

Newport **weddings** and civil partnerships



Louise Connell, formerly of Newport, married Phillip Knight on 8th September 2012 at St Mary's Church Newport.



Steve Leys of Newport and Clare Bayford of Saffron Walden were married on the 24th August at St Marys Church Saffron Walden followed by a reception at Parklands, The happy couple then went on honeymoon to Mexico.



Joel Priest formerly of Newport and Carrie Williamson formerly of Ryde, were married at Landguard Manor, Ventnor, Isle of Wight on May 14th 2011. The couple spent their honeymoon in Hawaii.



James Smith of Newport, married Emily O'Shea from Poole, at the Haven Hotel in Sandbanks, Dorset on the 14th July 2012. Many friends and family from Newport made the trip to Sandbanks. The happy couple honeymooned in Sorrento.

On Saturday, June 2nd Laurie Poole of The Toll House married Carole Tyler and they kindly asked me to join them at the reception in their lovely garden, a party which I much enjoyed.

Laurie was born in Dagenham in 1942, one of three children. He left school at 15 in 1957 and worked in a garage and then in the excavation business until he found his main career when at the age of 29 he joined the London Fire Brigade at East Ham and stayed for 17 years.

Finally he worked at Stansted airport until he retired. He and Carole now have a thriving Bed and Breakfast business at their home at the Toll House, a house to which Laurie had originally come to in 1976.

We then moved on to Laurie's family situation and he told me that he had first of all married Janet Stanton in 1963 and they had three children, Mandy, David and Wendy. Sadly he and Janet divorced in 1995 and he then married Doreen Eckersley in 1998. She had been born in 1944 but tragically died in 2009 of cancer and Motor Neurone Disease.

Carole Tyler, a friend of Doreen's had then entered Laurie's life. Carole had been born in 1955 at Caerphilly. She married Tony Pigram but they divorced in 2005 having had two daughters, Jo, born in 1984, who very sadly died in 2007 aged only 22 and Jennifer, born in 1989 and who lives in Saffron Walden. Carole and Laurie enjoy running the B & B together. I asked them where their clientele came from and they responded from a variety of sources, the Internet, the Tourist Office and local contacts. They love the Toll House, an early 18th century building with a great deal of history. Laurie has greatly extended and improved the garden over the years. I left them with my best wishes for a long and happy marriage.

By John Gordon



WEDDINGS! If you live in Newport and would like your photograph to appear in 'Newport News', please get in touch with John Gordon (542090).

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