

*Familiar Buildings continued*

After the consecration of St Michael and All Angels in 1873, the Chapel of Ease ceased to be used for divine services and Sunday school and the building became a School pure and simple.

During the early decades of the twentieth century there were considerable alterations and improvements to the building to bring it up to a suitable standard. In 1935 two new classrooms were added, these were paid for by Mrs Keene. After the Second World War as the population of the village began to grow, the School was becoming seriously overcrowded. In 1950 it was agreed that Keene Hall could also be used and in 1963 two demountable classrooms were provided in the small playground. As was noted in the last *Past Times* the School was also used as a Public Library

However, there were now plans for two new Schools in the village and in September 1966 the new County Infants School in Barnard Road opened, followed a year later by St Michael's Church of England Junior School, which was used as a place of worship on Sundays – a rather apt reminder of old The Chapel of Ease of yesteryear.

It is quite obvious that this old building holds memories for many present Galleywood residents and their children.

## News from the Heritage Centre

DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS there has been an increasing number of visitors to the Centre and the Heritage Room. Having attended in the Heritage Room on a couple of occasions, I found it fascinating to see how the display of photograph albums evoked so many old memories for the visitors.

But perhaps even more rewarding has been the number of Societies and Groups from the area visiting en bloc, largely because of the effort of Phil Walters. These Groups are guided around the Common by Christine and Les Whybro, before returning to the Centre for tea and cakes; these two most knowledgeable and admirable 'guides' thoroughly deserve our thanks.

There is a new display in the Heritage Room entitled '*Notable Residents of Galleywood*' and it will be open for viewing from 6th September until 25th October. Markland Barnard, noted earlier, will feature in the display.

Also a new display '*The Home in Wartime*' is planned for November, it will relate to bombing, the Home Guard, the Land Army, evacuees etc. Wendy Cummin would be pleased to receive any contributions from members, especially photographs.

### GALLEYWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**President** Ted Hawkins

**Chairman** Graham Mundy **Vice Chairman** Colin Baddock

**Secretary** (post vacant) **Treasurer** Ken Edwards

**Programme Director** Ted Hawkins

**Committee** Madeleine Howard Graham Smith

Comments or contributions to this Newsletter would be welcomed by the editor  
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# PAST TIMES

GALLEYWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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www.essexinfo.net/galleywoodhistoricalsociety

## On the street where you live

**T**HERE are a number of roads in Galleywood that are named after previous notable Village residents, of which I suppose that *Keene Way* and *Pyms Road* are the best known. But should you live in either *Barnard Road* or *Markland Close*, you might be unaware that their names provide a direct link to another Galleywood resident of yesteryear – Markland Barnard.

He was born in 1832 in Colney, Hertfordshire and was the son of the Reverend Markland Barnard and his wife, Emma Terry Gwynne. He entered the Army and he was later appointed a Gentleman-at-Arms to Queen Victoria. The Barnard family had been associated with The Mercer's Company for fourteen generations; The Mercer's Company is one of the oldest and premier Livery Companies in London.

Certainly by 1881 Markland Barnard and his wife were living in Galleywood at Galley Dean (or originally 'Galleydene') which is clearly shown on a 1876 map as being situated on Watchouse Road to the right on the way to Great Baddow, virtually opposite the present Jubilee Park. In 1916 the size of the land was estimated at seventeen acres. Markland Barnard had soon become a highly respected member of the community; he took a very keen interest in village affairs. He was appointed the President of the newly-founded Cottage Garden Society (the forerunner of the present Horticultural Society), as well as the Football Club. He was always ready to donate generously to every worthy village cause and was also a most devout churchman, who paid for the chancel decoration in Chelmsford Cathedral in 1904.

It is also believed that in June 1919 he was instrumental in providing a 'Welcome Home Dinner' for all those Galleywood men, who had served in the war. Their wives and children were entertained at a special tea, as were all schoolchildren.

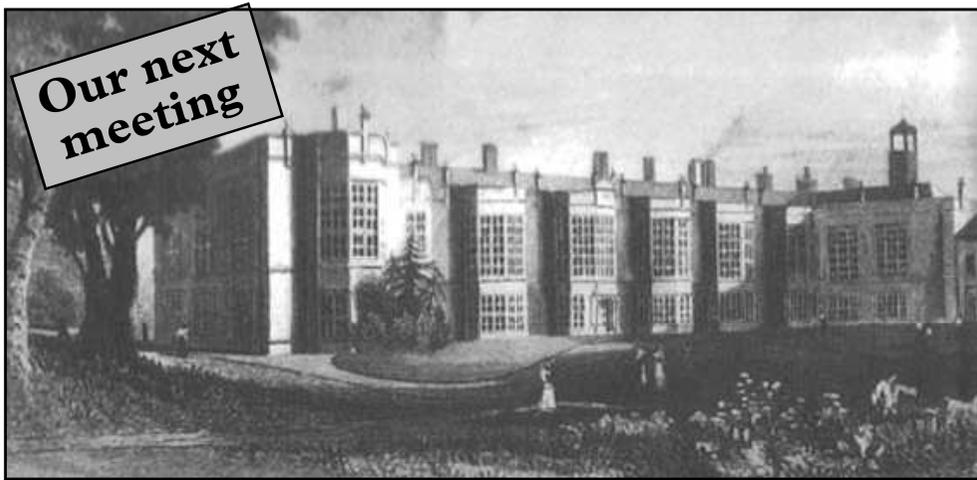
Markland Barnard died in 1924 at the grand old age of ninety-one years and was buried in St Mary's churchyard, Great Baddow. Of the many tributes that were paid to him, one, I am sure, would have pleased him: '*He never sought publicity. He lived the quiet, honourable life of a real old country gentleman.*'

This is surely a very fitting epitaph for such a generous gentleman? At least some eighty years later his name still has some resonance in the village.

I am greatly indebted to Wendy Cummin for all the information about this '*real old country gentleman*'.



*Courtesy of The Mercer's Company*



Picture from Essex Record Office

# NEW HALL and its School

*A talk by Tony Tuckwell*

Tony Tuckwell, M.A (Oxon), MBA and DipEd. is a Governor of New Hall School Trust. He has had a long and successful teaching career in various parts of the country and from 2000 to 2009 he was the Headmaster of King Edward VI Grammar School at Chelmsford. He has also written two books – *A History of King Edward VI School 1511- 2008* and *New Hall and its School*. Considering that New Hall is one of the finest Tudor buildings in the County, with a long and fascinating history, I am sure that we are in for a most interesting and informative talk.

**Wednesday 14 September 2011**  
**Keene Hall Watchouse Road at 8 pm**

## DATES for your Diary

- 2011**  
**16 Nov** CRIME & PUNISHMENT IN ESSEX  
OVER THE CENTURIES *Talk by Graham Smith*  
Annual General Meeting
- 2012** HOW THE ROADS CAME TO CHELMSFORD  
*Talk by Malcolm Stuart*

## Familiar Buildings Around The Village

THE 'OLD SCHOOL' at The Eagle crossroads is one of the older buildings in the village. Most, if not all, of our members are well aware that before it became used as a Youth Centre, it was the 'old Galleywood School'. However, that was not the original intention of the building but rather as 'A Chapel of Ease', which has been defined as 'an offshoot of a parish church, built to provide accommodation for remote parishioners.' In the 1830s the Rev. J. Bramston of St Mary's, Great Baddow appeared to be concerned about the spiritual welfare of the hamlet, '*...the demoralizing effects of the races, which are held annually, many persons of loose and irregular habits are often tempted to make this place their residence to be out of the way of restraint or observation.*'!



'THE CHAPEL OF EASE' from the Archives of the Heritage Room

Thus it was that during 1837 to 1838 the building was erected on land donated by the Lord of the Manor. The red-brick building, which measured fifty feet by thirty feet, was provided with a porch on the western side and 'a small Gothic tower at the end, in which a bell has been hung.' The total cost amounted to £772 0s 5d to be funded by public subscription. The building had been licensed for religious worship by the Bishop of London and the first divine service was held in April 1838.

As the building would only be used on Sundays, it was decided to move the schoolchildren from a house along the Common to the new Chapel of Ease because this 'old schoolhouse' had become too overcrowded and the Chapel could accommodate up to ninety children.

The first Head Teacher was Miss Sarah Grutchfield, who was not only paid an annual salary of £19 11s but was also provided with a small house that was built in the grounds, (it can be seen in the far left of the photograph, but it has now been long since demolished).

Each pupil was required to pay 1d per week, and these 'Penny Schools', as they became known could be found in many villages throughout Essex. By 1868 the number of children had increased to one hundred and forty-four. Two years later under the new Education Act, the school became a National School, in other words the local ratepayers became responsible for its upkeep, although it was still considered a Church of England School.

*Continued overleaf*