembrance at the War memorial conducted by the Rev David Murry, the names of the fallen from both World Wars were read by the Churchwardens Pearl Byford and Sandra De Roy, over 80 people attended Weeley and Lt Clacton Scouts and Cubs were in attendance with their flag also a number of village organisations laying wreaths.

Memorial Bench in memory of our late Queen sited at Loop Green.

December

The Village Christmas Tree on Loop Green gives a splendid Christmas welcome to everyone coming through the village.

St Andrews School hold an afternoon Carol Concert for parents and children in the Church.

The Clefhanger Productions held a Christmas concert in the Church the temperature outside was down to 1 degree a very cold spell of weather with a lot of rain.

The Carol Service in the Church conducted by Rev David Murry with the choir leading the carols and readers from organisation in the village was well attended, mince pies, tea and chat after the Service.

St Andrews Church is still in interregnum services are held each Sunday with the help of local retired Clergy. Weeley and Lt Clacton Churches still publish a monthly Parish News providing up to date events for both Villages. From the Church registers six Weddings took place, five Baptisms and three funerals a well used Church. Average Sunday congregation fourteen.

Pearl Byford

History Recorder