**Rector’s Letter**

**Summer Fun!**

Dear Friends,

As we move into August the month tends to be quiet with people away on holiday, but we have lots of things planned!

Firstly, we will have our next Messy Church in Bradwell on Friday 24th August, from 2-4.30pm with a BBQ at the Church, and at St Lawrence from on Friday 3 August at the Church Centre from 1.30 – 3pm.

Then moving into September, we are going to hold an Alpha course for those who are interested in learning more about the Christian faith. This will be on Monday evenings, starting on 17th September in Bradwell, and Wednesday 19th September in St Lawrence at the Church Centre, both from 7.30-9.30pm with some food to start, followed by a short video and talk, a hymn and then a discussion. This is a great way to discuss and ask questions about faith in a relaxed atmosphere.

Also in September, I plan to offer Confirmation classes to year 5 and 6 children as well as adults. Classes for the children will be held in the School and for adults this will be held at my home on Saturday mornings from 10-12 beginning on Saturday 13 October, both leading up to the Confirmation service which will be held somewhere locally on Sunday 18 November at 3pm. Confirmation is a way of confirming our faith in Jesus Christ and becoming a member of the Church of England and being able to receive Holy Communion.

If you are interested in any of the above, please let me know.

God bless and enjoy the summer!

Reverend Steven

**September Magazine**

All copy for the September’s magazine should be sent to Roger Scurrell by phone (776341), posted through the letterbox of 6 St Thomas’ Row, Bradwell, or by email to the address below, all by **Saturday August11th.**

Those living in St Lawrence may give copy to Shirley Lea at 51 Main Road (779403) by this date. Copy may also be submitted as a jpeg, text or Microsoft Word or Publisher file, either on CD or, better still, by email to [stthomaspcc@btinternet.com](mailto:stthomaspcc@btinternet.com).

If you belong to an organisation that does not yet submit articles for the magazine we would like to hear from you even in longhand if you do not have access to a computer. Any news you have is always very welcome.

Come to our Alpha Course in September.

Alpha is a course which seeks to introduce the basics of the Christian faith through a series of talks and discussions. More information can be found at <https://alpha.org/>

You are welcomed to come to all or any of the sessions which include something to eat, the watching of a video clip, a talk, a hymn/song followed by a discussion.

**St Lawrence Church Centre, St Lawrence**

Wednesday 19 September at 7.30-9.30pm

Followed by future weeks leading into December.

**St Thomas Church, Bradwell on Sea**

Monday 17 September at 7.30-9.30pm

Followed by future weeks leading into December.

To register, please contact Rev Steven on 01621 779620 or email [stevenposs@hotmail.com](mailto:stevenposs@hotmail.com)

**Messy Church at St Thomas Church,**

**Bradwell on Sea plus a BBQ.**

**A time to be creative, pray, learn and sing. For children and their parents.**

**Friday 24 August 2018 2-4.30pm.**

**To register, please contact: Rev Steven Poss, 01621 779620 or email** [**stevenposs@hotmail.com**](mailto:stevenposs@hotmail.com)

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**Messy Church at St Lawrence Church Centre.**

**A time to be creative, pray, learn and sing. For children and their parents.**

**Friday 3 August 2018 1-3pm.**

**To register, please contact: Rev Steven Poss, 01621 779620 or email** [**stevenposs@hotmail.com**](mailto:stevenposs@hotmail.com)

**August**

The agricultural year has nearly come full circle and growing conditions are no longer the main concern.

*August ripens, September gathers in*

*A wet August never brings dearth.* August weather forecast.

**August weather forecast.**

Depending on the conditions in the previous months the forthcoming harvest was on everybody’s mind and it was hoped that there would be sufficient ripe grain to make a special loaf. A Lammas loaf with salt crystal eyes

Lammas Day ( "loaf-mass"), is usually between 1 August and 1 September to mark the annual [wheat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wheat) [harvest](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harvest), and is the first [harvest festival](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harvest_festival) of the year. On this day it was customary to bring to [church](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Church_(building)) a loaf made from the new crop.The loaf was blessed, and in [Anglo-Saxon England](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anglo-Saxon_England) it might be employed afterwards to work [magic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magic_(paranormal)):the lammas bread should be broken into four parts, which were to be placed at the four corners of the barn, to protect the garnered grain.

*After Lammas corn ripens as much by night as by day.*

.A little later in the month on the 10th, we celebrate our patron saint, Laurence or Lawrence. Born in Spain, Lawrence came under the influence of a great teacher, Sixtus,and subsequently both men moved to Rome. When Sixtus was appointed [Pope](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pope) in 257, he ordained Lawrence as a [deacon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deacon), and though Lawrence was still young appointed him first among the seven deacons, he is therefore called "[archdeacon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archdeacon) of Rome", a position of great trust that included the care of the treasury and riches of the Church and the distribution of alms to the needy..After the death of Sixtus, the [prefect](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prefect) of Rome demanded that Lawrence turn over the riches of the Church. [St Ambrose](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St_Ambrose) narrates that Lawrence asked for three days to gather the wealth. He worked swiftly to distribute as much Church property to the indigent as possible, to prevent its being seized. On the third day, at the head of a small delegation, he presented himself to the prefect, and when ordered to deliver the treasures of the Church he brought forward the indigent, the crippled, the blind, and the suffering, and declared that these were the true treasures of the Church. One account records him declaring to the prefect, "The Church is truly rich, far richer than your emperor." This act of defiance led directly to his martyrdom in 258.

*If on St Lawrence’s Day the weather be fine, fair autumn and good wine may be hoped for.* Another day in the church calendar associated with the weather is that of St Bartholomew the Apostle on 24th. By this stage of the month folk were looking forward to autumn and noticing the cooler conditions.

*At St Bartholmew*

*There comes cold dew*

More famously perhaps we have the prediction that *If it rains this day, it will rain the forty days after .*In matters of memorable affairs August has seen some tremendously important events. In 1914 the Great War started on 4th, while World War 2 ended in 1945 with peace with Japan on 14th.

Less generally recalled but socially important, was the ban on using climbing boys as sweeps in 1840, while two familiar features of everyday life were introduced. In 1900 the first long distant bus service was established between London and Leeds with a journey time of two days! The increase in road traffic is shown by the introduction of the first electric traffic lights in London in 1926.

**LEST WE FORGET**

**William James Copeland** was born in 1890 at Clerkenwell, the son of James and Alice May.

By 1901 the family was living at Weatherwick, Tillingham, and James was working as a Stockman on a farm. They had four children of whom William was the eldest.

*Weatherwick*

By 1911 the family had moved to Mullinger’s Farm, Asheldham. James was now described as a Horseman and the three other boys, Ernest 11, Edgar Charles 8 and Arthur Alfred aged 6 were living at home.

William was working on Bradwell Wick Farm at this time and boarding with William Tyrell, the Horseman. He moved again to lodge at Blackhouse Cottages and it was from there that he enlisted at Southminster and served with the Northamptonshire Regiment, later being transferred to the 2nd Battalion Suffolk Regiment, possibly following the battle of Le Cateau in which the battalion suffered catastrophic losses.

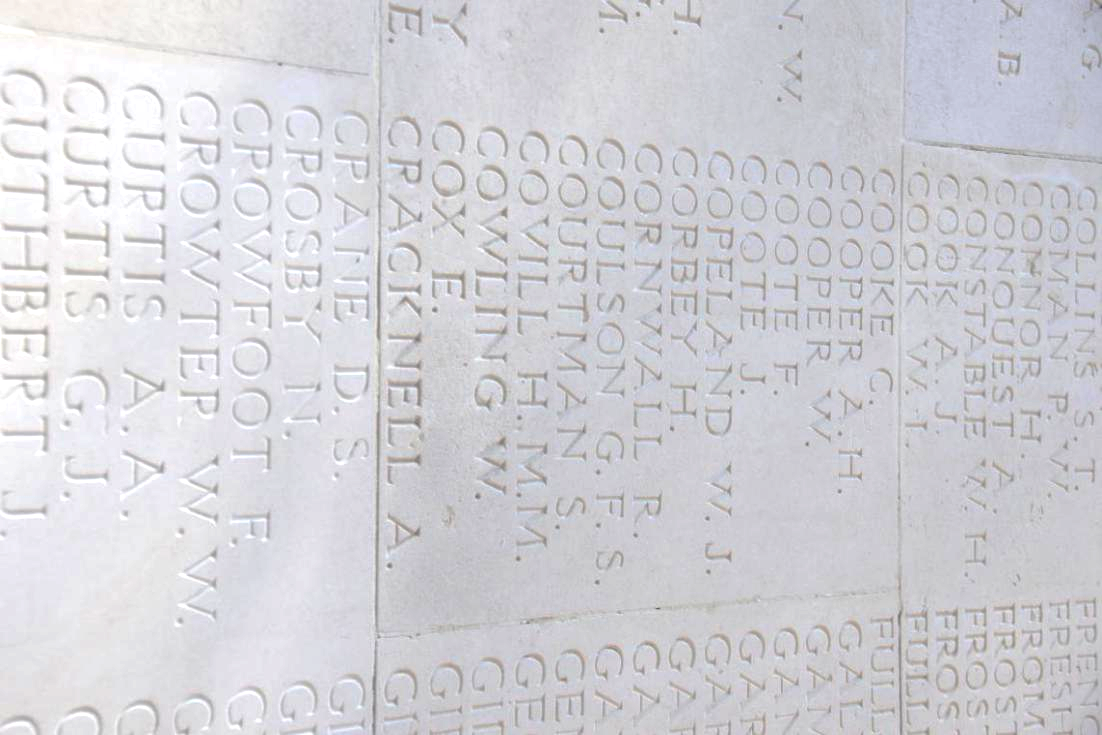
This surviving photograph shows William, probably before he left home for the last time. It is reasonable to presume that the elder of the ladies was his mother, Alice, the two boys seated in front possibly Edgar and Arthur, while the younger lady may well have been his girl friend. The two missing family members were James - probably at work - and Ernest who may perhaps have been operating the camera or also have been at work.

*Men of the 2nd Battalion digging a communication trench*

In 1916 the Suffolks moved to The Somme where, after a spell of trench work, William was killed in action in The Battle of Delville Wood on 18th August , aged 26, by which time the family was living at The Garage, Sun Street, Billericay.

He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial,

at St Lawrence Church, on Billericay Town memorial, at Great Burstead Church, and the former Steeple Congregational Church memorial which is now in Steeple Church.



*At the going down of the sun and in the morning*

*We will remember them.*

**‘Let’s Make Music’ Concert**

The Othona music week Concert will be held in St Thomas’ church on Friday 10th August at 7pm. Refreshments will be available.

During the ‘Music Week’, guests at the community will be rehearsing different songs and music for a concert in the church at the end of the week.

The concerts put on over the last two years have been great, so a big welcome to a musical night out.

Entry is free, donations would be appreciated.

**ST LAWRENCE NEWLAND CHURCH**



COFFEEMORNING

Tea/coffee & cakes

10.30 - 12.00 noon



FRIDAY AUGUST 10TH

Proceeds towards carpet for the pews.

# News from The Wensleyhouse

# Bess & Baarbara get ready to leave for their ‘forever home’

# We shepherds thought it would be a good idea to get them used to being away from mum, aunty and sisters.  So we borrowed Alice’s Field.  We decided that we should move the whole flock down to the field for a day or two first, so that Bess and Baarbara could get used to the new environment with Aunty Ethel standing by watching out for hazards.

We planned it well – one shepherd going first on the bike to shut gates, another leading the flock with vital food pot, and the third coming behind in the Land Rover to discourage any doubling back home.  Fortunately we met friends who stood in the gaps while passing Alice’s property, thus promoting the safe arrival of the whole flock on Alice’s Field.

# They were soon lost in the long grass and seemed happy munching the weeds and lush clover. Checking on them later they seemed more relaxed but they were quite happy to come home at the end of the day, and enjoy relaxing under their cherry tree.

# Next job was to take Bess and Baarbara there on their own.  Brave Bess and Baarbara!  The plan was to put a lead on them, then walk them in an orderly fashion down to Alice’s field.  However, they knew better!  Their past ‘lead’ experience was not as pleasant as choosing where to go, and they certainly were not going to accept it this time!  Bess and Baarbara can be very willful so eventually their shepherd gave in, and let them have their way.

Skilfully they were extracted from the enclosure, leaving Frederica, Aunty Ethel and sister Bella, even little Cherry-B joined in, yelling behind them.  I like to think it was sadness due to being separated from their loved ones, but I have a sneaky feeling it was really not wanting to miss out on a treat. Down the lane we went, using persuasion from the food pot that wasn’t as enticing when home ward bound!  The further down the track we went, the longer it took to persuade them to follow the food pot. A kindly neighbour took pity on us and came to help.  Together we were successful in getting Bess and Baarbara as far as Alice’s.  It was here that Bess and Baarbara stayed attracted by the apple trees! We had no hope of moving them forward towards the field.  By the time one of them decided to come to the food pot the other had trotted happily back to the apple trees and was enjoying picking the little apples just starting to grow!  I am sure to this day there was a kind of telepathic communication going on making them determined to have their way and stay with the apple trees!  When we did eventually persuade them out of the garden they made a run for the track and headed back home!  We were too exhausted to argue and let them have their own way .

# On to plan B - Move all the girls to Alice’s field and then bring back Ethel, Bella, Frederica and little Cherry-Blossom, leaving Bess and Baarbara behind to find out that life does not end without mum or Aunty Ethel to look after them!  We planned this better - again, one shepherd ~~goimg ahead on~~ the bike, another bringing the food pot and the third in the car.  All went ok-ish, until Baarbara suddenly realised where they were going.  Back to the apple trees of course! She ran on, closely followed by the rest of the flock with Bess racing her because she too suddenly twigged where they were headed!!  Again, it was only the chance meeting of some friends that enabled us to get the flock moving in the correct direction to the field!  When safely there we all returned home for a well-deserved cup of tea!  Discussingthe events of our trials we decided to leave them all together for the time being.  After all, there was plenty of time for Bess and Baarbara to discover that they can look after themselves!

***Musicality***

Although every country in the world has a song, or piece of music which is universally known as its national anthem, and although some of these date back to the 16th century, the actual institution of national anthems is comparatively recent. It seems that it may have begun with the playing of Arne’s arrangement of ‘God save the King’ at Drury Lane in 1745 when the news of the defeat of Sir John Cope’s army at Prestonpans became known in London.

A varied selection of words were printed in several magazines of the time, some with two and some with three verses.

There are many different claims to the authorship of the tune from Henry Carey through to Dr John Bull, and it is likely that his was the earliest form of the tune as we know it, and it may be that it is only an arrangement by him of a popular song from around 1620, and that the tune went on changing and at some time picked up the words ‘God save the King’.

In a catch by Purcell in1685 the opening notes were used to the words ‘God save the King’. In the second edition of the national anthem the third note was altered to the Purcell version and this is the one now used.

The words have changed greatly since 1745 and often reflected the particular conflict that was going on at the time. In the reign of William IV the words were’ God save our gracious King, William our noble King’ but in Victoria’s reign ‘God save Victoria the Queen’ was too much of a mouthful so the present form was adopted.

Many other countries have borrowed the music and it is still the official anthem of Switzerland. Both words and music have been subject to a great deal of change and even now the music is not fixed. There are 3 verses but the second two are rarely sung. It is quite a boring tune but it is always rousing to hear it at the medal presentations at sporting events.

*Music lover from St Lawrence*

**SERVICES FOR AUGUST**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Service** | **Place** | **Readings** |
| **5th** | **Trinity 10** | | |
| 8.00 | BCP Holy Communion | St James Dengie | 2 Samuel 11;26-12.13  Ephesians 4;1-16  John 6;24-35 |
| 9.00 | Parish Communion | St Lawrence Church |
| 10.00 | All Age Worship | St Lawrence Centre |
| 10.00 | Family Service | St Nicholas Tillingham |
| 10.30 | Parish Communion | St Thomas Bradwell |
| 15.30 | Evening Service | Downhall Residential Home | TBA |
| 18.30 | Evening Service | St Peters Chapel | TBA |
| **12th** | **Trinity 11** | | |
| 10.00 | Family Communion | St Lawrence Centre | 2 Samuel 18.5-9.15.31-33  Ephesians 4.25-5.2  John 6. 35,41-51 |
| 10.00 | Holy Communion | St Nicholas Tillingham |
| 10.30 | All Age Worship | St Thomas Bradwell |
| 15.00 | Evening Service | St James Dengie | TBA |
| 18.30 | Evening Service | St Peters Chapel |
| **19th** | **Trinity 12** | | |
| 8.00 | BCP Holy Communion | St James Dengie | 1 Kings 2; 10-12, 3; 3-14  Ephesians 5; 15-20  John 6; 51-58 |
| 9.00 | Parish Communion | St Lawrence Church |
| 10.00 | All Age Worship | St Lawrence Centre |
| 10.00 | Family Service | St Nicholas Tillingham |
| 10.30 | Parish Communion | St Thomas Bradwell |
| 18.30 | Evening Service | St Peters Chapel | TBA |
| **26th** | **Trinity 13** | | |
| 8.00 | Holy Communion | St Thomas Bradwell | 1 Kings 8.1,6,10-11,22-30,41-43  Ephesians 6; 10-20  John 6; 56-69 |
| 9.00 | Parish Communion | St Lawrence Church |
| 10.00 | All Age Worship | St Lawrence Centre |
| 10.00 | Family Communion | St Nicholas Tillingham |
| 10.30 | Family Service | St Thomas Bradwell |
| 15.00 | Evening Service | St James Dengie | TBA |
| 18.30 | Evening Service | St Peters Chapel | TBA |
| **2nd Sept** | **Trinity 14** | | |
| 8.00 | BCP Holy Communion | St James Dengie | Song of Solomon 2; 8-13  James 1; 17-27  Mark 7; 1-8, 14, 15, 21-23 |
| 9.00 | Parish Communion | St Lawrence Church |
| 10.00 | All Age Worship | St Lawrence Centre |
| 10.00 | Family Service | St Nicholas Tillingham |
| 10.30 | Parish Communion | St Thomas Church |
| 15.30 | Evening Service | Downhall Residential Home | TBA |

**ST THOMAS CHURCH AUGUST ROTA**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Time** | **1st**  **Reading** | **2nd**  **Reading** | **Sidesmen** | **Intercessor** | **Coffee Rota** |
| 5th | 10.30 | T Reed | M French | J Hill | R Scurrell | Wyn & Sheila |
| Gospel: Rev B Main | |
| 18.30 | L Main | | R Scurrell |  |  |  |
| 12th | 10.30 | J Ruston | Z Lawrence | J Rushton | R Scurrell | D Thorpe |
| 18.30 | D Thorpe | | D Thorpe |  |  |
| 19th | 10.30 | M Neall | J Ruston | Wyn & Shiela | C Orrin | R Scurrell |
| Gospel: Rev S Poss | |
| 18.30 | M French |  | M French |  |  |
| 26nd | 8.00 | J Bateman |  | J Bateman |  |  |
| 10.30 | M French | R Scurrell | R Scurrell | Z Lawrence | M French |
| 18.30 | Z Lawrence |  | Z Lawrence |  |  |
| 2nd Sept | 10.30 | C Orrin | J Bateman | T Reed | T Read | Chris & Sue |
|  | |

**ST LAWRENCE CHURCH AUGUST ROTA**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **1st Reading** | **2nd Reading** | **Intercessor** | **Sidesperson** |
| Aug 5th | A Gardner | B Cook | Rev S Poss | L Gardner |
| Aug 19th | E Siggins | M Pudney | S Lea | E Siggins |
| Aug 26th | A Hendry | J Pudney | Rev L Webber | B Cook |
| Sept 2nd | B Cook | A Gardner | S Lea | L Gardner |

**Remembering those from Bradwell-on-Sea who were killed in action**

**100 years ago in World War I**

On our Sunday service in St Thomas Church Bradwell-on-Sea on August 12th we will be remembering Arthur Edward Murrells, Sergeant 2nd / 5th Gloucestershire Regt. who was killed in action a hundred years ago on 11th August 1918 aged 22.

Arthur and his twin brother, William George, were born in Bradwell in 1896 and baptised there on 12th April. The census of 1901 shows the family as living in a four roomed house in East End Road, probably near ‘The Cricketers’, with their parents, George and Mary Ann who were both aged 41 at the time, and with two brothers and two sisters. By 1911 they had moved a short distance into a 5 roomed dwelling and had been joined by two more sisters. The records show that by then George and Mary Ann had been married for 23 years and had 10 children, all of whom were still alive. William and Arthur were by now working as ‘Farm Hands’

With the coming of war both boys enlisted. Arthur initially in the 4th Essex and subsequently transferred to the 2/5th Gloucestershire Regiment who landed in France on 23 May 1916. In November 1914 William joined the 6th Gloucesters and much of their subsequent movement was probably very similar as both battalions were in the 61st division and crossed the Channel at the same time, and fought in the same area of the line.

On 25 September 1916 William was wounded, seriously enough to warrant his discharge in January 1917. William married Violet and lived at Down Hall and finally at Parker Court.

Arthur continued with his unit and had achieved the rank of Sergeant by the time of the final Allied Offensive. He was killed in action and laid to rest in Merville alongside another member of his company. His headstone bears the inscription ‘No more on Earth but in a Fairer Land’.

Arthur lived with his parents at Dunbards Farm East End Road Bradwell-on-Sea and is buried in the Merville Communal Cemetery Extension in France.

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,  
We will remember them.*

***We will remember them.***

*Information from Bronwen Cook and* [*WWW.roll-of-honor.com*](http://WWW.roll-of-honor.com)*)*

**Gardening in August**

**Flowers**

* Dead-head flowers
* Even if it rains, water tubs and pots. The rain will not sufficiently water plants in containers.
* [Wild Flowers](http://seeds.suttons.co.uk/search?w=wild+flowers) are a great addition to the garden, sowings of [cowslips](http://seeds.suttons.co.uk/search?w=cowslips) and primroses should be made in trays, placing in a [cold frame](http://seeds.suttons.co.uk/search?w=cold+frame).

**Fruit and Veg**

* Continue removing side shoots from tomatoes.
* Start digging main crop potatoes.
* Any plants on flower, pod or fruit, water well.
* Still time to sow spring cabbage for planting out in the autumn.
* Continue to pick runner beans, French beans and courgettes to encourage further crops.

**Greenhouse**

* Keep your greenhouse shaded.
* Continue to keep the greenhouse well ventilated in the day.
* Feed and water plants regularly in warm weather.
* Do not let tomatoes dry out or the fruit will crack when watering starts again.

**Garden Maintenance**

* When the weather is dry and hot, ideally the grass should be kept slightly longer by setting the blades a little higher.
* Do not let plants in growbags dry out.
* Keep bird baths topped up with water.
* Try taking cuttings of houseplants such as [coleus](http://seeds.suttons.co.uk/search#w=coleus)
* If going on holiday try moving pots and tubs to a shaded area.
* Indoor plants can be watered and put in the bath on a damp cloth.
* This is an ideal time to clean out any empty [water-butts](http://seeds.suttons.co.uk/search?w=water+butt) so that any dirt that may be trapped at the bottom is removed.

It is Summer. s Spend leisure time in your garden and enjoy it whilst the weather is good.

**St Lawrence Village Fate**

**The World of Moths**

**Our houses**

Your *Village View* team were very pleased to hear that the recent article on the Council Houses had created interest, and a reader had asked for a reproduction of one of the photographs. We are always pleased to receive your feedback and any contributions which you may be able to make.

This incident served to remind us that often our houses have tales of their own to tell, whether concerning their construction or restoration, or about the people who once lived in them.

In recent months we have been fortunate to have Tim Howson, the Conservation Officer, working locally, and he will be coming to St Lawrence Church on 17th September to share some of his discoveries with us. This should be a fascinating session so book the date now.

Perhaps some of our houses do not come within his remit but it is well worth delving below the surface to find out if there are any interesting connections and, in the coming months, we will try to gather information for a short series following this topic.

**DENGIE HUNDRED BUS USERS’ GROUP (DHBUG) - NEWS UPDATE**

With effect from Monday 23 July 2018, bus service D4 is extended along East End Road (Bradwell) as far as the entrance to the Othona community. The last service of the day will require pre-booking/request to driver for travel north of St Peter's Court, but all other journeys continue to operate as per fixed timetable. In the event of the vehicle becoming full, any pre-booked passengers take priority (Traffic Commissioners’ Regulations). The booking/enquiry line is 01621 874410 (Arrow Taxi).

The new timetable incorporates some other adjustments - a copy is available on our website dhbug.org.uk, and printed sheets will be available from the DHBUG pitch at each of the village shows (Southminster, Tillingham, and Bradwell-on-Sea). Do look us up and say hello!

With all best wishes from your DHBUG Committee Members

**St Lawrence WI**

Numbers at the July meeting were slightly down from usual - there must be some football fans among the members!  However, it was a good evening, with a very interesting talk by Keith Sargeant, a retired Fire Officer, on his time in the Fire Service. He started in Shoreditch after 16 weeks training, and served in other areas of London. He showed us some graphic photos of major fires. After the break came the business. Our President said it had been decided not to run a Fete this year, but instead have some stalls at the Village Fete on 25th August. There would be a cake stall, bric-a-brac and jewellery stalls. Members were asked for donations, also help on the day. Pennies for Friendship competition was,’ An Item you would Save in a Fire’ and was won by Elaine, with a photo of her dog. The overall winner for the year was Val Stone, who was presented with the silver salver