



## All Saints Church Hall, Clayhill Road, Vange, Essex.



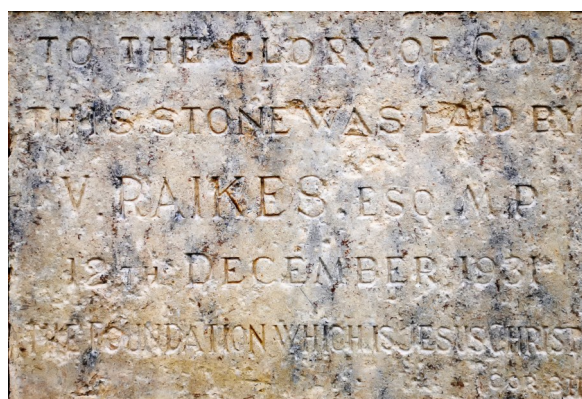
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Alan Cox 2022

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# All Saints Church Hall, Clayhill Road, Vange, Essex.



Foundation stones of the new mission church attached to All Saints, Vange, were laid by Bishop of Chelmsford and Mr Victor Raikes MP. The building will cost £1,110. Mr Raikes said he believed it was going to be of tremendous religious assistance. And hoped that the building would cater for the religious education of children.

*Chelmsford Chronicle 18th December 1931*



**A piece of land** was secured right in the centre of the village, almost at the junction of High Road and Timberlog Lane, from Mr William Annereau, at the cost £60. Here a fine Hall, measuring 30 feet wide by over 100feet long, was built of steel and brick by Mr A. P. Hedges, a contractor from Bowers Gifford according to the plans of Mr R. D. C. Baxter, architect , of Vange, during the incumbency of the Rev W. A. Lamb, at the cost of £1,325. The Foundation stones were laid by the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford, Dr H. A Wilson, and Victor Raikes, Esq, MP, on December 12th 1931, and opened by Dr H. A. Wilson on February 27th 1932. The Bishop was accompanied by the Rector of Vange, Rev W. A. Lamb, Rev S. J. Goldstone, Secretary to the Diocesan Finance Board, Rev W. C. Brown, Rural Dean, the rector of Pitsea, Rev E. W. Grevatt, Rev J. S. Bryers, Rector of Bowers Gifford, Rev Cannon H. R. Finnis, Rector of Nevendon, Mt Stanley M. Barr, Hon Superintendent of Gordon Hall Free Church, Churchwardens, Dr A. Cuffe, Mr F. G. Bessent, and representatives of the Parish Council, the Church Council, Men and Women's section of the British Legion the local Salvation Army Corps, Mother's Union, 1st Pitsea and Vange Scouts and Guides, Vange Church Sunday School, Pitsea and District Horticultural Society, Gordon Hall Free Church, R.A.O.B, and others. The Hall was packed with over 500 people. The Rector, handing the key to the Bishop on the doorstep, invited the Bishop to declare the hall open and to perform the dedication ceremony. Turning the key in the lock and opening the door, the Bishop said, "I pray that God will bless this venture to the eternal welfare of the people of Vange." After the opening hymn there were a few moments of silent pray, after which Psalm 122 ( A song of ascents. Of David) and 126 ( A song of ascents) were read by the Rural Dean. Miss N. Purkiss and Mrs Church sang, "How lovely are thy dwellings O Lord of hosts" and " He shall feed His flock like a shepherd".

The Bishop said he would like to congratulate the Rector and his Church Council and indeed all the people of Vange on the erection and opening of this beautiful Hall. He hoped they would all rally around their new Rector The Saviour said, 'I an come that ye might have life and ye might have it more abundantly.'

Your Rector is here to proclaim this glorious truth. May many here find in Christ this life abundant and go forth to serve Him throughout life.

The Rector thanked the Bishop for his kind presence and words, all the clergy, and representatives for their support, contractor, the architect, electrician (Mr Hickley), and the builders, for they had done well and indeed all who had helped to make this ceremony such a success, to Miss Brown, for the lovely stained glass window, to the Mother's Union for gifts of clock and pictures, ect. S.P.C.. for prayer books, ect, and last but by no means least, the Diocesan Fund, who had given £400 towards the Building Fund and lent £200 more, and incorporated Church Building Society £50, and others.

He said he had a message to deliver to the people of Vange, namely, Christ and Him crucified'. Mr Stanley M Barr welcomed the Bishop, Rector, Mrs Lamb and daughter to the parish, and said he and his people at the Gordon Hall would pray that their work would be a great success.



Opposite The Opening of All Saints Church Hall

In 1933 the first confirmation service for nearly 40 years was held by the Bishop of Barking,  
Dr T. Inskip, when 16 candidates were presented by the Rector.

All Saints Church Hall was built in 1931 by A P Hedges who lived at Walnut Cottage, Bowers Gifford,  
Essex. (J Darcy).

Geoff Baxter : when my dad Robert D C Baxter was asked to draw up the plans for the  
hall he was told, that the floor area should be big enough for two Badminton courts. I don't know who  
authorized that.

And over the years it was well used by the community for a variety activities.



1930's? The children on the steps of All Saints church hall, TimberLog Lane, Vange, Essex.  
Which was used as a overflow school when the Board school was over crowded.

From Vange Council School log book:

30th January 1933 The new temporary school at the Church Hall Vange, was  
opened this morning and 87 infants were sent there from this school.



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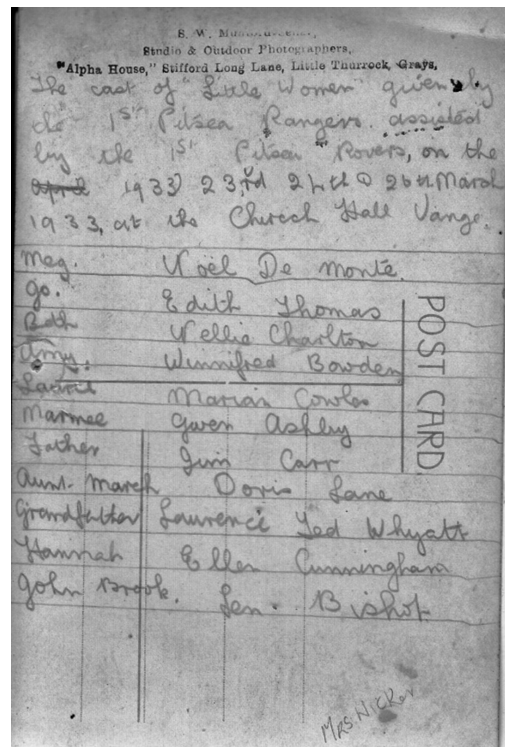
Taken from Vange Parish and Church History by Rev J. W. Hayes.

Vange Church roof Restoration fund.

## Little Women 1933



On 23rd—26th March 1933 At the Church Hall Vange, a play was held called  
Little Women and was presented by 1st Pitsea Rangers (assisted by 1st Pitsea &  
Vange Rovers). Amongst the cast was Edith Thomas and Len Bishop.



Signed Mrs Wicker

Like most Villages Vange still had some crime .

#### POLICE NEWS

From the Church Hall.— Two local boy's were charged with stealing 5 shillings from the All saints Church Hall—The Rector of Vange asked the Bench leniently with the boys, Who, he thought, had given way to a sudden wave of temptation. They were members of his club, and he would be pleased to do anything he could to help them. They were given Probation for two years.

*Essex Newsman 4th March 1933.*

## Vange

CHAPEL OPENED:- A portion of the Parish Hall has been transformed into a chapel capable of holding about 70 people. On Wednesday evening the chapel, which has been named after St Paul, was opened by the Bishop of Chelmsford. Service was conducted by the rector J B Gordon, and the lesson was read by the Rev W H Finney (father-in-law of the rector) The Bishop congratulated the members of the church on the way they had devised the chapel.

*Chelmsford Chronicle July 1939*



## St Pauls Church youth Group



*Basildon Recorder 15<sup>th</sup> June 1955.*

Members and friends of St Pauls Church youth club, held a social and dance in the church hall to raise funds for a new church in Vange.

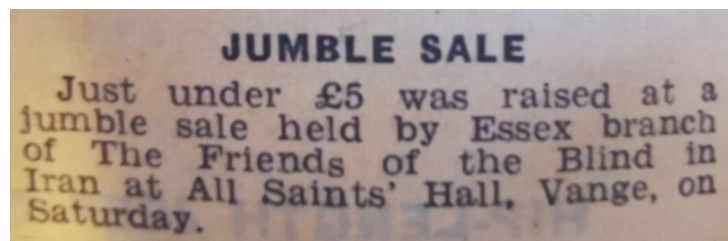


*Basildon Standard 21st January 1956*



*Basildon Standard 13<sup>th</sup> October 1954*

Intent faces as these O.A.P, with relatives and friends, were watching a concert on Saturday Vange, in aid of their funds



*Basildon Standard October 1961*

## Pitsea & Vange Guide Party

A Large increase in the membership of the 1st Pitsea and Vange Girl Guide Company was evident at Vange Church Hall on Saturday, when 27 girls enjoyed their annual party. guests at the party were Miss T Acutt, captain of the second Pitsea company and Miss M Nixon, "Brown Owl" of the 2nd Fobbing Brownie pack. The girls had games and tea prepared by the company officers.

*Basildon Recorder 26th January 1955*





Laindon, Basildon and District cage bird society held there "Nest Feather" show on Saturday at Vange Church Hall. Some of the visitors and officials are seen admiring the exhibits.

*Basildon Standard 12th June 1954*



It is still pantomime Time in the New Town, and here is the chorus line in "Dick Whittington" presented by St John Glee party at St Paul's Church hall, Vange. And on Saturday gave their final performance to a packed audience. The proceeds, amounting to £14 were in aid of the St. John's Ambulance Cadet Division (Vange). The party members were thanked for their splendid show By the Area Divisional Superintendent (Mr Clark). Mrs K Prudence was the pianist.

*Basildon Standard 20th February 1954*



## From the Vange Primary School log books

21st December 1953 The school recorder band attended St Pauls Church to take part in the carol service.

2nd February class I with Mr Pickering moved to Church Hall, Miss Webb commenced duties at the Church hall class II with Mr Godber.

It must be recorded that the Church Hall was found to be unprepared for the reception of the children and the Church furniture had to be moved to the stage.

### UP TO THEIR EYES IN MUD NO MORE

The "overflow" from Vange Primary School—children who cannot be accommodated on the already overcrowded school premises—have been attending school at Vange Church Hall, where temporary classes have been set up.

They have also been using the field alongside the hall as a playground.

Often they would go home covered in mud. However, all that is to stop now, for a fence is being erected between the field and the hall.

In addition, a concrete path is being laid for the children to use instead of a muddy way which they have been using.

*Basildon Standard January 1954*

### VANGE O.A.P.

Members of Vange O.A.P. held their annual meeting at All Saints' Hall on Friday week. Officers elected: Mrs. E. Ling (Chairman), Mrs. E. Cook (Vice-Chairman), Mrs. E. Halfhead (Minute Secretary), Mrs. M. Whitehead (Social Secretary), Mrs. Johnstone (Secretary), Mr. Johnstone (Treasurer) and Mrs. Weston, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Perkins, Mrs. Eldridge (Tea Hostesses). Members were entertained by Mrs. Rigley, from Grays, with solos and community singing. Gifts were received from Mrs. Sharp (£1) and Mrs. Gardiner (10s.).

*Basildon Standard 16th December 1961*

### Fish supper

ABOUT 40 boys and their leaders were at All Saints' Hall, Vange, on Tues a evening, when St. Chad's Boys' Club held a fish and chip supper. Twelve of the boys were dressed as tramps. After the meal the boys enjoyed party games.

*Basildon Standard 16th December 1961*

### YOUNG WIVES BUSY

The Young Wives' Group attached to St. Paul's Church, Vange, had an evening of square dancing last week, and on Thursday, this week they met with the idea of forming a dramatic group.

*Basildon Standard November 1954*





*Basildon Standard 14th January 1956*

Panto outing' Off to the Pantomime "Puss in Boots" at Southend, these boy's and girl's were photographed outside St Paul's Hall Vange, on Saturday.

## Vange Sunday School Party



*Basildon Standard 2nd February 1955*

More than 60 children attended a Sunday School party for senior scholars at St Paul's Church Hall, Vange. Entertainment was provided by conjuror John Robinson and at the end of the party each child was presented with a small gift.





Singing a rousing chorus when 1st Pitsea and Vange Girl Guide Company's New Year party was held on Friday week at St Paul's Hall.

*Basildon Standard February 1958*



Pitsea and Vange St John Ambulance Brigade Cadets held their annual party at Vange Church Hall on Saturday. Our picture shows some of the cadets.

*Basildon Standard February 1964*





## NEW USE FOR MATCHBOXES

St John Ambulance Brigade held their Christmas bazaar at St Chad's Hall, Vange, on Saturday. Mr R Peall was in charge of the matchbox game, and his two attractive customers were nurses K Munday and S Taylor.

Below: nursing cadets had their President (Mr Howard Pembroke) to give them a hand on their stall.

*Standard Recorder December 1967*







The senior Sunday School and choir of St Chadd's Church, Vange, with organisers and helpers at the annual party in the Church Hall on Saturday.

*Standard Recorder February 1968*



At the 4th Basildon Girl's Brigade's meeting on Monday Lieut J Stock presented Capt. P. Winyard with a cheque to mark her departure after seven year's with the St Paul's Hall Company.

*Basildon Standard April 1969*



Remember going to the church bazaars there. Dad also gave some silent film shows there in the early Fifties. I also remember Dad & I going to a concert with the local magician , Alan Goodall.  
(John Seager)

The Reverend Moorehouse had this hall in use at his time of tenure. Youth club . Harvest suppers and jumble sales etc. (J. Farrier)



I remember jumble sales in the hall in the 70s. (T. Daffern)

Went to Sunday School there early 50's. My Mum used to run events there for the local OAP's and all the Christmas Bazaars lots of happy memories of like in old Vange.( G.Evans).

Went to school in there about 1950 as Vange school was full, kept our coats on all day as it was perishing in there, were only there for about a term then back to main school, Mr and Mrs Scorer were heads. (C.Davis).

Great memories. I was the Leader of 1st Pitsea & Vange Guide Company that met in the hall is St. Paul's - 1956 - 1960. (S. Watts).

Me and my sister went to ballet classes there late 60's early 70's, my daughters went there for Rainbows, Brownies and Guides late 90's. (G. Rust).

## VANGE BOOKLETS

All Saints Church Hall 1931 £2.10  
Barges at Vange Wharf £2.10  
Cashes Well No5 £2.10  
John (Paddy) Hemingway £1.50  
The Barge Inn 1832 – 2015 £2.50  
The Bull Public House 1878— 1961 £1.50  
The Vange Crystal Well £1.50  
Vange Board School 1876 £5.80  
Vange Fire Station 1934 – 1962 £3.90  
Vange Hall Brick Works 1886—1921 £3.30  
Vange Reservoir & Southend Water Company £2.00  
Vange Swimming Pool 1933-1952 £2.00  
The Shops of Vange London Road & High Road £5.00  
The 1st Pitsea and Vange Scouts 1913—1970 £4.50  
3rd Battalion Essex Home Guard. Vange and Pitsea. £2.80  
Royal Observer Corps, Monitoring Post, Vange, Essex. £2.10

## BASILDON BOOKLET

Locarno Mecca Dancing £6.00 1961 - 1971

## PITSEA BOOKLETS

W. J. Wager Dairies £1.50  
Tuskite Works Pitsea Hall Lane £1.50  
Broadway Cinema 1930—1970 £3.00  
Pitsea United 1909—1971 £8.70  
The Old Pitsea Market 1924—1969 £2.60





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Monday & Wednesday's 10am—12pm

Saturdays 10am—3pm