

# GREAT WARLEY Lychgate

## YOUR VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

June - July 2021

### EDITORIAL TEAM:

Liz Francis  
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Helen Burgess  
Linda Beaney

### STOP PRESS

#### Next edition:

August/September 2021. Please send any contributions by 31 July 2021 by email to **GreatWarley Lychgate @yahoo.co.uk**

### HARD COPY LYCHGATE

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. 84

### Underpinning of church porch

As soon as the bats had left, the work began to underpin the porch. It was remarkable that none of the yew trees either side of the porch had to be moved. The Yews were tied back away from the porch to allow 6 foot deep trenches to be dug either side of the porch. Mass concrete underpinning with Helibar screw piles were then inserted. The steps did not have to be removed, but were re-cemented to the porch, and the tiles were reaffixed.



## VILLAGE NEWS

### Warley Place

Unfortunately, Essex Wildlife Trust (EWT) has decided to completely close visitor access to the conservatory for health and safety reasons. Some visible cracks have appeared above the south entrance doorway. There is also evidence some masonry has already broken off. Some plaster has also come adrift on the north side, the wet weather probably having an impact here. Due to estimated costs of the repairs, the work will not be starting soon.

In late April we started to carry out a weekly butterfly survey. by a team of ten volunteers. A brief training session was given by Rob Smith from Cambridgeshire and Essex Butterfly Conservation who are very keen to expand the data collection across this county. Rob will also be organising an evening moth survey by the Essex Moth Group in July.

All Volunteers have now been invited back and the first few weeks will be spent catching up on some of the general maintenance jobs that have been neglected over the covid period. A new Management Plan has been issued and for the first time effort has been spent assessing how to maintain the old structures that are now rapidly falling into disrepair. Limited Government funding will be applied for by EWT, however, this will not cover all the brickwork that needs a fix.

From the start of 2021 all the donations collected at Warley Place has been ring-fenced for the ongoing development and maintenance of the reserve. Very shortly EWT will introduce an online donation QR code. This will enable visitors without cash, but have a smartphone, to be able to leave a donation. Again this will be allocated to Warley Place.

*Mick Hedges - Warley Place Warden*

### Barrack Wood Bridleway

A **Fantastic** new high quality pathway Linking Warley and Thorndon Park.

**We need your help to raise £6,500**

Many **GWCS members** are already aware of the new proposed high quality pathway through the historic, beautiful and largely under used **Barrack Wood Woodland** which will join Warley with the Thorndon Park Bridleway network and crucially mean that there will be a safe alternative to using Eagle Way which is uninspiring and potentially dangerous.

The project cost is £65,000 and we are already confident at securing 90% and therefore need just **£6,500 to get this over the line**. Your donation will help give a great deal of joy to Horse Riders, Walkers, Cyclist, and persons of ability and disability....Hopefully you will be one such person!!

Thanks so much in advance from Treasurer Phil and the good folks of Trailnet.

PS: If **you want to walk** the proposed pathway I will be more than happy to take time out for that. Call me on 07803 899 200 or email [gwcscharity@gmail.com](mailto:gwcscharity@gmail.com)

*Phil Mylrea*

### Five Acre Field

Little to report in this issue except to say that a pre-court hearing for the committal hearing (alleged breaches of the High Court injunction by the occupants) has been held which was primarily to consider the arrangements and process for the hearing on 8 June which is scheduled for three days. The hearing was previously cancelled at the request of the appellants.

In addition, The Council have continued to communicate with PINS (Planning Inspectorate) regarding the planning appeal hearing dates and they have advised they are still working on this.

Readers may be interested in a recent article written by Mathew Parris in The Times on the topic of Travellers:

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/its-time-we-stopped-pandering-to-travellers-2slbdvbyv> You will need to be a Times subscriber or become one to access the article.



## CHURCHYARD OAK TREE FELLING

### The felling of the Churchyard Red Oak

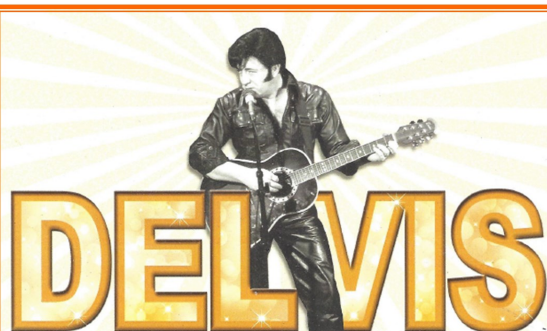
On Tuesday 4 May, eight men from Princes Tree Surgery took down the huge Red Oak tree in St Mary's churchyard. Most of them came back next day to saw up and remove the rest of the logs and the debris.

We were all very sad to see this lovely tree disappear, but a computer Picus survey in October 2020 showed that the majority of the trunk was rotten inside, and that the roots on the side furthest from the church were also rotten. The Diocesan Tree officer therefore advised us that the whole tree had to come down because of the danger both to visitors and to the church.

The day for the tree felling provided a complete mixture of weather, including high winds, showers, and even hailstones at one point. The brave man who dealt with the branches at the top of the tree said that even he was quite scared up there at times. The main trunk came down at 3pm. The total cost was nearly £4,000 and we would like to thank everyone who contributed to this sad but essential project.



## LOCAL EVENTS AND SPONSORS



A LIVE TRIBUTE TO THE KING OF ROCK N' ROLL

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## ST. MARY THE VIRGIN

Date	Time	Service
6 June	11.30am	Holy Communion
13 June	11.30am	Morning Prayer
20 June	11.30am	Holy Communion
27 June	11.30am	Morning Prayer
4 July	11.30am	Holy Communion
11 July	11.30pm	Morning Prayer Sea Sunday
18 July	11.30am	Holy Communion
25 July	11.30am	Morning Prayer
1 August	11.30am	Holy Communion

### Church Urgent Appeal and Wonderful Response

Hooray, you have been magnificent!! We have completed more than 75% of our urgent works, and have paid for it!!

The community of Great Warley, The Great Warley Conservation Society, and the Church with bequests, raised more than £15,000. We are awaiting a grant from The Friends of Essex Churches Trust for £5,000 and the Department of Culture Media and Sport will be sending us more than £3,100 that we have paid in VAT. We are now left with raising £3,000 to pay to underpin the organ.

Further grants have been applied for, so we are hopeful, that come September (when we are allowed to work within the church because of bats) with a little more help we shall have the most urgent problems fixed.

If you can possibly help, please send a cheque payable to Great Warley Church to Helen Burgess, Wallets, Great Warley, CM13 3JE, or BACS to Great Warley Church 20-10-21 504353368.

Please send me an email with your name address and postcode, so we can acknowledge your donation, and reclaim the Gift Aid (if you are a taxpayer).

### Choir Robes

Fiona and I have been trying to rationalise the vestry. As the church no longer has a choir we would like to find homes for the robes, surplices and caps. We have 5 children's robes, 6 Ladies, and 2 Mens robes, with 12 surplices. Please let me know if you would be interested.

*Helen Burgess*

### Marriage Registers

Due to a change in government legislation, all marriage registers are now held at Chelmsford Registrars Office. So if anyone needs a copy of their certificates, as we no longer hold the original register, please apply directly to Chelmsford.

### Church Visiting

We hope to restart our regular Thursday afternoon church openings on 24 June, 2 - 4pm, provided that the present government restrictions on numbers have by then been lifted. Everyone will be welcome to visit our unique St Mary's church on any Thursday afternoon from then until the end of October.

### 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)

<b>Clergy</b>	Stuart Hull	01277 295881	revdsj2@gmail.com
<b>Church wardens:</b>	Stephen Brabner	01277 230771	stephenbrabner@rocketmail.com
	Helen Burgess	01277 227557	Helen.burgess1@gmail.com
<b>For visits and guided tours</b>	Fiona Agassiz	01277 230436	Fionaagassiz@hotmail.com
<b>Church Address</b>	St Mary The Virgin	Great Warley Street	CM13 3JP

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF GREAT WARLEY

### A brief history of Great Warley Part 8 - 1900 onwards

The first few years of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century were a prosperous time in Great Warley. The majority of the village people were employed by either the Heseltines or the Willmotts.

At Warley Place, Ellen Willmott's gardens were at their peak, with visits from Royalty and from the most prestigious members of the Royal Horticultural Society. Blake House, which had been a corn merchant's business, was now the village tea shop. Ellen Willmott's butler, Jim Robinson, lived next door at the Red House, which had been built early in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Walleys was restored, Warleyside was extended, and Ruspers was built, all in about 1900. The Post Office, which had opened in 1858, was doing good business. At Chestnut Tree Cottage there were a dairy and a laundry, and below them was the village blacksmith's forge.

Further down the hill, Evelyn Heseltine owned most of the cottages and farms, and he was highly respected. He built the new Arts and Crafts church during this period. There are many stories of parties for the villagers being held in the Long Room at Goldings Manor. In 1914, when Evelyn's daughter Muriel was married to Brigadier-General de Rougemont at the new church, most of the village turned out to watch. Muriel and her husband went to live at Coombe Lodge, a large Victorian house which had belonged to the Ind family of brewery fame. Coombe Lodge was until recently the Squirrels old people's home.

Then came the horror of the First World War, when so many of the young men from Great Warley went to fight and did not return. When it was over, Evelyn Heseltine erected the War Memorial on the village green. It shows a long list of names from such a small village.

Evelyn Heseltine died in 1930, and his daughter

Muriel took over the mantle of 'village squire'. Her son Richard was killed in Africa in 1942, and her other son Denys also predeceased her. She and her brother Norford died in 1967 and 1968 respectively, so the direct Heseltine family line died out, and all their properties were sold at auctions in 1970 and 1971. A large plot of land by the entrance drive to Coombe Lodge had been donated to the village for a cricket pitch. Goldings Manor itself was sold to the Hilton family, to become the New World Hotel, later re-named the de Rougemont Manor.

Ellen Willmott died in 1934, and in 1935 there were big auctions in London of all her musical instruments and her gardening books. Warley Place itself was sold to Mrs Gray, who in turn sold it to Mr Carter in 1938. He was a speculator who wanted to build a housing estate there, but the war came, followed by the strict Green Belt policy, so the estate was never built. Warley Place still belongs to the Carter family, but it has been leased since 1977 to the Essex Wildlife Trust. The latest lease, for 99 years, was signed in 2002.

The Rectory Hall was built across the road from the church in the 1930's, and it became the new meeting place for the village, including the venue for a youth club at one time. A row of cottages called Elm Terrace, situated just south of the new church, had to be demolished in 1943 because they were sliding down the hill. The old church in Church Lane was finally demolished in the 1950's, and the village school in Bird Lane closed in the 1960's.

The Great Warley Conservation Society was formed in 1972, partly to keep an eye on the route of the proposed M25 motorway. It now monitors all planning proposals relating to the village, as well as hosting social events. When the seven houses in Forge Close were built a few years ago, they were the first new houses to be built in the village for a very long time.

*Fiona Agassiz*

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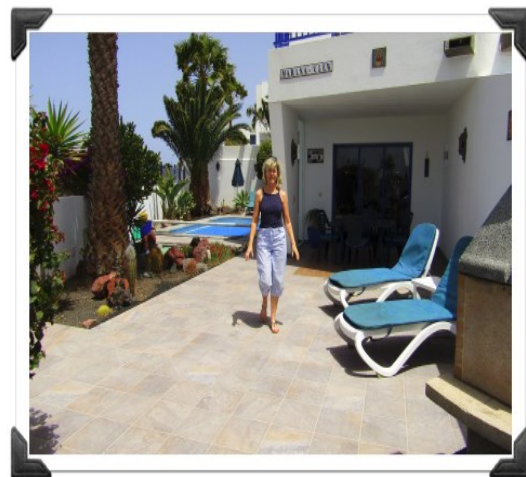
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