

## News from the Parish Council - Rebecca Simcox



“Being a Parish councillor is fun” said the speaker at the Dynamic Councillor course last Wednesday.

Fun??? I was still struggling with the word “dynamic”...

We were working through the powers and responsibilities that come with the Councilor role, and Fun did not seem to fit! Or does it?

There were lots of villagers packed into the village hall on 18<sup>th</sup> May to hear all about the B17 bomber that had crash landed safely in a field in Nelson Park in 1945. It was a fascinating account and very moving. All the more so, as the daughter of the pilot, his nephew, son in law and friend were in attendance. As were some local gentlemen, who as school kids were being ferried back from Langdon school, spotted the crash site, persuaded their school bus to pull over and had this wonderful opportunity to meet the crew, have a guided tour of the large bomber and then were given chocolate and chewing gum to take home. A wonderful memory and one that can now be cherished forever.

The History society excelled! It was a wonderful day, the organization faultless, the memorial was unveiled at the field in Nelson Park, with music and cadets marching, the presentations were fascinating, the school choir sang, and I have never seen so much cake at the village hall. The village pulled together efficiently and beautifully. There are too many people to even start trying to name them. You know who you are! Thank you.

The Parish Council can claim no credit for the occasion, apart from some help with the required planning application, before the stone could be erected.

However, as your councillors, Anna Newton and I were invited to a special lunch with Christine Waterman and the Americans at Wallets Court, donated, served and cooked by Chris and Leah Oakley. It was a wonderful afternoon, I made four new friends and the cuisine was exquisite.

I was very pleased and proud to be a parish councillor that day, and yes, I would even say it was “Fun”.

The memorial is well worth a visit, please go and have a look.

As you are probably anticipating, we have come to the part of my report where I mention the 3 vacancies on the council. Please do have a think, maybe you would like to have a go, or you know someone who might. Training is provided. Have a talk to Jane our clerk, or one or two of us directly. Come along to one of our meetings – second Monday of every month, excluding August at 6:45 for question time and a 7pm start. We are a welcoming bunch!

Parish Council Contact details are at the end of this article.

My councilor colleague Anna is writing about the South Foreland Valley in this month's magazine. St Margaret's is very lucky to have such a beautiful and extensive area allocated as our village green and to have residents prepared to look after it for all of us, and for future generations, to enjoy.

### **CPR Training:**

Last March Clive Harding conducted some very useful defibrillator training.

Since then I have seen a de-fib used twice in anger. Last Tuesday, was particularly real when I was swim training with Deal Tri and a friend in my lane collapsed. I helped pull him out of the pool at Whitfield, watched as he went rigid, then blue and then stopped breathing. A swimming colleague started strong compressions, a spectator used the leisure center's de-fib and he literally was brought back to life before our eyes. These De-fib things work!

Clive has kindly volunteered to do another session 7pm Mon 15<sup>th</sup> July. All welcome, whether you have had training before or are a complete novice. You do not need to book, however, if you could, it would give us an idea of numbers.

The Parish Council sourced the de-fib at the village hall, and it is always accessible. It is easy to use; a recorded voice talks you through what to do and the machine won't let you do anything bad. We understand there is also a de-fib in the holiday park, primary school and the football club but these may only be available when the facilities are open.

**Parish Council contact details:** Webpage: [www.stmargarets.pc.co.uk](http://www.stmargarets.pc.co.uk) email: [parish.clerk@stmargaretspc.co.uk](mailto:parish.clerk@stmargaretspc.co.uk), leave a message on 01304 892535, or drop a note in the box at the village hall.

**CPR Training**  
**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July**  
**7:00pm Channel Rooms**