

# GREAT WARLEY LYCHGATE

August - September 2019

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#### STOP PRESS

Next edition:
October/
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#### Licensing of the Revd. Stuart Hull

We are all delighted to welcome the Revd. Stuart Hull as the new Priest-in-Charge of St Mary's, Great Warley and Christ Church, Warley.

Stuart's licensing as Priest-in-charge took place on the evening of 31<sup>st</sup> May at Christ Church. He was licensed by the Bishop of Bradwell, the Rt. Revd. John Perumbalath, and installed by the Archdeacon of Chelmsford, the Ven. Elizabeth Snowden. There was a full congregation for the service, which was fol-

There was a full congregation for the service, which was followed by refreshments kindly supplied by members of Christ Church.

Stuart is married to Suzanne, and they have a baby daughter, Jennifer, who was born in March. They live in the Christ Church vicarage in Mount Crescent, and we all hope they will be really happy there.

Stuart's first Holy Communion service at St Mary's as Priest-incharge took place on 2<sup>nd</sup> June, and it was followed by a bring and share lunch in brilliant sunshine at the vicarage, attended

by members of both St Mary's and Christ Church congregations. By the time you read this, Stuart will have been in post for nearly two months. He is keen and enthusiastic, and seems to have boundless energy, even though Jennifer is probably still giving him some sleepless nights! If you have not yet met him, why not come along to a service at St Mary's, held every Sunday at 11.15am?



#### **VILLAGE NEWS**

#### **Alan and Carol Sharp**

The congregation at St Mary's, and many other village residents too, are sad to have said goodbye to Carol and Alan Sharp, who have lived in Dark Lane for over eleven years. They moved to Devon in mid-July, and we hope they will be really happy there.

Alan is a very talented craftsman, and he has been really useful to St Mary's. He made the new noticeboard which stands outside the church Lychgate (from a design by David Wellings), and the display boards which are used inside the church (from his own design), as well as other items. He was also invaluable when items such as the candle-snuffers needed to be repaired!

Carol and Alan suffered a tragic loss in 2011 when their son Ben died of leukaemia at the age of 25. Ben is buried in St Mary's churchyard.

Since Ben's death, both Carol and Alan have helped to keep the churchyard tidy, including mowing some of the grass and pruning the roses. They have also sometimes helped on church open days, showing visitors around. They will be missed in so many ways, but we hope they will often return as visitors, especially since their daughter Tamsin will continue to live in this area. Thank you so, so much, Alan and Carol, for all that you have done for us.



Carol and Alan Sharp at St. Mary's

#### **Great and Little Warley WI**

June seems to have been a busy and active month. At our usual meeting in the village hall, our speaker, Peter Lazell, gave an informative talk about the Essex Regiment during The Great War; all the more interesting for us due to our proximity to the Essex Regiment Chapel (a unique building) and the site of the old barracks.

During the month some of our members went as a group to the cinema, had an outing and lunch on a boat trip in the Lea Valley and we had a stall at the village fete where we were a visible presence to promote our local W.I. and to show off some of the lovely work that the Nutty Knitters group have been producing throughout the year as part of our charitable efforts.

Our August meeting, weather permitting, will be a garden party away from the village hall.

Pam Tee 01277 220314

# Land of the Fanns Drawing Workshops

Land of the Fanns is running a series of free drawing workshops, the first being at our church in Great Warley next Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 10am – 12.30pm. This will be followed by a similar workshop at Warley Place on the same afternoon, and more in the area later in August.

Anyone is welcome to join in with these workshops. Please contact the organiser, Julie Easlea, at: jubilantpr@yahoo.co.uk, or on 07941 502577, or use the link: http://www.landofthefanns.org/event/drawing-workshop-st-marys-church-greatwarley/ to find out more about the project and register.

The Land of the Fanns all started at Langdon Hills in 1768, and its area spreads over east London and south-east Essex. Its present five year scheme aims to reunify and discover the landscape, strengthen attachment and create a sense of enjoyment of the landscape area for local people and visitors. It is part funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, and its office is at the Thames Chase head-quarters in Pike Lane.

'Fanns' is derived from the Saxon word for fen, meaning low marshy land or low-lying district.

#### **DE ROUGEMONT CRICKET GROUND NEWS**

The first season of cricket back at Great and Little Warley is now half over, and I believe, with all due modesty on the part of Brentwood Cricket Club, that it can already be labelled a great success.

On the cricket front, our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> XIs have played there every Saturday; our social Sunday side - The Victorians have had a few games there, and our colts have played and trained there with a degree of regularity. Results have been mixed: some won, some lost, but in truth it has been much more than just about results. It is "home" for the Saturday sides: a regular venue, where we can control the quality of the wicket and feel confident that we can pitch our youngsters into adult League cricket without fear of them being physically or mentally compromised by some borderline psychopath, doubling as the opposition's hairy fast bowler, taking advantage of what is euphemistically called 'variable bounce'! And the number of spectators coming along has surprised us as well - especially those accompanying the oppositions, where word has clearly got round that it is a beautiful setting to spend an afternoon watching our national sport. Indeed, it is the archetypal village cricket ground, even if the price to pay for the views is the sometimes less-than-gentle breeze that constantly reminds us that we are relatively high up although that breeze has been most welcome during the recent heatwave.

We have continued to do bits and pieces on the ground to improve it even further. We now have a dozen benches permanently fixed around the perimeter, all bearing plaques giving clues to the identities of their donors, half of whom are local residents. And as I write this we are in the process of positioning a couple of picnic sets adjacent to the lime tree and near our other new acquisition: an industrial-size pizza oven, which, if only because of its weight is also "permanently sited"! You may also have seen the new flagpole proudly flying the Brentwood CC flag. We still have some work to do on the pavilion - a new internal lighting system for a start, and the creation of flower beds in front of the porch. And of course the long-awaited replacement wooden shed. These tasks are earmarked for the autumn, and if there are any keen gardeners, especially, amongst the local community who could lend a hand or donate some plants (or a shed!) please let either Linda or me know.

The brambles continue to try to repossess what they seem to regard as 'their' land. Without the regular help of Chris Fabrucci and his tractor we would probably be suffering similar problems to King Canute, but as it is we are managing to keep them at arms' length – just. We are told that in time they will give up and die, but my pessimistic view is that we shall have a new monarch on the throne before that happens.

So everything inside the gate to the ground can be described as 'sweetness and light'. Sadly the same cannot be said on the outside. We know that local residents have been concerned for a long time about the need for some traffic-calming or general road-safety measures in Warley

Road between The Thatchers and the Squirrels, and we have quickly found out that exiting the De Rougemont Ground, whether by car on or foot, is a nightmare. The sight-lines in both directions, but particularly to the right (east) of the exit are very poor, and the understandable lack of a footpath on the ground (south) side of the road mean that both drivers and pedestrians take their lives in their hands when leaving.

Along with Great Warley Conservation Society, we have had exchanges and, ultimately, a meeting with the County Councillor responsible for the area to endeavour to get the Highways Division to install a convex mirror on the ANPR pole opposite, but apparently these aids are being systematically removed these days "because they cause more harm than good" (who on earth came up with that one??!) A rather lukewarm suggestion was made to erect an 'Advance Warning Sign' ("Concealed entrance ahead"), but we thought that really was the thin end of the wedge. The fact is that some motorists will never obey non-mandatory signs, either because they don't see them, or they're unfamiliar with the road, or they just don't want to. In our view a mirror is the only sensible answer, since it puts the onus back on the Cricket Club which we're quite happy with – to put up our own signs in the pavilion, the car park, and at the end of the driveway telling all concerned not to enter the road if they can see a car in the mirror. But as I've accepted, this is not a new issue and I suspect it will run for a good while yet before something is done. Hopefully it won't take a tragedy to achieve some action.....

But let's finish on a positive note. There are a couple more months of summer – and cricket – yet. Please take advantage of warm sunny days to stroll through the cricket ground whether or not cricket is being played. Admire the views and the transformation work that has been done; sit on the benches and take it all in. If you fancy a picnic – be our guest: use the pizza oven if you want to impress your grandchildren or visiting friends. All we ask is that you replace the supply of wood fuel and take your rubbish away with you. (We have also asked the local Council for a couple of permanent waste bins for the ground, but that too has hit a brick wall thus far....) But however you use the ground, enjoy it. We do!

Malcolm Webb President, Brentwood Cricket Club

#### **Brentwood Community Print**

As always, we would like to thank the staff at Brentwood Community Print who produce our newsletter in rapid time and to such a high quality. Contact Tim or Tony on 01277 849021.

Info@Brentwoodcommunityprint.org.uk
The Keys, Eagle Way, Warley CM13 3BP

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#### CHURCH NEWS - WWW.STMARYGREATWARLEY.WEEBLY.COM

#### ST. MARY THE VIRGIN

Date	Time	Service	
4 August	11.15am	Holy Communion	
11 August	11.15am	Morning Prayer	
18 August	11.15am	Morning Prayer	
25 August	11.15am	Holy Communion	
1 September	11.15am	Holy Communion	
8 September	11.15am	Morning Prayer	
15 September	11.15am	Morning Prayer	
22 September	11.15am	Harvest Festival and Holy Communion	
29 September	11.15am	Morning Prayer	

#### **Sea Sunday**

We were delighted to welcome the Royal Naval Association, Brentwood Sea cadets, officers from Thurrock Sea Cadets to our annual service to remember all those who work at sea, and to support the Mission to Seafarers who provide support for all merchant sea goers. The service was led by Rev Stuart Hull, who used his sermon to remember his great uncle on HMS Hood, and his time as a sea cadet in Brentwood, and reflect on Psalm 124 (God protects his people from the raging torrent). Standards of the RNAS, and The Sea Cadets were presented, and we reflected and enjoyed the company of young and older!



#### **Heritage and Open Weekends**

St Mary's church will welcome visitors on Bank Holiday Monday, 26 August, between 12 noon and 4pm. Please remember that the church is also open every Thursday afternoon until the end of October for more opportunities to view our unique building.

The Church will also be open during the Heritage weekend from 10 to 4pm on Saturday 14th September, and from 12.30 to 4pm on the 15th September.

Do also come and join us to give the church a spring clean, from 10 to 12 on the Saturday. Please bring with you your favourite duster, step ladder and hoover, plus a material cobweb duster if you have one! Helen 07949205994/ Helen.burgess1@gmail.com

#### Thank you

The church wardens at St Mary's are very grateful to PERI for their donation of £250 towards the upkeep of the peaceful churchyard.

#### **Harvest Festival**

Do join us on Sunday 22nd September at 11.15am at Great Warley Church to celebrate the changing seasons, the plenty from our farms and gardens, and reflect on the needs of the community. Hopefully we will have a beautifully decorated church, and will be collecting boxes for Brentwood Foodbank (non-perishable in date food items, toiletries, and household items).

#### **Harvest Supper**

For the third year the Conservation Society and St Mary The Virgin are joining forces for the convivial evening that is the annual Harvest Supper. As before, terrific home cooked hot mains (with a choice of dishes) will be provided to be closely followed by delicious home made desserts. Rosie Tooze will entertain us with her excellent vocal prowess and we look forward to welcoming as many of our community as possible. There is no need to be either a Church or Society member. Do please just let me know (Ibeaney@btinternet.com 231265) or Helen (helen.burgess1@gmail.com 227557) if you are coming. The cost is £12 per head. As usual we would welcome all culinary contributions so let us know about that too. Help on the day setting up and tidying the hall would be most welcome please.

So SAVE THE DATE - SAT 28<sup>th</sup> SEPT. 7 for 7.30pm.

Clergy	Stuart Hull	01277 295881	revdsj2@gmail.com
Church wardens:	Stephen Brabner	01277 230771	stephenbrabner@rocketmail.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
	<u> </u>	*	•

#### **NEW VENTURE PLAYERS - WIND IN THE WILLOWS**

The New Venture Players presented the 'Wind in the Willows' on the De Rougemont Cricket ground in mid July, against variable weather, with rain interrupting one of the shows, which resumed after the clouds had cleared.

We went to the show on Saturday afternoon, with lovely sunshine, and a full house. The props and scenery were novel and imaginative, and suited the plot. The sound effects and music also helped to support an excellent script.

The main characters presented the story well, and were easy to follow with plenty of laughs. Emily Catlin as Mole, Trevor Povey as Ratty, Vernon Keeble-Watson as Toad and Barry Howlett as Badger kept up the pace of the play.

They were well supported by the other characters and players, who turned up in various guises, such as Helen Burgess as Otter and then as Stoat Gerald!

The scenes followed the original book with Toad's eccentric hobbies being aired to much laughter, supported by Albert the horse (Melvin Freake) pulling caravans and barges under duress especially from the Bargee (Linda Beaney). The Motor Car, Toad's nemesis, was in fact the mower, well dressed up, loaned by Steve Burgess. The only accidents were off stage!! The court hearings and gaol scenes with Toad's escape were perfectly done with Toad carrying out the change of gender to washerwoman enthusiastically! The recovery of Toad Hall and expulsion of the stoats and weasels was a superb finale with a lovely chase scene à la Benny Hill. It was only during these scenes, that one realised just how many of the cast involved in the show were the youngsters from the Billie Merrie School of Dancing, who added to the fun

with rabbiting, dancing and singing. All should be congratulated.

David and Eileen







#### **DIARY DATES AND SPONSORS**

#### **Diary Dates**

#### **August**

- **2 Friday 10-4pm:** Sewing Bee Challenge at the Rectory Hall (Liz 07825 017056)
- 13 Tuesday 2pm: Great & Little Warley WI Garden Party (Pam 220314)
- 26 Monday 12-4pm: Open day at St Mary's
- 28 Wednesday 12.50pm: Ladies Lunch at Izumi (Ann 01277 214886)

#### September

- **6 Friday 10-1pm:** Sewing Bee at the Rectory Hall £2 charge
- **10 Tuesday 2pm:** Great & Little Warley WI at Childerditch Village Hall
- 14 & 15 Saturday and Sunday: Heritage Weekend open days at St Mary's. Saturday 10 to 4pm, Sunday 12.30 to 4pm.
- 25 Wednesday 12.50pm: Ladies Lunch at Izumi (Ann 01277 214886)
- **28 Saturday 7.30pm:** Harvest Supper at the Rectory Hall (Helen 227557)

### Richard's Big Quiz

The Thatchers Arms was buzzing on Thursday 6 June when Richard held his latest charity quiz night. This time the proceeds went to the 'Wipe Away Those Tears' charity based in Romford. The charity which aims to grant a wish and bring a sparkle into the lives of terminally or seriously ill children in Essex benefitted from the £252 raised on the night and a great time was had by everyone who took part.

Well done to Graham and his team 'Making plans for Nigel' who won on the night.



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