



Village Bulletin

September 2014 Issue 139

www.westbergholt.net

A Safer Village

It is now almost a year since the Parish Council adopted a Traffic Safety Plan for West Bergholt. The Plan recognised that no one measure on its own could solve the problems caused by traffic and parking in a village whilst trying to retain the features that make it special. The physical adjustments proposed were accepted by Essex County Council through the Local Highways Panel and when in place there is a clear need to work with the school and parents to use the areas of concern responsibly.

Progress so far has seen the footpath along the edge of Poors Land well used by those parents using the Treble Tile car park to drop off children for school. Work is now taking place on the Orpen Hall Car Park and together with the improvement to the crossing at the end of New Church Road it is hoped that this will become a more attractive dropping off venue. The work at the end of the footpath from Mumford Close has improved the visibility for those entering New Church Road. New SLOW markings and SCHOOL signs are in place.

After a survey by Essex County Council a 20mph speed limit for New Church Road, Church Close, School Lane and Heathside has been agreed and this should be in operation by the end of November. Speeding in the area is not always a problem but the limit will raise awareness for drivers to exercise special care around the school. The red patches across the road, seemingly established prematurely, will be used to define the area for the limit.

Irresponsible parking at junctions is still perceived by many residents to be the greatest danger, especially to our children on the way to school, as visibility at key points is impaired. The restrictions agreed by the Local Highways Panel, as shown on the plans on the noticeboard, will now be implemented with the appropriate lines being in place by the end of September.

As a village we need to make this plan work and hopefully by working together we can make a difference.

Harry Stone

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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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

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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.

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 Women's Institute



In June the president welcomed Mr Middleditch with his talk entitled 'Growing Up in Sudbury'. He judged the competition 'A Favourite Postcard' which was won by Marie Fitz-John. Social time was a game of Lotto. Two members accepted an invitation to Chapel and Wakes Colne WI to hear guest speaker, William Tyler's talk 'With a Flush and a Brush'.

Our evening in July was a Strawberry Soiree. After the business meeting members were treated to locally picked strawberries with home made scones and shortbread. A quiz relevant to strawberry facts followed with surprising answers and information. No one knew there was a museum in France devoted totally to strawberries! Three members gave a short talk on a variety of subjects. The evening concluded with the president giving a slide show on the village 'Open Gardens' and members taking part in the fortnightly Scrabble and Rummikub meetings.



'At Home' tea at the Town Hall

Seven members visited Mile End WI to listen to William Tyler's talk about Edward and Mrs Simpson 'A Tangled Romance'. Many fascinating facts emerged.

An outing to Poplar Nurseries with lunch was appreciated by members. Some also went to the Mayoress of Colchester's "At Home" at the Town Hall.

The president welcomed two visitors to the August meeting with a large audience hearing many facts and figures about Essex Air Ambulance from Peter Hennessey. It was good to know that the Essex helicopter always attends accidents with a trauma doctor on board.



Essex Air Ambulance from Peter Hennessey

A taster evening of Croquet at the Colchester club has been organised for members.

The monthly coffee morning at the Treble Tile is popular as well as Rummikub games. The play reading afternoons are well supported.

Wednesday October 1st is an 'Open Meeting' with a Fashion Show by Edinburgh Woollen Mill in the Orpen Memorial Hall at 7.15pm. £3 entry on the door.

All Welcome.

A Village War Memorial

You all must know 4th August 2014 represented the centenary of the start of the outbreak of the First World War. As a village we have not recognised nor visually honoured all our villagers who gave their lives for us. Our Parish Council feels at this special time it may be appropriate to erect a memorial to all who died during this and subsequent conflicts.

Enquiries have been made as to design and costs from a local stonemason. The Parish Council will not be able to bear all the costs of such a project. With this in mind we are asking you to let us know your reaction to this proposal and whether you are willing to dig deep and donate whatever you can afford towards a War Memorial Fund.

Should you need any more information or feel you can help in any way then please feel free to contact either the Clerk to the Parish Council on 01206 240149 or Councillor Rosemary James on 01206 241038.

Editor's Note - Memorials exist in St. Mary's Church, The Methodist Church and the grounds of the ex Truman Brewery Buildings.

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Workers Educational Association

The September course, Coastal Ecology and Conservation by Fred Boot, was very informative and of great local interest to all who attended.

The spring course, The Sultanate of Oman, was given by Graham Platts who had spent some time as a teacher in Oman and has first hand knowledge of the region, its history, government, politics and culture. He brought in objects including clothing and jewellery and members of the class tried the recipes he gave out each week. Our knowledge of Oman, a part of the world most of us knew little about, was considerably increased.

In March, Elizabeth Hurley formally stood down as secretary to The West Bergholt Branch of the WEA.

She was presented with a booklet of all the courses she had arranged since 1992, a rose bush and a chocolate cake shared with members of the class. Elizabeth has attended some 64 courses on diverse topics such as: The Golden Age of Dutch Art, Modern Iraq, the History of the East End of London, Wildlife and Conservation in Essex and Weather and Climate. As well as arranging the courses, she designed posters, distributed them for publicity, ordered books from the library, hosted the committee meetings and provided the refreshments for each evening. All this was done in a friendly and efficient manner and her input will be greatly missed by all, especially the committee. We hope to see her at many more evenings when she can relax and leave the worry to others!

The next course, a series of ten talks, starts on Tuesday 23rd September 2014 at 8.00 pm. in the Methodist Hall which has wheel chair access. Roger Beckett will be speaking on '**The Great War: Fact Myth and Memory**'. The course attempts to consider the Great War as an historical event, to separate fact from myth and to place events of 1914-1918 in the context of Europe in the 20th century. The fee for ten interesting evenings is £48 with nil fees for those on Income Related Benefits or JSA. Financial help should be obtainable from the Discretionary Learner Support Fund via WEA Cambridge if the net household income is under £15,050 per annum.

You are welcome to sample the first evening for free to make sure the course is really for you before you sign-up. If you need further information please ring 01206 240512.

Patient Reference Group Survey

A previous edition of The Bulletin had a brief article on the North Hill Surgery Patient Reference Group (PRG). As this includes the West Bergholt surgery it was asking for more patients from West Bergholt to become involved.

Since then the PRG has developed well and thrived. Although we continue to seek more input from younger patients and ethnic minorities.

PRG's play a crucial part in helping the practice identify areas where improvements are needed and what is important for patients. Three surveys have been completed and evaluated. These then lead to the production of Survey Action Plans.

The next patient survey will take place in autumn of this year. We will continue to have paper copies to complete but are urging patients to submit responses by using the surgery web site.

The web site is: northhillsurgery.co.uk and then follow the links to the survey.

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nor a stairlift for those gone to seed.

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and zimmer frames just aren't for me
nor a bag for the vacuum that lasts all my life
you buy one and get one for free.

My joints don't need oiling, I still get about
and I give to blind guide dogs of course
but perhaps a good fairy could liven things up
or a wicked old witch on a horse.

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John Everett.



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West Bergholt Parent, Toddler and Baby Group

We have had a busy year with lots of new faces joining our friendly group. The children have enjoyed themed mornings such as pirates and princesses and more recently had the pleasure of a visit from Marco Sparko to end our summer term. Both the Christmas and Easter parties were a real hit with the children, and our thanks go to Monette and Jess who are both stepping down after running the group for the last year.

Toddlers will start again Monday 8 September and already there are some exciting events planned over the autumn term, including: a walk to the orchard, visits from Avon, Colchester Library, 'Fire your Imagination Ceramics' and Michala from Lovelier than Lovely.

New members are always welcome. Please keep up to date with what's going on by visiting and liking our Facebook page

www.facebook.com/westbergholttoddlers

Lizzy, Fay and Sue

Garage and Shed Security

Whilst most houses have adequate security, what is often neglected is the shed or garage. "Nothing much in there" I hear you say, "just a garden spade and fork", but these are perfect tools for burglars to use. Adds insult to injury when the tool used to break into your house is your own, so give it some attention.

Garages and sheds, by the nature of their construction and position, especially when away from the house, are always going to be vulnerable. Always consider supplementing the existing locks, fitting alarms and adding security lighting. Don't forget the hinges - ensure they cannot be unscrewed.

Protect windows with a wire mesh and fit a curtain or white wash the windows to prevent prying eyes.

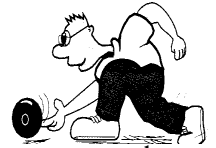
Visibly security mark your property with your post code and house number. This reduces the value to the thief; you can even register serial numbers free of charge at www.immobilise.com.

Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) groups are a proven deterrent to crime. The criminal will not wish to be

observed and NHW helps local communities work together to help reduce crime.

If you would like advice on setting up a NHW group contact Angie Pearson using the police non emergency telephone number 101, extension number 436127. For further Crime Prevention advice contact Stephen Armson-Smith on extension number 436126.

West Bergholt Indoor Bowls Club



If you have a couple of hours to spare and you wonder what to do with them we would like to welcome you to the Bowls Club to enjoy the pleasure of carpet bowls it is an easy to learn sport which gives gentle exercise and a lot of satisfaction. Do try it, you will meet a group of men and women, enjoy a cup of tea and you could win a raffle prize.

There have been several matches played both home and away. One of these was a rinks team of George Coppin, Pat McCarthy, Greta Leatherdale and Beryl Conway just missing out on a placement at the Prettygate Trophy competition.

Don't forget do come along on Thursday or Sunday evenings at 7pm to the Orpen Hall, Lexden Road, West Bergholt or phone 01206 243301 for more information.

Bergholt Heath Youth Football Club



We celebrated our season in June, just hours before England tasted their first defeat in the World Cup. Members all enjoyed a buffet prepared by various mums. Congratulations to all those players that won an award and to all those that took part in the season. Additionally we raised around £190 for the Tom Bowdidge Foundation.

We have since had our AGM and can confirm that we have a new Under 8 team next season, managed by Andy Williams. All the other teams have moved up so we now have teams at U10, U12 and U14.

The season is not far off now and we look forward to our usual kick-off barbecue on 14th September at 3pm on the Orpen Field.

Leslie Wright

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West Bergholt Concert Band



The band's summer activities got off to a perfect start with a beautiful summers day for our first ever performance on the Castle Park Band Stand. With a programme ranging from Shostakovich to One Direction, and an audience who even danced for a few pieces, everyone had a really fun afternoon.



The band received lots of wonderful feedback including "that was the best afternoon's entertainment we've ever had in the park" from someone who'd never heard the band before.

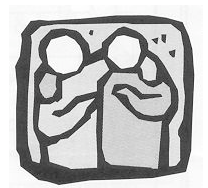


We followed the fun of that event with a return visit to Coggeshall's St Peter ad Vincula Church for a concert featuring music from Holst to Stevie Wonder via Pirates of the Caribbean. The diverse and challenging programme showcased the band's ability to play every style of music to a very high standard of performance, with the concert highlights including Holst's Suite in Eb, John Barry's Somewhere In Time, Ellington's Come Sunday and Neil Diamond's Sweet Caroline. The concert also marked an anniversary for our current conductor, who having shared conducting duties from 1990 through to 1994, conducted his first complete concert with the band in July 1994...and hasn't let go of the baton since.

The concert also saw the band bid farewell to four players who've been with us since primary school, with six others leaving during the term as the pressures of A-Levels took its toll. One piece of feedback we consistently receive from audiences is "it's good to see a band with so many young players", so we'll be working extra hard this term to recruit the next generation of musicians via a number of Primary and Secondary School workshops in October and November, culminating in a schools concert on November 15th.

Outside of the school events, new members of all ages are welcome to come to our Open Rehearsals, the next of which is on Friday 19th September, or to just turn up at any term-time Friday rehearsal. 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 support you as 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.

Friendship Club



In June the Friendship Club enjoyed an amusing talk by Brian Carline on 'My Youth in Salford'. Also in June we had an afternoon with Mick Morrissey and his well known quizzes.

In July we heard all about 'The Two Years National Service' which all males had to do until the 1950's.

To finish for the summer, sixteen members enjoyed a garden party on a beautiful summer's afternoon at the home of Geoff and Gerda Rumsey.

The next meeting of the Friendship Club will be on Thursday 11th September 2014.

The Friendship meets every second and fourth Thursday afternoon in the month 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.

Orpen Players

The Deep Blue Sea
by Terence Rattigan



Not being a particular fan of Rattigan, I was very pleased with the outcome of my recent visit to the Orpen players latest production. The performance was both entertaining and beautifully performed and each actor brought characterful insight to their roles. *'The Deep Blue Sea'* was sensitively directed by Colin Downer who moulded his experienced cast into a tight knit ensemble. Kevin Topples lent panache to his role as the dashing test pilot Freddie Page and was every inch the scheming, insecure Lothario. Debra Hornigold won the hearts of the audience with her emotional portrayal of Hester, hopelessly and helplessly in love. Joe Sales as her ex-husband William blustered and fumed with great enthusiasm and still managed to show how much he adored his Hester.



Robin Warnes was superb as the mysterious Mr Miller and demonstrated an almost sinister underside as he tended his patient with the utmost correctness. Chrissie Wenden brought warmth, humour and great sincerity to her role as the worldly wise East End landlady, Mrs Elton. Paul Reed and Holly Snowling managed to convey their concern and reaction to the difficult situation Mr and Mrs Welch are unwittingly drawn into with their downstairs neighbour, whilst maintaining their distance. Jackie Jackson was excellently understated by Peter Cox as Freddie's chum and sounding board and every inch an ex-RAF buddy. Overall an excellent and thought provoking evening that has gone a long way to changing my mind about Mr Rattigan!

Our Autumn production is *'Stepping Out'* by Richard Harris on October 23rd 24th 25th at 8pm, for tickets call Roger 01206 241048

'Stepping Out' is a comedy about a beginners' tap dance troupe who share life's ups and downs whilst preparing to stage a dance routine for a local show.

New members are always very welcome whether you fancy treading the boards or helping with the many other jobs, directing, stage crew, music, costumes, make-up, set construction and painting. We meet Monday and Friday evenings 8pm-10pm

Auditions will be held in the autumn for our pantomime email for details.

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West Bergholt Football Club



Following on from last season's great results, with both teams finishing as runners up in their respective leagues, we start the new season with high hopes following some very impressive pre-season friendly matches.

The first league matches will be on August 8th, which is unusually early. Both teams will have new managers, with Jimmy McIntyre and Mark Farthing moving up from the reserves to take over the first team, and former reserve team captain Greg Murthwaite taking over the reserves.

Most of last season's players have signed on again, together with several useful looking new recruits. On the showing in pre season, I think we can look forward to another successful campaign.

Thanks go to outgoing managers Gary Wood and Colin Knights for their hard work and success they brought to the club during their term in first team management.

Nothing else to report at the moment, as at time of writing, no league games have yet been played.

Michael R Bell

West Bergholt Gardeners' Association



Open Gardens

Sunday 22nd June was a glorious day. The sun shone and over 400 people turned out to visit 13 gardens and the allotments in West Bergholt. Apart from the beautiful gardens, some small some large, there were donkeys to feed, a vintage Jaguar to admire and a 1960's jukebox to listen to. The church halls laid on refreshments, as did Garlands Farm. Plants and other produce were on sale at the allotments and some gardens.

The event, organised by the West Bergholt Gardening Association, raised over £3,000 for the Teenage Cancer Trust. In addition Tom Bowdidge's family raised over £400 for the Tom Bowdidge Foundation.



The event drew visitors from other villages and even from far flung places such as Ipswich and Leigh-on-Sea.

The organisers would like to thank everyone who took part including the visitors. They welcome comments, both positive and negative. Please send to wbopengardens@gmail.com

CLUB SPEAKERS

The next Presentation to the Club will be on the 15th September when Deborah Hart will give a talk on Hanging Baskets and Winter Containers. 7.00 for 7.30pm.

Why not come along to the Orpen Hall, all are welcome. Small charge £3 including refreshments, also gardeners raffle.

A Shameful Side To Our Village

Six years ago The Parish Council assumed responsibility for the tennis court area of the Orpen Field. A key aim is to promote the use of this facility and to make it more readily available to village residents for tennis and other sports. To this end membership of the West Bergholt Sports Club has attracted about twenty families and casual use can be booked at the Co-op at a fair price. The

Council has not sought to make any profit from the facility but simply to set aside enough each year to maintain it in good condition and replace the surface when it becomes necessary.

For security and safety reasons the management committee introduced a coded locking system on the main gate. This has generally worked well but sadly some individuals have abused it and gained entry, misusing the area, repeatedly damaging nets and equipment which have needed replacement at a cost of over £500. The attraction to young people for football was recognised and so a goal area was provided lower down the field and this was well used and appreciated.

It is sad to report that despite efforts to maintain security, unauthorised entry has continued culminating in an act of vandalism on the lock which has completely ruined it and will cost over £200 to replace. To make matters worse a temporary padlock with a chain securing the gate was stolen on Saturday 9th August and was captured on CCTV. Those involved are in the process of being identified.

In the meantime the court area remains open. A notice asks that no football is played and the nets are not interfered with. Also children under ten are not allowed on the courts unsupervised. Parents are asked to ensure that their children respect this.

The management committee will meet shortly and make recommendations to the Council about the future of the facility. Any information on the incidents described above or suggestions for future means of access and the booking of the courts will be welcomed by the Council.

Copy for the December edition should be received by 1st November 2014.

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
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EXHIBITION OF EMBROIDERY AND TEXTILES

At Methodist Church Hall
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On Saturday 27th September
10am to 4pm

In Aid of Action for Children

Further details from Pat Kay 01206 243574

The Colchester Model Railway Exhibition

Sunday 26 October 2014

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See online for latest details

www.colchestermrc.org

Details correct at time of going to press 01/01/2014



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*

St Mary's Church

Great News!

Mandy Elmes (Revd Dr Amanda Elmes) has come to be our Priest-in-Charge, and we share her with Great Horkeley and Langham with Boxted. Her licensing was a wonderful evening's celebration at Langham Church and we continued that celebration at All Saints Great Horkeley on Sunday 3rd August followed by lunch at St Mary's West Bergholt.

Mandy, and her husband Paul, have moved into the Rectory in Church Close, her phone number is 240906.

The only change so far in our programme is for the worship time to be at 11.15 am on the 3rd Sunday each month to allow Mandy time to get to two churches each Sunday.

1st Sunday	9.30 am	Holy Communion led by Mandy Elmes
2nd Sunday	9.30 am	All Age Worship
3rd Sunday	11.15 am	Holy Communion led by Mandy Elmes
4th Sunday	9.30 am	Morning Worship

Our children's group BUGS (Bergholt Under God) will start again on 7th September during worship time, Thursday morning Open House coffee mornings from 9.00 am on 4th September and 5T's tea and chat will continue on 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursdays from 2.30 pm.

The next Senior's Lunch is booked for Saturday 20th September. If you would like to come along and enjoy company and a tasty lunch please phone Murray Harlow on 241007 to book a place. Transport can be provided.

St Mary's invite you to our harvest celebrations over the week-end of October 4th and 5th. The church will be open from 2-4pm on Saturday and Sunday to see the beautiful displays reflecting God's beauty in nature. There will be activities for all ages, from biscuit decorating to a knitting corner, a soft play area and games for older children. We will also be serving tea, coffee and home-made cakes.

On Sunday at 9.30 there will be a great opportunity to meet the Rev Mandy Elmes, in our family communion service.

We look forward to seeing you there.


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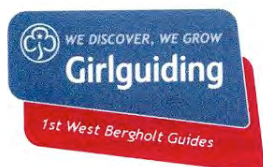
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Girl Guides



This term we arranged a meal out at Pizza Hut to celebrate Jasmine Lewis being awarded her Jack Petchey Award. Sadly Jasmine was not well on the night and was not able to join us so we will be doing something special while we are on our London trip.

For Father's Day, the Guides made some excellent Hama bead coasters and cards. I told them they needed to be big enough for a mug and I think the Guides made the biggest coasters I have ever seen. I hope their Dads were pleased!

The following week we cooked outside and made some lovely camp doughnuts with ice-cream and s'mores. Some of the Guides had not lit a fire before and the older Guides showed them how to do it using our pine cone fire lighters (which we had made the previous term).

We had an excellent campfire with all of the Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Senior Section in the village on 3rd July. The weather was great and everyone sung their hearts out. We cooked up some lovely hot dogs for everyone which went down a treat. Our President, Mrs Andrea Olley, visited us and awarded Rachel Howard with her Leadership Award.

We went on a weekend trip to London on 19th and 20th July. We took the train to Liverpool Street and walked down to the Thames. The Guides all stood with one foot on either side of the opening on Tower Bridge to feel it move as the traffic drives across. We had lunch in Potters Field Park next to City Hall and then dropped our kit off on HMS Belfast.

Following some refreshing ice creams by Tower Bridge we then went across the Thames and caught a City Cruise to do a circular trip along the Thames. We went down to Westminster and then down to Greenwich. We had commentary the whole way. Some of the historical monuments the Guides saw included the Globe Theatre, Westminster Abbey, St Paul's Cathedral, The Golden Hind and the Cutty Sark. We then had dinner next to the Shard.

We stayed on board HMS Belfast overnight in the quarters below deck. The following morning we enrolled four Guides on the quarterdeck followed by a hands-on educational hour where our concierge

told us all about the history of the warship. We then went on a tour of the ship.

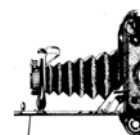
After our tour we made our way across London on the underground to Regents Park. We had a lovely lunch there and then spent the afternoon at London Zoo. Some of the Guides had never seen a gorilla before and it was amazing watching them experience some new sights.

It was a brilliant trip and I am sure the Guides had many more stories to tell their families when they got home.

We are now getting ready to go to camp at the beginning of August.

Sandra Gates, Guide Guider

West Bergholt History Group



In June we visited Mount Bures where we were shown round the church and 'up the Mount'.

Our visit in July was to Boxted. We first visited the Church then had a walking tour around the old village. Most of the houses have false fronts but behind are ancient rooms and layouts. Some of the properties still show signs of trades that took part in past village life.

In August we are due to visit Bradwell juxta Coggeshall Church.

September we start back in the Orpen Hall with a talk by Roger Green on 'Green Men'.

We meet every second Wednesday except December, in the Orpen Hall starting at **7.30pm**.

Do come along and give us a try!

The History Group's small WW1 exhibition at St. Mary's Old Church has been a success. It will now be on display for the next few months - so get along there and see it!

Bernard Colbron 01206 240297

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Methodist Church News

We were pleased to open our hall to support the Village Open Garden Event in June, selling programmes and serving much needed refreshments on such a perfect day. What a wonderful response from all the visitors and organisers with the fantastic sum of over £2,760 raised for the Teenage Cancer Trust.

After the popularity of our Holiday Coffee and Craft mornings for young families last summer we have continued to arrange further events this year. Posters have been displayed with dates arranged. Details will be available for future events in school holidays. Contact Andrew on 242511.

Women's Fellowship meetings commence in September. The new programme is being arranged with many new and regular speakers. As September is traditionally our Harvest we decided to collect gifts for Beacon House for its work with the homeless. Facilities for Showers, Laundry, Nurse and Chiropody are available as well as training in cooking and gardening. We will be donating toiletries, disposable shaving goods, and laundry detergents to help with their day to day work.

An Exhibition of Embroidery and Textiles will be on display in the church on Saturday 27th September, from 10.00am - 4.00pm Come along and admire the work of local exhibitors. Donations can be made to support the work of Action for Children.

The QUIZ NIGHT is on Saturday October 4th, at 7.00pm in the Hall. Tables of four at £16.00 can be booked with Judith (241969). Book early if you don't want to be disappointed.

A Light a Candle Service will take place on Thursday November 7th at 7.30 in the Church. All are welcome to join our minister Rev Ruth Ridge for a short service to remember loved ones or an anniversary with names added to our Prayer list.

Our Christmas Coffee Morning on Saturday 29th November, between 10.00-11.30am, takes place in our hall. We look forward to seeing you all for Coffee, Mince Pies, Cakes, Gifts, Cards and the Mystery Parcels.

Methodist Church Diary

September

1st	Coffee and Craft for young families - in Hall	10.30 -12.00
1st-14th	Action for Children - Door to Door Collection	
9th	Shared Village Communion	11.00am
10th	Coffee Morning in Hall	10.00am
17th	Womens Fellowship in hall	2.30pm
18th	Bible Study- the Manse	7.30pm
21st	Harvest Festival	11.00pm
27th	Embroidery and Textile Exhibition - in Church	10 - 4.00

October

4th	Quiz Night - in Hall	7.00pm
8th	Coffee Morning in Hall	10.00am
14th	Shared Village Communion	11.00am
15th	Womens Fellowship in Hall	2.30pm
16th	Bible Study - the Manse	7.30pm
19th	Church Anniversary	11.00am

November

6th	Light a Candle Service In the Church	7.30pm
9th	Remembrance Day Service - Orpen Hall	10.45am
11th	Shared Village Communion	11.00am
12th	Coffee Morning in Hall	10.00am
19th	Womens Fellowship in Hall	2.30pm
20th	Bible Study - the Manse	7.30pm
30th	United Service at Great Horkesley	11.00am

All regular Sunday Services at 11.00am
Please check the Notice Board for any special or combined services and change of times.

Rev. Ruth Ridge is available in the Church on Saturday mornings from 9.30-10.00am for a time of quiet prayer and support or can be contacted on 242183 at other times.

FOUND IN WEST BERGHOLT!

A small photo album, found in the village, has been handed to the Editor.

If anyone can indentify the album please get in touch with the editor

bernardcolbron@btinternet.com or 240297

**West Bergholt
Care Network**

0300 777 3100
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If you live in West Bergholt and need help with transport for a medical or important appointment please contact us, we will then make arrangements with one of our volunteer drivers to assist you.

If you drive, have a little time and would be interested in helping please contact us.

Charity number 23924

West Bergholt Care Network

For over twenty five years The Care Network has operated in the village to help residents with transport to medical and other important appointments. Throughout this time we have relied on a system of telephone contacts, one for each day of the week, who arrange the transport. In some cases the same ladies have been involved for most of this time.

During this period technology has moved on a pace and we are now able to offer what it is hoped will be an improved service. From 1st September we will have a single contact number which will hopefully be easier for users to retain. The same contacts will have the calls transferred to them on their respective days and will arrange the transport. One bonus is that if a particular contact is not available, the call will transfer to the next day's contact thus eliminating the need for the user to dial again.

If you live in the village and need help with transport for a medical or important appointment please contact us on

0300 777 3100

Calls are charged at local land line rates

If you feel able to volunteer and offer some time as a driver please contact Harry Stone on 241026.

West Bergholt Badminton Club



The Badminton Club 'still' meets at the Orpen Hall on Tuesday evenings between 7.45pm and 9.45pm. If you are over sixteen and would like to join us, please come along and play. We also have space for a limited number of players aged between fourteen and sixteen.

Please contact Bernard on 240297 for more details.

Bluebell Pre-School - Learning Through Play

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SOME USEFUL NUMBERS



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Pharmacy Chapel Road Telephone: 240352

Post Office Chapel Road (Half day Saturday)
(in Co-op) Telephone: 240355

Methodist Church Rev. Ruth Ridge
The Manse, Chapel Lane,
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.

CAN YOU HELP

The team of Bulletin delivery people need help with the distribution of the Bulletin which happens four times a year.

Some of the existing people have been distributing for over ten years and now would like to pass the job on for other people to take over.

If you are interested please contact Nora Bates on 240741 for more details.

History of the Higgs Family.

The June edition included some photographs from the History Group collection. One shows a man and boy outside a shop D. Higgs. The only caption on the back is "Keith and his Father outside shop in 1957". This must have prompted the following very welcome addition.

In 1953, the Higgs family took over the local West Bergholt village shop. I seem to remember the shop was owned by the Pitts family originally. That part of Bergholt was known as Pitts Corner. I lived next door at Ashbourne cottage. I was eleven years old.



The Higgs family consisted of mum and dad, Graham, Keith and Peter. The shop was not as it is today, obviously. I seem to remember there was a big barn at the rear, and as I was an ardent little tap dancer, I performed for them, sometimes charging tuppence. They were a lovely family, especially Mrs. Higgs, who was very kind to me. My mother and I were very poor, and she would often feed me.

Bergholt of course was really a pretty village in those days. Opposite our homes were Popular trees

and a field. In fact Bergholt was almost entirely full of fields like most villages in those days. It was very friendly and everyone knew everybody else. We played all over, up Armoury Lane which only had a few houses. The Brewery was there, and the old night watchman would often give loads of us tours around the brewery. We would sometimes sneak bad beers which had been rejected, get a little tipsy and go on to the brewery field to try to ride the cows. No PC in them thar days.

Of course, there was no electric till about 1955 (I think) no sewerage, and no gas. When I finally left in 1957 all these services were then connected. At about this time, the Higgs family emigrated to New Zealand.

I often thought about them, then about ten years ago, Keith and his wife Marcie came to the UK to see family, and he wanted to show his wife where the shop was. Apparently, this was put in the Parish Magazine, and he expressed the wish to see his old friend Wendy Norfolk again. My best friend, who resides in Bergholt forwarded the magazine to me, and I got in touch with him. We corresponded quite infrequently, and then I heard from him with the sad news his wife had passed away. He was also newly retired. He decided to return to the old Country, travelling over on a cargo ship. We arranged to meet up, and after 60 years met outside the old shop, and it was lovely to see each other, if only for a couple of hours. Keith had been looking over the village before I arrived, and was so surprised to see how much it had changed. I do not think there will be anymore visits as N.Z. is a long way away, and we are all getting older. We will definitely be keeping in touch!

Wendy Glover

Colne Valley Flower Club



Our next meeting is on September 17th and our demonstrator is Linda Kingcott and her title is 'The Greenman and Friends'. The next two meetings are on 15th October and 19th November. The club took part in the Flower Festival at Bury St Edmunds in July with an exhibit entitled 'The Senses'. Any enquiries re meetings please contact Pat Sharman tel 01787 227833.



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

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 & Baby Group, 9.15-11.15am Term time only.

Methodist Church Hall -

Contact: Lizzy 07531454435, Fay 07941012439, Sue 07887931984

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 Glister 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 Tuesdays

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: Gill Poole 240512

Slimming World, 5.30pm and 7.30pm John Lampon Hall.

Contact: Katie 07774003616

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

Beehive Children's Centre, Methodist Church hall, Chapel Lane.

1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesday of each month from 9.30 - 10.30 am.

Clinic will run with our support as a drop in for families.

Wednesdays:

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, 7.30pm 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, 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.colchestermmc.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, 9.30am-10.30am Scout Hut and

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