

GREAT WARLEY LYCHGATE

YOUR VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

April - May 2021

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STOP PRESS

Next edition:

June/July 2021.

Please send any contributions by 29 May 2021 by email to

**GreatWarley
Lychgate
@yahoo.co.uk**

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We deliver printed copies of the Lychgate all around the village. If someone you know would like a printed copy please let us know.

No. 83

News and Urgent Appeal from Great Warley Church

Since Christmas between 4-6 people have gathered every Sunday for Private Prayer. We have really missed meeting friends and enjoying coffee together. You may be aware that the churchyard and church are facing significant expenditure this year.

We have 3 urgent problems: first the porch is suffering marked subsidence, and gaps are opening between the outside wall of the church and the walls of the church. This will cost about £20,000 for underpinning.

Secondly the large oak tree in the church grounds has severe bracket fungus invasion. 50% is rotten and the expert opinion is that it is unsafe and needs to be felled at a cost of £4000.

Finally the organ floor is subsiding and disconnecting the pipes from the electric blower. This will cost £6000 to put right.

So far we are really grateful to the Great Warley Conservation Society for their generous donation of £1000, local donations of £5880, and £5000 from the Friends Of Essex Churches Trust. We applied to Heritage Lottery fund but have been refused. We are applying to Veolia Trust and All churches Conservation Trust, but in addition we need everyone in the local community to consider helping. Your village church needs YOUR support now if it is to be available to you in the future for weddings, funerals etc. Any amount you can spare would be greatly appreciated.

If possible please send a cheque payable to Great Warley Church to: Helen Burgess, Wallets, Great Warley CM13 3JE, or send a BACS donation to Great Warley Church 20-12-21 50435368. Please send me an email, so I can acknowledge the money, and your address and postcode, so I can claim Gift Aid if taxpayer. Helen.burgess1@gmail.com

VILLAGE NEWS

Warley Place

Despite the lack of volunteers being allowed on the reserve and the seasonal increase in visitor numbers the appearance hasn't suffered too badly. There is a perception that many new visitors have found Warley Place as part of their exercise regimes. The car park has been busy from the start of the snowdrop season and increased through to mid March when it could be described as chaotic. Some thought is going into how more parking spaces can be created in the limited space available.

During the most recent lockdown EWT provided some additional covid security measures by preventing entry to each the bird hides and information room. Unfortunately, it looks like one frustrated visitor has tried to kick the north hide door down.

A new Warley Place Management Plan has now gone through the final draft phase. This comprehensive document provides historical data going back to Henry VIII's time; results of professional surveys carried out on the brickwork and the veteran and notable trees. The recommendations focus on enhancing the wildlife diversity and maintaining the historical heritage. We await the issued document before developing an implementation plan.



The glorious annual daffodil display at Warley Place which remains open to visitors

Five Acre Field

The Committal Hearing in the High Court on 9 March (for alleged Injunction breaches) was adjourned by the judge to 21 April because the occupants of the site were not legally represented.

The date and length of time for the Public Inquiry into the Planning Application Appeal is still under discussion but is likely to be conducted remotely due to the ongoing Covid situation.

On a more positive note, the latest total received in donations by GWCS in response to their appeal for funds has now topped £9,000 (including Gift Aid of just over £2,000 - the first time GWCS has benefited from this source of income), well over the target set and sufficient to cover anticipated expenses.

So again a big 'thank you' to the many generous contributors including those who completed the Gift Aid form.

Also a 'thank you' to those residents that have taken the time to submit witness statements. If anyone still wants to do this it is still not too late: just forward to gwcscharity@gmail.com

UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP

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DE ROUGEMONT CRICKET GROUND

The Cricket Ground

First, the good news: the issues that we were having regarding irresponsible dog-walkers and their incontinent pooches seem to have gone away and it is once again possible to take exercise round the ground without attracting anything undesirable to the soles of one's shoes.

However – and this is the bad news – the errant dog-walkers appear to have been replaced by tiresome youths whose collective ambition seems to be to see how much damage they can cause to the pavilion with a football. At the time of writing they have succeeded in breaking the Sky dish; trampling down one of the flower beds and destroying the rose bushes that we planted, and damaging the wooden pavilion wall adjacent to the covered veranda to the point that it will need a complete re-paint before the cricket season starts, as well as destroying a waste bin on the veranda and leaving mud all over the floor and muddy football imprints on the wall, doors and picket fence. Thanks.

Just as vexatious, and possibly even more alarming, is the litter that they regularly leave behind them – including beer cans and lager bottles.

One or two members of the Cricket Club and a couple of local residents have seen them and gently remonstrated with them whilst trying to appeal to their better nature, but it clearly has had no effect. There are usually five or six of them, aged between twelve and fifteen we gauge, and we are pretty certain we know where at least one of them lives in the village.

We don't really want to get heavy-handed over this, but criminal damage and underage drinking are both issues that would in-

terest the local police, should we be of a mind to report it.

We should rather that local residents marshalled it themselves. Does your son, or your neighbour's son, go out for a kick-about and come back muddy and with alcohol on his breath? Or does he know of any lads, not necessarily from the village, who like to practice their soccer (and drinking) skills at the cricket ground? And if so, would you mind having a gentle word with them and point out that their behaviour is at best anti-social?

As you all know, we have worked hard, not only to turn the ground back into a cricket pitch but to make the whole area pleasant for the local community to enjoy as an informal park. It's an on-going and costly project, particularly in the winter months when "things happen" (we've had to spend the best part of £2,000 since the start of this year in dealing with a massive water leak on the land caused by a broken underground pipe; repairing leaks in the pavilion roof and having work undertaken to make the beautiful lime tree safe) and with no money coming into the club due to the restrictions caused by Covid, we can ill afford the expenditure that will be necessary to repair the damage mentioned earlier.

We can never make the ground impregnable to determined hooligans, nor would we want to. It's a community facility for all. So can we please ask for your help to snuff this out quickly, quietly and without causing any animosity.

Malcolm Webb

President

Brentwood Cricket Club

VI YOUNG RIP

Vi Young 1930 - 2021

Vi was the sixth child, and second daughter, of 10 siblings, born 16th April 1930 in Deptford. Her mum died when she was 10 years old and as her father was unable to look after all the younger children, Vi was sent with 3 of her sisters to a Shaftesbury Home at Esher Place in Surrey.

The girls were educated there and trained for service. Vi had to clean the floors and brass work, and waited on tables for the trustees and patrons. The home was evacuated to Yorkshire to escape the bombing during the Second World War. Once Vi turned 14 her father wanted her back home to find a job, but she insisted that as all 4 girls had arrived together, they would all go home together. So the home found her an office job near to Esher.

Vi married her first husband, James Smith, in 1953. They lived in a small one bedroom flat, above a betting shop in Amwell Street, Finsbury, with their son Richard and a cat called Harvey. When Greg was born they moved into a two bedroom council flat across the river in Bermondsey. When Hazel was born they moved into a three bedroom flat in same block until eventually moving to larger two storey flat in Clapham. Jim died in 1979 and once all the children had left home, Vi moved to Cranham in 1992.

When the family were young they attended church regularly; the Lansdowne Medical Mission and St Mary Magdalene in Bermondsey and Christchurch in Streatham. Vi became a governor at the children's primary school in Bermondsey; initially as a parent governor and continuing to do so once the children left for secondary school.

Following her move to Cranham, Vi attended All Saints Church, where she met John Young. Their friendship grew as they enjoyed day trips together. She and John then attended St Mary's at Great Warley where they were married in January 2007. Vi and John were elected members of the PCC. We were all grateful for their wisdom, judgement and sense of humour.

The day trips turned into adventurous driving holidays to Scotland, Italy, Germany and Andorra amongst others.

She was a truly kind and caring person, always having time for everyone. Her family were very important to her, including her large extended family. Vi had six grandchildren and one great-grandson, Reuben, who was born a week before she died. Fortunately she was able to see Reuben by video call on the day he was born.

We will miss her endless cheerfulness and un-failing love.



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ST. MARY THE VIRGIN

Date	Time	Service
4 April	11.30am	Holy Communion
11 April	11.30am	Morning Prayer
18 April	11.30am	Holy Communion
25 April	11.30am	Morning Prayer
2 May	11.30am	Holy Communion
9 May	11.30pm	Morning Prayer
16 May	11.30am	Holy Communion
23 May	11.30am	Whitsun Morning Prayer
30 May	11.30am	Holy Communion

Church Re-Opening

We plan to start opening our Arts and Crafts Church to the general public again on the late May Bank Holiday Monday, 31st May, 12 noon – 4pm. Everyone is welcome to come in and learn about our special treasures and history.

From the beginning of June until the end of October, the church will also be open to visitors on Thursday afternoons from 2 until 4pm.

Masks will need to be worn, and social distancing observed.

Good Friday

There will be a **Good Friday** Service at 7.30 pm on Facebook (Christ Church Warley). Please have some bread/shortbread, and a glass of wine or fruit Juice beside you.

Easter Sunday 4th April

Hooray!! We are allowed to open again, at church on Easter Sunday at 11.30. We are hoping to be able to sing the last hymn of the service outside (weather permitting)

Do come and join us to celebrate the mystery of Easter, spring, the re-opening of your church, and hopefully the end in sight of the restrictions.

Parish Meeting

We plan to hold the Annual Parish Meeting 16th May 12.30 after the church service.....corona permitting!!

Funeral

16th February - Violet Young

Burial

4th February - David and Hilary Forster

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

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

DAVID & HILARY FORSTER RIP

David (1930-2021) and Hilary Forster(1939-2020)

David was born in 1930 and grew up in Heswall near Liverpool. He was evacuated during the war to Shropshire, where he had very fond memories of times spent on the farm. He went to Shrewsbury School, and then undertook his National Service as a medical officer in the RAF, making many life-long friends, particularly in Aden.

Hilary was born in 1939 in Halliwell, Bolton. Sadly her mother died when she was young, and she, her brother Patrick and sister Christine were raised by their father, and moved to Wakefield, and then Swansea.

Both David and Hilary followed a path into medicine, David training at the London Hospital and Hilary training at Charing Cross Hospital. They met and fell in love at Oldchurch Hospital Romford and were married in 1965 at St Peter's Church in Heswall, and produced twin girls (Angela and Rosemary) in 1966; twin boys (Jonathan and Richard) in 1967; and Michael in 1968. The family home was in Harold Wood, in a lovely house with a big garden. David became a Consultant Gynaecologist and Obstetrician, and was responsible for setting up a new maternity unit at Harold Wood hospital. He was dedicated and well-respected, rushing out to deal with emergency situations at the hospital in the middle of the night or Christmas Lunch! He also delivered numerous babies of friends and colleagues.

Hilary worked in General Practice under her maiden name (Knowlson), which did get a few tongues wagging from those who didn't know they were married! She was also renowned for over-running in her surgeries, as she always gave her patients the time they needed, and indeed some pa-

tients would only want to speak to her. Hilary was an integral part of the fabric of Great Warley Church, serving on the PCC, arranging flowers, cleaning, organizing Harvest Suppers and Christmas parties. She sang in the choir, and with Times and Seasons

On top of their 5 children they also were blessed with 10 grandchildren. In 2008 they moved up to St Ives to be closer to parts of the family, a move made all the more necessary as Hilary had a stroke in 2005, and had extremely restricted mobility, becoming wheelchair bound. David enjoyed re-designing another garden, with great help and support from his gardener Dan. They were married for 55 years, and are laid to rest in Great Warley, a place that held very dear memories for them.

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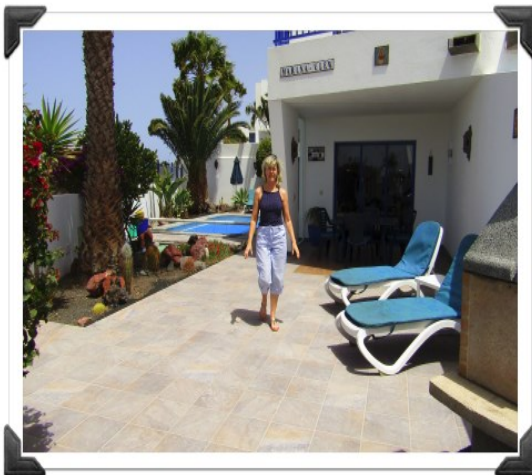
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