

St Nicholas Church, Laindon

Parish of Laindon with Dunton, Essex



St Nicholas Church, Church Hill, Laindon

Parish Magazine

August 2010

... Summer's Here ...

30p

Diary for August 2010

Sunday 1st Ninth Sunday after Trinity

10.00am Family Service
12.00 noon and 3.00 p.m. Holy Baptism

Wednesday 4th 2.00 p.m. MU Garden Party at 35 Basildon Drive

Sunday 8th Tenth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion
12.00 noon and 3.00 p.m. Holy Baptism

Tuesday 10th 8.00pm PCC meets in the Church

Saturday 14th 5.00pm Service of Celebration

Sunday 15th Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion
12.00 noon and 3.00pm Holy Baptism

Saturday 21st 4.00 p.m. Holy Baptism

Sunday 22nd Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 Holy Communion
12.00 noon Holy Baptism

Wednesday 25th 7.30 p.m. Choir Practice in Church

Sunday 29th Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion + Baptism
12.00 noon and 4.00 p.m. Holy Baptism
7.30pm Choir practice

St. Nicholas' Nippers—

Every Tuesday at 9.30 – 11.00am St Nicholas Nippers
A pram service for the very young with their parent or carer

~~~~~

## **Bookings**

All enquiries for weddings, baptisms and funerals should be made to Revd.  
Diane Ricketts 01268 411190  
38, Claremont Road, Laindon, Essex SS15 5PZ

## From Diane's Desk



**I**sn't it nice when someone notices the efforts you have been making?

Well as I am sure you will read later in this magazine our efforts in the Churchyard have been noticed, not only have we an EcoCongregation Award but now we also have attained second place in the Best Kept Churchyard Competition.

These awards are really the cherry on the top of the cake because what we have always wanted to create in this sacred space was lasting beauty and peace where there is evidence of harmony between people and the natural world, and across history as the present generation pays its respects to the past and gives something lasting to the future, and where all people (whether they come inside the church building or not) can catch a glimpse of God's care for them and for all of his creation.

And for this to be achieved it has needed the efforts of many people, often unnoticed, who have been more than willing to use their time, talents, and generosity without really wanting public acclaim but rather being pleased to be part of a team that is doing its best for the people of this place. Actually I think the Bible has something to say about God seeing what we do in secret and rewarding.

It seems to me that it would be good to have a service of celebration, and we do have much to celebrate, most importantly the ceiling being finished so that it should last us for many, many years to come and as we have sought to raise the money for this work we have discovered we have so many friends willing to help us.

So at 5pm on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> August I do hope you will all be able to join us as we give thanks in a service of celebration and then enjoy each other's company as we share some refreshment. After all the hard work it will be so good to have fun together with God.

God bless,

*Diane*



# August Birthdays

Happy Birthday to you,

Happy Birthday to you,

Happy Birthday,

Jordan Turner and Helen Bryan on Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup>

James Knox Jnr on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup>

Dorothy Guertin on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup>

Mary Paul on Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup>

Happy Birthday to you!



## There will be weddings on:

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> at 4.00 p.m.

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> at 3.00 p.m. (choir)

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 p.m.

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> at 3.00 p.m. (choir)

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> at 2.00 p.m.

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> at 2.00 p.m.

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> at 2.30 p.m.

Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> at 3.00 p.m.

## From the Parish Registers...

We welcome you into the fellowship of faith...

4<sup>th</sup> July— Samuel Edward Trower

11<sup>th</sup> July— Ruby Emily Walsh

11<sup>th</sup> July— Demi Barker

25<sup>th</sup> July— Ellis Thomas McIlveen



To have and to hold from this day forward ...

2<sup>nd</sup> July— Sean Paul Walker and Karen Ann Janet Bramham

3<sup>rd</sup> July— Scott Matthew Johnson and Melissa Harwood

10<sup>th</sup> July— Steven Thomas Patterson and Jodie Ann-Louis Atkins

17<sup>th</sup> July— Glen Anthony Watson and Nicola Jane Turner

24<sup>th</sup> July— Luke Newman and Hannah Cooper

24<sup>th</sup> July— Stephen David Osben and Emma Church



dawn.knox@gmail.com

www.stnicholaslondon.co.uk

**I**f you haven't got a copy of **Chris Graves'** 'Treasure Hunt' Quiz yet, what are you waiting for?

There's no actual treasure to find, just a clever trail of clues that lead you round our award-winning church yard (more about that from **Ken** on page 12) although you do stand a chance of winning a prize if your entry is correct and is the first drawn out of the bag after the closing date. Each entry will cost you £2.00 which goes towards our Church Repair Fund.

**Jamie**, our friends, **Robert** and **Diane** and I had a great time roaming the church yard, following the clues, during the evening of Saturday 3rd July. It took us a while to work out some of the clues but in the end, I think we did quite well!

While we were at the church, we decided to look for the geocache that is apparently hidden in St. Nicholas Church grounds. If you didn't read last month's magazine and have never heard of geocaching, it's a high tech treasure hunt, where people hide small boxes (geocaches), which contain a small log book to sign, small items which you can exchange for something of similar value, such as a badge etc and some geocaches even contain disposable cameras, so that you can

take a photo of yourself and put it back in the box, ready for the next finder. Once you have registered on the international geocaching website, you can find the approximate location of geocaches in your area and when you have found them, you report it on the website.

I discovered that there is one which is supposed to be in the church yard although on checking the map, it turned out to be on the land between our church yard and the A127. The clue given is 'beneath the loop' and we soon found what we thought was the 'loop' but there was no geocache to be seen. I'm not sure if we just didn't spot it or if it is no longer there and have reported this on the website. If I receive a reply, I'll let you know.

## Our Award

I won't give too much away, as **Ken** explains about the award on page 12 but what a fantastic tribute to the team of people who work so hard on a Saturday morning. Well done! If you'd like to join the workers on Saturday morning to do some gardening or helping with the conservation work please have a chat with Peter or Ken or even contact me. You don't need to be a church member or even to go to our church if you enjoy gardening and you'd like to get some fresh air, have some

great company and grab the odd cup of tea and doughnut or two!

## Easy Fund Raising

If you ever buy anything online, please consider registering with Easy Fundraising and nominating St. Nicholas Church as your chosen charity. I recently had to buy several wedding presents, which I bought online and just through accessing the website through the Easy Fundraising site, I have raised £8.34. This didn't cost me extra. I just paid for the goods as normal and a percentage of the money I spent was credited to the St. Nicholas Church account. This is literally money for nothing, so if you buy online, please register with Easy Fundraising and help us to raise more. <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/Register/>

## Holidays

You may have noticed that this issue of the magazine is slightly thinner than usual. Each year during the summer, we have one month when the contributors have a break and this year, it's August. I hope they are all having a well earned rest and will rejoin us in September with lots of renewed vigour!

## Baskets and Scarecrows

The Mayor of Brentwood came on Monday 12th July to my school to judge the hanging basket and scarecrow competition and I was there to take photos of the marking





beating of anyone or anything when our vicar, Diane, Jamie and I walk the parish boundary on Saturday 18th September 2010 to raise money for our church repair fund. If you would like to sponsor Diane, Jamie or me, our Just Giving pages can be found on the Just Giving site <http://www.justgiving.com/charity/search.aspx?cid=188423>

and award presentations. The mayor and visitors were very impressed with the exhibits and had quite a hard time deciding on the winners. Above are several of the winning entries.

### **Beating the Bounds**

Many years ago, before each parish had its own map, the priest would lead the churchwardens, parochial officials and a crowd of boys armed with boughs of birch or willow round the boundary of the parish. The boughs were used to beat the parish markers although sometimes, the boys themselves were whipped or bumped against the boundary stones to make them remember! The reason for taking boys was to ensure that the memory of the parish boundaries lasted as long as possible. Thankfully, there will be no

### **Thank You**

Thanks this month to the following people for contributing to the magazine:  
Chris Graves for sending me the monthly rota  
Ken Porter, for his What's on? Report, Church Warden's report and Histories, Memories...  
Yvonne Friend for her inspirational items  
Dorrie Williams for her tribute to sisters  
And thanks to Jill Hartgrove, Peter and Betty's daughter, who sends out the magazine each month to those who can't pick one up from church, themselves.

Well, it looks like I'm out of space, so every blessing until September.

Dawn

#### **Disclaimer:**

Neither the Vicar, Church Wardens, Parochial Church Council, nor the Editor take responsibility for the information given or views expressed in the St. Nicholas Church Parish Magazine. Nor is any culpability accepted in work undertaken by advertisers

# What's On?

## **Thursday 5th August...**

Wildlife discovery – Does Science Suck?

Essex Wildlife, Langdon Hills Visitors Centre. Donation £8 per child. For more information or book, telephone 01268 419103.

## **Saturday 7th August...**

Guided Bike Ride...Join the Rangers for a guided bike ride around the parks... 8 to 11 miles long...starts at One Tree Hill at 2pm. Free.

## **Saturday 14th August...**

Barleylands Farmers Market...8.30am to 12.30am

## **Saturday 28th August...**

Barleylands Farmers Market...8.30am to 12.30am

## **Basildon Crunch Service...**

9am to 12am...

7th August - Laindon-Five Links/Newberry side.

14th August - Lee Chapel North/Markham Chase Centre.

21st August - Basildon Drive/Dickens Drive.

28th August - Laindon King Edward Rd./Royal Court.

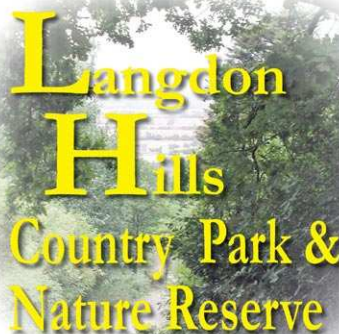
## **Barleylands...**

Throughout August at Barleylands there are various summer holiday activities going on, such as Teddy Bear picnics, sports days etc...

Adults £8, Children £7.

## **Wat Tyler Country Park...**

Every day (except Wednesday 18th)... 10am to 5pm. Come along for continual summer entertainment. The new discovery zone will be open every day and offers a range of fun activities for your little ones. Free admission; small charge for some activities.

The logo for Langdon Hills Country Park & Nature Reserve features the text 'Langdon Hills Country Park & Nature Reserve' in a yellow, serif font. The text is overlaid on a circular image of a dirt path leading through a lush green forest.The logo for Barleylands features the word 'BARLEYLANDS' in a green, serif font. The letters are decorated with small, colorful illustrations of flowers and leaves. Below the text is a simple green line representing a field.The logo for Wat Tyler Country Park features a colorful, circular graphic composed of many small, overlapping shapes in various colors (red, orange, yellow, green, blue). To the right of the graphic is the text 'WAT TYLER COUNTRY PARK' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below the text is the tagline 'One great thing leads to another...' in a smaller, italicized font.

# Bradwell Pilgrimage 2010





Bradwell Pilgrimage—3rd July 2010—Photos courtesy of Ken Porter





Liz and Dorothy having fun!

## Welcome Elias!



Welcome again, to Freda Happé's great grandson. But this time, with the correct name! Introducing **Elias**, born to Freda's grand daughter, Camilla and husband Mustapha on 29th April 2010.



# Church Wardens' Report

**A**t last the scaffolding is down and we know that Diane is very thankful to those that found time to come along and help with the clearing up. Now we move on to the next big problem, the tower, the steps, wall and pathway but fortunately this will not affect the inside of the church.

The ashes area has been completed and a flower border has been established around the stone plinth, all we now need is for the grass to grow.

We mentioned last month that we had entered the 'Best Kept Churchyard' competition organised by the RCCE (The Rural Community Council of Essex). To our surprise we received a letter inviting us to attend their AGM at The Essex Golf & Country Club, Earls Colne to receive an award. Diane, Peter, Betty, Carol and Ken attended; it was a very enjoyable and informative evening which included a barbeque buffet.

Twenty four churches across Essex took part and there were six awards, three highly commended certificates of merit and 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places.



BEST KEPT CHURCHYARD COMPETITION  
2ND PRIZE



This certificate is awarded to:

**ST NICHOLAS' CHURCH,  
LAINDON**

For achievement in 2010

Rural Community Council of Essex

7th JULY 2010

Third prize went to 'The Church of St Michael the Archangel, Woodham Walter'. At this point we checked the letter again to see if we had misread it but we need not have worry because we took second place with a cheque for £100. Peter collected the cheque and certificate on behalf of the church. First place went St Margaret's Church, Downham who just happened to be sitting at our table. You can imagine the excitement at our table!

The judges were very impressed with the notice display boards that we had erected in the churchyard. We hope we will have at least another three by this time next year. Thanks must go the Sunday morning preservation group, Steve, Mick and Phil who made and erected them for us.

Further feedback from the judges to help us take that first place slot next year is that we need more colour (this we predicted in last month's report), several more benches and an available water supply for those attending graves.

So in four months we have been awarded A Rocha Eco Congregational Conservation Award and taken second place in the Essex Best Kept Churchyard! Pretty good achievement! Well done to all those that have been involved, including the ladies on the Saturday morning who have kept us in tea and cakes.

The council contractors have cut the meadow areas again and their supervisor is a landscape gardener by trade who has worked on the Council's

verges. He has given us some useful tips on how to improve the meadow areas. He has also suggested we extend our stinging nettle area as he has seen many different types of butterflies

However to keep the churchyard up to its current standard over the next few weeks is going to be difficult because the Community Service Volunteers will not be back until the 29<sup>th</sup> July. They have been called away on what they consider more urgent work. So if anybody can give us a few hours on a Saturday morning we will be more than grateful.

Peter and Ken

## August 15<sup>th</sup>

*A day to remember the tens of thousands of allied prisoners of war and civilian internees who were captured by the Japanese in World War II.*

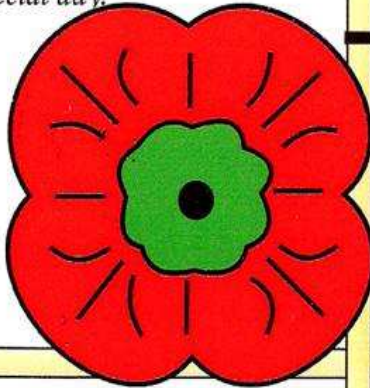
*They suffered from hunger, disease, torture and despair - and many thousands died - for the freedom that we enjoy today.*

*FEPOW Day is a worldwide day of remembrance for the Far East POWs.*

*Please join us this year and every year to celebrate this special day.*

*Please  
remember  
the price  
they paid*

[www.fepow-day.org](http://www.fepow-day.org)



## Remember

## Molly and Keeley Race for Life



Molly and Keeley having completed the Race for Life. Molly raised a total of £109 and completed the 5k in 50 minutes.

Both Molly and Keeley had a great time and can't wait for next year!

Congratulations Molly and Keeley!



## You've Been Frymed!

**I**f you would like to challenge Graham to fit a caption to a photo, please send me your entry (by email only please—no actual photographs) and I'll pass it on to him. Or you can, of course, send it directly to Graham, if you prefer.

Each photo you submit, which is published will cost you £1.00 which will go towards the Church Repair Fund although if you like the caption or captions that he writes, you may decide to donate more!

Chris Graves has challenged Graham this month with the following photo of Hetty on the Sheringham front :



**Despite having been blown onto the coast road from the open-top bus earlier in the day, Hetty is determined to make the most of her new bus pass!**

**W**e had such an interesting talk in July by Susan Croucher from the Thundersley Branch, on the good works of the Mothers' Union in Tanzania.

She told us about the people, their way of life and how the Mothers' Union is organised and helps the families in four different regions that they have contact with. She has visited Tanzania, with her husband, several times and she brought along memorabilia and pictures of the people and their churches to show us. She has also played host to a few of their clergy and one of the wives of a minister marvelled at our 'microwave' (how we take it for granted in the western world!).

They grow crops of tomatoes and green vegetables as well as the produce you would expect such as bananas and papaya. They may, on

**Gifts to the Hadleigh Deanery Tanzania Link are welcomed, through fundraising, regular giving or one off gifts.**

**We have held quiz nights, fundraising meals, musical concerts, displays and exhibitions.**

**You may be assured that the money we raise goes direct to our brothers and sisters in the Deaneries we support in Tanzania.**



**An old mud built church that is being replaced.**

very special occasions, be able to afford meat, but mainly they exist on a vegetarian diet.

Just a reminder, ladies, we do not meet at the vicarage in August. I am going to make it a permanent event now, that we will have a garden party at my home on the first Wednesday of August in the afternoon – 2pm. It's just a tea, coffee and cake event with a raffle. This invitation will be to any lady member and their



**A new church built by the congregation, with materials funded by H.D.T.L.**

**Linked by the Love of God**



**H.D.T.L.**

husbands, as well as anyone who wishes to find out more about our organisation. Just come and see me at church and I can give you directions to my home.

On Monday August 9<sup>th</sup> at 2pm there is a Deanery Festival being held at St. Catherine's Church, Wickford. It is our founder, Mary Sumner's Day and so we are holding a service with refreshments afterwards. If you are interested please can we have

a car share for those who cannot drive?

I should like to tell you of a new M U Website that has just been created. It is to publicise our forthcoming events and display any news of happenings in this area or the deanery as a whole. If you have anything that you would like to advertise and do not have a computer please let me or Diane have your item and we can put it forward on your behalf.

[www.muchelmsford.org.uk](http://www.muchelmsford.org.uk)

Thank you and God Bless

Val



# Cookery with Valerie



**H**ere's a recipe that has been a great summer favourite in my family for many years.

## Custard Tart



**Oven temp. 350 deg, Gas mark 5**

### Ingredients:

½ pint milk

2 eggs

Nutmeg

1 cooked flan case

2 tsp sugar

### Method:

Cook flan case for one minute, blind with baking beans and a further five minutes without beans

Boil milk and sugar together but do not let them burn or reach boiling point.

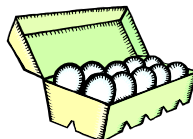
Whisk eggs.

Boil with milk until it starts to thicken.

Pour onto the flan case.

Sprinkle with nutmeg.

Cook in the oven for 15 minutes.



# Value

To realize  
The value of a sister/brother  
Ask someone  
Who doesn't have one.

To realize  
The value of ten years:  
Ask a newly  
Divorced couple.

To realize  
The value of four years:  
Ask a graduate.

To realize  
The value of one year:  
Ask a student who  
Has failed a final exam.

To realize  
The value of nine months:  
Ask a mother who gave birth to  
a stillborn.

To realize  
The value of one month:  
Ask a mother  
Who has given birth to  
A premature baby.

To realize  
The value of one week:  
Ask an editor of a  
weekly newspaper.

To realize  
The value of one minute:  
Ask a person

Who has missed the train, bus  
or plane..

To realize  
The value of one-second:  
Ask a person  
Who has survived an accident.

Time waits for no one.

Treasure every moment you have.

You will treasure it even  
more when  
You can share it with  
someone special.

To realize the value of a friend or  
family member:

LOSE ONE.

Remember....

Hold on tight to the ones  
you love!



Yvonne Friend

## Walk to 'Defect' MND

To our Dear Friends at St Nicholas,

On Sunday, 16th May, we arrived behind Leigh Station on the sea wall and signed in and I had to get a 'larger' T-Shirt! We all had our photos taken and then Peter drove me to Chalkwell Station and dropped me off. He drove on to Rossis' Café and I started walking, pushing my wheel chair and with a large bucket which was already quite heavy as we had taken it on the coach with us to Anglesey Abbey on the Saturday and wouldn't let anybody off unless they donated!!

Peter walked back to meet me and we went to Rossi's for a coffee and a bun. The weather was really good, not too hot and a lot of the walkers had caught us up by now. We took our bucket into all the Arches cafés and then Peter drove the car up to the Pier and again I carried on walking, but this time I was meeting lots of friends.

Peter met me by 3 Shells café and we carried on towards the Pier, after which it started to rain a bit so we stopped and put our macs on. Then it was on for a little way past the Sea Life Centre and then turned back.

We arrived at Marriott's, the fish and chip café at exactly 1pm and when I checked my pedometer it registered 6 miles. I shouldn't say it myself, but I was really pleased. We had an excellent meal and drove home. We were both fast asleep by 2.30pm.

We raised £369 through sponsorship, much of which came from St Nick's along with family, friends and members of the Guide Movement and in the bucket we had just over £173.

Thank you all so much, Love and God Bless,  
Ros and Peter xx

## Struggling with Debt?

### Help for people struggling with Debt

Lots of people are worried about debt at the moment. The National Debtline ([www.nationaldebtline.co.uk](http://www.nationaldebtline.co.uk) Tel: 0808 808 4000) will give free advice.

The Consumer Credit Counselling Service (Tel: 0800 138 1111) will set up a debt repayment plan **without** charging a monthly fee.

## Disappearing Daphne!

This is a photo of Daphne Eldridge and the Caravaners at Seaview caravan site in East Runton Norfolk who have generously sponsored her on the Fund Raising Slim.



Daphne says that the Caravaners are a great bunch of people who care about what happens to our Church!

If you'd like to sponsor Daphne in her quest to lose one stone by 1st September 2010, please see her at church or if you prefer to sponsor her online, go to her fund raising page on Just Giving, at

<http://www.justgiving.com/Daphne-Eldridge>

If you are a tax payer, you can Gift Aid your donation to increase the sum with no cost to you.

Daphne is trying to raise a total of £500 for the church roof repair fund, so please support her efforts.

In the nicest possible way, we hope to see less of Daphne in the future!  
Good luck Daphne!

# This Month in History

**1st August 1834...** Britain abolishes slavery.

**3rd August 1805...** 1st Cricket Match between Eton and Harrow Schools.

**4th August 1914...** Britain declares war on Germany

**4th August 1870...** The formation of the Red Cross

**5th August 1305...** William Wallace is captured by the English.

**5th August 1901...** Britain's first cinema opens in Islington.

**7th August 1926...** Britain's first Grand Prix is held at Brooklands.

**8th August 1963...** The Great Train Robbery at Bridego Railway Bridge, Ledham, Buckinghamshire. £2.6million is stolen.

**9th August 1902...** The Coronation of Edward VII.

**10th August 1675...** Royal Observatory Founded.

**14th August 1969...** British Troops sent to Northern Ireland.

**22nd August 1642...** English Civil War begins with Charles I raising his colours at Nottingham after capturing its arsenal.

**23rd August 1305...** William Wallace is hanged, drawn and quartered.

**27th August 1979...** Lord Louis Mountbatten assassinated by IRA who planted a bomb in his fishing boat, the 'Shadow V', at Mullaghmore, County Sligo.

**29th August 1895...** The Rugby League is formed.

**31st August 1997...** Diana, Princess of Wales, dies in a car crash in France.

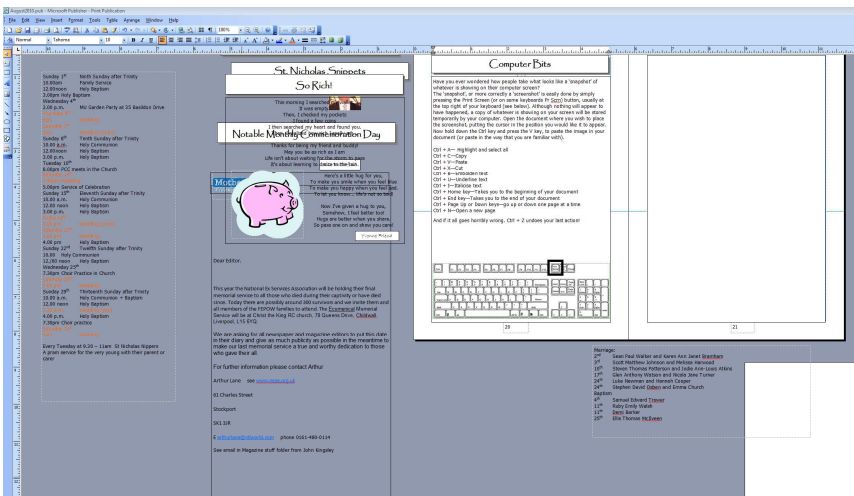


Ken Porter

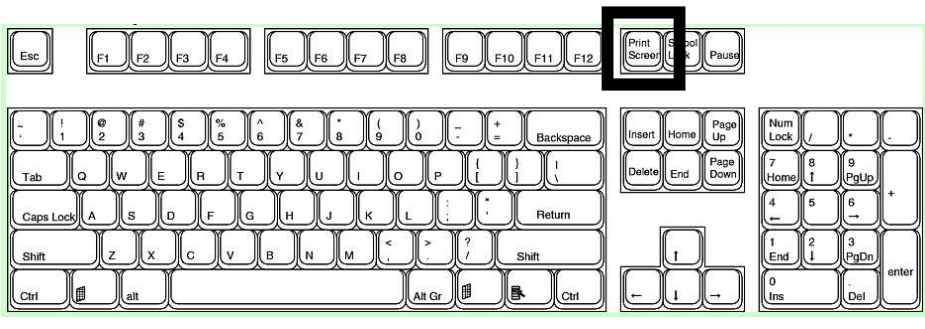
# Computer Bits

**H**ave you ever wondered how people take what looks like a snapshot of whatever is showing on their computer screen?

The 'snapshot', or more correctly a 'screenshot' is easily done by simply pressing the Print Screen (or on some keyboards Pr Scrn) button, usually at the top right of your keyboard (see below). Although nothing will appear to have happened, a copy of whatever is showing on your screen will be stored temporarily by your computer. Open the document where you wish to place the screenshot, putting the cursor in the position you would like it to appear. Now hold down the Ctrl key and press the V key, to paste the image in your document (or paste in the way that you are familiar with).



Here is a screenshot of what was on my screen while I was writing this!



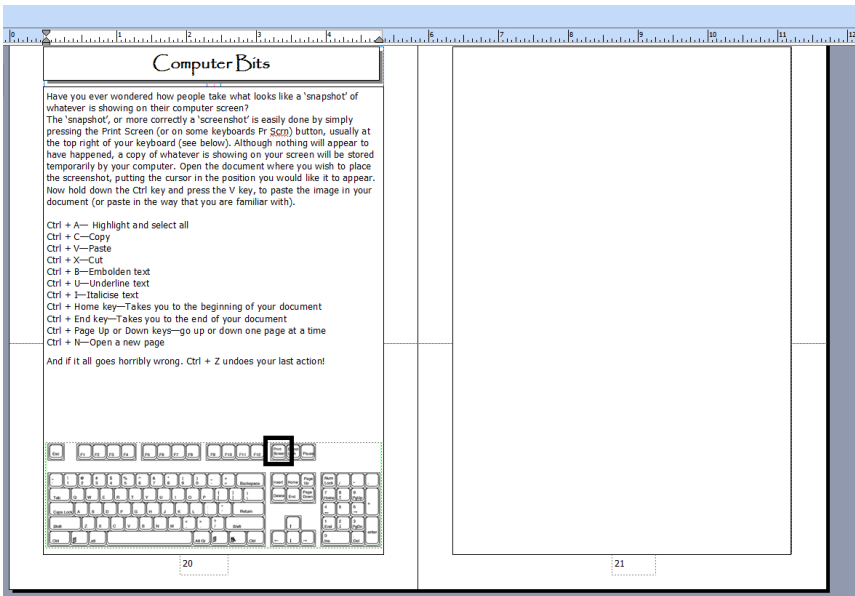
You may now want to crop the image slightly so that it only shows the parts you require. Click on the screenshot and look for the picture toolbar (shown below)



If the picture toolbar isn't visible, right click on the image and select Show Picture Toolbar. Click on the Crop tool.



Notice that the handles (dots on the corners and sides of your screenshot) change from circles to dashes. Hold the cursor directly over a handle and it will change into a T shape. Holding the cursor down, move it towards the middle of the image until you have removed the parts of the image you don't need.



If you find that you have removed too much of the screenshot, simply move the cursor outwards, away from the middle and reveal the parts of the image that had disappeared until you have the required part of the screenshot visible in your document.

Here are two more quick keyboard shortcut, Ctrl + P will bring up your print menu and Ctrl + S saves your work.

### Keyboard Shortcuts

Ctrl + A— Highlight and select all

Ctrl + C—Copy

Ctrl + V—Paste

Ctrl + X—Cut

Ctrl + B—Embolden text

Ctrl + U—Underline text

Ctrl + I—Italicise text

Ctrl + Home key—Takes you to the beginning of your document

Ctrl + End key—Takes you to the end of your document

Ctrl + Page Up or Down keys—go up or down one page at a time

Ctrl + N—Open a new page

Ctrl + P—Print menu

Ctrl + S— Save

And if it all goes horribly wrong. Ctrl + Z undoes your last action!

## Take My Hand

Are you troubled, burdened, blue?

Take my hand.

I've been troubled, too,

I understand.

Where you've fallen, once I fell --

Let me help the clouds dispel --

Take my hand.

Others helped when I was weak,

Took my hand,

Helped me face toward the peak,

Helped me stand.

What they did, now let me do --

Pass the kindness on to you.

Someday you'll help others, too.

Take my hand.



-- Author Unknown

Yvonne Friend

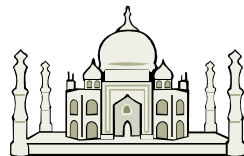
# Indian Fund Raising Feast!



£268.50 was raised for  
the Church Repair Fund



Fund Raising Indian Night at  
the Maharajah Restaurant on  
Friday 2nd July 2010





## So Rich!



This morning I searched my wallet.  
It was empty.  
Then, I checked my pockets  
I found a few coins  
I then searched my heart and found you.  
Then, I realized how rich I really am...

Thanks for being my friend and buddy!  
May you be as rich as I am  
Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass  
It's about learning to dance in the rain.

Here's a little hug for you,  
To make you smile when you feel blue  
To make you happy when you feel sad.  
To let you know... life's not so bad!

Now I've given a hug to you,  
Somehow, I feel better too!  
Hugs are better when you share.  
So pass one on and show you care!

*Yvonne Friend*

# Special Sisters

A sister is someone special  
Who's love is loyal and true  
Whenever you are troubled  
She will share her heart with  
you

A sister is your umbrella  
When dark clouds rain above  
She will gently lift your heart  
With the soft wings of her  
love



Dorrie Williams



## Histories, Memories... Part 56

### *Continued:*

The Dunton Hills Plotland Community became known as 'Gum Boot Hill' because of the very poor conditions of the roads but this did not appear to affect the residents. They were in the country and that was all that seemed to matter.

However, like elsewhere, the war for a time, upset this peaceful but hard way of life but with the war over, things slowly got back to normal. Then in 1949 the Basildon Development Corporation was formed and to the disappointment of the residents of the Dunton Community, Dunton was included in the new development area.

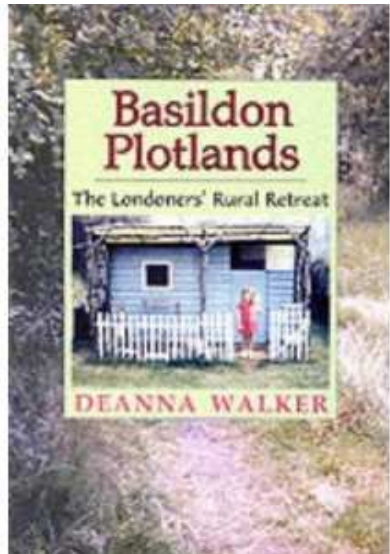
The newly formed Basildon Development Corporation had a huge task on its hands and when it first surveyed the district it found it had 75 miles of grass track roads, 8,500 dwellings of which 6,000 were without proper sewerage. Two thousand were built of brick and tile, one thousand of light construction, five thousand were chalets or shacks and five hundred appeared to be derelict.

The Dunton Community fell into the category of light construction, shack type development. Uncertainties started to creep in and in the early years a

few residents moved out, either voluntarily or by compulsory purchase into new housing but it was going to be at least another decade or more before the full effects of the development were really going to be felt.

During the war years and for a few years after the Second World War the Dunton area was a regular holiday resort for many Londoners but even this began to decline as more holiday camps and caravan sites started to open up around the country, especially near seaside resorts.

So with this change in lifestyle and the formation of the Basildon Corporation, it could be said that 1949 was to some extent, the end of the Plotland era but surprisingly people still moved to the area buying from those that had decided to move on, often moving from London where they had most modern amenities, into homes that had very few, if any. The one thing they had though, was large gardens and plenty of open space. If you really want to get a feel of how it was from the 50s through to the 80s you need to read Deanna Walker's book 'Basildon Plotlands' The Londoners' Rural Retreat and keep a look out for her new book on Plotlands later this year.



Though we see a number of people buying up properties during the early 50s the Corporation was moving in with more compulsory purchase orders and the area was slowly becoming derelict as more and more people sold up and moved away, either into corporation houses or away from the area completely but a few, mainly the old, held on until the late 70s and early 80s.

In 1967 an inquiry resulted in Ministers giving the approval for housing development in the Langdon Hills area but it was not until 1974 after another public inquiry that a final approval was given. Following local opposition at this inquiry, plans for 1,200 executive houses to be built along the Lower Dunton Road were dropped by the Corporation.

It is interesting to note that Thurrock Council opposed the development and were only satisfied when the Corporation agreed to keep the development back from the Dunton ridge and plant more trees around the development boundary so residents of Thurrock could not see the houses.

By the mid 1980s the Plotland way of life had been extinguished, 'Gum Boot Hill' had returned to nature, a new nature trail around the hills had been created and now links up with the woods of Langdon Hills and One Tree Hill providing a beautiful countryside lung for Basildon, although very few people seem to visit and enjoy this.



In 1989 the Essex Wildlife Trust took over the management of a 460 acre site at Langdon Hills as a reserve which includes the Dunton Community site. It is their largest inland reserve in the country. One bungalow was left—'The Haven' which is now a Plotland museum - well worth a visit.

Ken Porter  
 01268 546179  
 k.kfp@btinternet.com

### **Important Telephone Numbers**

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| Police Non Emergency         | 01268 538812 |
| Basildon Police              | 01268 532212 |
| Council Emergency Line       | 01268 286622 |
| Basildon Council             | 01268 533333 |
| Special Refuse Collection    | 01268 294949 |
| Street lighting issues       | 01268 297500 |
| Pitsea Civic Amenity (tip)   | 01245 491222 |
| Age Concern                  | 01268 493205 |
| Child Protection, Child Line | 0800 1111    |
| Samaritans                   | 0845 790909  |
| St Luke's Hospice            | 01268 524973 |
| Citizen Advice               | 0870 1264042 |
| Emergency Doctors            | 01375 393388 |
| Laindon Library              | 01268 532212 |
| Bus Enquiries                | 0871 2003456 |
| Rail Enquiries               | 0845 7484950 |
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# Rota for August 2010

| <b>Sunday</b>                                                       | <b>New Testament</b>               | <b>Reader</b> | <b>Gospel</b>              | <b>Reader</b> | <b>Intercessor</b> | <b>Chalice</b> | <b>Sides-person</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> August<br>9 <sup>th</sup> Sunday<br>after Trinity   | Family Service                     |               |                            |               |                    |                |                     |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> August<br>10 <sup>th</sup> Sunday<br>after Trinity  | Hebrews 11<br>Ver 1-3, 8-16        | George        | Luke 12<br>Ver 32-40       | Ken           | Graham             | John K         | Pat & Paul          |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> August<br>11 <sup>th</sup> Sunday<br>after Trinity | Hebrews 11<br>Ver 29 – 12<br>ver 2 | Jean          | Luke 12<br>Ver 49 -<br>56  | Diane D       | John K             | Graham         | John &<br>Diane D   |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> August<br>12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday<br>after Trinity | Hebrews 12<br>Ver 12-end           | Martin        | Luke 13<br>Ver 10-17       | John D        | Diane (Rev)        | John K         | Maureen &<br>John K |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> August<br>13 <sup>th</sup> Sunday<br>after Trinity | Hebrews 13<br>Ver 1-8, 15-16       | Graham        | Luke 14<br>Ver 1 &<br>7-14 | Chris         | Charles            | Graham         | Liz &<br>Charles    |

# Fund Raising

## **£75,000!**

It's a daunting task to raise such an enormous sum but the necessary repair work to St. Nicholas Church has to be completed—and completed soon, before more damage is sustained.

There are many events organised this year to raise money—one notable event for your diary is the 'Laindon's Got Talent' Festival on the weekend of 11th and 12th September 2010—and many more are in the process of being organised.

If you would like to help us to preserve this beautiful building for future generations, there are several things that you can do.

If you would like to help support or organise an event or donate a sum—large or small, please contact Revd. Diane Ricketts at 38, Claremont Road, Laindon, Essex SS15 5PZ or telephone 01268 411190. You can also contact Revd. Diane via our website <http://www.stnicholaslaindon.co.uk/Contact/contact.htm>



If you would like to make a donation online, we have a page on the Just Giving site <http://www.justgiving.com/pclairdon>. As more sponsored events are planned, individuals will have their own sponsorship pages as well.

If you ever buy goods online, please consider registering with Easy Fundraising and nominating St. Nicholas Church as your charity. If you log in to Easy Fundraising <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/> and then go to whichever site you want to purchase items from, Easy Fundraising will credit our church with a percentage of whatever you spend. This won't cost you a penny and effectively raises money for doing very little!

If you spend a lot of time surfing the Internet, please consider using the Easy Fundraising search engine. If you have nominated St. Nicholas Church as your charity, every search that you make using the search engine raises money for us too.

[http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/how\\_it\\_works:easysearch/](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/how_it_works:easysearch/)

Please keep in touch either via email or on the St. Nicholas Church Facebook page on <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=116809441680697>