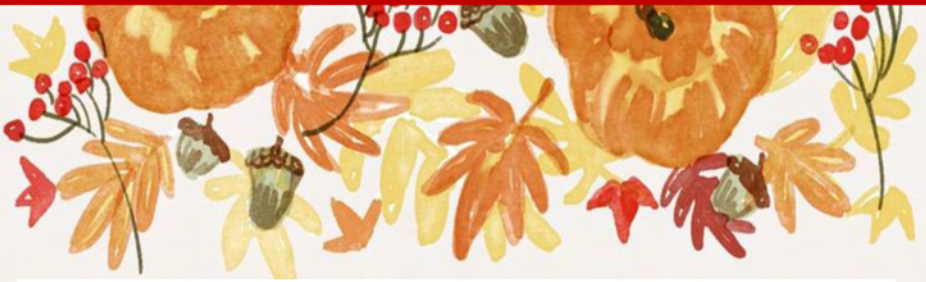




*Wickham Bishops Parish Magazine*  
*September 2024*

Produced by St Bartholomew's Church  
[www.churchinwickhambishops.org.uk](http://www.churchinwickhambishops.org.uk)

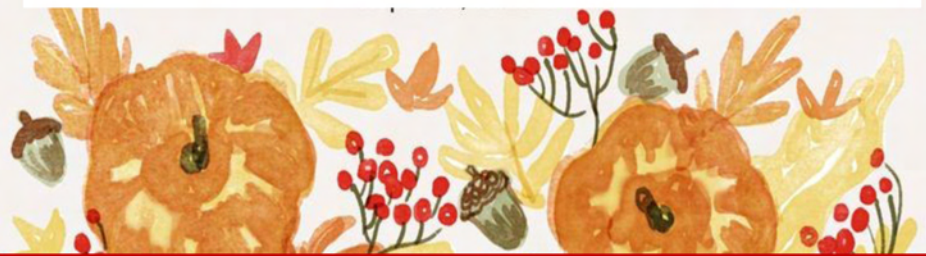


# *Harvest Festival*

**St. Bartholomew's Church  
Sunday 6th October  
10.30 a.m.**

***Followed by a Bring & Share lunch  
in the Church Hall***

***Everyone welcome!***



# Church Services for September

Our 10.30 am Sunday services at St. Bartholomew's Church are on FB Live

## **SUNDAY 1**

### **14th Sunday of Trinity**

8.00 am  
10.30 am

Holy Communion  
Holy Communion

## **SUNDAY 8**

### **15th Sunday of Trinity (accession of King Charles III)**

8.00 am  
10.30 am

Holy Communion  
Holy Communion

## **SUNDAY 15**

### **16th Sunday of Trinity**

9.00 am  
10.30 am

Holy Communion at St. Nicholas' Lt. Braxted  
Sunday Praise Service

## **SUNDAY 22**

### **17th Sunday of Trinity**

8.00 am  
10.30 am

Holy Communion (BCP)  
Holy Communion

## **SUNDAY 29**

### **18th Sunday of Trinity**

8.00 am  
10.30 am

Holy Communion  
Holy Communion

Holy Communion Services are from Order 1 Common Worship except where shown as BCP, i.e. the Book of Common Prayer, 1662 version

# Parish Register

<b>Baptisms</b>	Emilia Bygrave (at St Bartholomew's)	3rd August
	Scarlett Howard (at St Nicholas')	18th August
	Mirella Elodie Traynor (at St Bart's)	1st September
<b>Marriages</b>	Charlotte Curd & James Lydon	10th August
<b>Memorial Service</b>	Bryan Littlewood	19th August
<b>Interment of Ashes</b>	Margaret Molson Payton	14th August

# Parish Contacts

Priest in Charge	Vacant position	.
General Enquiries	And for Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals.	07544 973705
Revd Derek Clark	The Leas Farm	01245 380627
Permission to Officiate	Wickham Bishops Road Hatfield Peverel CM3 2JL	07860 235778
Churchwardens	Vacant Positions	
Deputy Churchwarden Graham Wingrove		
PCC Secretary Geraldine Spearman	gspearmanpcc@gmail.com	07870 166008
Magazine Editor	<i>magazine@churchinwickhambishops.org.uk</i>	
Kath Adkins Church Hall Bookings	<i>kathrynadkins57@gmail.com</i>	01621 891143

Barry Cousins writes...



## **“What’s the difference between Holy Days and Holidays?”**

In the July/August edition of this Magazine Christine wrote about some special days in July which reminded me that at the end of August, the 24th to be precise is the designated date in the church calendar as the ‘Holy Day’ to commemorate St Bartholomew. We decided to celebrate St Bartholomew on Sunday 25th August just a few days before possibly this last edition of the Parish Magazine with Peter Bates as Editor.

Bartholomew was one of the twelve apostles and is also identified in John’s gospel as Nathanael (John 1: 45-51). It is therefore likely that his name was Nathanael Bartholomew - the bar meaning ‘son of’, his father’s name being Ptolemy [or something similar].

So, what do we mean by ‘Holy’? Coming from both the Hebrew and Greek the word means “pure, sacredness, morally blameless, set apart or simply ‘Of God’”. The word Holy appears in the Old Testament some 413 times and in the New Testament 180 times. Even so I would find it difficult to describe the Holiness of God any more than I understand Cosmology and Black Holes. [I need to discuss with Grandson Jim who studied Physics with Cosmology at Uni and then went off to complete the Camino de Santiago de Compostella, attending a few Services of Mass en route].

Perhaps one of the most important references to Holy and Holy Day appears in the Ten Commandments which Moses presented to the people of Israel. The longest of the Commandments, the fourth asks us to keep the Sabbath Day Holy; six days of work followed by a day of rest. Shabbat literally means a Day of Rest and in the Abrahamic religions it falls on Friday, Saturday or Sunday; taking a Shabbat should keep us from idolizing work. In Christianity our Day of Rest is Sunday and that has also become the day we gather to

*... continued on the next page*

worship God as a community. It's a recognition that in the main we live community lives and not normally as hermits; and that we can observe the other Commandments all together, as one, as well as supporting each other on our day of rest.

That's what's great about living as a Congregational Community. Our church congregations come together in a variety of ways. There's the intimacy of the short, said, togetherness of the 8.00am Holy Communion. Then there's the full Sung Eucharist (Holy Communion; Eucharist means Thanksgiving) Service with the choir to help at 10.30am on some Sundays – a bit longer with hymns and anthems etc but there is coffee time afterwards and sometimes a 'pot lunch'. Sometimes there's also a 'lower key' version of the 10.30 Eucharist but still the option of a chat over coffee. Once a month we also share a more informal Morning Praise Service at 10.30 in the Church Hall – a completely different setting. Then, when we have a new Incumbent, perhaps we could also re-introduce the short mid-week Holy Communion Service recognising that some people work on Sundays and have a Rest Day during the week [my dad did as a Steam Engine driver!]. Which of these formats suits you? – just try before you buy! I did, and I've been supporting the 8.00am Service for over 54 years now. But I digress...

In the early days of the Christian church as the various pioneers were canonised [declared Saints] it gradually became the practice to adopt a saint as patron of buildings (such as churches and hospitals), trades and professions and even countries. Often in those cases it also led to a day off from working on what was the assigned Holy Day. [ I remember Grandma telling me that her widowed mother took just one day a year from work to take the family (up to 12 kids) on a Picnic with a horse and flat trailer to Blackheath]. The practice has surely developed into what we now cherish as 'Holidays'. September brings an end to the traditional holiday period, the start of the autumn term and 'back to school' after the summer break.

So, let's just thank God for the idea of 'Rest Days', Holy Days and Holidays; they are all the same!

...and remember 'Watch and Pray' - at the time of writing we have no indication of a Spiritual leader to follow Revd Hilary.

PS

..and thank you Peter for all your efforts in producing the Magazine for (I think) over ten years.... A stalwart effort. (*Just over 9 years actually*)

Hopefully you'll hear from me next in December...I'm sorry I can't volunteer to compile nor join a small team to publish this Magazine in the future; too many other commitments including compiling the Weekly Pew Sheet for each and every Sunday. Please think about it...perhaps you can, spare just a couple of evenings a month!

B

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barry". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'B' and a horizontal line underneath the name.

### *Women's Christian Fellowship ...*

In July we had a wonderful afternoon listening to Jenny Gibb telling us of her amazing life in rural Turkey which she discovered by chance over 30 years ago. Jenny became enchanted with the country on her first trip abroad and in spite of not knowing anyone there or a word of the language finally found a beautiful village high in the mountains which was completely self sufficient with no running water or mobile phones and where all the ladies wore beautiful traditional dress every day. Jenny was a very amusing speaker who kept us all wanting to know more about this ancient lifestyle and who now wears the costume herself when giving talks as she now lives there for six months of every year. We will definitely be hearing more tales from her again.

The group did not meet in August but are looking forward to our speaker in September who will be Hannah Powell from Perrywoods Garden Centre in Tiptree.

Do come, everyone is very welcome; the date Wednesday 11th September, time 2.30pm in St Bartholomew's Church Hall, with refreshments to follow.

Denise Yelland

## *St. Bartholomew's re-opens its doors!*

It was a time for celebration when St. Bartholomew's Church re-opened its doors after 3 months of closure during the recent re-decoration project. The church is brighter and welcoming and new lighting enhances the newly painted interior. Space has been created for wheelchair users and a new quiet area for Prayer and Reflection is located in the north aisle. Services carried on as usual during the project, taking place each Sunday in the church hall.

The Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, 21st July was the perfect occasion to welcome in and thank the community for their support in enabling the refurbishment project to happen.

The Rt. Revd. Roger Morris, Bishop of Colchester presided and preached at the service and was assisted by Archdeacon Ruth Patten. The children from Edward Bear who joined in the service delighted in helping the Bishop to sprinkle holy water around the various parts of the building and the congregation, as he blessed the newly decorated church. During the morning the children also produced a colourful piece of artwork which was proudly presented to the congregation. It depicts how the church has foundations in all the people who help to make it special.



In his Sermon, Bishop Roger spoke about the importance of 'being still and being present'. He emphasised the need in our busy lives for times of silence to restore and reboot the soul and appreciate the benefits of refreshment and recreation. Quoting from Mark's Gospel when Jesus spoke to his Disciples - "Come away to a deserted place and rest a while."

The choir sang the Anthem 'Be still in the Presence of the Lord'. Beautiful Flower arrangements filled the church throughout and a presentation thanking all those for their support was on display in the Lady Chapel.

At the end of the service Bishop Roger suggested taking time to view



and soak in some of the beauty of St. Bartholomew's "which has some of the best examples of the Victorian age. The quality is tremendous", he said and "the church is wonderfully maintained".

The service finished with the hymn, The Church's One Foundation and the congregation retired for coffee and cake in the church hall!

Do come and visit the church or attend one of our Sunday Services – everyone is welcome! You will find the timetable of the services listed at the front of this magazine.

**Geraldine Spearman**

### *Beacon Wine Circle ...*

*Two big events since my last report. Firstly, in June the club went to Thorpeness for an overnight stay, to see Benjamin Britten's Red House and go for a tasting at Fisher's Gin Distillery. Sadly I couldn't go but I'm told by everyone that it was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed. Apparently everything ran like clockwork, which takes detailed planning and that was down to Stuart Mackenzie who put in a lot of work. Many thanks to him.*

*We then moved on to our annual garden party in July, held in Terry & Judith Wilson's beautiful gardens. A big thank you to them for allowing us to use their grounds - they looked quite stunning. 85 members attended and we enjoyed an excellent lunch followed by silly games, which are best enjoyed after a glass or two of wine! Again we were very lucky with the weather, which certainly helped to make the day a success. A number of committee members did most of the work - Tim Wilson, Wendy Dixon, Stuart Mackenzie and Pauline Haggerty. Many thanks to them.*

*We are now looking forward to the start of our next season on 13th September at the village hall as usual, starting at 8pm. The talk is entitled "The Streets of East London" by an ex-homicide Met detective. Should be very interesting. As always, guests are welcome for £5 per person per meeting. Why not come along and see if it's for you.*

*Just one footnote. We were very sorry to learn of the death of Bryan Littlewood who was a lovely man and an enthusiastic member of the club. He did a great deal for the village over the years and will be sorely missed. Our thoughts are with Thelma and the family.*

Enquiries to Peter Elvish or Simon Morrison at  
[beaconwine81@gmail.com](mailto:beaconwine81@gmail.com)



## Wickham Bishops Horticultural Club

In July, 19 members made a visit to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park Gardens in Stratford, London. Although there was quite a long walk involved, all those who attended said that it was well-worth while and that they would go again.



Our August social event was a 'Summer Tea Party' in the beautiful garden of Stewart and Wendy Wallace. The weather was perfect, sunny but not too hot, and the sandwiches and cakes, prepared by many of the ladies of the club, were delicious. Many thanks go to all who worked so hard to prepare for the event.



In September we hope to visit the gardens of Writtle College on **Sunday 29th**. Our next talk in the hall will be on **Thursday 17th October** when the speaker will be Charlotte Power talking about 'Trees for the Garden'.

Visitors are always welcomed to this friendly group - we offer refreshments including a glass of wine and plenty of good company.

For more information, please phone 01621 893360 or email [HortiClub@outlook.com](mailto:HortiClub@outlook.com)

## Year 3 Trip to Colchester Castle

In June, Year 3 went to Colchester Castle. First, we went for a tour underground. We met a man who told us the story of Camulodunum and showed us bits of Roman armour. Then we saw a big map of Britain which showed us the Celtic tribes at the time. Then we went to another room and learned about Boudica.



We had a packed lunch outside in the grounds. It was very sunny and hot!

In the afternoon, we built a roundhouse and a villa. They took lots of hard work and were quite tricky! We looked at lots of things in the galleries before getting the coach home. It was great fun!

**Written by: Sebby, Dylan, Rosie & Myla**

## Year 5 Outdoor Learning

In June, Year 5 had their outdoor learning day. The lady who was in charge of the activities was named Sarah and she told us what we would be doing in each group. We did pond dipping, den building, made seed bombs that will grow into wild flowers and bug hunting. Pond dipping was fun as we got to catch tiny creatures as well as looking and identifying what they were.

Den building was a bit of hard work as we could only use wood, a big blue sheet and some rope. For making a seed bomb we had to add a spoonful of seeds to soil, then add a little bit of water and mix it all together and mould it into a ball. Bug hunting was challenging as we had to capture a little bug and then fill in a sheet to describe what we have found. We were all very lucky to have hot weather otherwise we wouldn't have had any outdoor learning to do and had a normal day. Thank you Sarah for this amazing day!

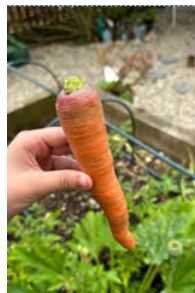


**Written by: Amelia**

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## Gardening Club

We had our first crop of home-grown carrots! Mrs Priest and the gardening club have been nurturing their vegetable patch all year and Mrs McBride was able to use the carrots in the pasta sauce!



## Girls' Cricket County Final

After our success in the local event, our girls' cricket team competed in the county final at Billericay Cricket Club on Tuesday 2nd July.

Our first 3 games were close but we lost them. We were then placed in Division 2 where our confidence grew and we played a semi-final which we won! We were ready for the final and with some great batting and bowling and with Rose taking a huge catch - it helped us become Division 2 Champions!



Well done to Rose for being awarded Catch of the Day and Natasha for her amazing bowling display, hitting and knocking the stumps out of the ground and being awarded with Best Bowling Spell of the Day. Amelia and India's opening partnership afforded us 20 runs off 10 balls and they were awarded Batting Hero of the Day!

## MSSP Rounders Tournament

In July, the Maldon Schools Sports Partnership ended the school year with a Rounders Tournament hosted by All Saints Primary.

We were divided into two groups. We played St Francis and were victorious with 27  $\frac{1}{2}$  points. We then played Wentworth where we lost by 10 points. This meant we were placed in a 3rd/4th play off against Maldon Court. It was very close and exciting to watch, unfortunately we lost by just  $\frac{1}{2}$  a rounder!



The games were fun and enabled us to use all the skills we have learnt and practised in Rounders Club.

## *Great Totham Women's' Institute ...*

Jenny Gibbs was our speaker in July. Dressed in beautiful Turkish National Dress Jenny told us how in 1993, she went on a holiday to Turkey and fell in love with both a man and the country. Jenny's journey began with a cruise around the Greek Islands, which led her to Turkey. She eventually settled in a small village, learning the language and culture. She married a local man, Mustafa and together they bought a two-hundred-year-old farmhouse. Jenny explained how they undertook extensive renovations over the years. She now splits her time between Suffolk in the Summer months and Turkey in the Winter. A very entertaining lady!

Following an August trip to Hyde Hall we will meet again in September with an earlier start time of 7.30pm when Ed Cannon will be talking about his career as a locksmith.

We are always pleased to see new members and would be happy to welcome you as a guest at any of our meetings held on the second Thursday in the month at Great Totham Village Hall commencing at 7.30 pm.

If you would like any more information about our group, you can find us on our website [www.greattothamwi.weebly.com](http://www.greattothamwi.weebly.com) or, alternatively, e mail [greattothamwi@gmail.com](mailto:greattothamwi@gmail.com).

# Wickham Bishops Jazz Club

Presents

*Live Jazz with*

## Dave Browning's Jazz Cats

On Saturday 21st September

At Wickham Bishops Village Hall CM8 3JZ

(Doors open 6.30 for 7.30 start, until 10.30pm)

No Bar : Bring your own Drinks, Glasses and Nibbles.

Please remember to take your empties home.

Please leave quietly so that you do not disturb our neighbours.

**To Book Tickets Please Contact Pete:**

email: [wickhambishopsjazzclub@gmail.com](mailto:wickhambishopsjazzclub@gmail.com) - Tel: 07548775777

*Our autumn programme ...*

Oct 19 Tad Newton and friends

Nov 16 Peter Allen's Sextet

Dec 21 Wickham Bishops New Orleans Allstars

*Do come along for an entertaining evening*

## *From the Parish Council ...*

A General Meeting of the Parish Council was held on the 2nd of July. There was no meeting in August and the planning committee has not met recently. The minutes of the July meeting can be read on:

[www.wickhambishopsparishcouncil.org](http://www.wickhambishopsparishcouncil.org)

Speeding traffic continues to be a problem. During July, the MDC 'TruCam' team spent 5 hours in Wickham Bishops, over 8 sessions and recorded 64 vehicles exceeding the speed limit. The details are passed to Essex Police for further action - either a fine and points on the licence, or a Speed Awareness course.

The 'Saturday Surgery' will be held on the 21st September from 11 am to 12 noon, in the Library. No appointment is needed and all residents are invited to come and discuss any matter of concern.

A General Meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 3rd September at 7:30 pm in the boardroom of the village hall. Residents are invited to attend and may speak on any agenda item, or other matter of concern, during the 'Public Forum'. A Planning Committee meeting will be held if required. Councillors may be contacted individually or you may contact the Parish Clerk on 07542 190176 or by email at

[info@wickhambishopsparishcouncil.org](mailto:info@wickhambishopsparishcouncil.org)

## *Wickham Bishops Women's Institute ...*

We were greeted face to face with a beautiful tiger but we were happy he was on film and not with us in person. This was courtesy of our July speakers Graham and Mary Brace who shared their wonderful and many journeys to wildlife parks in Northern and Central India. They have a great affinity with the tiger, and they have followed the animal's resurgence over the years.

July was a quiet month with many members on holiday, but we did discuss how to commemorate the 80th anniversary of VE Day in May 2025 and in the Far East VJ Day in August 2025.

If you would like to join us and you would be very welcome, we meet on the last Thursday of the month in Wickham Bishops Church Hall at 2pm. For further information please contact Margaret Curtis on 01621 815161

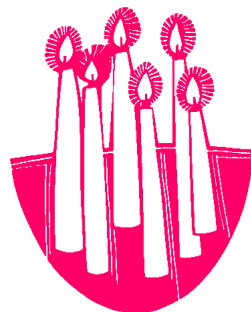
St Bartholomew's  
Church Hall  
Wickham Bishops

Monday 9th September  
2.30 - 4.00 pm

Interested? Just come along or  
phone Sue on 01621 892032



**Service**  
of  
**Commemoration**  
and  
**Thanksgiving**  
for those who have died



**4.00 pm on Saturday 2nd November**  
**at St Bartholomew's Church**

**with refreshments beforehand at 3.30 pm**

Phone Sue on 892032 if you would like your loved one mentioned by name  
during the Act of Commemoration or add their name to the list in Church.



## *Swift Boxes at St Bartholomew's Church ...*

St Bartholomew's Church had a youth club named 'Swifts' after the birds that nested in the church tower. Fifteen years ago renovation work included putting wire mesh inside the louvres to prevent crows and pigeons nesting in the tower. Swifts also lost their nesting sites.

Today the 'Swifts' youth club no longer exists and last year saw just one remaining pair of swifts nesting below a gutter ten feet above the ground (dangerously low for fledgling swifts). Across England swift numbers fell by 60% between 1995 and 2020 and are now red-listed, meaning that they need 'urgent action' and have the 'highest conservation priority' \*. The main reason is the renovation of old buildings blocking nesting sites. Declines in flying insects (their food) is another factor.

A small group of us, called the BBC (bird box club, bug box club, bat box club or bacon buttie club!) meet on Mondays. We have made, erected and monitored over 20 bird boxes which were all inhabited last year.



Chris, John, Alan and Rick of the Bird Box Club

This winter we made 12 swift boxes with guidance from John Smart (Essex Swifts). Installing them in the tower involved a difficult climb and care to ensure that only swifts were able to gain access.

*... continued on the next page*

The nest box entrances (2ins × 1in) are hidden behind the louvre slats so the chances of a swift discovering a box is very slim. However, swifts are attracted by the sound of nestlings. We bought an amplifier, speakers and a memory stick of swift calls, and installed them behind the swift boxes. They play swift calls morning and evening.



Six of the boxes being positioned in the tower



Inside the tower, rear view of swift boxes

Our hope is that our nesting pair are successful in breeding and that their offspring find our new homes. If you would like to join our BBC group contact John Le Seve (07504 714134). It would be wonderful if we can contribute to reverse the decline of swifts in mid-Essex.

\*2021 UK Conservation Status Report – British Trust for Ornithology & RSPB

Read more in Sarah Gibson's book 'Swifts and Us'. Lots of information and a highly interesting and entertaining read.

### *Front Cover Photograph ...*

The photograph on the cover shows Colchicums (sometimes wrongly called 'Autumn Crocuses') growing in the editor's garden. We brought the original bulbs with us when we moved from Lincolnshire some 36 years ago. They are unusual in that the leaves and flowers appear at different times of the year, but when the flowers appear in the third week of August, we know that summer is nearly over and cooler days will soon be here.

## *Memories of Wickham Bishops ...*

I have always been fascinated by the history of wherever I was living at the time. My third issue as Editor of this magazine, included a review of the book 'Cuckoo Spit and Daisy Chains' by Cathy Brooks, who was born in Wickham Bishops but eventually emigrated to Australia. It is an amazing read which Cathy wrote just for her family and a few close friends - only 52 copies were printed, but she did donate a copy to each of the libraries in Maldon, Witham and, of course, Wickham Bishops. Imagine my joy when a few months later, Cathy's sister, who still lives locally, appeared on my doorstep and presented me with a copy - signed by Cathy. It is a prized possession.

More recently, I discovered an online article written by Marilyn Jesse, who was a contemporary and childhood friend of Cathy. She also now lives in Australia, but all of my attempts to contact her, to ask for permission to reprint her work, have come to nothing. So, in fairness, I cannot include her words here, but I can suggest that you visit the website at [www.francisfrith.com/wickham-bishops](http://www.francisfrith.com/wickham-bishops) and scroll down the page to read Marilyn's memories.

Two months ago, our Parish Clerk received the following letter from a former resident. I have his permission to reproduce it here:

*Hello, may I introduce myself ? I am Peter Moore. I lived in the village from 1951 to 1961 from the age of 7. I hold issue at the name of ROOTS Lane. I always knew it as ROOKS Lane as at the top near to Blacksmith's Lane there were very high trees inhabited by Rooks for many years.*

*This stretched from Rooks lane to Arbour lane the length of Blacksmiths Lane which included the Gentry's railway carriage home. The Gentrys, Mary, Louise and Victor plus one other (?) owned Crabbes Farm plus a farm in Totham.*

*My father worked for them milking 20 cows which in early days was the village milk supply which was curtailed when pasteurisation was required about 1952.*

*We lived in a bit of a hovel with quite a romantic name as 'Cherry Orchard Cottage'; it was in the middle of the field owned by Tom Marvin, north of Grange Road and at the bottom of Rooks Lane. It was built in 1685 and may well have been a farm house with servants as the righthand side had a separate door inside the front door leading*

*... continued on the next page*

to pantry and kitchen. A set of stairs going up to one bedroom and another set of stairs going up to a very large loft which stretched the full length of the house.

A notable part of the loft were the beams, hewn out of tree trunks, supporting the roof and "nailed" with wooden dowel pegs. No electricity supply, no running water; we had a well and a pump (which froze in winter), a brick out house with bucket we had to empty into a hole dug in garden !! The right hand side of the house was where we lived in one room with stairs (these looked a bit more modern).

I remember in my day all the land down Rooks lane from Blacksmith's Lane was farmland owned by Tom Marvin and from the Gentrys bordered by Arbour Lane down to Grange Rd to my school (the Library now).

The field opposite the village pump was called "Billie's Meadow" and it had a large dip in it which flooded a lot and in winter froze, was a great ice rink for us kids, and at the top opposite the school was an old derelict wooden bungalow which was Billie's cottage with the best red roses I've ever seen - the smell was amazing.

Above Billie's Meadow was a hedge and another field which grew kale and strawberries; I was employed by the Gentrys to be a scarecrow and the payment was cakes, biscuits, lemonade and two shillings or half a crown if I was lucky. (that is 10p or 12½p in modern money - Ed)

The field where our house was built sold to a solicitor called Mr Richards who built a large house (currently still there) and was a play ground for us kids. We got chased off by PC Tasker a few times. When the house was finished and Mr R moved in, he built a fence which cut off our access to Rooks Lane so we had to walk down the other side of hedge to get out; not too bad when dry but alas England's not renowned to remain that way for long so we got cold and very muddy!

This proved intolerable so we moved out to another farm in Langford for a while returning to Crabbes Farm in about 1960 and moved into "Rip Harts" cottage which was directly opposite the air raid shelter. (nice to see it's still there). It was used to store coke for the two pot belly stoves used for heating the school, infants on the left down steps and juniors in the larger room. (I even see that the toilet blocks are still there; boys on the right and girls on the left, all with little buckets and IZAL, very rough toilet paper). Oh what memories.

The teachers were Mrs Hale who taught the Infants and Miss Stapleton the Juniors.

*I remember the co-op at Snow's Corner, Ponies Bakery, Ron Bartholemews garage with petrol at 2 shilling per gallon and where we got accumulators charged for our battery radio, the Mitre where I used to run up to on cold frosty nights to obtain 10 Woodbines for father for one shilling and nine pence. The Village hall which was the centre of everything; mobile picture shows every month and the library tucked in a cupboard at the back.*

*Thanks for reading this ramble of an old fella here in New Zealand where I have been since 1974. I have been meaning to contact you for a while as Wickham Bishops has fond memories of those 10 years, the longest my family ever stayed anywhere. (By time I was 21 we'd had 26 "moves") Bye for now and hope this has not been too boring and would be interested to see if you can solve the Roots /Rooks lane quandary.*

*Pete Moore New Zealand*

Henry Bass, who has lived his entire life in Wickham Bishops says that the street name that Peter questions has always been 'Roots Lane' for there used to be large elm trees that covered the lane. Ditches cut into either side of the lane exposed the roots of the trees and hence the name.

More recently, Simon Emery found a booklet 'Beacon Hill 100 years Ago' written in 1956 by L. W. Tilbury. A copy has been placed in the library, and I was fortunate to be allowed to borrow it overnight to scan it into my computer. The print quality is poor - the original would have been typed on a manual typewriter, onto 'Gestetner' wax stencils which then allowed a few copies to be reproduced. I am re-typing this into electronic form and will make a copy available to the library. It is a fascinating read.

Peter

## **FOUND**

Lady's silver wristwatch, found in Church Road

Please contact Ian Wardrop on 07793 154592

## *Final Words ...*

*The day has arrived. After nine years and one month as Editor, this is my final issue. For the most part it has been an enjoyable experience, though stressful at times, with tight deadlines and last-minute changes.*

*There are many people that I wish to thank: John Mason and his predecessor John Baker for co-ordinating the advertisements, Jayne Jennings and her distribution team, Ruth and George for proof-reading my work, the many contributors from the various groups around Beacon Hill, Barry Cousins, John Gilbert and others for articles, newsletters and information, and, of course, our now-retired Rev. Hilary for 'volunteering' me in the first instance. But most of all, I thank each and every one of my readers who have made such encouraging comments over the nine years.*

*So, what of the future? There is a potential Editor waiting in the wings, but we still need to resolve some details and difficulties, not least of which is that she uses a computer system that is totally incompatible with mine. There is unlikely to be an October edition this year as we must allow time for someone new to settle in, but I hope that we can publish again from November onwards. Fingers crossed !*

*Once again, a huge "Thank You" to all who have supported me, and I send you all my Best Wishes*



**Items for the November magazine should be submitted to the editor by**

**Thursday 17th October 2024**

Please send items by email if possible to:

[magazine@churchinwickhambishops.org.uk](mailto:magazine@churchinwickhambishops.org.uk)

or place in an envelope marked 'Parish Magazine'  
and deliver to **10 Church Green, Wickham Bishops**

Priority goes to church events and information connected with Wickham Bishops.

**If you would like to place an advert in this magazine please contact  
John Mason on [jmason.36@outlook.com](mailto:jmason.36@outlook.com) or Tel. 01621 927066**

For enquiries regarding distribution of the magazine, please phone  
Jayne Jennings on 01621 891396

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*Save the Date  
For the  
Garden Festival  
2025*

*Sunday 8th June*

Plans are already under way to make it the best one ever. New attractions are planned and old favourites will be there. We would welcome offers of help both before the event and on the day itself.

If you would be willing to open your garden, be it large or small, and showcase your gardening skills, we would also like to hear from you.

Please email Wendy on  
[wendydwallace146@gmail.com](mailto:wendydwallace146@gmail.com)

