

village bulletin

December 2013 Issue 136

www.westbergholt.net

Village Traffic Safety Plan

At a special meeting of the Parish Council held on 6th November the plan designed to help alleviate some of the traffic problems in and around New Church Road, particularly around school times, was approved. In brief the plan is to put restrictions on parking at the junctions along New Church Road, including the end junctions where inconsiderate parking can cause danger at any time.

Part of the plan is to raise awareness of the need to take extra care in the vicinity of a school and to achieve this the Parish Council will seek the imposition of a 20mph limit along the road. Also the part the school can play in influencing drivers' behaviour was discussed and so it is hoped that working with the Parish Council and local residents a campaign to impact on the problem will be launched as the above measures are put into place.

The full plan is now published on the village web site www.westbergholt.net and will be displayed on the noticeboard outside the Co-op store for two weeks from the time of this publication.



First Responders

We are writing to advise you of the situation regarding the West Bergholt First Responder Group which is in danger of disbanding.

The group has been active for over 6 years and we have seen over 36 people trained and have attended, on average, 10 calls per year. West Bergholt has a very low call rate in relation to the rest of the County of Essex.

Over the years we have tried to promote membership but realise that there is no point in "making" people join only to find that they are not in a position to continue after training. The group operates through the good efforts of a small core of members. For various reasons

some of the present group cannot continue to offer their services because of other commitments.

There is a member in Fordham who continues to be able to respond over nights and weekends and is willing to form the nucleus of a group if supported by more new members.

If there is anyone who would like to continue the work of the group please contact Annie on 01206 240469 by the end of the year, otherwise it is likely that your West Bergholt group will close.

Over the years there has been fantastic support from individuals and businesses both financially and in many other ways for which we thank you.



Bluebell Pre-School

What we have been up to Fun! Fun! Fun!

The children and staff of Bluebell's have enjoyed many activities.

We have harvested our potatoes from our allotment and cooked and eaten them and we joined the children from Heathlands for the Harvest festival at the church. We have drawn and built models for the old church and fed the ducks on the pond.

Blackberry picking and harvesting apples from the orchard took place during the school term and we then cooked blackberry and apple crumble - 'yummy yummy'

We have mixed paint colours in large puddles by splashing in our wellies.

The Bluebell Team wish to thank parents and friends of the village for their continued support to enable our children to have a fantastic time at Bluebell's.

the village bulletin *information*

PROVIDED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL OF WEST BERGHOLT

Chairman

John Gili-Ross
67 Mumford Road,
West Bergholt
☎ 242 236



Vice-Chairman

Harry Stone
Vindens, Chapel Lane
West Bergholt
☎ 241 026

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Jenny Church	Doran, Hall Road	☎	240 792
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

<i>Premises and Recreation</i>	Phil Walby, Jenny Church, Murray Harlow, Rosemary James, Harry Stone, Rachel Young
<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.

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

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.

West Bergholt Concert Band – 35 Years of...



The band's 35th anniversary celebrations are drawing to a close after a busy year, which only this term included music workshops at a couple of local primary schools, as well as a sponsored play day and evening "Youthful Concert" at St Botolph's in aid of CLIC Sargent, the Cancer charity for children and young people. Life in the band isn't all hard work as we also took the opportunity to celebrate the band's continued success with a thoroughly enjoyed Barn Dance anniversary party, which followed on neatly from our summer dance-themed concert.

The final stop in our celebratory year sees us return to Clacton's West Cliff Theatre, having been invited to perform a Christmas Concert there with the Cavender Singers, a very popular local ladies group.

Christmas Concert

Sunday December 15th, West Cliff Theatre, 3pm

A concert at the West Cliff is a fitting finale to our celebrations as we performed a memorial concert there in 1990 for the band's founder, Sid Cooper, and this concert will also be raising money for St Helena Hospice, one of his favourite charities. When Sid was running the band he used to take us around the village on the back of a lorry, playing Christmas Carols to anyone who would plug in our lights...so we are always very happy to instead be playing inside at this time of year!

As always with our Christmas concerts, we'll be packing it full of Christmas classics, including Santa Baby, Little Drummer Boy, Sleigh Ride, Merry Christmas Darling, Rudolph, as well as Carols for everyone to join in, and a finale of music by Irving Berlin with band, singers and audience all playing and singing White Christmas. We're all looking forward to this exciting concert at a venue where we always get a great audience response, and we would love to see as many of the village along to support both the band and the St Helena Hospice.

Looking ahead to next year, we will be stepping up our recruitment and schools activities even further, as we are losing a large number of players to University in the summer. As always, the band is very welcoming of new members, so if you're interested in joining just come along to Heathlands School any Friday evening and we'll guarantee a warm welcome. Everything anyone needs to know about the band is on our website www.wbcb.org, or you can call (01206 824157 or email me Graham@wbwb.org .

Finally...on behalf of the band...we look forward to seeing you at our Christmas Concert, and we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Here's hoping you all get new instruments for Christmas!



*The Bulletin Team
wish all of our readers and
advertisers a very happy
Christmas and New Year
and will see everyone in 2014*



The Friends have just introduced a new event to their repertoire. Steve Hallam led 19 people on our inaugural Autumn Fruits walk on 5th October. They were rewarded with a mild, still and bright morning. Unlike all of our previous walks, just about everything that was going to be seen was already known. Helped by Linda Firmin, Steve was able to plan a route that would enable the group to see 27 different berries, nuts or cones. The event appeared to be a great success and should become a regular feature.

It may be a coincidence but at this year's Annual General Meeting the guest, Mitchell Mclean, will be talking on the subject of "Foraging for Fruits of the Wood".

And talking of the Annual General Meeting, it is being held in the Orpen Hall on Wednesday 11th December and will commence at 7.30pm. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Andrew Savage, Chairman

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West Bergholt Women's Institute



In September the President welcomed a new member who joined our WI, and also a visitor. The Reverend Keith Lovell spoke about Famous Essex People.

Later in the month on a very wet afternoon former members were invited to join present members in the Methodist Hall for afternoon tea. Cakes and scones were provided as well as competitions and a large bric-a-brac stall. It was an enjoyable gathering for everyone, in spite of the weather.

October was an 'Open Meeting' and W I members from Mile End and Leavenheath joined us as well as local visitors. The Speaker was Derrick Thomas who told the audience about his life from leaving Guyana for Britain in his teens to becoming a Toastmaster on his retirement. He looked most imposing in his white tie and red coat-tails. He also brought his Olympic torch which he carried in Suffolk in 2012 and told us how he was also involved in the opening ceremony of the Paralympic Games.



A WI team took part in the Village Bulletin Quiz, coming 6th out of twelve teams.

An October outing in cars took members to the Hearts Delight Garden Centre at Lawford, and following lunch, visits were made to Mistley and Manningtree.

In November we welcomed yet another new member and a visitor. Mick Morrissey from West Bergholt delighted members with his talk and slides on China. We saw the Emperor's Palace with all the intricate decorative work and paintings together with the many buildings and gardens near Beijing.

The WI play reading afternoon continues to be well supported as is the monthly coffee morning at the Treble Tile.

If you would like to come along as a visitor to one of our WI meetings, to see whether you would like to join us, you are most welcome. Normally we meet on every first Wednesday of the month at 7.15pm in the Orpen Hall.

In January, as the first Wednesday is New Year's Day, our year will start on Wednesday 8th January instead. There will be a film of our WI, showing our 2013 year of activities and also there will be "Desert Island Discs" – members choice of music.

Any enquiries about WI, please ring 241748



THE CHURCHES CONSERVATION TRUST

Friends of St. Mary's Old Church

The Friends organised an open event on National Heritage Day in September which included an art display and a display kindly provided by Bluebells Pre School Playgroup. The event also saw the launch of our own Christmas Card. This features a picture taken by Kevin Sturdy of the church in the snow and the Friends are very grateful to Kevin for allowing them to use his wonderful picture. Copies of the cards, which are blank inside to allow your own personalised message, are available at £1 and can be ordered from Nicole Long (nicole1@fsmail.net) or by ringing 240443.

We are pleased to report that two couples are hoping to get married in the church next year. Hopefully more folk who are contemplating marriage will think of using the church for their big day.

The next item in the calendar is the village carol service which is due to be held on Sunday 22nd December at 2.30p.m. Early arrival is recommended for this extremely popular annual event.

A generous donation of spring bulbs has been made which the friends have planted around the churchyard and these will hopefully make a wonderful display in the spring.

The church remains very popular with visitors and was specifically mentioned in an article in the Weekend Telegraph which pointed out the unique fresco coat of arms as a feature which makes our church worth visiting. When visiting, either as part of a group or individually, we would ask you to sign the visitors book which greatly assists the funding the Trust receives for maintenance of these and other historic churches.

Martin Long, Telephone 240443
Chairman Friends of St Mary's Old Church



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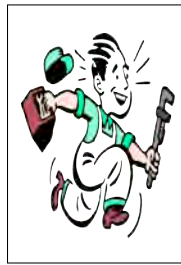


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St. Mary's Church

It is now 18 months since Colin Horseman, our Rector, retired and some may be wondering what is happening about a replacement.

Because of a large number of clergy reaching retirement age and fewer being trained there is a national shortage and a rector for each parish is impossible, particularly in small rural parishes. There are now seven parishes north of Colchester without a Rector. Our Archdeacon suggested that an enlarged Benefice (Group) be created to be comprised of West Bergholt, Great Horkesley and Langham with Boxted. This has now been agreed by all Parish Church Councils. The post will now be advertised and an appointment made next spring.

Richard and Dorothy Chadborn
Church Wardens

But, in the meantime, Advent and Christmas are just around the corner. These are busy times at St. Mary's as we look forward to remembering the time of Jesus' birth. For primary school aged members of the village, Christingle Groundbreakers is going to be held on Saturday 21st December between 3 and 5pm with a celebration service at 5pm to include lighting the Christingles. This includes stories, games, crafts and lots of fun with friends. Invites will be sent out through Heathlands School parentmail but, if your child does not attend Heathlands, but would still like to come please telephone Kate Wilson on 752056 to register them. For secondary school children Wired our youth group is holding its Christmas Party on 6th December from 7.45pm and also includes lots of fun with friends. We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Monday 23rd December from 10am and if you would like to help or have donations of foliage please come along.

In between now and Christmas there is Open House and Squeals on Wheels (singing, bible story and toys for pre-schoolers and their carers) 9.00 – 11.00am weekly on Thursdays for coffee, chat and cake – in the church and 5T's 2.30pm on alternate Thursday afternoons for an opportunity to enjoy company, tea and cake in the church hall.

Early in the New Year the next Senior's Lunch will be on 18th January at 12.45pm. We can give you a lift if transport is a problem. Please contact Murray Harlow on 07989720256 if you would like to come.

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.

Special Christmas celebration services at St. Mary's:
Carols at the Old Church at 2.30pm on Sunday 22nd December

Christmas Eve Crib Service at 3.00pm on Christmas Eve
and Christmas Eve Carol Service at 6.30pm on Christmas Eve

Christmas morning Service at 9.30am Christmas Day

Visit our website at:

www.sites.google.com/site/stmaryswbergholt/ or contact us at stmaryswestbergholt@googlemail.com or follow us on Twitter @stmarysbergholt

3rd West Bergholt Brownies

We started back in September with two new girls joining us - they made their Promise on the last night of this term.

We have spent this term working on entries for our Divisional Handicraft show - a hedgehog from salt dough and a poppy made from sewing felt. We also made a large collage showing animals hibernating with natural things we found around the church hall. The event was very well supported and we were pleased to win several certificates.

After half term we are doing some autumn cooking and holding our termly badge night. We will then be making some Christmas crafts. We have a Christmas party planned as we say goodbye to another four Brownies who we hope will be moving on to Guides.

Brown Owl

Diana Woodgate

Copy for the March edition should be received by 1st February 2014.

Late additions cannot be guaranteed entry

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hall-admin@westbergholt.net

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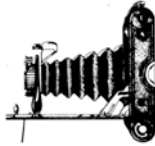
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West Bergholt History Group



For our August field trip we visited Alderford Mill in Sible Hedingham.

There has been a watermill on the River Colne at Sible Hedingham since Norman times. It has had a succession of owners including the monks of Earls Colne Priory and the Earls of Oxford, with countless millers running it since then.

In 1935 it came into the ownership of the Rawlinsong family. A family run business of corn merchants who used it for milling animal feed until 1958. When milling ceased they continued to use the building for storage. In 1994 when Peter Rawlinsong, the last commercial miller retired, he made it possible for Essex County Council to acquire the Mill for conservation and preservation.



Alderford Mill has now been extensively restored. The wheel and gearing is operational and work is nearing completion on a set of millstones so as to be able to give working demonstrations of corn grinding.

The mill is looked after by an enthusiastic group of "Friends" and we were shown round by one of them, Brian Mills (!) He gave a really interesting guided tour taking us all over the building, explaining the workings and running the wheel.

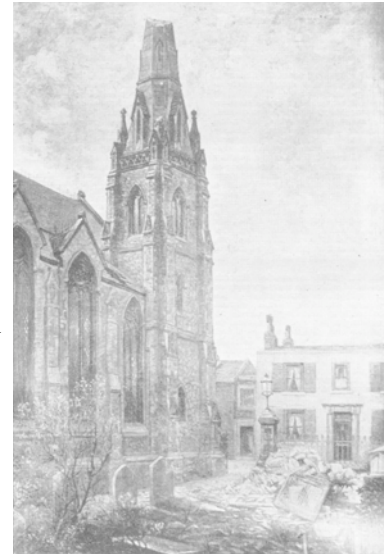
It was an excellent evening giving us a good insight into what was involved in times past to give us our daily bread!

We returned to Orpen Hall in September when Roger Green gave a talk about Simon of Sudbury. Born in Sudbury, he studied in Paris, eventually becoming Archbishop of Canterbury and then Lord Chancellor of England. His involvement in introducing the third poll tax resulted in him being so unpopular that guards at the Tower of London allowed Kentish insurgent peasants to drag him to Tower Hill where he was beheaded in 1381. His body was taken to Canterbury Cathedral and his head was reputedly taken to the Church of St. Gregory at Sudbury, although this is now in doubt.

In October Peter Jones gave an illustrated talk about The Great Essex Earthquake. He first explained the basics about earthquakes in general which, combined with his excellent slides, made it easier to understand.

Then, based on his extensive research into the event in April 1884, he shared a selection of stories and recorded reminiscences from eyewitnesses of the time.

The picture is of the Lion Walk URC Church in Colchester showing the damage to the tower in the aftermath of the earthquake. It has been rebuilt as part of the regeneration of the shopping area



In November, Peter Noakes will be talking about the History of School House Names.

As usual, there is no meeting in December.

Further details please telephone Bernard 240297.



Friendship Club



The Friendship Club met in the Orpen Hall in September after a summer break. At the first meeting members discussed future talks and outings – two weeks later saw an afternoon of games and quizzes.

In October members heard an interesting talk on sailing by a member of Maylandsea Yacht Club. Also in October there was a talk on 'Old Tyme Music Halls' by Mr. Brooks.

In November we will have the children from Heathlands School to entertain us with their music and dance. A Christmas lunch will take place some time in December.

The Friendship Club meets every second and fourth Thursday afternoon between 2pm and 4pm at the Orpen Hall. We look forward to seeing you if you are over 55 years (men and women).

For further information please telephone 240824.

Colne Valley Flower Club



Our Diamond anniversary was celebrated this year. We have run another workshop with the members of the Youth Group and we are running workshops with our members.

We do not meet in December and our next meeting will be the AGM on January 15th 2014 in the Orpen Hall at 7.30pm. Photographs of our anniversary lunch and the National Show at Bournemouth will be shown on this evening.

On 19th February 2014 our demonstrator will be Penny Stone from Colchester and her title will be 'Myths and Legends'

We have recruited some new members during the year and have had a good number of visitors. Please come and join or visit us, we will give you a very warm welcome.

Contact Pat Sharman on 01787 227833



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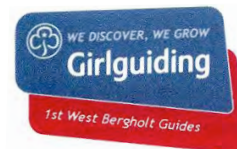
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If you are interested in becoming a volunteer driver - hours and times of your choice, please contact Harry Stone on 241026.

Street Lights

Street lights may be switched off overnight by the end of November. The exception in West Bergholt, where they will stay on all night, is at the Chapel Road/Colchester Road mini roundabout. This is for safety reasons at a major intersection.

1st West Bergholt Guides



We introduced the new Promise to the Guides at the beginning of term with two different activities which went very well.

At the end of September we put together our Unit entry for the Division Handicraft show and made a collage of various dead foliage to represent where animals would hibernate with some wiggly eyes and pink noses peeking through to show you where they were hiding. We were awarded a Gold Award. We also had other entries by the Guides who all did very well.

At the beginning of October we went on a night walk over to the old St Mary's church looking for fir cones. This was enjoyed by everyone. We finished back at the scout hut for hot chocolate or a cup-a-soup.

On 12th October we were very lucky to take part in the Big Gig 2013 at Wembley Arena. It was a brilliant day and again well worth doing. The Guides loved it.

On 17th October we made fir cone fire lighters which took the whole evening (due to the number of girls we have) and used these to help light our fires when we cooked outside on 7th November. They worked brilliantly.

We took part in Remembrance Sunday in West Bergholt with all of the other youth organisations in the village on 9th November. We had six Guides and eleven Brownies taking part which was brilliant.

We will also be joining the other units in the village on 1st December for the Gift Aid service at the Methodist Church.

Sandra Gates, Guide Guider

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Crime Prevention

From: **Stephen Armson-Smith**

Crime Prevention Advisor for the Colchester district

I came to the Colchester area in February after having the same position in the Braintree area

Lights on!

As the autumn nights draw in it's time to think about the burglar out there and not leaving them "tell tale" signs that your home is empty and vulnerable. The art of illusion is to try and make it look as though your home is occupied even though you are not there. Provide that first impression to the "would be" burglar that this house is occupied, it looks too difficult to get into and that if they do try there is a good chance they will get their collar felt!

Lighting, if your house is overlooked and there is the chance of burglars being seen they will prefer to go elsewhere, so get some decent lighting on your house. Dusk till dawn activated lighting on the front and rear with energy saving bulbs, not only deters the burglar but you can see who is at your door or around your home, and also when you return home you have a welcoming light.

Is there clear unobstructed access to the rear? Burglars will prefer to gain access out of sight at the rear. Where possible fence and gate access to rear gardens, top this with some trellis or spiky toppings (the spiky topping requires a warning notice). How about some defensive planting, what's this you ask.....something like Berberus, Pyracantha or Hawthorn around perimeter fencing or anything else you wish to protect i.e. domestic fuel tank (some garden centres sell more established plants).

The illusion: - Try to make it look similar to when you are there - table lamps inside on timers (don't use energy saving bulbs with *digital* timers as it shortens the life of the bulb) or use a "dusk till dawn" sensor (bulbs are now available with a built in sensor), a radio on a talking programme, it all helps. You can even buy a device now called "Fake TV" that mimics the light from a television.

Out and about? For a little extra confidence consider carrying a personal attack alarm, many come with a torch and are quite cheap from DIY stores, internet etc. Most of all be aware of your surroundings, avoid concentrating on mobile phones and music devices whilst out and about.



West Bergholt Gardeners' Association



I have just taken over from Valerie and find that there is very little to add to the content of her last report.

The programme as last published remains the same and I can only remind readers of the 9th December meeting when we will be addressed by Barry Kaufmann-Wright on the role of a wildlife Crime Officer after which there will be a buffet supper – pay on the night £4.00.

With gardens sleeping there will be no meeting in January.



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Library Times

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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

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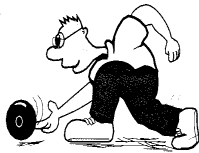
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West Bergholt Indoor Bowls Club



The autumn season brings some really good nights at the club. Attendance is at an all time high and our singles competition is well under way.

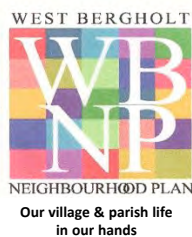
Dedham's Peggy Brooks Trophy had one of our teams playing, Great Yeldham had two teams playing in their pairs, also, we had three teams playing in their pairs in the county triples. One of them, Jan Lumb, Doreen Payne and Eileen Brown, reached the knock-out stage.

Friendly Competitions are keenly contested and the club has had the upper hand in the games lately with three wins against one loss.

If you would like to join this busy club and make new friends you will be most welcome. Bowls take place at the Orpen Hall on Thursday and Sunday at 7pm. Telephone 243301 for further information.



Neighbourhood Plan



Thanks to the 475 residents of the parish who responded to the recent Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Household Survey

Lauren Harding-Payne of Erle Harvard Road had particular cause to be pleased that she responded. She won the prize hamper kindly donated by our local Co-op, which was presented by Manager, Andy Cooper. There also were two joint winners of the young persons' prize draw.



Whilst the NP group continues to pore over the surveys there are some early results which can be viewed on the Neighbourhood Plan section of the Village website. Although the Household Survey is one of the mainstays of the evidence base to be used to inform the NP, other surveys of Businesses, Young People and Parish Organisations will be undertaken before the end of the year. Early ideas for next year include further workshops on possible NP ideas, which are being targeted for the spring, and an exhibition of proposals in the summer.

Annual Village Bulletin Quiz

The Quiz Night organised by the Village Bulletin Team was held in September and was a great success, with twelve teams entering. They were all from local organisations or groups of friends. The criteria for entry is that at least one member of the team must be a resident of West Bergholt.

The quizmaster was Susan Leng who also wrote the questions. Some teams surprised themselves with how much they knew on certain subjects – and when they did well, they wished they had played their joker, which doubled the team's points in that round! However, each team distinguished themselves in some way and the team with two teenagers congratulated themselves on having someone who knew an answer about "Grand Theft Auto V".

Bernard Colbron, editor of the Bulletin, kept the scoreboard up to date. Other members of the Bulletin team ably assisted with marking, and distributing answer sheets as well as refreshments and a big raffle. With two extra helpers the evening ran very smoothly, and thanks to the Parish Council who kindly allowed the use of the Orpen Hall free, the evening raised £270 for "The Teenage Cancer Trust" which is very dear to the hearts of many people in West Bergholt.

After a closely run contest, the final winners who went home with the Challenge Cup, were The Orpen Players. They were also the previous winners – will they make it a hat-trick next year? The runner-up prize went to a family team from Albany Road – they too are determined to capture the cup next year!

Come along and join us next time, and see if *you* can be "The Brains of Bergholt"



Pictured The Orpen Players winning team





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St Helena Hospice Tree of Memories appeal

As Christmas is drawing closer, St Helena Hospice is launching a refreshed appeal for 2013. Tree of Memories replaces their Light up a Life appeal from previous years and invites supporters to make a dedication to someone special, along with a donation to the Hospice. In return for their donation, supporters will receive a personal copy of their dedication on a decorative tag and, if they wish, their dedication will also be hung on a Tree of Memories at the Myland Hall site, based at Highwoods, Colchester.

The tree will be on display to those who have made dedications from Monday 16th December until Friday 10th January 2014.

The Hospice will also be holding a special Tree of Memories Service at Myland Hall, which will take place on Thursday 19th December at 6.30pm in their Joan Tomkins Centre. If you are unable to make this service, there are a number of other services in the area, please see our website for more details.

To make a dedication and for more information, please go to www.sthelenahospice.org.uk/treeofmemories13 or contact the Fundraising Office on 01206 791740.



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The Final Push

I wrote an article for the last village bulletin to say that some friends and I were holding a Christmas Coffee Morning on 19th November and that we were hoping to boost the funds that we have raised in 2013 for St. Helena Hospice to £4000. We were very pleased to welcome many village residents to our Christmas Coffee Morning and we were delighted to find that we had raised £946.66!

I would like to thank my super team for their encouragement, kindness and support. Coffee mornings, a coin trail, a sponsored walk, a sponsored half marathon and also some generous donations have pushed the grand total raised for St Helena Hospice to £4388.79. This means we exceeded our Final Push. Thank you to everyone who has helped to achieve this.

I wanted to do something for St Helena Hospice in memory of our friend Maria. I never thought that we would get such tremendous support. I feel sure she would approve of our efforts.

Many thanks Jane Lloyd

Bergholt Heath Youth Football Club



We have to begin this bulletin on a sad note and report the passing of one of our former players, Tom Bowdidge, who sadly died in October after a brave battle with cancer. Tom played in goal for Bergholt Heath for a number of years. Whilst his former team-mates are no longer playing Youth Football, they are playing a match in Tom's honour some time in the New Year and are also taking part in an annual competition at Thurstable school in December this year. A tournament that Tom was involved in only last year.

On the playing front, the Under 9's started their second season hoping to build on the improvements made along the way in their first year together. They couldn't have made a better start as they won their first two league games 3-0 and 2-1. Since those first two games they have had one draw and six defeats, however this doesn't tell the full story as in all but one of the games they have lost, Bergholt matched their opponents and were unlucky to come away without a result. The boys are playing some excellent football now - their passing has improved so much, so things are definitely on the up!

Our Under 11's are on a good run but narrowly lost at the weekend, but unfortunately the under 15's seem to be struggling to recapture their end of season form. They are doing well in the Cups however.

On a broader note, the Club is seeking to obtain Charter Standard this year or next and we are pleased that Iain Turner has stayed with us to guide us through the process.

Finally, may we wish all of our players and families a great Christmas.

Leslie Wright



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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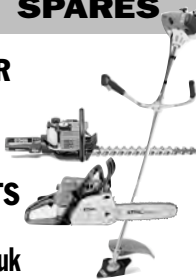
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Methodist Church Diary

December

1st	GIFT & PARADE SERVICE	11am
10th	Shared Village Communion	11am
11th	Coffee Morning in Hall	10am
18th	Women's Fellowship - the Manse Carols & Tea	2.30pm
19th	Bible Study	7.30pm
20th	Carol Singing - The Co-op	6.00pm
22nd	CANDLELIGHT CAROLS Followed by Coffee and Mince pies in the hall.	6.30pm
23rd	Family Christmas Coffee and Craft morning in the Hall	10.30am
29th	United Service Methodist Church pre-service coffee	11.00pm 10.30pm

January

8th	Coffee Morning	10.00am
14th	Shared Village Communion	11.00am
15th	Women's Fellowship - Jean and Martin Hill	2.30pm
16th	Bible Study	7.30pm

February

11th	Shared Village Communion	11.00am
12th	Coffee Morning In the Hall	10.00am
19th	Women's Fellowship at Wycliffe Fellowship – 2pm from the Hall	
20th	Bible Study	7.30pm

Mar 7th	WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE in church	1.30pm
	Soup 'n' Snack Lunch in hall at	12.30pm

All regular Services at 11.00am
Please check notice Board for any
combined or changed times

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

Methodist Church

Our Harvest Weekend in September gave us the opportunity to celebrate and decorate the church with gifts of flowers, fruit, tinned and packet produce. We were able to donate this year to the Colchester Food Bank as well as our regular charities the Women's Refuge and the Night Shelter.

The Autumn Quiz Night in October was again very well attended with many of our regular quiz teams anxious to book places for next year. It was as always a fun night, so keep an eye open for our next Quiz which will be in the Spring.

We are taking part in the Christmas Tree Festival at Gt. Horkeley where our theme is Bags of Love. Small hand knitted bags will be filled with surprise gifts which will be donated to the Women and Children at Colchester

Refuge, the Night Shelter and Beacon House and add to the many Gifts which are given by the young people of the Uniformed Organisations at our ANNUAL GIFT and PARADE SERVICE on 1st December.

This year we will be CAROL SINGING outside the Co-op on Friday 20th December from 6.30 - 7.30 pm. Please join us to sing or just to listen. Our collection will be for Action for Children.

Our TRADITIONAL CANDLELIGHT CAROL SERVICE takes place on Sunday 22nd December at 6.30pm. Please join us at this service and enjoy coffee and mince pies in the Hall afterwards.

During the summer holidays we held a series of Family Coffee and Craft mornings, and have decided to arrange a special Christmas Themed Craft Morning on Monday 23rd December from 10.30 - 12.00 in the Hall. All families with young children up to age eight are welcome. The cost is £2.50.

Christmas Day Services will be held at Lexden Methodist at 9.45 am and Eight Ash Green at 10.00 am.



Food Waste Collection

The Borough of Colchester 'Food Waste' Scheme should have started in West Bergholt at the end of November. It now means that all food waste should be placed in the supplied bags and placed out every rubbish collection day. Full details will be inside the waste bins.

SOME USEFUL NUMBERS

Please note Police non-emergency number has changed.



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Post Office Chapel Road (Half day Saturday)
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Methodist Church Rev. Ruth Ridge
The Manse, Chapel Lane,
West Bergholt – 01206 242183

News Correspondent Jacqui Hunns
The Laurels, Firmins Court
Telephone: 240712
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(for Essex County Standard and The East Anglian Daily Times) -
submissions for news items to be in two weeks prior to publication.

Your Health Service

North East Essex Clinical Commissioning Group (NEECCG) is the successor organisation to the Primary Care Trust. It serves the communities in Colchester and Tendring Council districts, including the towns of Colchester, Clacton and Harwich.

The following News Releases have been received by the Bulletin

CCG deeply concerned at CQC report into cancer services at Colchester

CCG is shocked and deeply concerned to hear about the findings of the CQC in respect of Cancer Services at Colchester University Hospital Foundation Trust. Our overriding concern is the safe care of patients who will be feeling very distressed at this news.

An inspection by the Care Quality Commission (CQC), which took place in August and September 2013, was in response to allegations that records of treatment and appointment dates had been deliberately changed and were not accurate on the national cancer waiting time system and that patients may have been harmed as a result.

The CQC looked at the records of 61 patients who were being investigated or treated for Cancer and subsequently told the Trust to contact 30 of those patients and/or their families to discuss the treatment they had received. The GPs of each of these patients have also been verbally informed by the Trust that it was reviewing their care and treatment.

The CCG has taken urgent action to review cancer services at the hospital and to ensure patients are now treated to national standards. This includes review of services with the Medical Director of the East of England Cancer Network, site visits by the national Cancer Intensive Support Team and weekly review of all patients on the waiting list. Further expert review of the Cancer Services is being undertaken with the support of NHS England.

The hospital has said it will take the strongest possible action if staff have inappropriately adjusted cancer waiting time data and against anyone who may have bullied or coerced staff into taking such action. We support such action by the Trust and the regulators but wish to acknowledge the majority of staff in the hospital who work so hard to continue to provide high quality care.



Get Ready for Winter Stock up your medicine cabinet

As the temperature drops, you're probably stocking up on cans of soup, and digging out your hat, scarf and gloves from the back of the chest of drawers.

However, have you also thought about stocking up your medicine cabinet so that you're prepared for the usual winter coughs, colds and bugs?

Before the winter bugs strike, check your medicine cabinet and make sure you have the following basics to get you through the next few months:

- Your usual painkillers, such as paracetamol, ibuprofen or aspirin
- Cold and flu remedies
- Anti-diarrhoea medicine
- Oral rehydration salts
- Indigestion remedies
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- Tissues

Don't forget too that your local pharmacist can offer you free, qualified health advice at any time, and no appointment is necessary. From coughs and colds to aches and pains, they can give you expert help on everyday illnesses and answer any questions about prescribed and over-the-counter medicines.

chris.lane@nhs.net, 01245 459457



West Bergholt Football Club



As at the end of October, our first team have played six league games undefeated conceding only one goal in the process, which bodes well for the rest of the season.

The reserves were promoted in the league restructuring, and are now only one division below the first team. To their credit they have got off to a flying start. They are currently in second place and looking very strong thanks to a few new signings pre-season. This can only be good for the club, creating competition for places between the sides and giving the managers some difficult choices to make.

On the social side, on 16th November, we will hold an old and current players reunion, to celebrate 75 years since the formation of the club, and hope to welcome many old faces in what we hope will be an enjoyable evening. We hope to hold a race night in December to raise funds for the club.

Junior training continues to be popular on Saturday mornings, and we welcome any children who would like to come along.

As always, check our web site www.westbergholtfc.co.uk for results and information.

Michael R Bell

Orpen Players



Unfinished Business

World Premiere Success!

What an incredible piece of theatre The Orpen Players treated us to with the farce 'Unfinished Business'. Mayhem abounded and the audience was left gasping for breath as the comedy lurched from disaster to disaster.

Written by David Wenden and Andrew Bott and directed in tandem, this was a truly memorable night out. Scott Sophos was mesmerising as the American gangster and his comic timing irresistible and infectious. Paul Reed as the hapless director had the audience eating out of his hand as he struggled in vain to gain control of his hastily assembled company. Anne Sexton as the 'innocent' little old lady took the audience completely by surprise when in the denouement the murderer is unmasked as her!

After 28 years as a member Roger Milne made his debut on stage and was very well received in his comic role, especially as he had the last line in the play! Other notable performances came from the reliable pairing of Colin Downer and Ben Maytham once again; Roxy Boyce-Bown as the long-suffering wife of the director was extremely funny; new member Jazz Ely was very slick as the old woman's granddaughter; her mother Chrissie Wenden was a well characterised mother; Holly Snowling, Norma Knighton and Kim Bennett demonstrated great efficiency in role and finally as the completely inept stage manager Nigel Walford brought tears of laughter from everybody. Yes, all in all a sparkling performance and with comments like 'I laughed so much my tummy hurt' and 'brilliant, simply brilliant!' ringing in their ears. The Orpen Players must be very satisfied with their latest offering – well done indeed.

Join us for our traditional family panto next year

CINDERELLA

31st January and
1st, 7th and 8th February

Bookings now being take on
01206 241048

www.orpenplayers.co.uk



This Year's Activities

- * Zorbing
- * Flower arranging for Mother's Day
- * Chocolate Night
- * Halloween Party - costume competition
- * Sports Day

Bergholt youth group is a fun way for the children of year 6+ to enjoy a night away from home. We aim to give the children of our community a chance to socialise with both old and new friends.

We've had themed nights for special dates such as on Mother's Day this year we had a flower arranging event which let the children make a flower arrangement for some-one special. For Wembley we had strawberries and cream and for sports relief we had a charity day in which all proceeds went to charity.

We have had a lot of support for outside organizations such as Asda, where we thank anyone who offered their token to us; we got £50 from that.

Also this year we had two volunteers of the Youth Group lead a cycling efficiency course, where members of the youth group got to bring their bike along to the meeting and learn the way of safe riding.

This year we have had great response due to the help of the children passing it on to their friends. Since then we have had a great deal of members from Braiswick and Stanway. This is only because we have a range of activities going on. Not only do we have themed days but on the not so significant dates we have a range of hobbies being formed, as lately some of the boys in particular have gained a liking for table tennis; which has become a tad competitive. We also have a great response to the pool table.

We plan on having new events in the future and repeat some of the favourite activities.

Volunteers are always needed.

Garden Waste Collection

Eight Garden waste bags will be collected
on alternate Fridays.

This will be between November and March 2014.



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

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

Contact: Rev. Ruth Ridge; 242183

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

Tea Room, St. Marys Church Hall, every Sunday 12.30 to 16.30

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, 9.30-10.30

Methodist Church Hall second and fourth Tuesday

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

Wednesday Fellowship, 3rd Wednesday 2.30pm

at Methodist Hall

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 - 7pm-8pm 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