

BOOKMARKS

**Our Meeting on
14th October 2017**

**Research of the
History of Great
Wakering Rovers**

**Bombs dropped on
Barling during
World War One**

**Great Wakering
School Class 1953**

**Great Wakering
Rovers 1967**

**Station 23 Great
Wakering - Essex
County Fire
Brigade**

**Extracts from the
Barling School Log
Books (1901 -
1951)**

**Great Wakering
Sports and
Activity Centre**

Website Statistics

Contacts

Reunion Lunches

A group of us meet for lunch every few months to catch up on news, socialise and plan the main reunion events. We meet at the:

Castle Inn, Little Wakering
Our Next Lunchtime Get-together
Saturday 13th January 2018
12.15 p.m.

Anyone with an interest in our school or area will receive a warm welcome.

Foreword by Richard Kirton

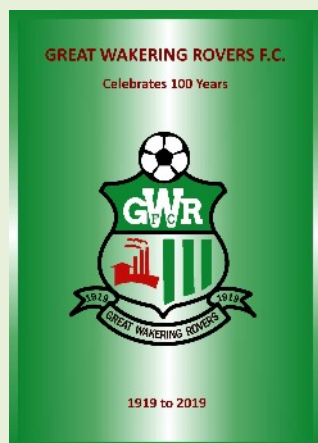
I hope that you all had a very enjoyable summer and are looking forward to wintry nights as we approach Christmas. I have been extremely fortunate with this edition in having a contribution from Ken Moore, ex - fireman and Local Fire Service Historian. Ken has produced an excellent article titled '**Station 23 Great Wakering - Essex County Fire Brigade**' which will appear in his own historic record of Hawkwell Fire Station. In due course, the article will be available to view in the Hockley Library, Essex Record Office and the Essex Fire Museum.

In addition, Mr Roger E Nixon, a 75 year old enthusiastic family and social historian born in Walthamstow, has contributed an article titled '**Bombs dropped on Barling during World War I**'. His article is based on extracts from his friend Ian Castle's website titled "**Zeppelin Raids, Gothas and 'Giants' - Britain's First Blitz 1914 -1918**". His website address is:
<http://www.iancastlezeppelin.co.uk/>

Our Meeting at the Castle Inn on 14th October 2017

Just under 40 of us packed out the dining-room at The Castle on Saturday October 14th. People had come from as far away as Rendlesham (Suffolk), Harlow and south London and from as close as Little Wakering Road. We received messages of greetings and goodwill from Tony Alps (Australia) and Geoff Bell (South Africa), both of which were much appreciated. We were sad to learn of the recent illnesses of Harold Day, Beryl (Claydon) Mills, Les Attridge and Betty (Deadman) Dobson and hope that they are better soon. There was a constant high level of conversation during our three-hour lunchtime, indicating that a very sociable time was being had. David Bailey, for whose work we are always grateful, reported that our finances are healthy. It seems that we have a reserve that could be used for an appropriate local cause, just as we spent money earlier this year on having one of the Old School's admission registers rebound. Our next session is at The Castle at 12.15 on Saturday January 13th 2018. Anyone with an interest in our school or the villages is very welcome to come and join us. Meanwhile, I should like to wish a Happy Xmas and a fulfilling 2018 to all.

Research of the History of Great Wakering Rovers



In 2019, Great Wakering Rovers will celebrate 100 years of football and I am working on a small article covering the history of the club for the benefit of our members, friends and residents of the Barling and Wakering Villages.

I will be drawing on the experience of Roger Burroughs, Jim Laird, Roger Sampson, Dawn Beadle, Gordon Butler, Alf Hallums, Phil Adcock and others.

Roger Sampson joined the Southend Minor League of Great Wakering Rovers Football Club as a 15-year-old youth player in September 1958 and in 1960 he started playing for the first team. Such were his talents as a hard, tough defender, who was rumoured to have the hardest kick of a football on the local scene, he was hardly ever out of the first team.

Later in life he trotted out for the Rovers Veterans side and played continuously until he was fifty. "Sambo", as he is known to his friends, was highly regarded and acknowledged as one of the best defenders around at the time. He was a vital cog in the club's everyday existence, working with the utmost efficiency, which of course is Roger's Trademark. Roger resigned as Club Secretary in 2011 and continued working as a groundsman until 2016 and after the arrival of his third grandchild he finally stopped working for the club, having actually been a player for a total of 37 years.

Alf Hallums was treasurer of the club for 18 years and will be 90-years-old on 18 December 2017. He lives at The Mallards in Great Wakering. Whilst talking to Dawn Beadle and Roger Sampson in the lounge of the Mallards on 14 August 2017, Alf joined us in re-living those glorious football days and came up with an original copy of the Rovers' song sheet and several photographs. An instruction on the song sheet stated 'to be sung to the tune Clementine'.

Dawn Beadle was the wife of Barry Beadle, who died suddenly on 06 October 2003. Barry had a larger than life personality with a true character in every sense of the word. He was a tireless worker and builder of dreams and always believed in those that worked and played for the club.



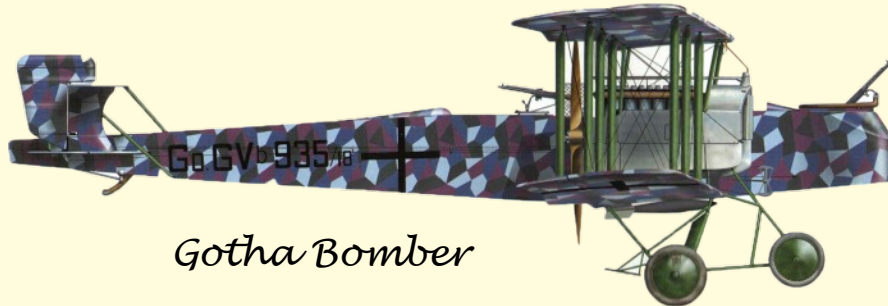
Bombs dropped on Barling during World War One

Contributed by Roger E Nixon

Article based on extracts from his friend Ian Castle's website, titled
"Zeppelin Raids, Gothas and 'Giants'- Britain's First Blitz 1914 -1918"

<http://www.iancastlezeppelin.co.uk/>

Original Data Source : National Archives, Kew - AIR1/588/16/15/198



Gotha Bomber

Unknown to us all, Roger E Nixon, a 75yr old enthusiastic family and social historian born in Walthamstow just happened across our website whilst checking out something else. He has never lived in our area but was drawn to our article about Sand Pit Cottages in North Shoebury. An old colleague of his, Ian Castle, to whom we are very grateful, runs a website which looks at 'World War One air raids on Britain - the First Blitz'. Ian has posted a more detailed account on his website of the 3rd bombing attempt on London, Essex and Kent on 13th June 1917. Here is the link: <http://www.iancastlezeppelin.co.uk/13-jun-1917/4593903795>.

Roger thought we might like to know that Sand Pit Cottages on the Wakering Road was hit directly or nearby by German high explosive ordnance delivered by a Gotha bomber (like a very large twin engine Tiger Moth!) on 5 June 1917. He is not sure what size the bombs would have been but did not think that they were bigger than 50 kgs and might have been as small as 5kgs. Roger also noticed that another High Explosive Bomb impacted on Barling on 13 June 1917 which did not detonate. The exact location is not known but Roger thinks that neither this bomb or the Sand Pit Cottages one was bigger than 50 kgs but might have been as small as 5 kgs. This drop on Barling was also delivered by a German Gotha bomber.

The Gotha was a long-range heavy bomber of sufficiently advanced design and used by the Luft-streitkräfte (Imperial German Air Service) during World War I to terrorize the people of London. Significantly, it was not available until the early spring of 1917 and with its two engines and irregular patch lozenge camouflage, the Gotha was used on night bombing raids. It had a wheel mounted under the nose to prevent nosing over on landing, previously a frequent occurrence among Gothas returning from night bombing missions. The Gotha was capable of flying at 81 mph and had three crew including a rear gunner who was able to fire down *through* the fuselage, and it could carry six 200 lb bombs.

Note on World War Two

Barling School suffered Air Damage during World War Two at 2.35 a.m. on 14th August 1943, when an enemy plane dropped a high explosive bomb in the School playing fields, 20 yards from the School House (South). A huge crater was formed 50 feet diameter and more than 20 feet deep. The Cookery Shed was demolished and one Air Raid shelter was badly cracked and had to be knocked down. This was recorded in the article 'Extracts from the Barling School Log Books (1901-1950) - *Some Wartime Accidents and Some Deliberate Damage*', by Peter Griffiths further on in this edition of 'Small Beginnings'.

Great Wakering School Class 1953

Year 8 - Mr Fred Scott

Contributed by Dawn Bailey



BACK ROW

1 Bill Symonds 2 Terry Poulton 3 Mike Todd 4 Brian Everett 5 Dave Armstrong 6 Pete Swain 7 Pete Brudenell (B) 8 Geoff Rayment 9 Brian Dilliway 10 John Mortimer

3rd ROW

1 Teacher Fred Scott 2 Walter Layzell 3 Brian Stow 4 Terry Outten 5 Trevor French 6 Audrey Liston 7 Gillian Brooks 8 Brenda Hutton 9 Maureen Abrey (B) 10 Coral Skinsley 11 Maureen Siddons

2nd ROW

1 Les Esler 2 Roy Little (B) 3 Peter Goose 4 Heather Shinn (F1) 5 Sylvia Stock 6 Ruth Tidmarsh 7 Barbara Bush (B) 8 Barbara Smith (B) 9 Gillian Bryant 10 Valerie Hartley 11 Eunice Butler

FRONT ROW

Jack Chapman (B) 2 Tony Walker

Note

(B) From Barling School

(FI) From Foulness Island School

The original photo, shown above, appears on the old website but several of the names are wrong or missing. There have been problems identifying everyone in this class but David Armstrong, who gave me all of the names, was in the class and is now confident that his names are correct. The photo and names have been posted on our Barling & Wakering Villages Plus website .

Great Waking Rovers 1967

Contributed by Roger Burroughs and Dawn Bailey



Roger Burroughs has confirmed all of the names in the above photograph of Great Waking Rovers in 1967 and has added the Back Row No 9. He still does not know the name of the Middle Row No 10 which is the last missing name. The photo and names have been posted on our Barling & Waking Villages Plus website and hopefully at some later date someone will identify him.

BACK ROW

1 Basil Gay * 2 John Stoten * 3 Maurice Waterhouse * 4 Charlie Key * Terry Baker
6 Brian Everett * 7 Alan Key * 8 Eddy Ellis * 9 Ken Turvey * 10 Mike Burles

MIDDLE ROW

1 Alf Cornwell * 2 Jim Padbury (Trainer) * 3 Derek Everett * 4 Kenny Ellis
5 Phil Green * 6 Barry Burles * 7 Roger Sampson * 8 Les Stubbs * 9 Graham Randall
10 ? * 11 Peter Dawson

FRONT ROW

1 Peter Thorpe * 2 Roger Burroughs * 3 Danny Baynes * 4 Tony Thorpe * 5 Barry Beadle
6 Freddy Smith * 7 George Hallums * 8 Michael Clift * 9 Brian Cox

Station 23 Great Waking - Essex County Fire Brigade

Article by Ken Moore, ex - fireman & Local Fire Service Historian

A step back in time when there was a Fire Station in Great Waking. In 1938 an Act of Parliament moved the responsibility for fire fighting from the Parish Council to the District Council. Rochford



Rural District Council wrote to Great Waking Parish Council to enquire as to the details of their fire-fighting equipment and personnel, leading us to believe some fire-fighting existed in the village before that date, other than the basic fire buckets. No reply from Great Waking was received, so the Rural District Council assumed no equipment belonging to their fire brigade remained. The future plan for the Rural District was to build three new stations: one in Rochford to accommodate two full-time firemen and two sub-stations, one in

Hockley and one in Great Waking. These would be staffed by two officers and ten firemen. In January 1939 the newly-formed Rochford Rural District Council Fire Brigade came into being under the command of Chief Officer Arthur Chapman. Councillor Chapman was a retired London Fireman, Vice Chairman of Rochford Parish Council and Councillor on the Rural District Council. *Picture above is the crew and appliance when the station first opened as a Sub-Station of Rochford Rural District Fire Brigade. Names of those known are: (top-row) Rob Pool, George Walker and Alf Butler; (middle-row) George Bradley, Cyril Bright, Harold Key and Bob Cooper.* During the Summer of 1941 every fire station in the UK became part of the National Fire Service until de-nationalisation on the 1st April 1948, when Essex County Fire Brigade took control of all but three stations in Essex: Southend-on-Sea, Leigh-on-Sea and Shoebury.



Picture above taken at Great Waking Fire Station during the National Fire Service days.

Names of the fireman in the National Fire Service picture, supplied by Roy Richards, are as follows from left to right: (back-row) George Stow, Bob Sterry, Ernie Harrington, Fred Thorp, unknown

fireman and Richard Burgess; (middle-row) Fireman Trust, Arthur Wiseman, unknown fireman, unknown fireman, George Bradley, Tom Ebbs, Albert Watson, Bob Cooper, George Walker and John Whale; (front-row) Lice Elden, Fireman Spooner, Fireman Hayward, Rob Pool, unknown Officer, unknown Officer, Stan Millbank, George Moss and Fireman Butler. It's possible where Rob Pool is sitting he would be Section Leader Rob Pool, and Fireman Hayward and Millbank were Leading Firemen.



1955 picture of Great Waking Firemen attending the children's Christmas party.

This article has been put together with the help and pictures from Roy Richards from Great Waking, the youngest member of the final Great Waking crew. Roy is standing on the left at the back of the picture above, taken at the children's Christmas Party in 1955. Next to him is Fireman James ? John Knight, Les Poole, Jim Smith, Leading Fireman Eric Smith. In the front row are Fireman George Moss, Alf Thorogood, Leading Fireman Nutty Caine (who would take command of the station for the last few months), Sub Officer Rob Poole and Divisional Officer Jones. Not long after the party photograph was taken, on May 31st 1957, Great Waking Fire Station closed down for good. Insets in the main picture are two of the members of the crew not in the photo: (left) Leading Fireman George Bradley and (right) Fireman George Walker.



Great Waking Fire Station taken in 2011

Extracts from the Barling School Log Books (1901-1950)

Some Wartime Accidents and Some Deliberate Damage

Article by Peter Griffiths

1941 June 23rd Accident Leslie Attridge, practising High Jump (during dinner hour), fell and broke a bone in left wrist. Dr Charlotte first dressing at surgery. Later Southend Hospital.

1941 June 26th Accident Laurence Street. Climbing on iron fence, which was resting against another, pulled the railing over on top of him. Wound in left leg. Dr would not attend. Boy had to be taken to him. Later taken by ambulance to Southend Hospital. Compound Fracture. School accepts no responsibility as all children had been forbidden to play on or near the bridge.

March 8th 44 . . . Roy Richards, a boy in Standard IV, suffered a split lip as the result of being struck accidentally by a cricket bat during the afternoon break.

1943 August 14th

Air Raid Damage At 2.35 A.M. on Tuesday August 14th an enemy plane dropped a high explosive of heavy calibre in the School playing fields, 20 yards from School House (South). A huge crater was formed 50 feet diameter - more than 20 feet deep. The Cookery Shed was demolished. One Air Raid shelter was badly cracked and had to be knocked down.

School House and School were extensively damaged, mainly roofs, ceilings, windows and window frames. Fortunately, the structure had a remarkable escape.

Detailed list of damage was submitted.

Messrs Adcock & Son, builders, are sparing no effort to get the school in condition for reopening on September 7th.

(PG: It was lucky that this bomb was dropped during the Summer holiday. If it had been during the day in term-time, who knows what horror it would have wrought on adults and children there?)



The Castle Inn, Little Wakering - Meeting Place for our quarterly gatherings

Waking Sports and Activity Centre

In September 2011, Great Waking Sports Centre closed, leaving the community with no access to sports facilities. Now, great new sporting opportunities have been created at Great Waking Primary School, thanks to a National Lottery Award. Awards in excess of £72,000 have funded improvements to the school's sports hall, including a sprung floor.

A climbing wall has been added and outside existing hard areas have been converted to provide two floodlit ball courts. The sports pavilion has been refurbished with new changing room and showers. You may know of some groups of people in the village who could benefit from all of the activities on offer. There are also other great facilities including:



- Badminton Court £10 per hour
- School Hall from £20 per hour
- Netball Court / Playground from £10 per hour
- Field / Football Pitches (5,7,9 a-side pitch sizes) from £10 per hour
- Climbing Wall (own instructors) from £25 per hour
- Bouncy Castle Parties £100 for 2 hours
- Climbing Wall Parties from £130 for 2 hours

All parties have the use of the Dining Hall with tables and chairs for their own refreshments.

Telephone: 0770 859 2013

Email: sports@greatwaking.essex.sch.uk

Richard Kirton

Website Statistics Report

As you can see from the report below, first time visits are still higher than returning visits. All of the averages have increased since last reported here and it looks as though there was not much on the TV last Wednesday, since pageloads were high. The Website Statistics Report is automatically generated on a weekly basis and is still a valuable tool.

Weekly Stats Report Summary: 09 October 2017 - 15 October 2017

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Total	Avg
Pageloads	25	22	208	19	26	28	43	371	53
Unique Visits	24	12	39	14	13	17	17	136	19
First Time Visits	23	11	30	9	12	12	12	109	16
Returning Visits	1	1	9	5	1	5	5	27	4

Richard Kirton

Villages Websites

Our new website - Barling and Wakering Villages Plus - is expanding all the time, as site-manager Richard Kirton adds new photos frequently. If you have any pictures showing people or places in the area, please do get in touch. We would love to add them to the thousands already there.

It is easy to get from the new site to the old one and vice-versa.

The new one can be reached here:

<http://www.barlingwakeringvillages.co.uk/plus/index.html>

The Original Website can be reached here:

<http://www.barlingwakeringvillages.co.uk/index.html>

Peter Griffiths

Situations Vacant

We are still looking for a volunteer (or more) to edit our newsletter. It has been suggested that the job could be split, with one person being responsible for content and another for layout. So, if you would like to help, please don't be shy in offering your services, even if only for one or two editions.

Peter Griffiths

***Please share
your stories
and
experiences
with our
members. They
will be
delighted to
hear them.***

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