



Vange Board School 1876



54 Pages

£5.80

Vange Board School 1876



Vange Primary
School
Is the oldest school
still in use in the
Borough



Vange Primary
and
Nursery School
2021

Education in Vange

Reports and returns on schools and education in Vange. These allow a glimpse into the education your ancestors may have received if they were from this parish.

1818

"Population 138. A woman has lately begun to keep a little school. The poorer classes are without the means of education."

A seraphine (wind instrument having a keyboard, wind-chest and bellows) accompanied the singing. Funds were difficult to procure; the Rector stated "a narrow and grudging spirit prevailed in the parish."

Few adults in Vange could read or write in 1839, according to a Diocesan return about provision of education for the poor. There was only a Sunday school where 18 boys and 12 girls were taught in the church.

The Rectors of Vange were the pioneers of both religious and secular education in the village and for many years the children met in the 'Old School Room' by the Rectory gate. Referred to as the church school at Rectory Cottages, The cottages are still there today 2022

In 1833 All Saints Sunday schools.

"Population 165. One Sunday School, of 29 males and 11 females (commenced 1838) is supported by an annual salary of £6 10s. of which £5 is paid by the Rector, and the remainder by the parish."

Source: House of Commons papers, Volume 41. Abstract of Education Returns 1833

Church schools

The Church of England and the non-conformist movement both provided elementary education, and both adopted the Lancaster system whereby the brightest pupil taught what he had learned, to a group of fellow-pupils, each of whom in turn passed it on, and so on: tidy and superficially efficient but prone to errors. Nevertheless Joseph Lancaster himself gave 1000 children some grasp of the rudiments, reading, writing and 'reckoning', in this way. The system was replaced by properly trained pupil-teachers in 1846. Both establishments set up teacher training colleges, which gave their graduates the entrance to employment as well-trained, certificated teachers.

Vange Church School 1858

The Church school and house and in Vange had been built in 1858, when Reverend E. Sendell received a grant of land from Sir Charles Smith, Lord of the manor and patron to build a school and two cottages. The school room is the single storey building on the end.(Vange parish records) *Jessie Payne*.



Rectory Cottages single story building on right was the school room.

Church School Mistress. Kelly's Directories

Mrs Turner 1861 & 1867 Census. Mary Turner B 1822 Harlow, Essex. Born Mary More

Cottage	1	Mary Turner	Head	Mar	46	Gardener	Essex Harlow
		Mary	Wife	Mar	36	School Mistress	Essex

Post Office Directory 1871 Mrs Stagg.

1871 Census Mary Ann Sophia Gigney born 1844 Billericay. Essex.

1874 Vacant Kelly's Directories.

1878 Whites Directories Mrs Elmira Elizabeth Stibbard born 1852 Sandon, Essex.

1881 Census Eliza Tunbridge born 1853.

1884 Vacant Kelly's Directories.



We came to live in Vange in 1942 and moved into Rectory cottage which was the first school in Vange. It was an interesting old place on the end wall, scratched in bricks, were the dates and initials of past pupils. The bedroom I shared with one of my sister's was the classroom. Adjacent to this but boarded

over was the cloakroom. Later it was opened up from outside to use as a coal shed. I believe we had the only coal shed in Vange complete with coat hooks

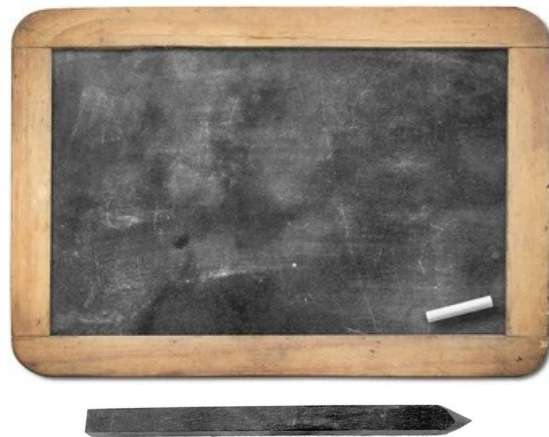
Memories from A Person's life in Vange:

Mrs J R Cartwright.

The Factory Act of 1833, had imposed a duty on employers to provide half-time education for employees under 13. In practice, the Act was easily ignored. The breakthrough came in 1870. Elected school boards could levy a local rate to build new schools providing education up to the age of 10. In 1880 the provision of elementary schooling for both sexes was made compulsory, and the age raised to 13. By 1874 5,000 'Board Schools' were running. Another change in the law enabled grammar schools for girls to be founded and funded. By 1898, 90 such schools had been founded.

History of English education

- Until 1870 all schools were charitable or private institutions, but in that year the Elementary Education Act 1870 permitted local governments to complement the existing elementary schools, to fill up any gaps. The Education Act 1902 allowed local authorities to create secondary schools. The Education Act 1918 abolished fees for elementary schools.





THE THREE R's; OR, BETTER LATE THAN NEVER.

2

A PLAIN READING
OF THE
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACT.
1870

BY
SCOTT DALGLEISH M.A.

London:
JOHN MARSHALL & CO, 42, PATERNOSTER ROW.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

4. The school shall be conducted in accordance with the usual conditions in order to obtain an annual parliamentary grant.

5. No religious catechism or religious formulary, distinctive of any particular denomination, shall be taught in board schools.

Managers.—The school board may transfer the control and management of any school provided by them to a body of managers appointed by them, consisting of not fewer than three persons.

Officers.—The board may appoint a clerk and a treasurer; but two or more boards may arrange to employ the same officers.

Teachers.—With the board also rests the appointment of teachers, who shall hold office only during the pleasure of the board.

Fees.—The fees to be paid by each child are to be fixed by the board, subject to the approval of the Education Department.

May be remitted.—The board may, on a plea of poverty, remit, for not more than six months at a time, the whole or part of the fees.

Maintenance of Schools.—The board is further required to maintain in efficiency every school provided by them, and to extend the accommodation as required. They may also discontinue a school, or change its site, on satisfying the Education Department that this is expedient.

Buildings.—It is also the duty of school boards to provide, by building or otherwise, school houses properly fitted up, to improve or enlarge these when necessary, and to supply apparatus and everything requisite for the efficiency of the schools. They may also purchase land, or take it on lease.

Compulsory Powers of Purchase.—For the purpose of enabling school boards to acquire land for school sites, they are furnished with compulsory powers under "The Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845," and the Acts amending the same. But before putting these powers in force, the board must give due notice in legal form to the owners of the land desired, and must petition the Education Department for authority to act. After consideration and inquiry, the Department may grant the necessary authorization, but this authorization must be confirmed by Act of Parliament. All costs incurred in the process are to be paid out of the school fund. Further, "The School Sites Acts, 1841-1851," are made available for school boards, in the same way as for trustees and managers of schools under these Acts. Land or buildings belonging to the school board may be sold, leased, or exchanged under the provisions of the "Charitable Trusts Acts, 1853-1869," the Education Department taking the place of the Charity Commissioners.

Powers of Managers not Compulsory.—The managers of any elementary school may purchase buildings or land for a school site, under "The Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845," and relative Acts, omitting the clauses which confer compulsory powers.

The 1870 Education Act

In the 1860s the annual funding allocated for schools by Parliament exceeded £800,000. But there was growing pressure for the state to provide schools in areas where none existed. One of the chief stumbling blocks was the vested interests of religious societies. There was conflict of opinion over whether the state should pay for schools run by particular religious denominations, or whether schools should have no association with any denomination.

The 1870 Education Act stands as the very first piece of legislation to deal specifically with the provision of education in Britain. Most importantly, it demonstrated a commitment to provision on a national scale.

The Act allowed voluntary schools to carry on unchanged, but established a system of 'school boards' to build and manage schools in areas where they were needed. The boards were locally elected bodies which drew their funding from the local rates. Unlike the voluntary schools, religious teaching in the board schools was to be 'non-denominational'

More Education Acts

The issue of making education compulsory for children had not been settled by the Act. The 1876 Royal Commission on the Factory Acts recommended that education be made compulsory in order to stop child labour. In 1880 a further Education Act finally made school attendance compulsory between the ages of five and ten, though by the early 1890s attendance within this age group was falling short at 82 per cent.

Many children worked outside school hours - in 1901 the figure was put at 300,000 - and truancy was a major problem due to the fact that parents could not afford to give up income earned by their children.

Fees were also payable until a change in the law in 1891. Further legislation in 1893 extended the age of compulsory attendance to 11, and in 1899 to 12.

Compulsory education was also extended to blind and deaf children under the Elementary Education (Blind and Deaf Children) Act of 1893, which established special schools. Similar provision was made for physically-impaired children in the Elementary Education (Defective and Epileptic Children) Act of 1899.

ESSEX AUDIT DISTRICT.

Elementary Education Act, 1870, 33 and
34 Vic. c. 75.

VANGE SCHOOL BOARD.

I, the undersigned, Geo. H. Brett, Auditor of the above-named District, DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that I have appointed the AUDIT of the ACCOUNTS of the VANGE SCHOOL BOARD for the year ended 29th of Sept. to commence on WEDNESDAY, the 24th day of January, at 12.30 o'clock in the Afternoon, at the Billericay Union Workhouse, when and where all persons who by law are bound to account at such Audit are required to attend, and to submit all Books, Documents, Bills, and Vouchers, containing or relating to such Accounts.

Dated the 15th day of January, 1877.

(Signed)

GEO. H. BRETT,

District Auditor.

Chelmsford Chronicle 19th January 1877

A school board of 5 members was formed 25th April 1874 C C Lewis of Brentwood clerk to the board and attending officer.

Kelly's directories 1894

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACT 1870.

Sections XL., XLI., XLIX., LI.

Notice U. C.

COUNTY OF ESSEX.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS OF PITSEA AND BOWERS GIFFORD.

WITH CONTRIBUTORY DISTRICTS OF NORTH BENFLEET, VANGE, LAINDON, HADLEIGH, PRITTLEWELL, SOUTH BENFLEET, AND SOUTHCHURCH.

WHEREAS the Education Department, in pursuance of the Elementary Education Act, 1870, and after such inquiry as is therein mentioned, are of opinion that it is expedient to unite the Districts of PITSEA and BOWERS GIFFORD, and to make the Districts of NORTH BENFLEET, VANGE, LAINDON, HADLEIGH, PRITTLEWELL, SOUTH BENFLEET, and SOUTHCHURCH, contributory in the manner hereinafter specified: And whereas it is provided that the said Department shall publish such notice, as is hereinafter contained, of their decision as to the Public School accommodation required. Now, therefore, the Lords of the Committee of Council on Education HEREBY GIVE NOTICE as follows:—

- I. They propose to unite the following School Districts, viz.:—The Parishes of PITSEA and BOWERS GIFFORD.
- II. They propose to make the following School District, viz.:—The Parishes of NORTH BENFLEET, VANGE, and LAINDON, in the Union of BILLERICAY, and the Parishes of HADLEIGH, PRITTLEWELL, SOUTH BENFLEET, and SOUTHCHURCH, in the Union of ROCHFORD, contribute to the provision and maintenance of Schools in such proposed United School Districts in respect of the number of children named in the second Schedule to this Notice.
- III. The Schools named in the first Schedule to this Notice are considered to be available for the proposed United District.
- IV. Additional Public School accommodation of the amount and description mentioned in the second schedule to this notice appears to be required.

SCHEDULE I.

	Name and Description.	Situation.	No. of Children accommodated.			
			Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.
(a) School situate in the District.	Bowers Gifford and Pitsea National School.	Bowers Gifford.	60			60
(b) School without the district, but partly available for it.	National School.	North Benfleet.	15			15
			Total 75			

SCHEDULE II.

Amount and description of accommodation required.	Situation.	Particulars.
For 50 children, including 15 from North Benfleet, 7 from South Benfleet, 5 from Prittlewell, 5 from Vange, 5 from Southchurch, 5 from Laindon, and 5 from Hadleigh.	Near Brick-Work Farm, Canvey Island.	If a school for 50 children is alone built on Canvey Island at the site named, no further accommodation will be required, nor will it be necessary to take any further proceedings to make North Benfleet, South Benfleet, Southchurch, Prittlewell, Vange, Laindon, and Hadleigh, contributory districts.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT,
22nd day of January, 1873.

F. R. SANDFORD,

Notice No. 3,728.

Union of BILLERICAY.

Secretary.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACT. 1870.

Section IX.

Final Notice B. F.

COUNTY OF ESSEX.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF VANGE.

WHEREAS the Education Department, in pursuance of the Elementary Education Act, 1870, did, on the 16th day of February 1873, publish a Notice of their decision as to the Public School accommodation required for the above District: And whereas no public inquiry has been directed to be held, and more than a month has elapsed since publication of the said Notice; Now, therefore, the Lords of the Committee of Council on Education HEREBY GIVE FINAL NOTICE as follows:—

- I. The School District is the parish of VANGE.
- II. The School named in the first Schedule to this Notice is considered to be available for such District.
- III. Additional Public School accommodation of the amount and description mentioned in the second Schedule to this Notice appears to be required for the District.
- IV. Their Lordships hereby direct that the Public School accommodation mentioned in the said second Schedule be supplied within a period not exceeding two months from the date of the publication of this Notice.
- V. If at the expiration of such period the Public School accommodation mentioned in the said second Schedule has not been supplied, or is not in course of being supplied with due despatch, their Lordships will cause a School Board to be formed for such School District.

SCHEDULE I.

School without the District, but partly available for it— In course of being supplied.	Name and Description.	Situation.	No. of children accommodated.			
			Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.
	National School.	Canvey Island.	5			5
			Total 5			

SCHEDULE II.

Amount and description of accommodation required.	Situation.	Particulars.
For 30 children.	Vange	If Vange Church of England School is at once enlarged for 10 more children, provided with new offices and placed under a certificated teacher, no further accommodation will be required.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT,
20th day of November 1873.

F. R. SANDFORD,

Secretary.

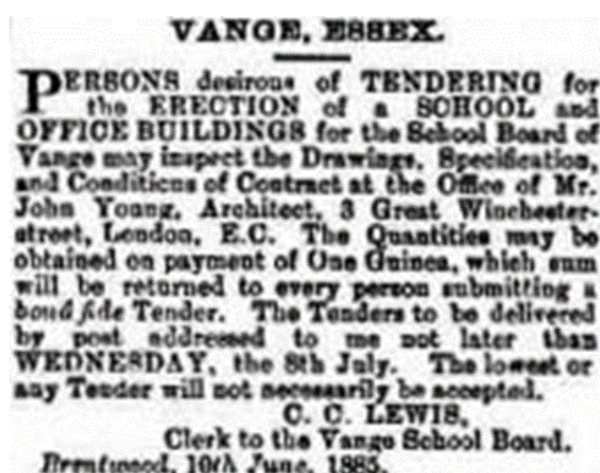
Notice No. 11,239.

Union of BILLERICAY.

Vange Board School 1876

When the board School was built in 1876, it occupied the current school site, but consisted of the small room (current Head teachers room), the big room (staff room/resource room), the porch and cloakrooms (current school office and entrance hall), and boiler house (tall brick structure at the back of the school). There was no school field, but there was a playground surrounding the site.

A board school of five members was formed in 1874 and in 1885 Vange Board school (now the primary school) was built.



Chelmsford Chronicle 28th June 1885

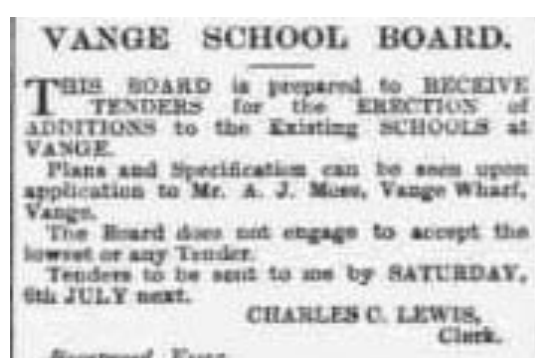
The new school complete with offices was built by Mr. Francis Edward Woodhams of Sutton Street, Southend who submitted the lowest tender earlier in the year. The architect was John Young of 3 Great Winchester Street, London, E.C.2. The school was enlarged in the early 1900s when it became a council school. It is now Vange County Primary School (2021).

Vange Board School

This Board is prepared to Receive Tenders for the Erection of Additions to the Existing Schools at Vange. Plans and specification can be seen upon application to Mr A.J. Moss, Vange Wharf, Vange.

The Board does not engage to accept the lowest or any Tender.

Tenders to be sent to us by Saturday 6th July next.



Chelmsford Chronicle June 1885

Vange Board School in London Road opened. The new school complete with offices was built by Mr. Francis Edward Woodhams of Sutton Street, Southend who submitted the lowest tender earlier in the year. The architect was John Young of 3 Great Winchester Street, London, E.C.2.

Founded in 1876, the school register shows that the first pupil on 26 October 1876 was Edith Williams. At that time the school had two classrooms.

Edith was born in December 1873 in Vange to parents Ephriam and Emma Williams. They lived in Vange till 1891 when they moved to The crooked Billet Inn in Leigh on Sea.

Edith died at the age of 29 from Bright's disease. (Bright's disease is a historical classification of kidney diseases that would be described in modern medicine as acute or chronic nephritis). It was characterized by swelling and the presence of albumin in the urine, and was frequently accompanied by high blood pressure and

School head Mistresses and Masters.

Emma Ann Roberts 1882—1889 (born 1860 Orsett, Essex. 1881 census.)

Elizabeth Reynolds 1890—1899 (born 1862 Leicestershire).

Maud Foote 1904—1916 (born 1879 Cambridgeshire).

Margaretta Mable Morris 1916—1917 (born 1883 Dorset).

Henry Burchell 1918—1926 (born 1892 Derbyshire).

John Scorer 1926—1953 (born 1890 Durham).

Cecil Ford 1954—1962.

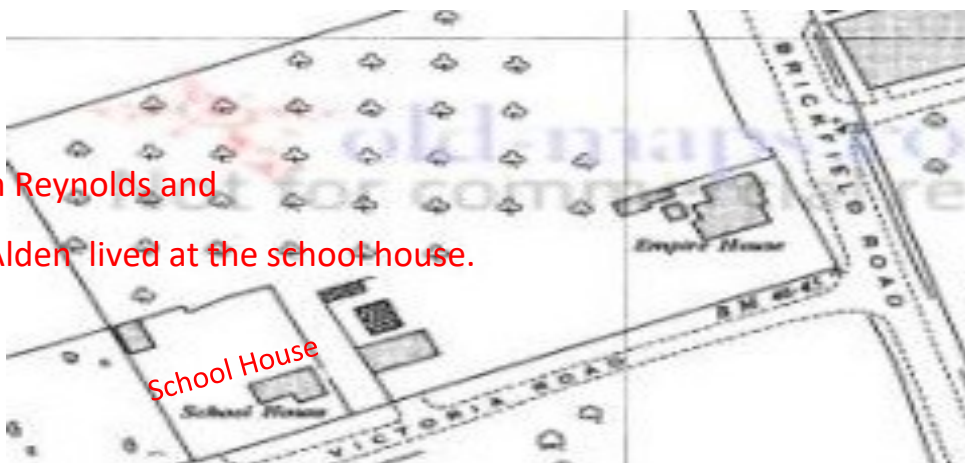
H C Goodson 1963.

Elsie May Neville 1965.

N V Wakefield 1966—1967.

E M Neville 1969—1970.

Elizabeth Reynolds and
Harriet Alden lived at the school house.



Teachers:

The school boards created by the 1870 Act 'provoked an unprecedented demand for teachers, and ... improved the security if not the status of a large number of them' (Lawson and Silver 1973:333). In 1870 there were around 12,000 certificated teachers, about half of them women. Ten years later there were over 31,000, and by 1895 there were almost 53,000, three-fifths of them women. In the same period the number of pupil-teachers increased from around 14,000 to 34,000. Until the 1890s, almost all teachers were trained by the voluntary religious agencies, who were criticised by inspectors for the weakness of their work in secular subjects. Various attempts were made to improve the quality of training: the London School Board opened its first day centres for pupil-teachers in 1885 and similar projects followed in many towns.

Pupil-teachers were recruited at the age of thirteen or fourteen (raised to fifteen in 1900, sometimes with a probationary period from thirteen to fifteen). They taught for around twenty hours a week. 'Demands for secondary education for pupil teachers were one of the main pressures towards the expansion of the scholarship ladder and the system of secondary schools.

Pupil teachers were known as Pupil Teacher 1st year, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th year. Where they were then recognised as teachers (uncertificated) under certain Articles in the code of the time eg "Article 50".

Having completed a satisfactory apprenticeship the pupil teachers received their certificates and were then able to take the Queen's/Kings Scholarship examination. If successful in passing they were admitted to training college for 3 years to study for their Teachers Certificate. Many of those taking the examination had no intention of seeking entrance to a College. Passing the Queens/Kings Scholarship examination qualified them under Article 50 of the code.

Assistant teacher (art 68) refers to the New Education code of 1890. An "additional female teacher" under code 68, was an untrained female teacher whose only qualifications were to be over 18yrs of age and vaccinated.

1891 May A Wade 2nd November first year Pupil teacher.

1896 7th September May A Wade fourth year PT. obtained a second class Queens scholarship examination. And resigned her post 18th July 1896 as assistant mistress.

Queen's Scholarship.—Miss May Wade (daughter of Mr. J. S. Wade, pupil teacher at Vange Board School), has obtained a Queen's Scholarship as a result of the recent examination at Colchester.

Essex Standard April 1896

Queen's Scholarship.—Miss May Wade (daughter of Mr J S Wade), Pupil teacher at Vange Board School, has obtained

A Queens's scholarship as a result of the recent exami-

1897 Minnie Purkiss : born 1884, Corringham, Essex. recognised under article 33 is being considered as a first year pupil teacher in charge of the infants. 1902 Minnie sat her Kings Scholarship Examination. 1903 resigned. 1903 Obtained an appointment at Stambidge, Rochford.

Clara Beatrice Mears born Vange, Essex. 1900: Elementary school teacher, Supplementary assistant from 1st October 1920 – 31st August 1923. 1939 register she is shown as a elementary school teacher.

Florence Mable Avery, born 1887 Vange, Essex. Appointed as a probationer 1901.

1902 Florence will be recognised under Art 33 on receipt of a satisfactory medical certificate on the enclosed form. A P Curtis Chairman of the School Board. 1902 Florence 1st year Pupil teacher.

1905 Florence attending Kings Scholarship Examination. Resigned 1906.

1911 Florence assistant school teacher infants' elementary education, Westersham, England.

Harriett Alden assistant mistress 1893 resigned 26th April 1895.

Ada Annie Elmer assistant (art 68) 1900 - 1904.

Clara Grabb 1900 – 1901? assistant (art 68) 30th May 1901 has refused on several occasions to obey the head. 19th July 1901 had resigned.

1901 Annie Copley appointed to replace her and will commence after the summer vacation. 16th September 1901 commenced under (art68).

1st May 1905 H. E. Challinor commenced as certified assistant resigned 4th August 1905

18th September 1905 Miss Ellen Wyatt (Dyall) Trained Certified Mistress is taking up duty as assistant mistress. In place of H. E Challinor

Records show, in copperplate script, and date from 1874: they show that the children had a day off to celebrate the Relief of Mafeking in 1900

*Over **217 days**, from 13 October **1899** to 17 May **1900**, little more than 1,000 totally outgunned and outnumbered European and African defenders, ultimately only surviving on starvation rations and led by Col Baden-Powell, were initially besieged by 8,000 and, from mid-November **1899**, a reduced number of around 2,000 Boer ...*

There are some interesting entries in the log book about old custom of carrying May garlands

Around the village and following 1st May more of the first class, girls were absent to 'take round their flowers'. On 2nd May 1898

On the 1st May 1899 attendance was only fair. On 1st May 1899 many of the girls were garlanding, but there are no further references after this date. However, in 1916 and 1917 class III danced around round the Maypole on 1st May.

The garlands were two hoops arranged one inside the other and decorated with ribbons and flowers. These were displayed to the villagers and the girls were given a copper or two.

Mr Adolphus Brignall, gave an entertainment the other evening, consisting of legerde main and ventriloquism, to an appreciative audience, at the Vange Board School.

Chelmsford Chronicle January 1895

In 1896 the number of pupils had increased so much that a new classroom was added.

1902

17th January 1902 about twenty children have left the school this week to attend a private school opened by a member of the Vange school board.

PITSEA AND VANGE.
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS SURVIVE AS MANAGERS. — THE NEW APPOINTMENTS. — The managers for the Vange school, in accordance with the provisions of the new Education Act, have now been appointed and, on the body which will henceforth have control, each of the members of the old School Board has secured a place. The gentlemen who have been chosen are: the Rector (Rev. F. C. St. John Methuen), Messrs. J. Bull, C. Curtis, A. E. Heard, A. Moss and T. Rouse. Messrs. Rouse and Moss were nominated by the Parish Council and the remaining four members were appointed by the County Council. The School Board which has so recently relinquished office consisted of five members and the new authority comprises those gentlemen and Mr. Moss, who will be the sixth member of the body of managers. The selection has, generally, caused much satisfaction.

Southend Standard and Essex
Weekly

VANGE.—James Swan and George Wright, labourers, of Vange, were ordered to pay 2s. 6d. each for disobedience of the bye-laws of the Vange School Board in respect of their children.—The money was paid.

Essex Herald 3rd September 1883

John Feil, of Vange, was summoned by Mr. C. Lewis, jun., clerk to the Vange School Board, for neglecting to send his son Benjamin to school.—He pleads guilty, and was fined 1s., which he paid.

Chelmsford Chronicle 13th May 1881



Vange Board School 1896



Showing Group IV, Standard 1, in about 1911
Jessie Payne

Girl with Vange Group board is Queenie Gladys Clark

July 8th 1893 Each scholar should be provided with paper (or slate) reading books and copy books used during the year.

Chelmsford Chronicle 21st February 1896

The Horndon – on – the – Hill Minstrels gave it a capital entertainment at the Vange Board school on Tuesday evening. There was a full house, and the performance was highly appreciated. It opened with the song “pink e ponk e poo”, rendered with very fine effect by band and chorus. Then Massa Johnson sung “Ha ha ha”, and Mr. Oliver sung “Tingle Ling”. Massa sambo followed with a citation, next came the song and chorus “Little Picaninni”, and the duet “Two Johnnies” in love, both of which were very good. The massa Caesar contributed a song, and then came the event of the evening, viz, the singing by massa Tambo (Mr. H. Allen) of the song “Because I’m always laughing”. This brought down the house, causing the round on round of hearty laughter. Mr. Dale the processor of a nice bass voice, terminated the first part of the programme with a worthy rendering of “Dinah.” Part 11 opened with the song by Mr. Dale Mr. H. Allen “Winking at the magistrate”, followed by songs by Mr. G. Allen, Mr. H Allen (encored), and Mr. Oliver, a duet Pio Mr. Dale and Mr. H. Allen, the entertainment concluded with the farce “Burglars in a house”. Between the songs some good: conundrums were asked and answered by members of the company. Mr. Tyrell jr presided, and Mrs Tyrell was at the piano forte.



1920's boy in centre with cap on is Cyril Marriott

The Education Act 1902

In 1902 Parliament passed a new Education Act, drafted by AJ Balfour (who became prime minister later that year) which radically reorganised the administration of education at local level. It abolished the school boards in England and Wales.

(2 Edw. VII), also known as the Balfour Act, was a highly controversial Act of Parliament that set the pattern of elementary education in England and Wales for four decades. It was brought to Parliament by a Conservative government and was supported by the Church of England, opposed by many Nonconformists and the Liberal Party. The Act provided funds for denominational religious instruction in voluntary elementary schools, most of which were owned by the Church of England and the Roman Catholics. It reduced the divide between voluntary schools, which were largely administered by the Church of England, and schools provided and run by elected school boards, and reflected the influence of the Efficiency Movement in Britain. It was extended in 1903 to cover London.¹ The Act was a short-term political disaster for the Conservatives, who lost massively at the 1906 general election. However, G. R. Searle has argued that it was long-term success. It standardized and upgraded the educational systems of England and Wales and led to a rapid growth of secondary schools, with over 1,000 opening by 1914, including 349 for girls only. The Church schools had financing from local ratepayers and had to meet uniform standards. Eventually, in the Butler Act of 1944, the Anglican schools were brought largely under the control of Local Education Authorities.

Pitsea and Vange

PITSEA AND VANGE.
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS SURVIVE AS MANAGERS. — THE NEW APPOINTMENTS. — The managers for the Vange school, in accordance with the provisions of the new Education Act, have now been appointed and, on the body which will henceforth have control, each of the members of the old School Board has secured a place. The gentlemen who have been chosen are: the Rector (Rev. F. C. St. John Methuen), Messrs. J. Bull, C. Curtis, A. E. Heard, A. Moss and T. Rouse. Messrs. Rouse and Moss were nominated by the Parish Council and the remaining four members were appointed by the County Council. The School Board which has so recently relinquished office consisted of five members and the new authority comprises those gentlemen and Mr. Moss, who will be the sixth member of the body of managers. The selection has, generally, caused much satisfaction.

School Board members survive as managers. The new appointments. — the managers for that Vange School, in accordance with the provisions of the new education act, have now been appointed on the body which will henceforth have control, each of the members of the old school board have secured a place. The gentleman who had been chosen are: the rector the Rev. F. C. St John Methuen, Messrs J. Bull, C. Curtis, A. E. Heard, A. Moss and T Rouse, Messrs Rouse and Moss were nominated by the parish council and the remaining four members were appointed by the county council. The school board which has so recently relinquished office consisted of five members and the new authority comprises those gentleman Mr. Moss, who will be the sixth member of the body of managers. The selection has generally, caused much satisfaction.

Southend standard and weekly advertiser Thursday 8th October 1903

VANGE SCHOOL TROUBLES.—The School Buildings and Supply Committee reported that, as the approval of the Board of Education for the purchase of the site near the Barge Inn, Vange, had not been obtained, the provisional contract for the purchase had been rescinded, and it was resolved that the sum of £3 3s, the costs of the vendor's solicitors, should be paid. The Committee considered an application by the Vange Parish Council for the sale of the furniture belonging to the late School Board of Vange, formerly in the house occupied by the Head Teacher of the Vange Council School, and it was resolved that the furniture be sold by auction and the proceeds of the sale be paid over to the County Council, as the successors of the late School Board.—Confirmed.
Southend Standard & Essex Weekly Advertiser

November 1905

and the proceeds of the sale be paid over to the County Council, As the successors

VANGE SCHOOL TROUBLES— The School buildings and supply committee reported that as the approval of the site near the Barge Inn, Vange, had not been obtained, the provisional contract for the purchase had been rescinded, and it was resolved that the sum of £3 3s, the costs of the vendors solicitors, should be paid. The committee considered an application by the Vange Parish Council for the sale of the furniture belonging to the late School Board of Vange. Formerly in the house occupied by the Head Teacher of the Vange Council School, and it was re-

THE VANGE ENLARGEMENT.—The School Buildings and Supp'y Committee reported that the Board of Education had approved of the plans for the enlargement of Vange School, and that the Board had also recognised the old Church School as a temporary school for 26 infants pending the enlargement. The Local Advisory Sub-Committee were inviting tenders for the enlargement, and application would be made to the Local Government Board for sanction to borrow the necessary loan.—Approved.

Southend Standard and Essex Weekly 28th December 1905

And in 1905 due to further overcrowding the infants were moved out of the school to the old school room at Vange Rectory. This allowed the addition of another new classroom that was completed in 1906. In that year the main classroom held 83 pupils, classroom A 50 pupils, classroom B 50 pupils and the small classroom 30 pupils a total of 213 in all.

Vange School — Although a wing has been added to Vange School, insufficient accommodation has been provided, as more cubic space than formerly has to be allowed for each child. This discovery was made a day or two ago at a meeting of school managers.

*Barking, East Ham & Ilford advertiser,
 Upton Park and Dagenham Gazette August 1906*

1906 new school room was added onto the existing building. This was used to house the infants and had windows in the wall which now adjoins the hall

New School Accommodation.—The following tenders were accepted:—Messrs. Harris Bros., Bulphean, enlargement of Laindon School, £115; Mr. H. Bridger, Vange, enlargement of Vange School, £370; Mr. O. E. Ratcliff, Thaxted, enlargement and alterations at Great Bardfield School, £530; Messrs. Letch and Bowtell, Braintree, alterations at Braintree (Manor-street) National School, £335; Messrs. J. Parren and Son, Earith (Hunts), Bardfield Salting, £634. The purchase was agreed to of three acres of land near Suffield Hatch, Chingford, at the price of £200 per acre, the Surveyor's charges (thirty guineas), solicitor's scale costs, and compensation to the tenant (£14) to be paid in addition.

New School Accommodation

The following tenders are accepted :

Mr H Bridger, Vange enlargement

£370.00

Mr. Harry Bridger, builders of Vange, who also built Gordon Hall in Timberlog Lane .

Chelmsford Chronicle February 1906

22nd May 1906 The Infants were transferred from the old school room at the Rectory to the new room which has been built on to this school. The accommodation of this school is as follows

Main room—83, Class Room A 50, Class Room B 50, Small Class Room 30

213 Total accommodation

Vange Enlargement.— The School Buildings and supply committee had consid-

VANGE ENLARGEMENT.—The School Buildings and Supply Committee had considered the question of the recent improvements at Vange School and Mr. H. E. Brooks and the Secretary reported upon the question of the apportionment of the cost of the recent enlargement. It appeared that the enlargement was necessitated solely on account of the number of children attending Vange School from the neighbouring parishes, and it was therefore resolved to recommend that the cost of the enlargement should be borne entirely by these parishes in proportion to the number of children attending therefrom, viz: 50 per cent. of the cost upon Fobbing Parish, 25 per cent. upon Basildon Parish, and 25 per cent. upon Pitsea Parish.—Adopted.

ered the question of the recent improvements at Vange School and Mr H.E. Brooks and the Secretary reported upon the question of the apportionment of the cost of the recent enlargement. It appeared that the enlargement was necessitated solely on account of the number of children attending Vange School from the neighbouring parishes, and it was therefore resolved to recommend that the cost of the enlargement should be borne entirely by these parishes in proportion to the number of

children attending there from 50 per cent of the upon Fobbing parish, 25 per cent upon Basildon parish, and 25 per cent upon Pitsea Parish adopted.

Southend Standard and Essex Weekly
Advertiser January 1907

School entertainment at Vange

On Wednesday and Thursday evenings and enjoyable performance was given by the children of Vange Council school to crowded audiences. The children performed their parts admirably, which Charlotte that they had been very carefully and a well trained, under the able guidance of Miss Foote, the headmistress, and her staff, and certainly did them great credit.

The first operetta, "Merryton Market", opened with an old English dance in costume, the girl's carrying bouquets chrysanthemums. All the dancers looked very pretty and danced gracefully and well. The stallholders, Messers . F Steer, L Wright, M Cox, C Ockendon, and A Kruse, acting their parts well. The stalls had been artistically arranged and looked well. The married couple Richards and Matilda (Master U Moore and Miss M Arm Field). Deserve special mention for the way in which they performed their parts. The married men, masters L Doe, F Howard, F Rust, G Dann, and A Riley, looked most sad, and sung "When with a woman shopping". Six little girl, Mrs. V Claggett, L Howard, J. George, W Moore, D Cornwell, and D McDade sang and "Flowers Sweet Flowers", and did a very pretty flower dance with garlands. They looked dainty in their white dresses trimmed with flowers, and all crowns of flowers on their heads. Miss M English "Madge", then sang "Talk not to me of London", which was well rendered: " Home Sweet Home " being Sang by the chorus behind the scenes. The quack doctors, Masters A Rhodes and W Beauchamp, were clover in performing their parts, and were encored each evening. The village gossip, Misses M to Kilgour, F Shead, L Howard, N Mears took their parts exceedingly well, and made great troubles out of small ones. Bobbykms Master G Cornwell, the midget policeman, was very good and kept all in order at the "Fair". The British navy was well represented by Masters I and J Dent, P Vaudy, J. Howard and E Wicker, who sang "Jolly Young Jack" danced a horn pipe wonderfully well, and ended by forming a pretty Tableau with union jacks.

Three small boys were very loudly encored. There was a clever troop of in Masters of S Mears, G. Howard, T Wright and L Wiles. They cracked their jokes and sang their songs in a pleasing and manner, causing roars of laughter in the audience, and were loudly encored each evening. There was a pretty strong a," We are gypsies, wild and free", by six girls Minnie L and M Burton, A and F Rhodes, and O Martin and I Lacey: the it were dressed in costumes, with tambourines and performed it

Then all characters appeared on the stage, singing the final chorus "Bye, Bye, Bye", and he concluded with the favourite, "Sir Rodger".

The second operetta entitled "Misfits", pleased the audience greatly. Then appeared Miss Lostum, the lady guide, in a pleasing manner. Six weeping wives (Misses F Steer, L Wright,)

M Highwood, A Kruse, N Mears and L Howard), then entered and sang "We are six forbidden wives" amid tears and sobs. Bob also wept piteously. "The Stork and the Pitcher", in a very pathetic manner, which deserved much praise. The second scene opened with the waxworks (who were the six lost husbands", Masters L Doe, F Howard, A Rhodes, F Rust G Dann, and A Riley. They sang a very pretty song, "We are figures in a waxwork show and then posed as models. Came to see the figures, and after close examination and many witty remarks, they left to visit another part of the show. During their absence the figures took off their disguises, the wives returned and found their respective husbands. The final chorus "I'm getting through this life", was then sung.

The very best thanks are due to Mr. A P Curtis, for under his direction, the platform was erected and the stage managed. He is a staunch friend of the children and staff, and all feel much indebted to him for all his many and great kindness. The managers of the school are worthy of many thanks for their kindly help given.

All were very grateful to the following ladies who so generously provided refreshments, ect,: Madame's Methuen, Heard, Johnson, Hastler, Bacon, Clarke, Cornwell, Railton, Gardner, Gore, Moss, Moore, and Mears.

Southend Standard and Essex Weekly Advertiser Thursday 5th December 1907

Vange

FLAGSTAFF FUND.— An entertainment was given in Fairview Hall by the Hadleigh amateur dramatic society in aid of the Vange Council school Flagstaff fund. The programme was contributed to by Misses Stannard, M. Perry, Loft, Robinson, L Perry, W Hughes, who Borde, and Porter, Messrs E Dexter, S Stannard, P. Rowlands, A Henry, W Bingham, Robinson, B S Porter, H Choppen, C F Porter, and A Raisin, and Masters R Cowell and E Dexter.

*Barking, East Ham & Ilford Advertiser, Upton Park and Dagenham
Gazette 04 July 1908*

The flag was hoisted on the new flagstaff in the yard and the children were marshalled for national songs. A photo maypole party was also held.



Vange School 24th May 1914 Empire Day, the highlight of the day was being let off school early to go on marches , maypole dancing, to attend concerts and parties.



Stock Photo

1914 Log Book Entries:

March 30th The senior boys were sent to woodwork class at the Pitsea centre this morning, but owing to non-attendance of the teacher no class was held.

July 17th Average attendance for the week 161 many children absent all week with chicken pox.

1915

January 22nd 1915 Attendance very poor today owing to heavy snowstorm .

June 18th Many children absent pea picking and several infants absent with whooping cough.

June 28th – 29th School medical inspection by Dr Ethel Leitch

July 9th Average attendance 157 there is still much illness among the children

Sept 6th Miss Eva Thorogood is recommended to attend this school for one month that a report may be made in regard to her aptitude for teaching.

December 10th The attendance has been low this week owing to heavy rains and many fields have been impassable

1916

January 14th Many families absent with measles and Chicken pox

February 6th School closed by order of medical officer of health

February 16th Twelve senior girls attended cookery centre Wickford, Boys attended woodwork.

1917

January 16th Owing to snow fall the attendance has been very poor today 114 + 2 Morning and 120 +4 afternoon.

13th July School dismissed at 11.30am this morning owing to hostile aircraft being in the vicinity, very poor attendance this afternoon same reason.

1917 cont

6th July A P Curtis JP visited school children on Tuesday last (for a plate) made on original design. Today about 2 dozen of the best designs were carried out practically three or four were really excelled showing the lads had caught the idea and had taste and imagination.

3rd July Violet Hiscox has been allowed to take home her Stv1 arithmetic text book to keep up scholarship work.

1918

January 8th Children sent home owing to intense cold, Temperatures 35f 39f

February 6th New boiler bought to school by Campbell carman of Pitsea. (Carmen delivery drivers). Fitted by Mr Simpson

September 17th Blackberry collection commenced and nearly 100lbs of berries where collected.

December 2nd Dorothy Blackwall P.T absent from school suffering from influenza. Commenced examinations that were postponed until now owing to the disorganisation of work on the account of the influenza.

1919

April 4th Attendance is still low because so many children absent with doctors certificates .

April 28th Re-Opened school after Easter vacation, but on account of very low attendance only 32 children school was shut at 11am for the day.

There are also entries relating to children taking dinners to their fathers in the brick fields on the marshes. And in 1919 a junco lamp (oil lamp) of 100 candle power was received

PETTY SESSIONS

BILLERICAY, March 26th 1924

Parent and teacher.- Elizbeth Leeks, Myrtle Lodge, Vange, Common, was summoned by Margaret Lamb for assault,- Mr W. F. Bestley, prosecuting for the N.U.T, said Miss Lamb was a teacher at Vange Council School. On March 18th she was cycling home when she was stopped by the defendant, who said something about her boys and caught hold of complainant by the belt of her coat and tore it. There was no real reason for this, but they did not press for any heavy penalty,- Defendant was bound over for 12 months.

Essex Newsman March 1924

BILLERICAY FEBRUARY 9th 1927

Before T. W. Bacon (chairman). R A Ellis, A. P. Curtis, F. J. Jackson, and A Stalibrass, Esqrs.

Struck the Schoolmaster.- Mrs Jennie Gorham, Hill Brow, Basildon, was summoned for assaulting John Arthur Scorer, of Leigh headmaster of Vange Council school. On February 1st— Mr H. J. Jefferies, prosecuting, said that on February 1st defendant went to the school and asked Mr Scorer why he had chastised her boy. He explained that the boy had been caned a week previously for taking cocoa and telling untruths. Mrs Gorham replied that the cocoa was “to spare” Mr Scorer told her if she had any grievance to report it to Mr Curtis, the chairman of the school managers, who lived opposite the school. Mr Scorer turned to go into the school, and she struck him with her fist,- Prosecutor said he had been headmaster since March 1920. After the assault he closed with Mrs Gorham, and after a struggle followed, in which her hat was lost in the road. She had to be forcibly removed before he could go into school. Soon after his appointment defendant came to the school and caused a disturbance—Defendant stated that she the school on February 1st after her boy had returned with three marks across each hand. She felt annoyed, and waited a considerable time to see Mr Scorer, When she spoke to him he said he had no time, and she could go to the Chairman of the school managers. He pushed past her, and she slapped his face. He then punched her and pulled her head down.— The Chairman said defendant evidently lost her temper, but she had no right to assault the schoolmaster. She would be fined £1.

Vange Council School . The sketch plans were approved for the erection on land at the rear of this school of a portable buildings, consisting of four class rooms, at an estimated cost of £1,765, with an additional £400 and £16 for furniture and salary of clerk of the works respectively.

Chelmsford Chronicle March 1927

In 1928 A wooden building was added as a temporary accommodation to the site to house 200 pupils. It had four class rooms including a staff room and Head teachers office. This lasted till 2001.



1920 Vange Primary School

1928 Arthur Rowe went to the school early 1920 he joined no more than 70 pupils.



British empire day on 1928 “ the school grounds made an artistic picture on Monday when Empire day celebrations attracted a large number of adults to witness an extremely petty scene.

LONDON OFFICE—
RIVER PLATE HOUSE,
7, 8 & 9, FINSBURY CIRCUS, E.C.2.

(INTERVIEWS AT LONDON OFFICE BY APPOINTMENT).

TELEPHONES—
CHELMSFORD 221.
LONDON 1958 LONDON WALL.



Essex Education Committee.



W. O. LESTER SMITH, M.A.,
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION.

COUNTY OFFICES,
CHELMSFORD.

G/Ar.

URGENT.

14th May, 1927.

Dear Sir,

Vange Council School.

With reference to your application, I have now received from the School Medical Officer a Certificate to the effect that the reduced attendance at the above School during the weeks ended 4th and 11th February, 1927, may reasonably be attributed to the prevalence of epidemic illness amongst the scholars.

I shall be obliged if you will kindly arrange for the entry in the Log Book and the necessary adjustment of the registers to be made in accordance with Rule 23(2) of Schedule IV. of the Code and Article 15(ii) of the Board of Education's Administrative Memorandum No.51.

Will you please also forward to this Office as early as possible a revised Form Att.1. shewing the number of Meetings, attendances, etc., for the month in question after the adjustment has been made.

Yours truly,

W. O. Lester Smith.

J.A. Scorer Esq.,
Council School,
Vange.

All Saints Church Hall 1931—2021



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.



Fitch 1930

Jeanne Seely : about twelve of used to walk together from the roads on the Heights. If you were lucky enough to have an egg the caretaker of the school would boil it for you for your dinner. The only time I took an egg I ran to give it to him and stuck my thumb though the shell.

It was not till about late 1939 that a school hall was built at the school. Until then children who lived too far away to go home for the dinner hour in cold weather often asked to put their scrubbed potatoes under the grate of the classroom fire so that they were baked ready for the mid-day break. The children who did not go home were allowed to eat their sandwiches around the fire.

One teacher's home was in a farm building that had been converted into a house on Luncies Farm. Luncies was one of the first farms sold for building and stood on Luncies Road which was the old farm road.



Half way though the morning lessons we all stopped work to watch the local milk men competing with each other to sell the third of a pint of milk to the children, no free milk then we paid a half-penny for it.

*Jessie Payne : recalls a teacher possible her mother Francis who was a teacher at the school
recollects how quiet the road was outside the school, only the occasional horse and cart passing by.*



TOMTIT'S NESTING PLACE

In the girls playground at Vange Council School this season, two tomtits built there nest in the pipe of a disused pump. Nine eggs were laid and hatched, and the young birds have flown.

Chelmsford Chronical July 1925



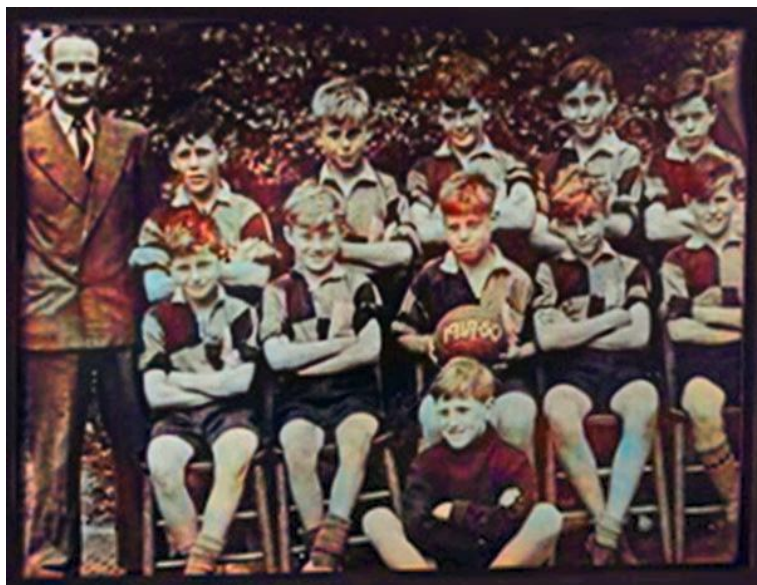


R Maggie Lamp, Ivy Maries,
Miss Keeling, John Scorer, Mrs Chapman



Vange Primary School Football Team 1930

Back Row Lenny Buckley Thomes, Not Known, Mr Score Head Master, Leslie Jagger, Herbert Thomas
Middle RowWingfield Foules, Georeg Perkins, Ernie Evendin, Albert Wicker, Charlie Foukles
Front Row Fred Pitt, George Head.



The teacher is Mr Pickering name's that he can remember are back row David Minns, Jack Dunn, Russell Kane, Bernard Webb, and Trevor Nightingale. Front row Jonny Grosse,

Vange school came second in a netball tournament at Swan Mead. Back left Jennifer Fielding, Carol Lickman, Miss Neville, Joan Humphrey Barber?, Front left Diane Burgess, Daphne Warner and Yvonne Bush.



Front left Maurice Borley, right Peter Beney, Middle left Andrew Blow, back is John Carey
Country dancing



HOT DINNERS,- At the present time about 140 children remain at Vange Council School for their midday meal, and sixty to seventy parents have expressed a desire for hot dinners to be provided. In this connection the managers recommended that the large classroom be converted into an assembly and dinning hall, and that a small room be adapted as a kitchen,- It was resolved that the arrangements be made for a dinner scheme, and a cook.

Essex Newsman
November 1935

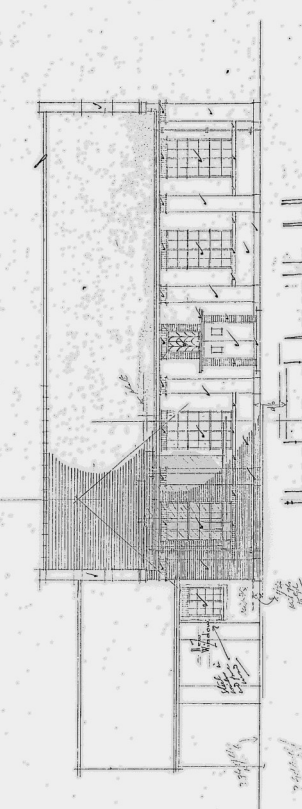
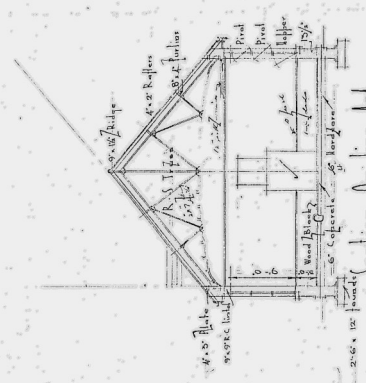
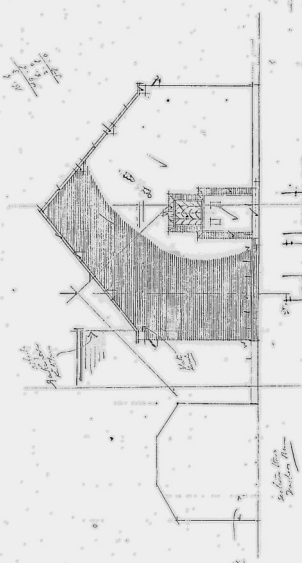
VANGE COUNCIL SCHOOL— In regard to this school the School Buildings Committee had considered an application from the contractors whose tender, amounting to £2,894, was accepted for the adaptation of this school as a Junior school, for an increase of 15% in the amount of the tender,- It was resolved that the application be not approved, and that, in the event of the contactors with -drawing their tender, the next lowest, that of Mr D Marven Galleywood, amounting to £2,995, be accepted.

Chelmsford Chronicle October 1937

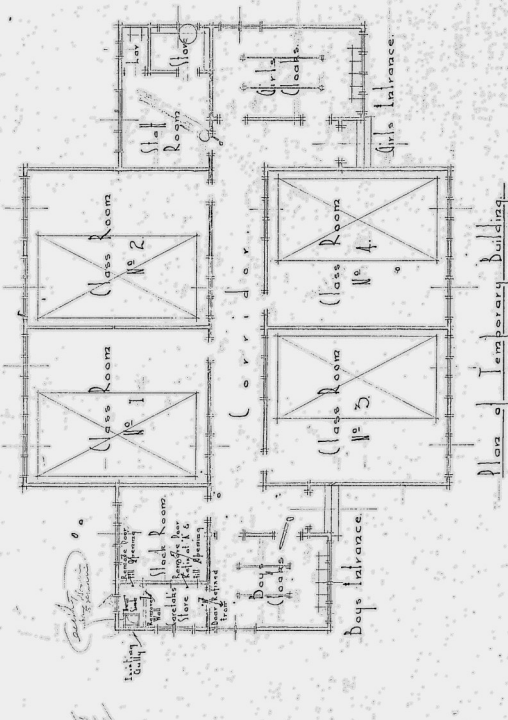
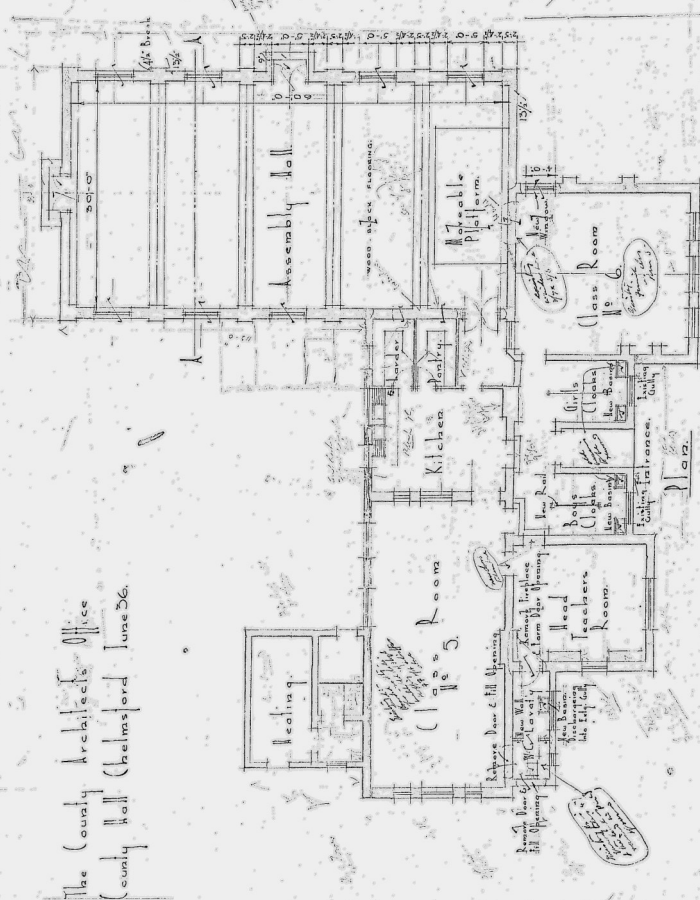
June 1936

PROPOSED RE-ORGANISATION of VAUGHAN COUNCIL SCHOOL

Scale: 1 inch = 10 feet



The County Architects Office
County Hall, Chelmsford June 26.



0130/15
15 Mp 415

1938

July 26th MR. and Mrs. Wilson of Washington USA two former scholars all the school visited us and stay to dinner. Previously they spent some time in the top class talking and answering questions about USA.

September 5th The school was reopened after the summer holidays. As the workmen did not clear out until Saturday evening the caretaker had to work all day on Sunday to put things in order as far as possible. It is necessary to record however that it will take a few days to resume a normal activities. The dinning arrangements have to be carried on temporarily in the unfinished hall. The drains are still unfinished as well as the heating arrangements and the workmen will be about the school for at least another fortnight.

It is most disappointing to start the school year under the above circumstances as we had looked forward to everything being completed in the summer holidays.

October 1st The school hall was opened at 3.30 pm by A P Curtis Esq JP in the presence of A large crowd. Afterwards a photograph of Mr. Curtis was unveiled by D. Cornish Esq JP a member of the Essex education committee, also presented him with an armchair

December 21st three Christmas parties have been held and the usual visit of Santa Claus to the infant's took place this afternoon.

December 22nd As only 81 children will present the registers were not marked the school was closed for the Christmas holidays.

Ten years later in 1938 the school hall was added and then in 1956 came the new class-room with the flat roof.

1939

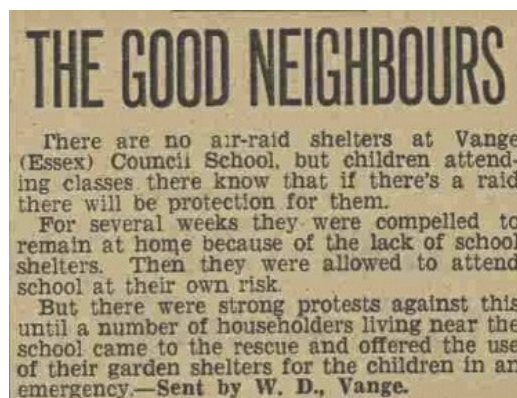
July 7th The police took statements from Joan Melville, Lily Clark and Pat Thompson regarding the conduct of a lorry driver when delivering goods at the school.

July 13th Police informer Head teacher that arising out of the complaint made by the three girls on July 7th the man concerned is being charged at Billericay police court on July 18th and that the girls concerned will be required as witnesses.

July 26th The annual sports and open day took place today when there was a splendid attendance of parents and friends.

September 4th The school it was not Re-Opened after the summer holidays Owing to the outbreak of hostilities but the staff were given instructions to report daily.

October 27th The head teacher spent the day visiting the householders nearby to see if any space available in the Anderson shelter's for the children. 90 places were obtained none of which takes more than five minutes to reach and occupy many householders desired to give up their own places to children if necessary.



Daily Mirror Thursday November

December 21st The school closed for Christmas holidays. Owing to the war the usual Christmas parties were not held but instead each child received a present of sweets and oranges.

1940

January 12th Construction of A.R.P report centre (wardens post) commenced In playground. Enemy aircraft appeared over the Thames 11.30 am.

February 9th work commenced on ARP shelters.

1940 cont

January 11th Enemy aircraft over Thames 1.00 PM.

February 20th In consequence of a punishment on R May his father complained that two bruises had been left on his posterior. The cane used was a very thin one and although the bruises were very slight it is from their width that the flesh of this boy is easily bruised. The father agrees that the punishment was not severe our performance punishment to be on the high hand.

March 20th The gas masks of all children were inspected by A.R.P wardens.

June 19th The attendants to day has fallen from 87.5% yesterday to 50%. This is accounted for by the presence of enemy aircraft in the vicinity during the night, and bombs were dropped by a little higher up the Thames. The air raid warning lasted 3 hours and most of the children were up for half of the night

September 6th Air raid warnings that children have spent 9 1/2 hours out of the total schools time off 26 1/2 hours in the shelters. In addition to this many of them have been kept awake during the night by the guns and general noise which has accompanied the warnings. Fortunately about 60 of them sleep permanently in their shelters so do not suffer from lack of sleep.

December 9th Accumulator lighting of shelters was most unsatisfactory county to be asked to fix mains lighting. Heating by small stoves made only 1° difference between inside and outside temperatures. Two stoves would be necessary to make 5° difference. Also doors would also be necessary to keep in the warmth till children took pos-

1941

THE COUNCIL SCHOOLS had their "breaking up " party on Friday with dinner, a concert, and games. Toys from a Christmas tree were distributed. The Head Master Mr J Scorer gave an address.

Chelmsford Chronicle December 1941

1945

January 1st During the last week the water pipes froze in the lavatories and were kept open by the caretaker using warm water. Unfortunately there had been no hot water this week owing to a burst pipe in the hot water system and the lavatories have got into a bad state.

March 2nd A managers meeting held at 2.30pm: regarding entry 30-1-45 concerning extra work done by Mr Wicker during the cold spell it was decided to recommended a payment of £1 to him.

November 11th by arrangement with the chairman and managers the head teachers room has been placed at the disposal of the food office for the issue of new rations

1946

VANGE *A CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY on a large scale took place at the Council School, Vange, as the result of the funds collected in the parish by a committee, with Messrs. J. Collins (Chairman), R. Corke (secretary), and J. W. Howard (treasurer. A splendid tea was served, and there was a capital entertainment. About 100 residents who have served in the Forces received £1 each from the same fund.*

Chelmsford Chronicle January 1946



A Christmas play 1958
one of the soldiers in back
row was Ray Smith, Jeff
Moule is forth from left
and sung my name is
Oh,me name is MacNama-
ra, I'm the leader of the
band.



Basildon Standard Saturday July 1954 Sports day.

Their parents could join in the children did the running and the parents cheered

Third time lucky with Vange primary sports

TWICE Vange Primary School put their sports off because of wet weather. They made up their minds to hold the events on Thursday week—and it turned out third time lucky, despite a cold wind.

Managers present included Mrs. B. Godber (chairman), Mrs. R. Evans and Mr. Russell Bellman. Mrs. Godber presented the awards.

House placings were:—Lancaster 19; Tudor 14; Stuart 13 and York 6.

RESULTS

(Ages in parentheses)

Mixed high jump (11)—1. Janice Clark; 2. Ann Oakes and Teddy Lloyd. Mixed high jump (10)—1. Terry Bradbury and Jennifer Morrill; 2. Ivy Oakes. Girls' 40 yards (5)—1. Susan Bronze; 2. Margaret Leeks. Boys' (5)—1. John Coxhead; 2. Peter Sapsford. Girls' 50 yards (6)—1. Maureen Jeffrey; 2. Jennifer Pugh. Boys' (6)—1. John Swallow; 2. Roy Smith. Girls' chariot race (5)—1. Valerie Rands, Janet Hammond and Julie Chelmsford. Boys' (5)—1. Douglas Seldon, Michael Leeks and Richard Lanham. Girls' bunny hop (6)—1. Maureen Jeffrey; 2. Jennifer Pugh. Boys' (6)—1. Anthony Bottomley; 2. Jonathan Searle. Boys' 50 yards (7)—1. Edward Stone; 2. James Hobdell. Girls' (7)—1. Susan Fisher; 2. Diane Burgess. Girls' 65 yards (8)—1. Yvonne Bush; 2. Carol Lickman. Boys' (8)—1. John Carey; 2. Jeffrey Moule. Girls' hoop (6)—1. Ruth Harnsworth; 2. Margaret Archer. Boys' (6)—1. John Swallow; 2. Terry Stuart. Girls' potato race (7)—1. Susan Fisher; 2. Shirley Lee. Boys' (7)—1. Kevin Wayman; 2. Reggie Baker. Girls' sack race (8)—1. Yvonne Bush; 2. Margaret Gourley. Boys' (8)—1. William McCreadie; 2. Alan Johnson. Girls' hoop race (7)—1. Margaret Bradfield; 2. Carol Wooller. Boys' (7)—1. John Hall; 2. Derek Pearson. Girls' 65 yards (9)—1. Brenda Fairbairn; 2. Barbara Evans. Boys' (9)—1. Martin Jeffrey; 2. John Orpwood. Girls' bean bag (8)—1. Joan Humphreys; 2. Diane Bradbury. Boys' (8)—1. John Carey; 2. Derek Lynch. Girls' sack race (9)—1. Linda Parratt; 2. Avril Drake. Boys' (9)—1. Martin Jeffrey; 2. John Orpwood. Girls' 75 yards (10)—1. Ivy Oakes; 2. Jennifer Morrill. Boys' (10)—1. Raymond Sweetenham; 2. Robin Walter. Girls' 90 yards (11)—1. Ann Oakes; 2. Pat Mitchell. Boys' (11)—1. Raymond Bronze; 2. Trevor Potter. Girls' "late for school" race (9)—1. Jacqueline Faulkes; 2. Phyllis Hobbs. Boys' (9)—1. Benjamin Bottomley; 2. Tommy Shove. Girls' skipping (10)—1. Jennifer Morrill; 2. Ivy Oakes. Boys' obstacle race (10)—1. Francis Ward; 2. Raymond Sweetenham. Girls' skipping (11)—1. Christine Wilton; 2. Pat Mitchell. Boys' obstacle race (11)—1. Richard Fielding; 2. Michael Benning. Girls' netball shooting (10)—1. Susan Dyke; 2. Jennifer Morrill. Girls' (11)—1. Anne Green; 2. Ann Oakes. Boys' cricket ball (10)—1. Francis Ward; 2. Robin Walter. Boys' (11)—1. Kenny Deeks; 2. Michael Benning. Girls' relay—1. Lancaster House (Ann Oakes, Ivy Oakes, Valerie Chapman, and Marie Marks); 2. Tudor House. Boys' relay—1. Tudor House (Trevor Potter, John Walker, Raymond Sweetenham and Robin Mothers); 2. Lancaster House. Fathers' race—Mr. Truss.

Basildon Standard 1956



Mr Hyde

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 of the hall as a play ground.

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

ESSEX EDUCATION COMMITTEE.			
VANGE COUNCIL MIXED SCHOOL.			
REPORT for <u>Summer</u> Term,			
Name _____		Age _____	
Class _____		No. in Class _____	
		Average Age in Class _____	
Max.	Examination Score.	Position.	Remarks on work during Term.
		Reading	V. Good
		Language (Oral)	Good
		“ (Written)	Good, but untidy.
		Spelling	Good.
		Literature	V. Good.
		Handwriting	Irregular.
		Arithmetic (Mental)	Good
		“ (Written)	Good.
		Geography	V. Good } I don't know interest
		History	V. Good } and answers well
		Art	Fair
		Handwork	
		Nature	Good.
		Physical Training	Good.
		Music	
J			
Attendance <u>Good until latterly.</u> Punctuality <u>V. Good.</u>			
Conduct <u>Excellent.</u>			
General Remarks <u>David will go far, because he takes his work seriously & always</u> <u>Excellent progress. Should do well. Best made down his best!</u>			
<u>S. H. Webb.</u>		Class Master.	<u>J. Brown.</u>
		Mistress.	Head Master.
			Mistress.
I certify that I have received the School Report.			
Signature of Parent or Guardian			
This slip should be signed by the Parent (or Guardian) of the Scholar and returned to the Head Teacher as soon as possible.			

26th April 1956 Notice was received that Alan Newitt has succeeded in passing the admission examination for grammar education.

23rd September 1957 The hall floor was so slippery that I stopped all physical education and requested the caretaker to take some action.

17th May 1958 The girls netball team played the semi final and final of the small schools netball shield at Swanmead School, They played two magnificent games and brought the shield back for the second year. During the games they scored 36 for only 3 against .

16th September 1959 PC Davies Essex Police lectured to each year group on Road safety.

20th December 1960 This afternoon was the school Christmas party . All the children had a film show of cartoon films, followed by a feast of sandwiches, fancy cakes, jelly and ice cream. Each child had a cracker. Finally each child received a present of 2shillings average value.

26th September 1961 A pupil got his leg behind a pipe near the toilets. I had to remove the wall bolts and lever out the pipe before he could be freed. He appeared to suffer no ill affects.

9th October 1962 Anthony Tilby was playing on the football pitch when the Deegans dog bit him severly on the calf of the leg. He was brought to me and I rendered first aid and then took him home. His father assured me that he would see that he got immediate medical attention I then went to Pitsea police station and made a complaint.

Cecil Ford Head Master.

Cecil George Ford

11th January 1954 - 13th December 1962.

They gave him three-day feast when he left



MR. Cecil Ford, the new Headmaster of Vange Primary School, moved into a new house at 3, Chesterford Gardens, Fryerns Estate, last week, with vivid memories of a three-day feast given in his honour when he recently left the Bahamas.

- He spent five years in the Bahamas, some as chief inspector of schools for the islands.

- Mr. Ford lived with his wife Eva in a 20-foot boat, sloop-rigged and with an auxiliary motor, which took them between 18,000 and 20,000 miles visiting the various islands under his supervision.

- Just before their departure the islanders presented Mr. Ford with £40, which they had collected. "This was an enormous sum, for the people haven't much money," he told the "Standard."

- The head men of the islanders asked Mr. Ford what he would like with the money. He told them to prepare a feast so that all the people could get something out of it.

- The feast lasted three days, and at the end of it Mr. and Mrs. Ford were "worn out."

- Before going to the Bahamas, Mr. Ford was head teacher at Ashington Primary School, Rochford.

A fair well party was organised by Miss E Neville Deputy Head, on the occasion of my retirement and Mr John Headmaster of Kingswood primary raised the song for he's a jolly good fellow and the party ended..

Clock for the cook who left



After 16 years service on the catering staff of Vange High Road School, Mrs. Lottie Rust, of 2, Laburnam Cottages, London Road, Vange, was presented with a chiming clock when she retired as cook on Wednesday.

The clock was bought by the staff and scholars to mark their appreciation for the high standard of the school meals, which had been Mrs. Rust's responsibility since she was made cook eight years ago.

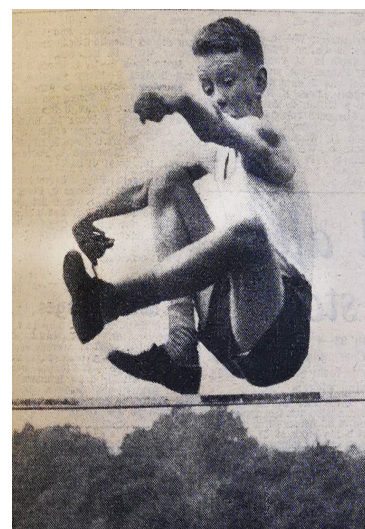
Mr. C. Ford, headmaster, said that there could be no doubt about the high standard which Mrs. Rust had maintained. Many mothers had stopped her in the street to ask how various items on the school menu were prepared. The children wanted the food at home the way it was cooked at school.

For Mrs. Rust, the retirement marked the end of many years' happy association with Vange school. She had been a pupil there in 1906 and was in the same class as John Rust, whom she later married. Her children went to the school.

Basildon Recorder April 1955



Vange Primary school beat Wickford by one goal to none in
the simi final of the Benfleet cup
27th March 1953

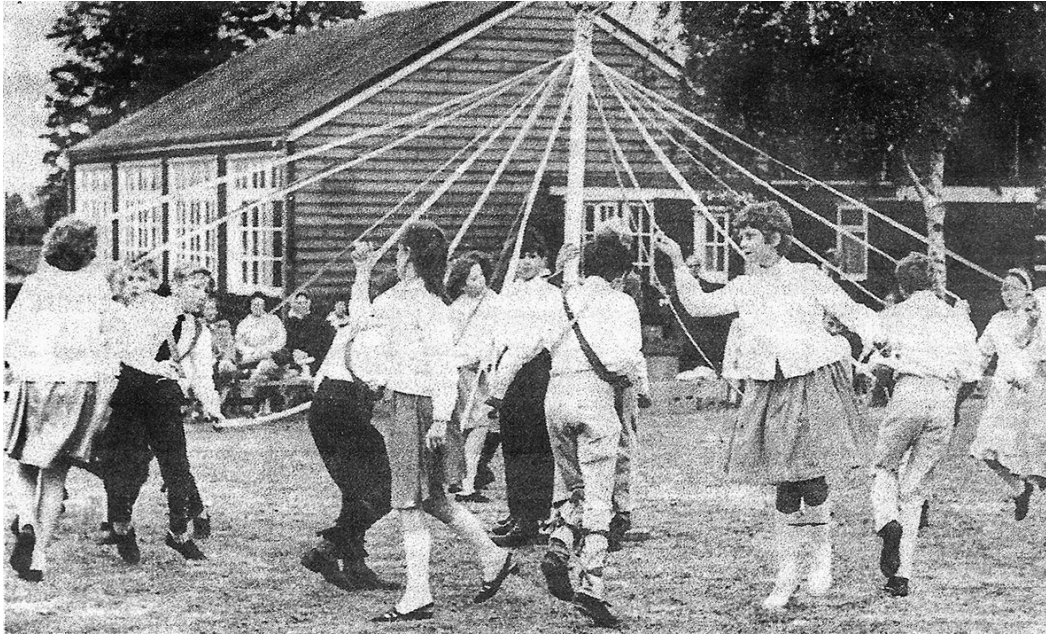


Jonathon Sell cleared 3ft 8in.
to take place in the high jump.
Basildon Standard 10th June 1961



1955

School revives festival of 90 years ago

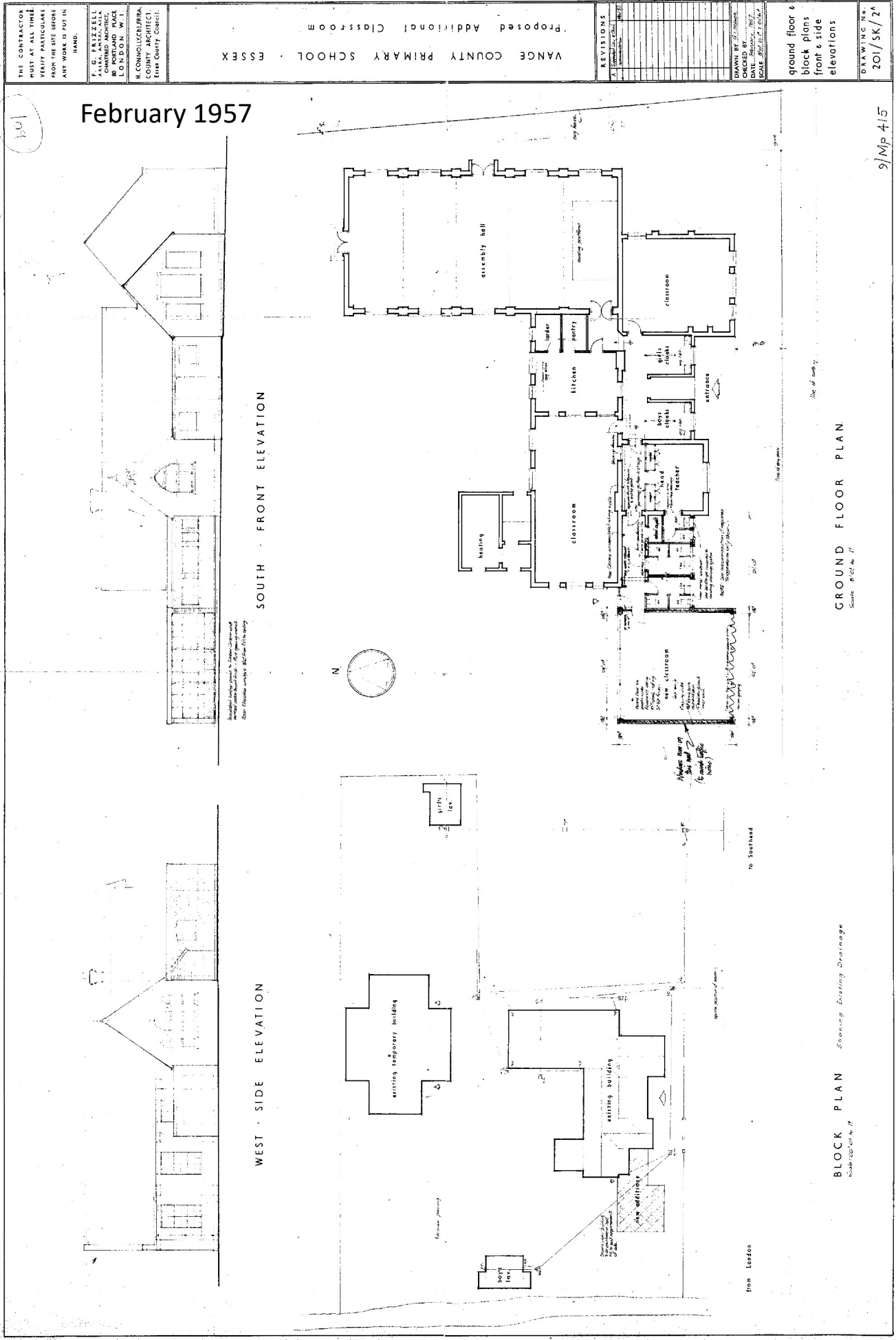


Basildon Recorder July 1966

Dancing around the May pole are Vange Primary school children , at their
Morris Dance Festival.



Some of the Children taking part



February 1957

THE CONTRACTOR MUST AT ALL TIMES VERIFY PARTICULARS FROM THE SITE BEFORE ANY WORK IS PUT IN HAND.

F. G. FRIZZELL
ARCHITECTS
10, QUEEN'S ROAD, LONDON W.1.

H. CONNOLLY
CONSULTING ENGINEER
10, QUEEN'S ROAD, LONDON W.1.

Proposed Additional Classroom

VANGE COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL - ESSEX

REVISIONS	
No.	Description
1	As shown on site
2	As shown on site
3	As shown on site
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100	As shown on site

DRIVEN BY: J. J. J. J.

CHECKED BY: J. J. J. J.

DATE: 1957/02/15

SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"

ground floor & block plans front & side elevations

DRAWING No. 201/SK/2A

9/Mp 4/5

GROUND FLOOR PLAN

BLOCK PLAN Showing Existing Drainage



Captain and Vice-Captain of Vange Primary School netball team, Avril Drake and Brenda Fairbairn, hold the S.E. Essex small schools Trophy won by the team at the South-East Essex Netball Rally at Swan Mead School on Saturday.

Saturday 24th May 1958

Vange School gets Savings award

Children of Vange Primary school saw their Deputy Headmistress, Miss E Neville, Presented with a certificate of merit "for the school's outstanding service to the National Savings Movement" at assembly on Tuesday. Miss Neville has for years been in charge of the school's savings movement.

Altogether the school has been in the movement for 41 years and collected £5,251. Also presented with an award was Joanne Milson (9) who wrote a prize winning essay on National savings. The awards were presented by the District education officer Mr E. A. Dixon, who was accompanied by Mr P Pam, District Council



for S E Essex National Savings. The presentation was on the fortnightly day that the children conduct assembly themselves, They chose the hymns, read the lessons and enacted Part of the story of St Columba building his monastery on the Isle of Iona.

The picture shows Left to right Mr E Dixon, Mr O Davies, Miss F Neville, Joanne Milson, Mr P Pam and Head Master Mr N Wakefield.

New Headmistress is no stranger

There was delight among the children of Vange Primary School when they found out the Identity of their new head mistress for Miss Elsie Neville is no stranger to them.

In fact she has been Deputy Head there for the past 14 years, with various short spells as Acting Head.

"I was delighted myself when I was appointed", she says. She has taught in the area since 1949. Miss Neville believes very firmly in teaching children about service for others.

She also believes that they should get their pleasure from service itself without any thought of reward. During the September term Vange Primary children have given Harvest Festival goods to pensioners and proceeds of their Christmas play to the blind people. In the last week of term a party of some fifty children sang carols to raise money for a toy for St Andrews Hospital children's ward. Miss Neville who lives in Langdon Hills, Is a member of the Methodist Church and for ten years was a captain of their Guide Company, Interested in Guiding since 1934, she has held a Captain's warrant for 20 years;

She resigned from active service last year, but has retained her authority so that in 1969 she hopes to help take a party of girls to Norway.

Another interest is folk dancing. She is a member of the English Folk Dancing Society And, with her friend Miss E Wilkinson from Langdon Hills Primary School, takes parties Of children to the annual festival at the Albert Hall, where they dance during the interval.

Last May she reintroduced one of the school's older customs of May garlands described In old records.

Every two months or so Miss Neville takes a party of children to perform folk dances at

January 1969

existing facilities to remain & to be made good if disturbed.

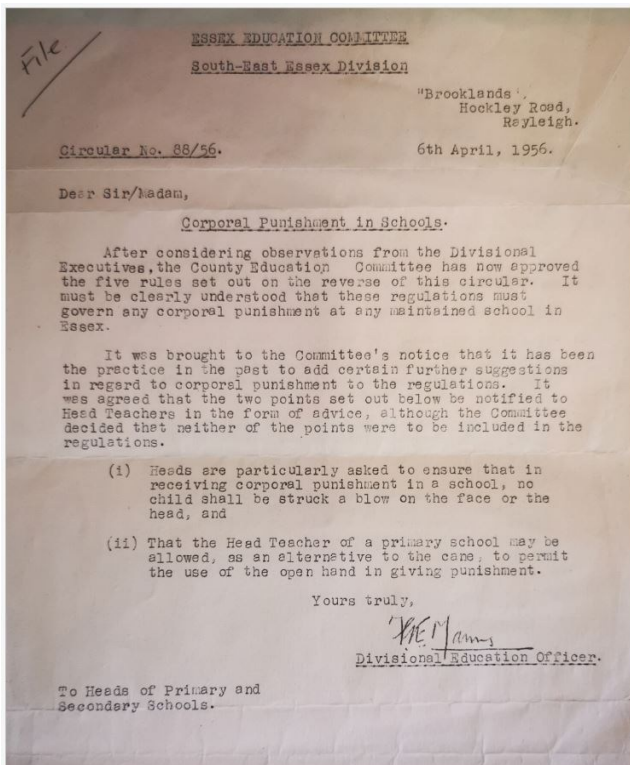
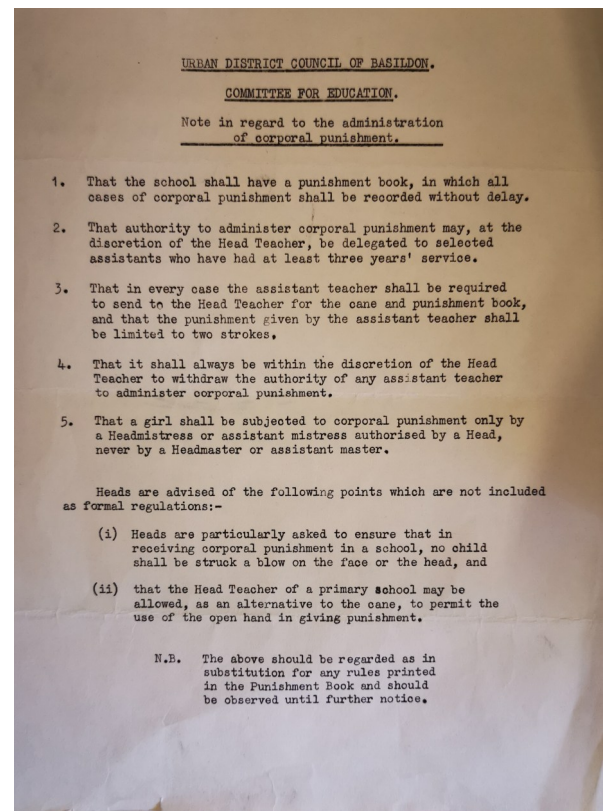
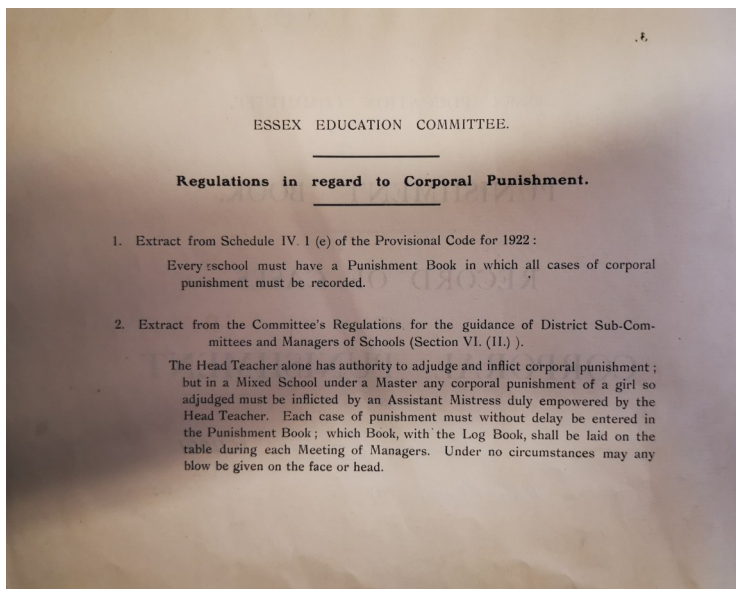
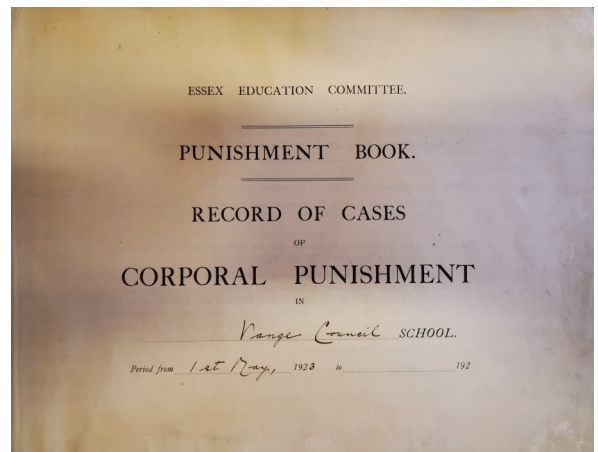
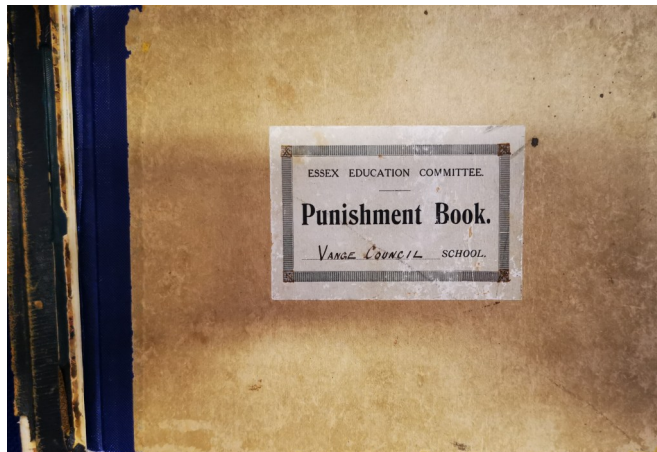
VANCE COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL, ADDITIONAL CLASSROOM & LAVATORIES.

THE CONTRACTOR MUST AT ALL TIMES VERIFY PARTICULARS FROM THE SITE BEFORE ANY WORK IS PUT IN HAND.	F. G. FRIZZELL AREA, ARIZONA CHAIRMAN ARCHITECT, 80 PORTLAND PLACE LONDON W. 1.	H. CONOLLY C.B.E., F.R.I.B.A. COUNTY ARCHITECT ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL.
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[illegible]

plan of new
classroom,
Laboratories, and
alterations
to head
teacher's room
and windows
301/3

8/MP 415



1923 entry Disobedience one stroke.

1923 Slovenly work one stroke.

1923 Disorderly conduct two stokes.

1930 Placing bomb in girls desk 2 strokes.

1930 Disobey and swearing in porches 3 strokes.

1934 Persistant talking 2 strokes.

1941 Truanting 3 strokes on behind.

1948 Misbehaviour following a warning 6 strokes on behind.

Vange Primary School Centenary 1876—1976

VANGE SCHOOL HISTORY

Founded in 1876 the school register shows that the first pupil on 26th October 1876 was Edith Williams. At that time the school had two classrooms.

In 1896 the number of pupils had increased so much that a new classroom was added and in 1905 due to further overcrowding the Infants were moved out of the school to the old school room in Vange rectory. This allowed the addition of another new classroom that was completed in 1906. In that year the main classroom held 83 pupils, classroom A 50 pupils, classroom B 50 pupils and the small classroom 30 pupils a total of 213 in all.

In 1928 the wooden school was added as temporary accommodation to house 200 pupils. At that time the wooden school was 2 feet off the ground on wooden piles and was a great delight to the adventurous.

Ten years later in 1938 the School Hall was built and then in 1956 came the new classroom with a flat roof.

Now 20 years later in 1976 the modern temporary classrooms have been erected on the edge of the school playing fields to help accommodate the present 280 pupils.

The old school has many links with the past and produced its fair share of local notable characters. Boys and girls from the school grew to maturity and served their country in two World Wars as well as lesser conflicts. From the days of pony and trap, through the days of wood and coal burning steam-torries, to the present sleek cars and juggernauts the school has stood on the A13 serving the local children well.

P.M. Gowers.

S. Cairne.

P. Walden

Handwritten signatures:
G. D. Davis
G. J. Seaton
C. M. Williams

Vange School Centenary

1876 - 1976

Souvenir Programme

Afternoon Programme

2.00 p.m. SCHOOL OPENS



2.15 - 2.45 Children's P.E. Demonstration on the field



2.45 - 3.15 Sing - along with the children in the main hall



3.15 - 4.00 Refreshments and Reminiscences



4.00 - 4.15 Raffle and close till Evening



Throughout the afternoon and evening Displays of:-

Old-school photo's in the Small Hall,

School Victoriana in the Wooden building,

Children's work in the Wooden building,

And the opportunity to meet old school friends from way back.

Evening Programme

7.00 p.m. SCHOOL OPENS



7.15 - 7.45 Children's P.E. Demonstration on the field



7.45 - 8.15 Sing - along with the children in the main hall



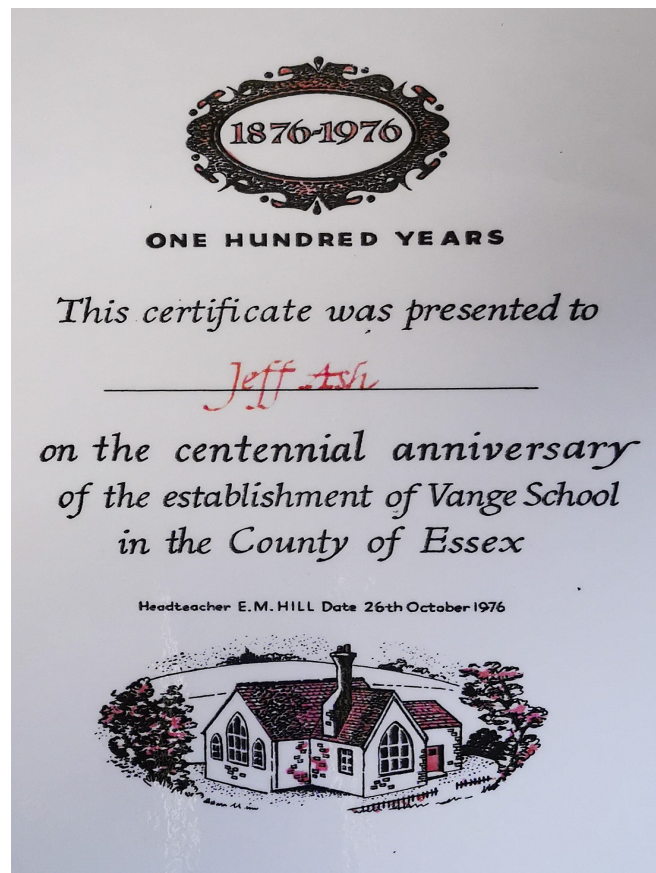
8.15 Buffet with Coffee and Tea and Bar in the Main Hall



9.30 Grand Raffle with prizes donated by local industries



10.45 Auld Lang Syne and Close



The old school had many links with the past and produced its fair share of local notable characters. Boys and girls from the school grew to maturity and served their country in two World Wars as well as lesser conflicts. From the days of pony and trap, through the days of wood and coal burning steam - lorries, to the present sleek cars and juggernauts, the school has stood on the A13 serving the local children well.

Vange Primary School



Celebrating 140 Years of History

Exhibition Guide

Today, the school houses four classrooms and a Nursery. Currently all classes are mixed year groups. The school serves a mixed catchment area of local authority and owner occupied housing. It overlooks Basildon Golf Course and boasts some magnificent playing fields lined with trees.

VANGE BOOKLETS

All Saints Church Hall 17 pages £2.10
Barges at Vange Wharf 17 pages £2.10
Cashes Well No5 17 pages £2.10
John (Paddy) Hemingway 11 pages £1.50
The Barge Inn 1832 – 2015 21 pages £2.50
The Bull Public House 8 pages £1.50
The Vange Crystal Well 8 pages £1.50
Vange Board School 1876 56 pages £5.80
Vange Fire Station 1934 – 1962 35 pages £3.90
Vange Hall Brick Works 29 pages £3.30
Vange Reservoir & Southend Water Company £2.00
Vange Swimming Pool 1933-1952 15 pages £2.00
The Shops of Vange London Road & High Road 44 pages £5.00
The 1st Pitsea and Vange Scouts 1913 - 1971 36pages £4.5

BASILDON BOOKLET

Locarno Mecca Dancing 1961 - 1971 71 pages £6.00

PITSEA BOOKLETS

W. J. Wager Dairies 7 pages £1.50
Tuskite Works Pitsea Hall Lane 10 pages £1.50
Broadway Cinema 22 pages £3.00
Pitsea United Football Club. 83 pages £8.70
Pitsea Market 1924 - 1969 22 pages £2.60



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basildonheritage@outlook.com

Basildon Heritage
The Green Centre
Wat Tyler Country Park
Pitsea Hall Lane
Pitsea, Basildon
Essex.
SS16 4UH.

Monday & Wednesday's 10am—12pm

Saturdays 10am—3pm