



# GREAT WARLEY Lychgate YOUR VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

June - July 2023

## EDITORIAL TEAM:

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## STOP PRESS

**Next edition:**  
August/September  
2023. Please send  
any contributions  
by **22 July 2023**  
by email to  
**GreatWarley  
Lychgate  
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No. 96

## Great Warley Village Coronation Picnic

A very successful village picnic was held at the Cricket Club in Warley Road on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles. Luckily the expected rain did not arrive until after everyone had packed up and gone home, so everyone was able to relax and enjoy themselves.

The tombola organised by Chris McAllister raised more than enough money to cover the cost of the cricket club hire, and the welly throwing and other competitions were also well supported. Everyone brought



their own food and drink, and it was a great chance to meet other members of our friendly and welcoming village community.



## Village News

### Warley Place Spring Bulb Spectacular weekends

The daffodil season at Warley Place attracted large numbers of visitors, especially at weekends. A total of £6000 was raised at these weekends, with many more donations from weekday visitors, and we are most grateful for all of this money.

The building work is now finished apart from the Conservatory. We hope that this can be done soon, so that visitors can once again stand inside the shell of the house and experience the layout of the various ground floor rooms, as well as seeing the basement kitchen and scullery.

We are grateful to all of the volunteers who turn up on Monday and Wednesday mornings to maintain Warley Place, and to all who helped on the spring weekends. We are also grateful to Brentwood Cricket Club for the use of their car park as an overflow space. This was particularly useful on Mothering Sunday, when 547 visitors were recorded.

### Great Warley Conservation Society update

The AGM held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May was well attended and another excellent opportunity to discuss a variety of local issues including planning applications; Five Acre Field; Highways Agency/Essex County Council plans for the B186/A127 junction; Codham Hall changes; Forest England's proposals for Hole Farm and concerns re litter; fly tipping; road signs and Council verge cutting. As usual our Councillor, Jay Laplain, participated which makes it a useful forum to debate community issues.

There are a number of people who have unfortunately still not paid their subscriptions this year. Please do so asap by transferring a minimum donation of £10 per household to the GWCS bank account = Barclays 70032506. Sort code – 20-72-89.

LITTER PICK DATES – Saturdays 1<sup>st</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> July. Meet at The Thatchers @ 10am. Please help our constant battles against the litter louts!!

### Peter James

We are sorry to have to announce the death of Peter James after a stroke on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May.

Peter was a well known figure in Great Warley, who could often be seen walking up to the Thatchers from his home next to the PERI site. He often cleared litter from the pavement as he walked along. He will be much missed at the Conservation Society's litter-picking sessions and at the leaf-clearing sessions in the churchyard each autumn. Peter's wife Barbara died of cancer several years ago.

Peter's funeral is on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May at mid-day at St Mary's church, followed by burial in the churchyard. A fuller obituary will be in the next Lychgate issue.

### Headley Common Trustees

The voluntary Trustees of Headley Common recently marked the retirement of two long-standing trustees: Michael Wild, who was treasurer for twenty of a total twenty-four years and Fiona Agassiz who was Clerk to The Trustees for twenty years. Their dedication and long-standing loyalty to The Trust are hard acts to follow and we are enormously grateful to them both for their decades of time and commitment.

To thank them the Trustees planted a tree for each of them on Headley Common. Alex Hewitt from Thames Chase Community Forest helped us choose a Field Maple for Michael and a Flowering Cherry for Fiona. Both are wild, native trees.

Alex and an assistant planted the trees on 17<sup>th</sup> February. Both Fiona and Michael were present to add the last spadeful of earth.

The formal thanks and dedication of the trees by Chairman Alderman David Tee, took place on Friday of the Coronation weekend. Fiona and Michael unveiled their plaques and were delighted and felt honoured by this gesture of thanks and recognition.

The role of the Trustees is to protect and enhance the ancient legacy of Headley Common, so we trust the trees will thrive and add beauty and colour as well as recognising Fiona's and Michael's voluntary services.

*Jill Hubbard ( Clerk to the Trustees)*

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### ST. MARY THE VIRGIN

Date	Time	Service
4 June	11.30	Holy Communion
11 June	11.30	Morning Prayer
18 June	11.30	Holy Communion
25 June	11.30	Morning Prayer
2 July	11.30	Holy Communion
9 July	11.30	Morning Prayer
16 July	11.30	Holy Communion
23 July	11.30	Morning Prayer
30 July	11.30	Matins
6 August	11.30	Holy Communion

### Change of Priest-in-Charge for St Mary's

As announced in the last issue of the Lychgate, Stuart Hull and his family have now left the joint benefice of Christ Church and St Mary's. Their last service with us was a joint service at Christ Church on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April. We are very sad to have had to say farewell to Stuart, Suzanne, Jennifer and Florence, but we wish them the very best for the future. We are so grateful for everything that they have done for St Mary's.

A meeting to start on the process of finding a new priest was held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at Christ Church. This meeting was attended by the church wardens and PCC members of both parishes, and it was led by the Archdeacon of Southend, the Rev. Michael Power. The Rural Dean was also present. Our first task is to describe our two parishes, and to state what we would like to see from our new Priest-in-Charge.

### Funeral

23 April - Doris Mary Dipper

*"Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend our souls and bodies"*

### Interment of Ashes

23 April - Marian Burgess 1927-2005

### The Marriage of Imogen Lane and David Burgess

The wedding of Imogen Lane and David Burgess took place in bright sunshine on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May at Great Warley Church. It was a really joyous occasion, with about one hundred guests. The bridegroom is the son of one of the church wardens, Helen Burgess, and the reception afterwards was held at Wallets, the home of Helen and her husband.

There were four adult bridesmaids, all dressed in pale pink, and one very small page boy.

The service was conducted by the Rev. Dr. Adrian McConaughie, who is the Chaplain at Brentwood School. Congratulations to everyone involved!



### Steeplejack at St Mary's

A steeplejack will start work at Great Warley Church on 5<sup>th</sup> June, inspecting the roof, replacing damaged tiles, and doing any other necessary minor repairs.

### 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>Church wardens:</b>	Stephen Brabner	07764 203725	<a href="mailto:stephengbrabner@gmail.com">stephengbrabner@gmail.com</a>
	Helen Burgess	01277 227557	<a href="mailto:Helen.burgess1@gmail.com">Helen.burgess1@gmail.com</a>
<b>For visits and guided tours</b>	Fiona Agassiz	01277 230436	<a href="mailto:Fionaagassiz@hotmail.com">Fionaagassiz@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Church Address</b>	St Mary The Virgin	Great Warley Street	CM13 3JP

## DIARY DATES, VILLAGE NEWS AND SPONSORS

### Bird Lane Coronation Picnic

A Coronation Party for the residents of Bird Lane was held on the afternoon and evening of Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May in a field adjacent to the lane. Between 30 and 40 people attended, the wine and the conversation flowed, and the sun shone throughout the event.

There was a delicious barbecue as well as plenty of other food, and a great time was had by all. Some of the newer residents were able to meet each other for the first time. The children had plenty of space to play games and to explore the nearby woods.



### Doris Mary Dipper RIP

Doris was a member of the St Mary's congregation for many years along with her husband George. She was an active member helping out at social events, singing in the choir and holding the position of tree officer. She forged many friendships for which she was very grateful. Her funeral service was held at St Thomas' Church and Doris was buried at St Mary's on 23 April.



### Dates for your Diary

#### June

**Friday 2 June 10am** - Sewing Bee at the Rectory Hall. Liz 07825 017056

**Wednesday 28 June 1pm** - Ladies lunch at the Thatchers. Ann Hill 01277 214886

#### July

**Saturday 1 July 10am** - GWCS Litter Pick from Thatchers Arms. All equipment provided.

**Friday 7 July 10am** - Sewing Bee at the Rectory Hall. Liz 07825 017056

**Wednesday 26 July 1pm** - Ladies lunch at the Thatchers. Ann Hill 01277 214886

**Saturday 29 July 10am** - GWCS Litter Pick from Thatchers Arms. All equipment provided.

### The Thatcher's Arms Public House, Great Warley, 01277 233535.

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## HEADLEY COMMON

### Brief History of Headley Common

*Today Headley Common is managed by a charitable Trust.*

Headley Common was part of Warley Common that stretched eastwards from Great Warley parish through the parishes of Little Warley and Chilterditch all the way to Thorndon Hall in Ingrave. In the 10<sup>th</sup> Century Warley Common was owned by the very wealthy Barking Abbey and it is significant that the Abbess of Barking retained ownership of the Manor of Great Warley, then known as Warley Magna, after the Norman Conquest in 1066. The Manor was in their ownership for more than 600 years and only ceased with the suppression of religious houses by Henry the Eighth, when on 8<sup>th</sup> November 1539 the Abbess of Barking signed the deed of surrender.

The Great Warley Manor was held by many different families in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century until 1700 when it was held by Mark Wynn and in 1763 it passed to his cousin, The Honourable George Winn who was created a Baronet in 1776 and became the first Lord Headley in 1797. It was then that the inn on the Common changed its name from "The Magpie" to the "Headley Arms". Also, from that time this part of Great Warley Common gradually assumed the name that it has today, Headley Common. The Winn family and their successors held the Manor of Great Warley until the large Warley Lodge Estate was sold in July 1919.

In 1771 the Hirst family built Great Ropers just to the west of Headley Common and sometime after Waterloo (1815) they purchased the Great Warley Poor House that stood on Headley Common near to the house called the Croft. In 1900 Robert Hirst moved his fence back along Warley Road to widen the path so his daughters might ride their ponies.

In 1919 the Hirst family bought an interest in the Headley Arms and the Great Warley Manorial rights of the Common when the Warley Lodge Estate was sold in July 1919. The same year one of the daughters, Emma, planted an Oak tree on the Common to give thanks for the termination of hostilities in 1918. Emma's nephew, Major Hirst, sold Great Ropers after the next war in 1946 by which time the Manorial rights of Great Warley had been given to Brentwood District Council.

However, on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1949 the Trustees of the Warley Estate who felt they held the Lord of the Manor of Great Warley purported to convey some 5 acres of Headley Common to Mann Crossman & Paulin Ltd. who held the freehold of The Headley Arms Inn. Their successors, Watney Mann & Truman Holdings Ltd. attempted to form a Charitable Trust to care for the Common. The Charity Commission challenged the ownership and deemed such a charity run by the brewery had a conflict of interest.

Early in 1981 Watney's London Ltd. accepted they had no right of ownership and the Charity Commission ruled that it was not appropriate for their company to be trustees of the Common.

On 21<sup>st</sup> October 1981 the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales approved and sealed a scheme called "The Headley Common Trust" for the maintenance and upkeep of the Common including the pond and a wooded area which all together measures 5.8 acres. The deed states that Headley Common is to be a place of recreation for the inhabitants of Great Warley and Shenfield and neighbouring population. The income to the Trust to come from a lease with the owners of The Headley Arms for the use of the car park in front of the Inn. Now of course the inn is the Felix Restaurant. There are eight Trustees and they are appointed for four-year terms. Four by Brentwood Borough Council and four by the Great Warley Conservation Society. The good folk of Great Warley still have a say.

David W Tee



"HEADLEY ARMS" INN.  
(Lot 23.)

The Headley Arms is now Felix, and faces Headley Common



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## VILLAGE PHOTOGRAPHS AND ARTICLES



Tree planting on Headley Common



Bird Lane Coronation celebration picnic

### Spot the Deer

After school we decided to go for a walk in Warley Place as the sun was beaming, and it is our most favourite place in the village.

The boys were playing hide and seek and asked me to play. I let them hide and after 30 seconds the hunt was on. I saw them out of the corner of my eye and went to find them, but then a deer came towards me. It was amazing! What I didn't know is that the deer had already passed the children!

We think he was playing hide and seek with us. We just couldn't believe our luck. So, oh so quietly we started looking for the deer again, as its beauty was magnificent and we needed another glance. After a short time we spotted him standing 40 yards from us, he stood long enough for me to take a picture!

We hope you enjoy him as much as we did, happy spotting!

*Saffron*

