

GREAT WARLEY Lychgate

YOUR VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

April - May 2024

EDITORIAL TEAM:

Liz Francis
Fiona Agassiz
Helen Burgess
Linda Beaney

STOP PRESS

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Please send any contributions by **18 May 2024** by email to

GreatWarleyLychgate@yahoo.co.uk

LYCHGATE

This newsletter is now issued in a digital format. Please go to our website and register your email address if you wish to receive it.

www.stmarygreatwarley.weebly.com

No. 101

Warley Place

The bulbs have flowered very early at Warley Place this year, after such a mild winter. In the middle of March two bright red rhododendrons were already in full flower in different parts of the reserve. The show of white and snakeshead fritillaries below the Caucasian Wingnut tree on the daffodil bank has been spectacular, with at least two hundred blooms. The huge amounts of daffodils always attract plenty of visitors, but there are so many other things to see as well.

By the time you read this, there will be two more Spring Bulb Spectacular weekends – four days over Easter, and 6th and 7th April too. Guide books and many other items are on sale in the gazebos then, and there are plenty of volunteers on hand to try to answer all of your questions, so do come along, especially if you have not visited Warley Place before. Unfortunately dogs, apart from guide dogs, are not allowed.

Some of the earlier Spring Bulb Spectacular weekend days had to be cancelled or curtailed because of rain, but on Saturday 9th March the donations and sales amounted to well over £1100, which is a record amount for one day. Our card reader means that there is no excuse for people not to be generous! All the money taken is used for Warley Place.

We thank the cricket club for the use of their car park at weekends and on weekdays when large groups have booked guided tours. All of our volunteers also need a huge vote of thanks, but I wish that more village residents would volunteer to help. You really would enjoy it!

Warley Place Photographs

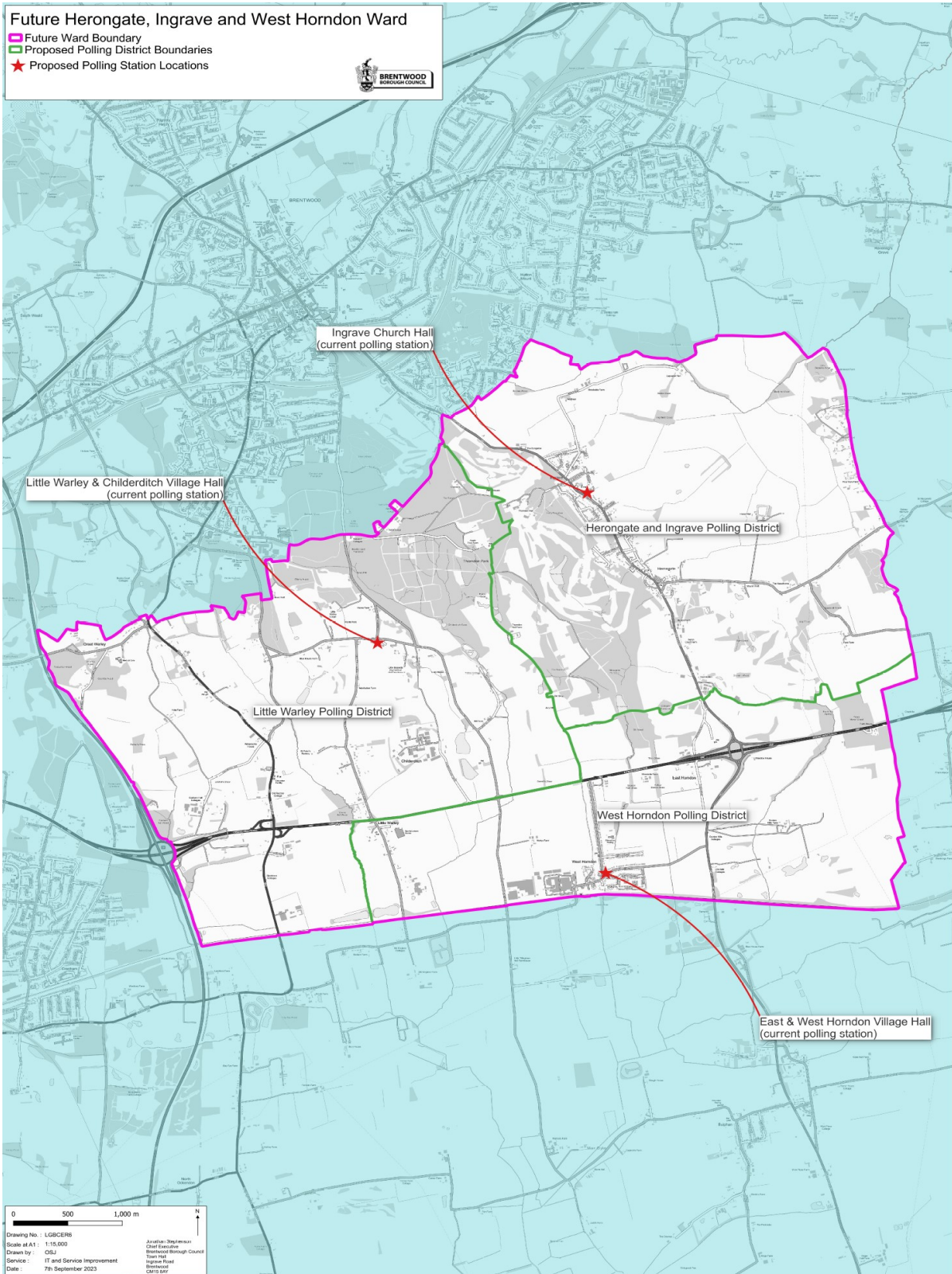


The Monday Work Party at Warley Place

Flowers at Warley Place (taken on 18 March)

Change of Local Ward Boundaries

These are the new boundaries for the Brentwood Council Wards. People may want to consider applying for a postal vote, as the nearest voting stations will be in Childer-ditch and West Horndon.



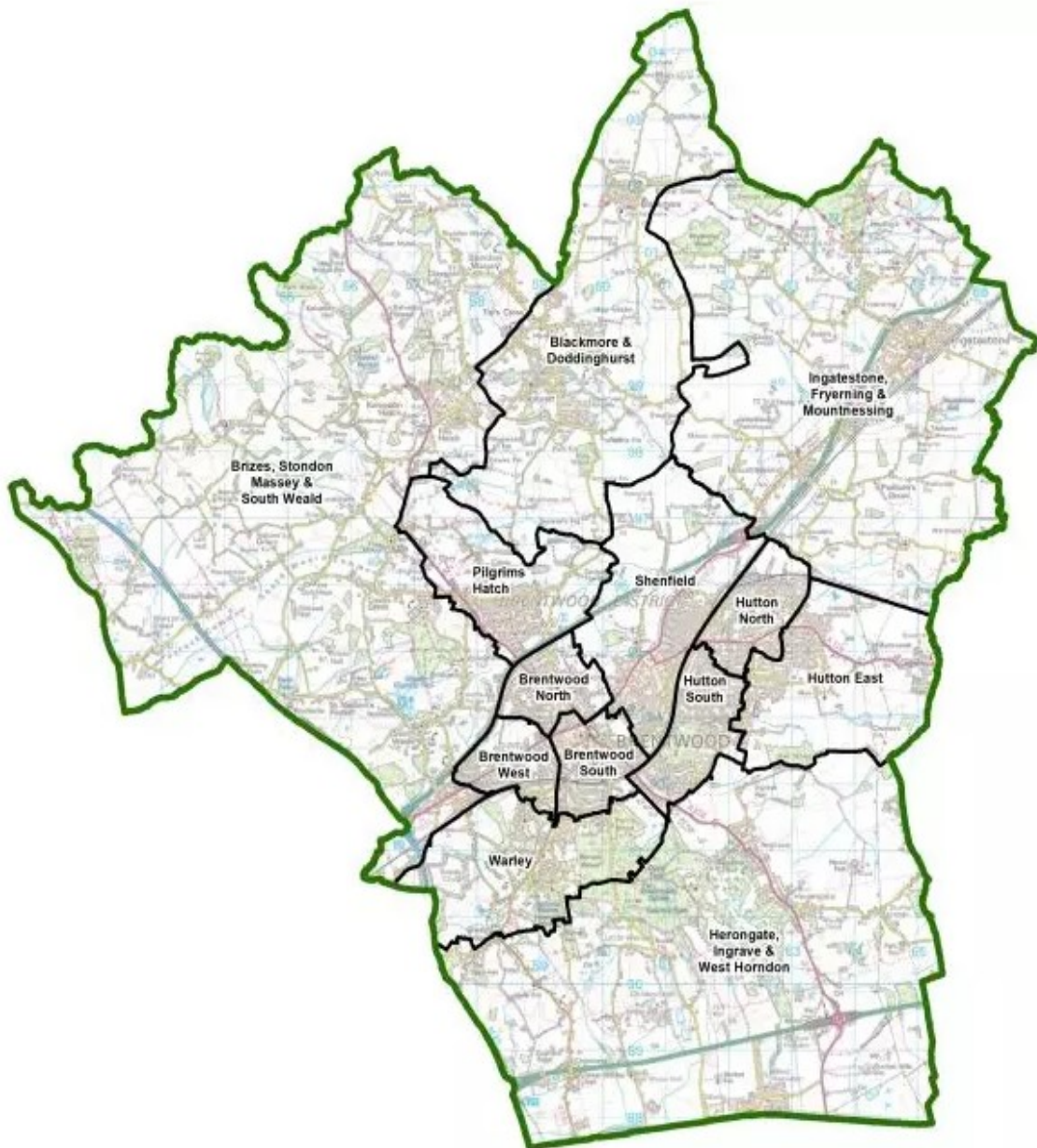
Change of Local Ward Boundaries

The Local Government Boundary Commission is the independent body that draws these boundaries. It has reviewed Brentwood to make sure councillors will represent about the same number of electors, and that ward arrangements will help the council work effectively.

The Commission has published final recommendations for changes in Brentwood. It says residents should be represented by 39 councillors. This is two more than the current arrangements.

There will be 13 wards, a decrease of two. These wards will be represented by three councillors each. The boundaries of most of the existing wards should change; two will remain the same.

More information about these changes can be found at <https://www.lgbce.org.uk/news/press-release/new-political-map-brentwood-borough-council>.



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Mrs. P. Wilson. (MSc) Headteacher.
Telephone No. 01277 227152

CHURCH NEWS - WWW.STMARYGREATWARLEY.WEEBLY.COM

ST. MARY THE VIRGIN

Date	Time	Service
31 March	11.30	Easter Sunday Holy Communion
7 April	11.30	Morning Prayer
14 April	11.30	Morning Prayer
21 April	20.15	Holy Communion
28 April	10.00	Holy Communion at Christ Church
5 May	11.30	Holy Communion
12 May	11.30	Morning Prayer
19 May	11.30	Whitsun Holy Communion
26 May	11.30	Morning Prayer

Appointment of our new Incumbent



On 23rd April Rev Dawn Butcher will be licensed to St Mary the Virgin Great Warley and Christ Church. The service will be at 7.30 pm at Christ Church. We will have a joint welcoming service at Christ Church at 10am on 28th April. Her first service at Great Warley will be on 5th May at 11.30am. She has been a curate at Broomfield St Mary with St Leonard, and will bring wide experience of administration and HR both within the Chelmsford diocese and in Public Service. She, her husband and family will

move to the vicarage in Mount Crescent over the summer, when her younger son has completed his A levels, and the vicarage has been upgraded.

Good Friday

At 10.30 on Good Friday 29th March we shall be joining together with our children to make Easter Gardens, sing, and reflect on the challenges of GOOD FRIDAY and EASTER. ALL AGES WELCOME. We shall be outside weather permitting. If possible bring along, a bowl or tray, some small pebbles, some lollipop sticks, and elastic bands (to make crosses), and some tiny chicks/ eggs representing new life in the Easter story. Do join us.

Dates for your Diary

April

Friday 5 April 10am - Sewing Bee at the Rectory Hall. Liz 07825 017056

Saturday 6 April - Litter Pick - meet at the Thatcher's 10am. All equipment provided.

Wednesday 24 April 1pm - Ladies lunch at the Thatchers. Ann Hill 01277 214886

May

Friday 3 May 10am - Sewing Bee at the Rectory Hall. Liz 07825 017056

Thursday 16 May 8pm - GWCS spring meeting at the Rectory Hall

Monday 27 May 2-4pm - Village Summer Picnic at the De Rougemont Cricket Ground

Wednesday 29 May 1pm - Ladies lunch at the Thatchers. Ann Hill 01277 214886

Church wardens:	Stephen Brabner	07764 203725	stephengbrabner@gmail.com
	Helen Burgess	01277 227557	Helen.burgess1@gmail.com
For visits and guided tours	Fiona Agassiz	01277 230436	Fionaagassiz@hotmail.com
Church Address	St Mary The Virgin	Great Warley Street	CM13 3JP

COOMBE LODGE

Coombe Lodge was a fascinating mansion that once dominated Great Warley and the surrounding area.

Formerly the Squirrels Care Home, until its closure several years ago, Edward Ind (of the Ind Coope brewing dynasty) was keen on farming politics and brewing. His father (also Edward) founded the Romford brewery with the Coope brothers shortly after purchasing, in 1799, the Romford hostelry The Star Inn. Their business was highly successful and Edward built Coombe Lodge in 1868. The property was approached from a gatehouse (now The Lodge) via a sweeping drive and stood in well over 200 acres of land. Edward died in 1894 and was buried in Cranham Parish Church. His son, Teddy, died in 1909 and his widow Isabella moved to a much smaller house - Coombe which lies to the West along Warley Road.

Coombe Lodge and all the land was auctioned, the whole being divided into three lots = first 207 acres of land; second the House, grounds and part of Home Farm totalling 148 acres and last what was then a pair of cottages - Wallets.

Coombe Lodge was appropriated for the War effort in both the First and Second World Wars. Largely due to its proximity to Warley Barracks (which post WWII became the European headquarters of the Ford Motor Company.) In the 1960's and 70's the house became a country club and then a nightclub which was rumoured to sometimes be visited by the infamous Kray twins.

The house has been Grade Two star listed for many years.



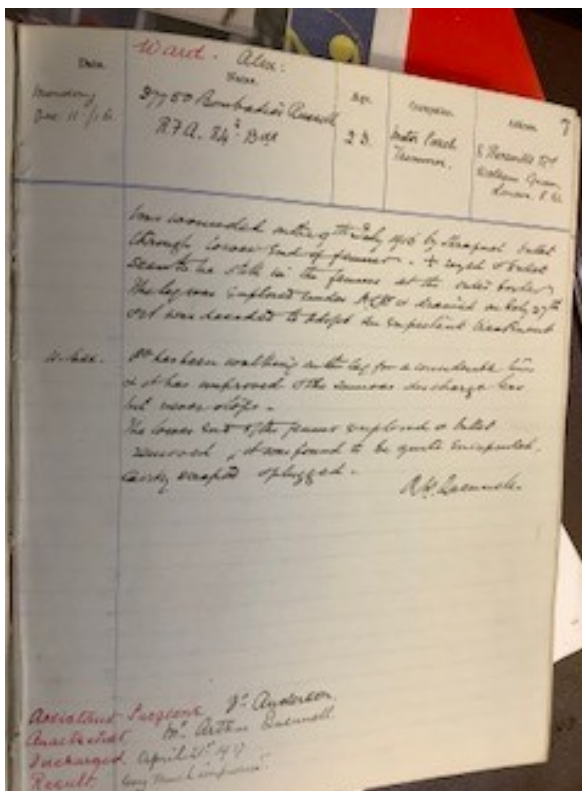
Coombe Lodge c2005

Coombe Lodge was used as a Military Hospital from 1916. Serious cases were taken off the train at Brentwood, to save them the extra journey to Colchester, and rushed to Coombe Lodge where there were more than 80 beds. Apart from a trained hospital sister, the staff was Red Cross and local volunteers. David Grief has kindly agreed for us to copy some of the entries for the Lychgate.

Notes (transcript from photo below)

Was wounded on 9th July 1916 by shrapnel bullet through lower side of femur. X rayed bullet seen to be stuck in the femur at outer border.

~~~The leg was explored under ACE and drained on July 27th, and it was decided to adopt an expectant treatment. 11th December 1916 Pt has been walking on the leg for a considerable time and it has improved the serous discharge less but never stops. The lower end of the femur explored and bullet removed, it was found to be quite encapsulated, cavity scraped and plugged. Discharged 21st April 1917 very much improved.





## VILLAGE EVENTS

### Village Litter Pick

Phil Smith is once again kindly organising the next "fight back" against the high level of litter around our lovely community. Please meet at The Thatchers at 10am on Saturday 6th April. Tongs, sacks and hi-viz vests will be provided. Any time you can spare can really make a difference. Thank you

### Printing of the Lychgate

We have been lucky enough to have Tony (formerly of Brentwood Community Print) to arrange the printing of our newsletters since the closure of BCP. We would like to thank Tony and recommend him for any of your printing needs.

Email: [tonymerrittdesign@gmail.com](mailto:tonymerrittdesign@gmail.com)

### Village Summer Picnic

Don't forget that following the success of the Jubilee and Coronation get togethers we're having a Summer community picnic at the cricket field on Monday 27th May from 2-4 pm approx.

Make sure the date is firmly in your calendar and do please let Linda (07957 258280 or [lbeaney@btinternet.com](mailto:lbeaney@btinternet.com)) or Helen (01277 227557 [Helen.burgess1@gmail.com](mailto:Helen.burgess1@gmail.com)) know if you can help on the day.

### Advertisers

We are looking for new advertisers to support our new digital Lychgate. If you or anyone you know may be interested in advertising with us, please email Liz at [Great-warleylychgate@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Great-warleylychgate@yahoo.co.uk)

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