

village bulletin

September 2013 Issue 135

www.westbergholt.net

Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire

The West Bergholt Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire which appeared in June's Bulletin has been enthusiastically supported by residents in the village and wider parish area. Around 450 replies were received with a third being filled in on line via the link in the West Bergholt Website.



Our village & parish life
in our hands

A big THANK YOU to all who filled it in; this represents about a third of all households who receive the Bulletin and means that the survey will be a representative sample of the community's views. A big THANK YOU also to Ash's, the doctor's surgery and the Co-op for their willingness to have the collection boxes. The draws for the hamper and the voucher for the youngsters will be made shortly.

All the written comments have been read and we will endeavour to incorporate them in our final analysis. That will now take place over the next few weeks with the Steering Group members busily collating and reading all responses. Without wanting to give too much away: traffic issues topped the list of concerns as it did with the previous Parish Plan survey.

The area of the Neighbourhood Plan has now also been ratified by the Borough Council. Following the end of the consultation on this matter and a recent Planning Committee, our plan area is now confirmed as corresponding to the existing Parish boundary.

We will keep you informed of the outcome of the questionnaire analysis via future Bulletins but the survey results are likely to be published initially on *www.westbergholt.net*. We will also endeavour to contact those that showed an interest in joining the Steering Group – but why not check the notice boards and come along to the next advertised meeting.

As ever please feel free to contact Chris Stevenson (*cdstevenson@gmail.com* or 01206 241708) or Murray Harlow (*murray123@live.co.uk* or 01206 240792) on any aspect of the plan and its preparation.

Chris Stevenson Chairman,
West Bergholt Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

REPORT ON THE VILLAGE TRAFFIC PLAN - SEE PAGE ELEVEN

the village bulletin *information*

PROVIDED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL OF WEST BERGHOLT

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67 Mumford Road,
West Bergholt
☎ 242 236



Vice-Chairman

Harry Stone
Vindens, Chapel Lane
West Bergholt
☎ 241 026

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Murray Harlow	25 Valley Crescent	☎	242 007
Rosemary James	98 Chitts Hill	☎	241038
Andrew Savage	6 Garling Walk	☎	242 015
David Short	60 Albany Road	☎	241 715
Chris Stevenson	74 Mumford Road	☎	241 708
Bob Tyrrell	43 Albany Road	☎	240 016
Phil Walby	2 The Hop House	☎	240 000
Rachel Young	1 Ormonde Close	☎	240 360

PARISH WORKING COMMITTEES

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<i>Environment and Highways</i>	David Short, Jenny Church, Murray Harlow, Rosemary James, Harry Stone, Phil Walby, Rachel Young
<i>Planning and Development</i>	Chris Stevenson, Andrew Savage, Bob Tyrrell
<i>Finance and Personnel Advisory</i>	Andrew Savage, John Gili-Ross, Chris Stevenson, Harry Stone

CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

Val Walsom 17 Armoury Road, CO6 3JN ☎ 240 149
The Parish Clerk is available for Parish business at any reasonable time, but in particular on Tuesday evenings.

ORPEN HALL ADMINISTRATOR

Vicky Beckwith-Cole email: hall-admin@westbergholt.net ☎ 619 258
The Administrator is available to deal with enquiries at any reasonable time. Bookings should be made at the Hall on Thursdays between 7pm and 8pm. Please use the old side entrance.

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Marcus Harrington	Barn End, Cooks Hall Lane	☎	241 411
Dennis Willetts	dennis.willetts@btinternet.com	☎	240 314

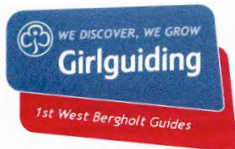
ESSEX COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Anne Brown email: Cllr.Anne.Brown@essexcc.gov.uk

Parish Council monthly meetings are held in the John Lampon Hall on the fourth Wednesday of every month starting at 7.30pm. Prior to the start of the meetings, between 7.15pm and 7.30pm, the public are invited to raise any item for consideration by the Parish Council at its next meeting.

The village bulletin is funded by the Parish Council as part of a community service. It is issued quarterly and distributed to every household in the Parish. The views expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Parish Council.

1st West Bergholt Guides



In the last bulletin I advised that we raised £90 for Comic Relief, we actually raised £151.00!

We did our Fire Safety Badge this term, finishing with a visit to the Colchester Fire Station on 6th June to complete the badge. The visit finished with a go on the fire hoses which was enjoyed by all.



We applied for a Jack Petchey Award to help pay for the activities at camp. Ruby Simmons-Millard grew her hair and on the 15th March she had thirteen inches of her hair cut off for a charity called The Little Princess Trust. This charity makes wigs for children who have had chemotherapy and have lost all of their hair. Ruby also raised £1000.00 for this charity. They use the money to help pay for a company to make the wigs.

I felt this was an exceptional thing to do and that she deserved to be recognized for this. We were really pleased when they awarded Ruby for what she had done.

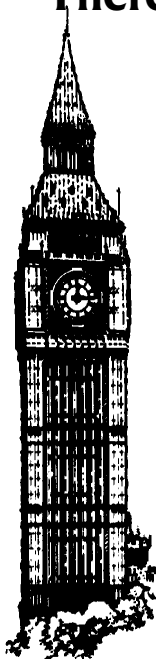


We have only just returned from Madagascar Escape 2 Africa Camp! There were 21 of us and we had an excellent time. While we were at Belchamps Scout Centre we took part in Crate Stacking, Fencing, Water Zorbing, Swimming, Bridge Building and the Adventure Run. Emma also organised an excellent Wide game which had five different tasks relating to saving the African Warblers and their last un-hatched egg!!

We were fed well by Gill who created some excellent meals – so good, we had visitors wanting to join us for our meals!!

Sandra Gates, Guide Guider

Don't miss the Bulletin Quiz. There is STILL TIME to Book YOUR Table



DATE

Saturday 21st September 2013

PLACE

Orpen Memorial Hall,
starting at 7.30pm.

The Top Team will hold the
CHALLENGE CUP
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Raffle prizes
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Tables consists of four people making up a team.
They can be from a village club or just good
friends as long as one member is a village
resident.

Fill in the entry form below and return it to
Susan Leng at 36 Albany Road by
14th September 2013.

The cost for a table of four is only £16
so come and enjoy yourselves.

All proceeds will be donated to the *Teenage Cancer Trust*.

VILLAGE BULLETIN QUIZ ENTRY FORM 2013

Name of Team

Name of person applying

Address

Phone Number

For each team of four people please enclose a
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Simon at BITS on 07919 903617

Whatever it is you hope to use your computer for, we can help.

Bergholt Heath Youth Football Club



We are now in the close season and able to reflect on a particularly good season for our under 14 team who have made the Bergholt Heath virtual trophy cabinet heave under the weight of TWO cups won this season. This is the first time the club has won any cup competition. Now we have won two so congratulations to them.

The two younger sides acquitted well and the Under 18s and their manager Ian Turner bowed out gracefully in their last season. I am pleased to report that Ian is staying involved in order to steer the Club to achieving Charter Standard within the next two years. Such are the demands of running a football club. We are also seeing the introduction of nine-a-side football for the intermediate age groups.

We had a successful social event in June at our Awards Evening and next up in the diary is our kick-off barbecue scheduled for 1st September. All are welcome.

The season starts again on 3rd September. Let's hope for even greater achievement then.

Leslie Wright

Mobile: +447891239117



CHARITY NO: 299094

The Care Network is here to help any residents of the village, whatever their age, to get to appointments if transport is needed and other means are not possible or available. Most journeys are to Doctors' Surgeries, Clinics or Hospitals, but other local appointments can be considered.

Telephone the number below for the day on which you make your call. Try to phone at least a day or two before you need transport. If there is no reply please try any other number but do not leave answer-phone messages as we are unable to respond to these.

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Wednesday	247016	Thursday	240569
Friday	240487	Saturday/Sunday	242075

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer driver - hours and times of your choice, please contact Harry Stone on 241026.

Do you have, or do you know someone with Sight Problems?

Being able to see is something we all take for granted until something goes wrong with our eyes. Have you ever thought how difficult it would be to live permanently in the gloom of a power cut, coping with the everyday tasks of housework, reading post and unable to see what the time is.

If you have recently been diagnosed as **Sight Impaired** by your optician or hospital and do not know what to do next, help is available. **Essex Sight** (part of the Essex Blind Charity) is a local charity offering support, information, care and equipment for people with visual impairments across Essex.

Many eye conditions are controllable especially if caught in the early stages and only a small percentage of people lose their sight completely. Even if you are told there is nothing that can be done to improve the medical condition of your eyes, enhanced lighting, magnifying glasses, talking watches, clocks and kitchen aids are some of the equipment that we can help you with. We also provide information on useful services such as financial assistance available, talking newspapers and books and local clubs and can make home visits.

Everyone is welcome to come along to our Sight Centres, whether registered visually impaired or not. You can drop in and browse and have a coffee and a chat to our staff and volunteers, some of whom are visually impaired themselves so understand what it feels like.

Essex Sight is the community services division of Essex Blind Charity providing information and equipment for people with sight loss.

Email: services@essexblind.co.uk

Web site: www.essexblind.co.uk



Essex Health and Social Care Signposting Service

A new easy way to find details of local NHS and Social Care services

A new signposting service has been launched in Essex. If you need to find details of an NHS or social care service and don't know where to look, you can now call a new telephone helpline.

Essex Signposting is free and can give you details of all local NHS and social care services including dentists, GPs, opticians, pharmacies.

The service can be contacted on freephone **0300 0032125** or email Essex.HSCSS@nhs.net, Monday to Friday between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm.

More information about Healthwatch Essex can be found on their website at: www.healthwatchessex.org.uk

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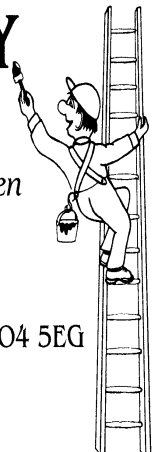
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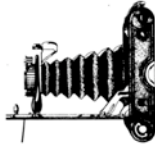
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West Bergholt History Group



The group activities have continued throughout the summer with a series of visits to place of historical interest.

May - Brightlingsea

In May the group visited All Saints Church at Brightlingsea whose 100ft tower can be seen for miles. Local guide, John Riley, gave us a comprehensive tour showing us brasses dating from the 15th century and memorials to the Beriffe family who were shipping merchants during the towns heyday as a major port. There is also a unique frieze of ceramic tiles running almost the entire inner wall of the church naming every Brightlingsea resident lost at sea since 1860.

June - Manningtree

The June meeting was a guided tour around Manningtree, reputed to be England's smallest town, 22 acres of which five are mud! The origins of the town are 13th century and it also gets a mention in Shakespeare's Henry IV. Manningtree is also well known for its most infamous resident Matthew Hopkins, the Witchfinder General. The opening of the river to commercial traffic in 1713 and the coming of the railway in 1846 really opened up the town for business and it became very prosperous during the Victorian period particularly thanks to the brewing and malting industry.

July - Coggeshall

For our July visit we were in Coggeshall for another guided tour by a local historian. The town is very old, originally a settlement on the Roman road out of Colchester. The most famous building in the town is probably Paycockes, built in the mid 16th century and now owned by the National Trust. Coggeshall appears so quiet and rural now but, years ago it was a hive of industry, milling, maltings, brewing, tanning, cloth making, blacksmiths, wheel and millwrights. Up until the dissolution of the monasteries Coggeshall had a huge Abbey and the town achieved a degree of notoriety in modern times around the case of Doctor Jones and his missing wife.

The visit to Aldford Mill in August will be reported in the next issue.

From September to November our meetings revert to talks in the Orpen Hall on the second Wednesday of every month starting at 8pm.

Our forthcoming programme is as follows

September	Simon of Sudbury	Roger Green
October	The Great Essex Earthquake	Peter Jones
November	School House Names History	Peter Noakes
December	No Meeting	

Members £1 per talk, non members £2, all welcome

Further details please telephone Bernard 01206 240297



Memories of a long term allotment plot holder

The year began sadly following the passing of Bob Hall in December. Bob was a long term plot holder on the Chapel/Church Road site and a wonderful servant to the village which he served as a local 'Bobbie' during the late sixties to early eighties. Bob's cheery voice, sense of humour and raucous laughter are much missed by all his many friends at the allotment and in the village. Our sincere thoughts are with Bob's wife and family.

3rd West Bergholt Brownies

We've come to the end of another busy summer term, when we had to say goodbye to two girls leaving after three years with the Brownies.

We held a joint meeting with 1st Bergholt Brownies where we enjoyed a game of rounders on the Poors Field.

Just before Fathers' Day we invited Dads and Grandads to join our meeting - we played some fun games together, then the adults lit some instant bbq's that we then cooked 'smores' on (those of you who don't know 'smores' are toasted marshmallows squashed between biscuits-very yummy!)

The girls enjoyed a fashion night where we recycled plastic carrier bags and made them into dresses; a very interesting catwalk that night!

On our last evening the two leaving Brownies organised an 80's themed leaving party-fancy dress, forfeits in a pass the parcel and party food with ice lollies to cool down after lots of dancing.

We held our first sleepover in the Church Hall and looking forward to our Brownie Holiday at Thorington at the end of the summer.

Diana Woodgate, Brown Owl

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When you need legal and financial advice

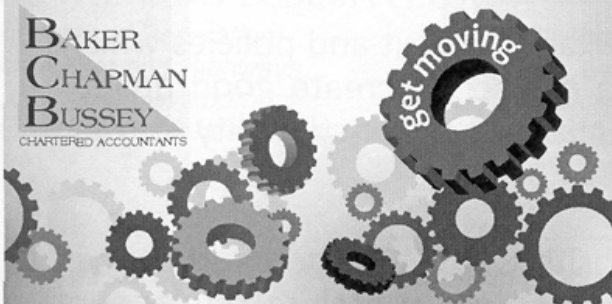


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West Bergholt Concert Band

35 Years Anniversary



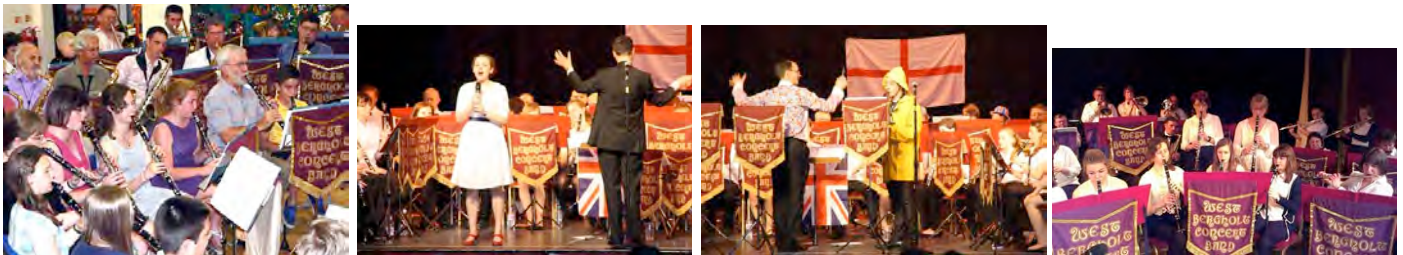
The Band's 35th anniversary celebrations continued with an end-of-term Concert / Dance at Heathlands School, which proved to be enormous fun both for us and for our audience, especially those that were brave enough to dance. A couple of the band members seemed to spend more time dancing than playing, and it's the first time this conductor can remember having to shield the band from the flailing legs which resulted from some very energetic dancing.

A fortnight earlier we were back at the West Cliff Theatre in Clacton for a "Strictly the Last Night Of The Proms" concert, which as ever involved lots of audience participation for the proms music with the addition of some dancing and lots of clapping along to the Dance music. As with all of our concerts at the West Cliff we were treated to a large, interactive and highly appreciative audience, and we also raised £1300 for St Helena Hospice.

Looking ahead...this time next year will see a large proportion of the band leave for University, so the band will be arranging lots of young musician and school events over the next twelve months to replenish our numbers.

These start with two primary-school workshops and mini-concerts (Saturdays 21st September and 12th October), and lead into our annual "Band Play Day" where new players join us for an afternoon rehearsal and evening concert, with this year's event taking the form of a "sponsored play" in aid of a Cancer charity. As the band started back in November 1978, this concert will also be our official 35th birthday concert, so please come and join us on Saturday November 23rd, St Botolph's Colchester – "Play Day" from 2pm, Concert at 7:30pm.

New members are welcome outside of these events, either at our termly Open Rehearsal on Friday 20th September, or at any term-time Friday evening rehearsal at Heathlands. There's no audition, and the band's uniqueness is that we have players from 7 to 70, so there's always someone younger/older/worse/better than you...and plenty of people to help you get used to playing in a band. Everything you need to know about the band (including details of all our events and how to join us) is on our website www.wbcb.org, or you can call Graham on 01206 824157.



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If you would like to know more or put your child's name on our waiting list, contact Jackie Leach on 241677.

Copy for the December edition should be received by 1st November 2013.

Late additions cannot be guaranteed entry

Submissions to any of the Bulletin team -
Advertising: Vicky Beckwith-Cole telephone 619258
hall-admin@westbergholt.net

Susan Swan - telephone 242319

Susan Leng - telephone 241748

Jane Williams - telephone 243636

Distribution: John and Nora Bates telephone 240741

Editor: Bernard Colbron - telephone 240297

bernardcolbron@btinternet.com

All articles and letters are accepted on the condition that they may be edited.

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West Bergholt Gardeners' Association



A group of over fifty enjoyed a coach trip to Great Dixter House and Gardens in June. Several visitors were also welcomed. The Dixter cottage gardens were on a grand scale, designed as a series of rooms, and skilfully incorporating the pre-existing farm buildings, and providing a perfect setting for Christopher Lloyd's talents. He was renowned for his flamboyant use of strong colour, as witnessed in the many borders on our visit.



Our annual Plant Sale was a resounding success. From the funds raised, we will be donating to local charities again this year. We thank all our supporters on the day.

Our speaker meetings resume on 16th September at 7.30 pm in the Orpen Hall when Thady Barrett will talk on 'Selecting the right fruit for your garden' at the AGM. Thady is a consultant to the horticultural industry with particular interest in the ornamental plant sector. Previously a senior lecturer at Writtle College for 20 years, he is a member of the International Plant Propagators Society and awarded the Rose Bowl Award in 2009 in recognition of his contribution to the society.

At the 14th October meeting we will welcome Eddy Harris, representing The British Cactus and Succulent Society, who will introduce his audience to 'Cacti and Succulents'. And on 18 November Sally Hepher, a volunteer for the 'Woodland Trust', will tell us about her role and the organisation which covers several local sites. The Trust is the UK's leading woodland conservation charity – www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/ Members will be entertained by speaker Barry Kaufmann-Wright on 9th December, relating on his former occupation of 'Wildlife Crime Officer' with the Essex Police. He now runs a consultancy in carrying out ecological surveys on protected species primarily for local authorities and developers. Our seasonal meeting will be complemented with a buffet supper.

We are a friendly club and always welcome new members and visitors.

Subscription is only £10 per year. Visitor entry is £3 per meeting.

For further information contact either Valerie Lofthouse, 01206 855450 valerielofthouse1@hotmail.co.uk or Terry Claydon. <http://www.westbergholt.net/village-life/clubs/gardeners>

Colne Valley Flower Club



Colne Valley Flower Club based in West Bergholt celebrated their 60th Anniversary on Saturday 20th July with a celebratory lunch at Colne Valley Golf Club. Seventy Guests attended, including club members, past members and friends, the NAFAS, East of England Area President Sheila Kyte, Colchester Group President Maureen Burrows and Colchester Group Chairman Sandra Price.



The day commenced with drinks and canapés, followed by a two course lunch and then a flower demonstration by Alan Smith from Ipswich. Four members were awarded their twenty-five year badges. The day finished with tea and cake and the raffle.

At our July members evening, members each brought a bunch of flowers bought in a Super Market, resulting in a variety of imaginative arrangements. At our next meeting on Wednesday 18th September Crystal Dyball will be demonstrating 'Blooming Lovely



We have increased our membership of the club this year and are still looking for new members. If you like flowers please come and join us at the Orpen Hall, you will be made welcome. Contact Pat on 01787 227833 or Alison 01206 240262

A practical flower arranging group has been formed, meeting at the Scout Hut, West Bergholt on the third Tuesday of the month 2pm – 4pm. We would be pleased to see you, if you would like to join us.

Library Times

The Mobile Library visits the village **fortnightly on a Tuesday.**

The stops and times for West Bergholt are:

Albany Road	13.55 – 14.20
Scout Hut, Lexden Road	14.45 – 15.30
Queens Road	15.35 – 15.55
Chapel Road	16.00 – 16.45

Queries about the service-telephone Answers Direct 0845 6037628

Village Traffic Safety Plan

In response to issues raised by village residents in the Parish Plan of 2009 the Parish Council spent nearly two years consulting various parties before producing last year a Traffic Safety Plan for the village. The plan which is available on the village website was endorsed by the Local Highways Panel and formed the basis for the funding for the projects under current consideration.

Early indications from the comments on the returned questionnaires from the whole village for the present Neighbourhood Plan are that the most pressing concerns of residents continue to centre on traffic issues, and in particular speeding and parking. The particular dangers are perceived to be in the areas leading up to the school and the Co-op, both of which provide vital services to the village. Clearly many would support actions to address these dangers.

The Parish Council is now actively pursuing the implementation of this Traffic Safety Plan and is engaged with Essex County Council (ECC) engineers in drawing up plans for safety works in New Church Road. These will inevitably involve some restrictions on the speed of traffic and parking. The Council is committed to ensuring that the measures have a positive impact by meeting the aims of the plan whilst at the same time considering the views of village residents. The intention is to create an environment where parents of older pupils at the school feel safe in allowing their children to walk, or even to cycle, to school unaccompanied thus removing the need to use their car. This clearly does not exist at the moment and to do nothing will not improve safety.

Set out below are the proposed measures for adoption recommended by the Parish Council. Any suggestions for changes will be considered before a final version is submitted to ECC Highways for the portfolio holder's approval. Once obtained formal notices of the works to be carried out will be published by ECC.

- 1** No parking double yellow lines for 15m (the statutory length) at each junction with New Church Road. *This will enable enforcement to be carried out by the relevant authorities.*
- 2** A low level rectangular table at each end of New Church Road. *The aim is to check driver speeds and raise awareness of potential pedestrian presence ahead. It is likely that low level lighting will be needed at these points – no specific plans are currently available.*
- 3** Time restricted parking (single yellow line) for about 20m spanning the footpath from Mumford Close into New Church Road together with minor works to improve the crossing point. *This is considered essential at school journey times to give children a clear view down the road.*
- 4** Time restricted parking from the zig zags for 20m towards Lexden Road. *Designed to give a clear view around the dangerous bend in the road.*
- 5** Improved signage at the junctions of New Church Road with Chapel Road and Lexden Road and of School Lane with Colchester Road.

A composite plan of these works is on display on the village noticeboard and a more detailed plan of a particular area is available from the Parish Clerk.

In addition to these measures the Parish Council is considering making an application for a 20mph speed limit in New Church Road and School Lane. This application is more likely to succeed if the above measures are implemented first. Your comments on the recommendation and the introduction of a 20mph speed limit should be sent to the Parish Clerk – Mrs Val Walsom, 17 Armoury Road, or preferably by email to westbergholtpc@gmail.com

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St. Mary's Church

Groundbreakers 'Stand your Ground', our holiday club for primary aged children, took place on the first three days of the school holidays with the children coming along to learn more about how Daniel and his friends Stood their Ground for God when threatened by the fiery furnace and lions! Children had fun helping to act out the story, playing games, making crafts and worshipping God.

Many thanks to everyone who helped in anyway before, during or after Groundbreakers – we really couldn't do it without you. Rachel, Caroline and Kate

There will be a Christingle Groundbreakers around Christmastime - date to be arranged.

The next Senior's Lunch will be on 21st September at 12.45. We can give you a lift if transport is a problem. Please contact Murray Harlow on 07989720256 if you would like to come.

Harvest and Back to Church Sunday is on 29th September this year. If you have been in the habit of going to church and, for some reason, have stopped, this is an opportunity to come back. If you have never been to church before we can offer you a warm welcome at St. Mary's.

We will be decorating the church for Harvest on Saturday 28th from 10am and if you would like to help, please come along. Donations of produce, flowers and food in cans or packets are welcome.

Wired (St. Mary's Youth Group for Secondary School children) on Fridays 13th September, 11th October, 8th November and 6th December from 7.45pm in the church hall.

Open House and Squeals on Wheels (singing, bible story and toys for pre-schoolers and their carers) 9.00 – 11.00am Thursdays for coffee, chat and cake – in the church

5T's 2.30pm on alternate Thursday afternoons is an opportunity to enjoy company, tea and cake in the church hall.

Our usual pattern of services is as follows:

1st Sunday	9.30am	Holy Communion*
2nd Sunday	9.30am	All age service
	6.30pm	Evening Prayer
3rd Sunday	9.30am	Holy Communion*
4th Sunday	9.30am	Morning Worship*
5th Sunday	Alternate with Methodist Church	

* with BUGs – (St. Mary's Sunday School for primary school aged children)

For more details of church events see Good News, our church magazine.

If you would like a copy of *Good News* delivered to your door, please call Kate Wilson on 01206 752056.

Visit our website at:

www.sites.google.com/site/stmaryswbergholt/
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The work of the Friends continues throughout the year. Our May guided nature walk saw a 'full house' of 23 walkers, which was very heartening. Although this walk is traditionally about the Bluebells, the late season this year meant that they were still not at their best. However the same conditions have resulted in the flowering periods of many flowers being squeezed together, increasing the variety of what could be seen. As they entered the wood they were welcomed by a beautiful spread of Wood anemones and this year's spectacular display of Early Purple orchids.

Several members of the group were able to see one of our resident Nuthatches as it fed on one of the large Ash trees. This species is scarce in this part of Essex, so we are lucky to have some in Hillhouse Wood.

This year's Dawn Chorus saw 32 people turning up at 3.45 am. As we reached the main entrance a solitary Robin struck up its fluid song, and we could hear a Nightingale singing lower down the wood together with a Blackbird. The Blackbird is sometimes referred to as 'the poor man's Nightingale', so we had a good opportunity to compare the two. We then travelled down the hill to where we had arguably the highlight of the walk: the Nightingale that we had first heard had continued to sing throughout the walk so far. By now we were only a few yards from its bush, but it continued to sing unabated. Everyone in the party was able to thoroughly familiarise themselves with a Nightingale in full cry. In all, there was a total of 21 species making this a very respectable event.

Working Parties continue as part of the management of the Wood. June saw a very productive session focusing on maintaining high standards of safety for those walking through the Wood. We completely dismantled the old fence that was around the 'canyon' near the bottom stream and also levelled out the sleeper type bridge below the bottom pond. In addition we worked on the rhododendron bridge, replacing a sleeper and levelling out the timbers.

None of the above could happen without the voluntary help of all those involved backed by the support of our members.

Andrew Savage, Chairman

WANTED

We need extra help to deliver the Bulletin around the village.
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West Bergholt Women's Institute



In June the President welcomed a new committee member, Sheila Boxshall, who will run the competition table. The Inter WI Quiz at Highwoods was won by our team who went forward to the final. Sadly they did not win in the Essex finals, though.

Four members attended the Mayoress's 'At Home' in Colchester Town Hall and also enjoyed a conducted tour, taking the opportunity to wave from the balcony too! At our June monthly meeting, Brian Carline was welcomed with his talk entitled 'Soil, Sweat and Tears'. He was an excellent speaker with amusing anecdotes and useful gardening tips.

Instead of an outing during the day in July members attended a Strawberry Soiree in the Orpen Hall. It was a relaxed and pleasant evening with quizzes, reports, a bumper raffle and plenty of chat.

The following Saturday afternoon members enjoyed a Garden Party hosted by Manya Barrow from Horsepits with perfect weather and lovely views over the fields off Cooks Hall.

The August meeting had slightly fewer members attending due to holidays, but those who came really enjoyed the speaker from Braintree, Marjorie Haddon. She read us many of her highly original poems – some amusing, some poignant, but all beautifully written.

We welcomed yet another new member to join our ranks in August – that makes three in three months! If you would like to give it a try ladies, please come along and see what we do – we meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.15pm in the Orpen Hall. You'll get a warm welcome – come alone or with a friend !

The next meeting on September 4th is "Famous Essex People". On October 2nd we have a special Open Meeting to which visitors and friends are invited (£3 entry for non-members) when the speaker will be Derrick Thomas telling us about his life as a Toastmaster. In November we have "A visit to China" with Mick Morrissey and December will be a Members-only Party with the Magic Marvo Stage Show.



Methodist Church

In June a sponsored walk in West Mersea in aid of Action for Children took place. Fifteen walkers and a dog enjoyed a choice of a one or two hour walk, and a sum of £694 was raised.

A United Service was held with Great Horkesley Church at the end of June followed by a picnic which was enjoyed by all with such perfect weather.

Our Minister Ruth with the help of one or two of our church members encouraged some of the children at Heathlands School Fete to make Kites this year.

During August we have been arranging Young Family Coffee and Craft activities. Our Final morning is on Monday 3rd September. If you have not already been along this holiday you will be welcome to come along at 10.30 - 12.00 in the Methodist Hall.

Our Harvest Festival takes place on Sunday 22nd September with a Bring and Share lunch after the Service. We will be decorating the church on Saturday morning from 10.00am and would welcome donations of fruit, flowers, tinned and packet goods. We hope to send a large donation of produce to the Food Bank this year.

The next QUIZ NIGHT will be on Saturday 12th October at 7.00 p.m. in the Methodist Church Hall. Tables of four are £16.00 and can be booked with Judith on 214969. Don't leave it too late to book this very popular event.

The Rev Ruth Ridge will be holding a LIGHT A CANDLE SERVICE on Thursday 7th November at 7.30 p.m. This short service enables anyone with a need to remember a loved one recently lost or an anniversary to add names to our remembrance prayer list.

Saturday 30th November is the date of our CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING. Come along and join us from 10.00 to 11am. for Coffee and Mince Pies and last minute gifts, cards, cakes and the Mystery Parcels.

GIFT & PARADE SERVICE - 1st December at 11.00am. - with the Uniformed Organisations and families.

Diary

Sept 10th	Shared Village Communion	11.00am
11th	Coffee Morning in Hall	10.00am
18th	Women's Fellowship at Wycliffe Fellowship	2.30pm
19th	Bible Study - The Manse	7.30pm
22nd	Harvest Festival	11.00am
Oct 8th	Shared Village Communion	11.00am.
9th	Coffee Morning in Hall	10.00am
12th	QUIZ NIGHT in Hall	7.00pm
16th	Women's Fellowship T.B.A.	2.30pm
17th	Bible Study	7.30pm
20th	Church Anniversary	11.00am
Nov 7th	LIGHT A CANDLE SERVICE	7.30pm
12th	Shared Village Communion	11.00am
13th	Coffee Morning in Hall	10.00am
20th	Women's Fellowship T.B.A.	2.30pm
21st	Bible Study	7.30pm
30th	XMAS COFFEE MORNING in the Hall	10.00 - 11.30am

Dec 1 GIFT & PARADE SERVICE 11.00am

All regular Services at 11.00am

Please check service Notice Board for any combined services or change of times.

Rev. Ruth Ridge is available in the church for a time of quiet prayer or support from 9.30am - 10.00am each Saturday.



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St. Mary's Old Church

The works planned for the Spring mentioned in our last report never happened due to a lack of funds within the Churches Conservation Trust. It seems that in future any work required to the fabric of the building will have to be sourced from other sources either by the Friends or grants from other benevolent organisations. Primarily, the need is to keep the building watertight and weatherproof and this has been immediately addressed by temporary repairs to the channel between the two hipped roofs but a more permanent solution will be needed.

On a more pleasant note, the church has witnessed four weddings this year. Three happened in July and the fourth in September. These are wonderful happy occasions and it is delightful to see our building used again for the purposes it was built in the first place. It is interesting to reflect on how many thousands of villagers have made their vows there over the centuries. Thanks to the kindness of Mr and Mrs Bonham Carter at the Hall, the families were able to use the splendid grounds for their pictures of their day. We have seen doves released, horse drawn carriages and many wonderful vintage cars in a perfect setting. It is hoped that Alison and Dan, Neal and Katie, Steve and Anita and Carol and Yanni enjoyed their big day and have a long and very happy lives together. Thanks are also due to Reverend John Chandler for conducting the wedding services in a charming way. If there are any couples contemplating marriage in the future we would be delighted if they would consider using the church for the big day.

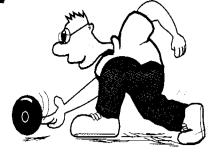
The spring open day to coincide with the Bluebells in the adjacent wood saw an art display from local artists as well as one from the Bluebells Pre School group who are regular visitors to the church. Several folk called in on their way to view the spectacular sight of the flowers in the woods.

The next event is part of the National Heritage Weekend when the church will be open on Sunday 15th September with Art Displays and other information to cover the heritage of the building and its importance to the community of West Bergholt. The historic organ will be played and refreshments will be available. We hope to see many folk visiting.

Finally, the church recorded nearly 10,000 visitors in the year to 31st March showing it is a popular place. The comments left in the visitors book show people appreciate the peace and tranquility of the building and its surroundings. We would ask all villagers to sign the visitors book whenever they call, as it assists in the funding of the Trust.

Martin Long, Chairman
Friends of St Mary's Old Church.

West Bergholt Indoor Bowls Club



Members of the Club have enjoyed a nice collection of matches and competitions during the summer months.

Two teams represented the Club in the Highwoods Charity Match with both teams doing quite well. This was followed by the Prettygate Challenge in July where one of the two teams came third, well done to all the players.

Among the friendly matches against Eight Ash Green, Great Bentley, Bures and Tollgate we gave a good account of ourselves playing a full team of sixteen both home and away.

We are pleased to have welcomed two new members to our club. They have settled in very well and are taking an active part in club activities, but we do have room for a few more members. So with the dark evenings coming fast come along to the Orpen Hall on a Thursday or Sunday evening and give carpet bowls a try - you will be made most welcome.

For more information telephone 01206 243301.

West Bergholt Badminton Club



The Badminton Club 'still' meets at the Orpen Hall on Tuesday evenings between 7.45 pm and 9.45 pm. If you are over sixteen and would like to join us, please come along and play.

We also have space for a limited number aged between fourteen and sixteen but please contact us on 240297.

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West Bergholt – 01206 242183

News Correspondent Jacqui Hunns
The Laurels, Firmins Court
Telephone: 240712
Email allanhunns@aol.com

(for Essex County Standard and The East Anglian Daily Times) - submissions for news items to be in two weeks prior to publication.

West Bergholt Cricket Club

The season is now in full swing with the Club's senior teams winning plenty of games, inspired no doubt by England. Dan Wheeler has scored his second century of the season with 143 against Great Totham, including Twenty 4s and Six 6s! Our festival weekend was held in glorious weather in July with the annual six a side tournament, ladies match, mid-week game and quiz night. Thank you to everyone who turned up from the village and supported over the weekend and particular thanks to all those that helped out. The next event will be the "Treble Tile Cup" on Monday 26th August, a T20 tri tournament between WBCC, Camul CC and The Hospital Arms CC. All are welcome and play gets under way at 11.00am.



Anyone interested in playing cricket from - kwik cricket (6-11), junior hard ball cricket (from 11-16), ladies or mens (midweek, weekend or indoor over the winter) should contact me.

Full details on our website www.westbergholtcc.com

Allotment News

This year's weather conditions have helped with excellent crops of vegetables and fruit being produced following last year's heavy rain and blight ridden season. Apart from the challenges and recreation side of producing fruit and vegetables this year's results will clearly be beneficial to the household budgets of many.

All plots (142) are currently being cultivated of which two have been made into four starter plots of 2.5 rods to enable new beginners to learn the basics of growing vegetables with assistance from other plot holders. Beginners are always welcome and friendly assistance and support is always available. If interested in a potential vacant allotment plot in the future, please contact the Parish Council Clerk, Val Walsom on 240149 or preferably by email to westbergholtplc@gmail.com

To help new and existing plot holders execute the heavy chore of turning their soil the allotment committee has secured a grant from Edible Essex for the purchase of a rotavator following a visit to the site in May.

Edible Essex is funded by Essex County Council to stimulate interest in growing your own fruit and vegetables. Edible Essex featured in this July's BBC Country File having generated 1,342 entries from Essex primary school pupils to design a vegetable plot, grow the produce and create a menu to which produce from their vegetable plot could contribute. The eventual winner came from Birch Primary School. Let's hope next year the winner comes from West Bergholt. Hopefully the Heathland's class visit in July to the allotment plot will

contribute to this when three staff and their pupils gained first hand knowledge from current plot holders.

Giving children a good start is very much at the forefront for the Blue Bells Pre-School located at Orpen Hall. With the assistance of experienced plot holders the Blue Bells pupils have developed their own allotment plot to produce vegetables which they plan to eat in the coming months as part of their 'hands on' tuition to understand how the food they eat is cultivated.

Finally many of the longer standing plot holders will remember Stan Rideout (Stan the mole!) plodding down New Church Road in his wellies with spade. Sadly Stan passed away at the age of 89 recently, having been in a nursing home for several years. Prior to that he lived with his sisters, Betty and Kathleen, who also died within a few days of each other earlier this summer having lived in the village all their lives. The village has lost real characters.

There are no strangers at the allotment site, but just new acquaintances to be made when you join the allotment family – good growing to one and all.

West Bergholt Football Club



Our season starts on August 17th so not much to report on the playing front other than that pre-season training has been well supported, and several friendly warm up games against strong opposition have gone very well. Our reserve team finished last season in second place in the league to secure promotion, and also won two cups, and the first team finished a credible third place in the premier league, so all in all a successful campaign.

Looking forward to the coming season, the managers have signed most of last seasons players, together with some new signings which should strengthen an already strong squad of players. We are optimistic of another good campaign.

We are continuing the junior coaching sessions on Saturday mornings, and are hoping to secure the services of a Colchester United coach to help our own coaches, so this should be an added incentive for the kids.

We look forward to your ongoing support and would be pleased to see as many as possible on match days.

Michael R Bell, Chairman



St Helena Hospice
your time...your hospice

Registered Charity Number 280919

Orpen Players

World Premiere



Yet again the Orpen Players are to the fore on the production of their brand new comedy

'Unfinished Business'

This is a brand new farce whodunnit spoof, gothic horror comedy devised and written by two of our members –David Wenden and Andrew Bott. There is a large cast and plenty of action both on and off the stage. The play is a play within a play and promises to be a very different experience for the audience, although they may rest easy that they are not expected to interact!

The playwrights were fortunate enough to see 'One Man Two Guv'nors' in London and were left gasping for breath from laughing. With this in mind they set about writing something that would elicit the same experience for the West Bergholt theatre goers.

Loosely, without giving too much away, the story is about a hurriedly ill-conceived play being put on to replace the scheduled production in the space of ten days! Props, set design and construction, line learning and costume have had to be completed within that time constriction and that does not take into account, rehearsal! To say that the cast is in disarray is an understatement so come along and laugh your socks off with a visit to:-

'Unfinished Business'

At the Orpen Hall

24th 25th 26th October at 8.00pm

Book online or by calling Roger Milne 01206 241048 *Now!*
Tickets on sale at Ash's from 12th October.
www.orpenplayers.co.uk

Final Push to reach £4000 for St Helena Hospice!

During this year, I have been raising money for St. Helena Hospice, in memory of my good friend and neighbour Maria Hart, who lived in West Bergholt for nearly thirty years. St. Helena Hospice cared for Maria in her final months and this is my way of thanking them. So far we have raised £3360 so a big thank-you to everyone for your support and generosity. I have one more social event planned for the young, and not so young members of our community.

On Tuesday 19 November there will be a Coffee Morning at St. Mary's Church Hall from 9 - 11.30 am. This event will have a Christmas theme. We will be serving tea, coffee and soft drinks and offering a selection of delicious cakes and pastries. There will be an opportunity to purchase St. Helena Hospice cards, handicrafts, gifts and food for Christmas.

Please come and join us. We look forward to welcoming you.

Jane Lloyd and friends.

Workers' Educational Association

Earlier this year, our branch in the village had a thought-provoking and interesting course which was tutored by Ted Woodgate where we heard about the hard reality of rural life back in nineteenth century north Essex and of the arson attacks that took place around West Bergholt.

This autumn our ten-week course is to be on 'Coastal Ecology and Conservation'. Fred Boot is a well-known speaker we have hoped to hear for some time and he will give an illustrated introduction to the different and contrasting areas of coastal East Anglia, their formation and the rich plant and animal life there. We will also consider their conservation and management for the future.

Our course starts on Tuesday 24th September at 8.00pm and is of one and a half hours duration. As usual, the venue is the Methodist Church Hall and the cost is £45.30 for the ten weeks.

Everyone is welcome and you may attend the first evening before committing to the course. For further information ring our secretary on 01206 240791 or e-mail: hurbal@tiscali.co.uk

Hope to see you there!

BULLETIN QUIZ - 21st SEPTEMBER at 7.30pm
SEE PAGE THREE

Friendship Club

We started the summer session in April with a talk by Mr. Arthur Brooks on 'Old Tyme Music Halls' which proved very interesting, also in April we had an afternoon of games.

In May, eighteen members went by car to a local nursery to buy their bedding plants and have afternoon tea. In June we had a talk by the Colchester Street Wardens, and two weeks later saw sixteen members off to Perrywoods in Tiptree for a very pleasant afternoon.

In July there was another afternoon of quizzes and games and a garden party at the home of Erika and Ray Cole.

There are a number of talks and outings lined up for the next few months, so why not come and join us every second and fourth Thursday afternoon between 2pm and 4pm at Orpen Hall

Our next meeting is on 12th September. We look forward to seeing you if you are over 55 years (men and women).

For further information telephone 240824.



Contacts and what's on guide

Orpen Hall - 150 standing or 108 seated persons John Lampon Hall - 30-50 persons.
To book hall-admin@westbergholt.net

St Marys Church - 60 persons Church Hall - 20-40 persons Vestry - 12 persons.
To book Phone Murray Harlow 07989720256

Methodist Church Hall - 20-60 persons. To book Phone David Kay 243 574

Sundays:

Service of Worship, 9.30am St Mary's Church.

Contact: stmaryswestbergholt@googlemail.com

Prayer Meeting, 10.15am 1st Sunday every month -
Methodist Church

Service of Worship, 11am Morning Worship - Methodist Church.

Contact: Rev. Ruth Ridge; 242183

Bowls Club, 7.30pm Orpen Hall. Contact: Eileen Brown 243301

Mondays:

West Bubs Cubs, 6.30pm-8pm Scout Hut.

Contact: Charles Hart; 241666

Bluebells Preschool, Monday to Friday 9.15am - 3.15pm

Orpen Hall. Contact: Jackie Leach 241677

Parent & Toddler Group, 9.15-11.30am Term time.

Methodist Church Hall - 242431

WB Art Group, 2pm Methodist Church Hall.

Contact: Mrs Pearce; 240200

Gardeners Association, 7.30pm 3rd Monday

Contact: Terry Claydon; 241256

SG Karate Club, 8.30pm-9.30pm Scout Hall.

Contact: Stuart Glistler 365150

Zumba Fitness, 6.45pm - 7.45pm Methodist Church Hall.

Contact: Mrs Clark 272759

Tuesdays:

NHS Primary Care Trust Baby Clinic, 10am-11am

Methodist Church Hall

Communion Service, 11am 2nd Tuesday Methodist Church

Badminton Club, 7.45pm Orpen Hall.

Contact: Bernard Colbron 240297

W.E.A., 8pm Methodist Church Hall.

Contact: Mrs Hurley; 240791

Slimming World, 7pm John Lampon Hall.

Contact: Carol French 07946603939

Little Stars, Scout Hut on Tuesday 9am - 11.30am.

Open to children 0-5 years throughout the year, older children welcome in the holidays. Contact: Yvonne 07812637607 or y.pickin@gmail.com for enquiries

WB Knitting & Crochet Group, is a house group

Meeting 1st Tuesday from 7.30pm - 9.30pm.

Phone 01206 242015 for details

Wednesdays:

Little Ducks, 10am-noon St Mary's Church Hall.

Contact: Fay 262775

Coffee Morning, 10am 2nd Wednesday.

Methodist Church Hall

Women's Institute, 7.15pm 1st Wednesday Orpen Hall.

Contact: Susan Leng 241748

Colne Valley Flower Club, 7.30pm 3rd Wednesday

Orpen Hall. Contact: 241155

History Group, 8pm 2nd Wednesday Orpen Hall.

Contact: Bernard Colbron 240297

Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm 4th Wednesday

John Lampon Hall

Ladies Afternoon Badminton, 2.30pm - 4pm Orpen Hall.

Contact: Carol Felton: 240126

W.B. Beavers, 4.45pm-6.00pm Scout Hut

Contact: Charles Hart 241666

W.B. Scouts, 7.30pm-9.30pm Scout Hut.

Contact: Kevin Sturdy 240549

Zumba Fitness, 6.45pm- 7.45pm. Methodist Church Hall.

Contact: Mrs Clark 272759.

Pats Pals, 2.30pm Methodist Church Hall

WB Craft & Quilters, 2nd Wednesday, Orpen Hall,

Joyce Lucking Room - 7.30pm-9.30pm.

Contact: Marie-Louise Fuell 240642

WB Knitting & Crochet Group, is a house group

Meeting 3rd Wednesday from 2.30pm - 4pm.

Phone 01206 242015 for details

Thursdays:

Squeals on Wheels, 9.30am-11am St Mary's Church Hall

5T's, 2.30pm-4pm 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursday St Mary's Church Hall.

Contact: Murray Harlow 07989720256

Friendship Club, 2pm 2nd and 4th Thursday Orpen Hall.

Contact: Jan Lumb 240824

Colchester & District Model Railway Club,

8pm Armoury Farm. Contact: www.colchestermrcc.org

Zumba Club, 9.30am - 10.30am Methodist Church Hall.

Contact: Mrs Sanders 07909521306

Bowls Club, 7.30pm Orpen Hall. Contact: Eileen Brown 243301

Pilates, 6.45pm - 7.45pm Methodist Church Hall.

Contact: Mrs Smith 564348

Bible Study, 7.30pm 3rd Thursday at the Manse.

Contact: Rev. Ruth Ridge 242183

Fridays:

Little Ducks, 10am-noon St Mary's Church Hall.

Contact: Fay 262775

WB Concert Band, 6pm-7pm (Training) 7pm-9pm (Band)

Heathlands School. Contact: Karen Wilson 824157

Bergholt Youth Goup (BYG), 6.30pm-8pm

Alternate Friday, John Lampon Hall.

Contact: Amber Harlow 242007

Little Stars, Scout Hut on Friday 9am - 11.30am. Open to

children 0-5 years throughout the year, older children

welcome in the holidays. Contact: Yvonne 07812637607

or y.pickin@gmail.com for enquiries

Orpen Players, 8pm Orpen Hall.

Contact: Debbie Hornigold 242111

W.B. Beavers, 4.45pm-6.00pm Scout Hut.

Contact: Charles Hart 241666

W.B. Cubs, 6.30pm-8.00pm Scout Hut.

Contact: Charles Hart 241666

Wired, 7pm-9pm 1st Friday St Mary's Church Hall

Contact: Mark Partridge 241617

Saturdays:

N.E.E. 0 Gauge Model Railway Club, Noon-3pm,

St Mary's Church Hall - Contact: Richard Chadborn: 240541

Morning Prayer and Support, 9.30am-10am

Methodist Church. Contact Rev. Ruth Ridge 242183