



Village Bulletin

September 2015 Issue 143

www.westbergholt.net

The Friends of Hillhouse Wood



We'll soon be starting a new season of Working Parties in the Wood and could do with some younger blood (not literally, we are very careful – although we have trained First Aiders just in case). So I thought I would see how other organisations go about attracting new recruits and compare them with us.

For example:

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Well the job satisfaction element is there – after three hours on one Saturday morning a month, the results are there for everyone who walks through the Wood to see. We have more of a problem with the 'pay' bit, being volunteers and all that. But at least we benefit from some additional exercise and a sense of achievement.

The part about working alongside people you trust and respect may have to wait until you've been a couple of times – although we will never ask you to do anything you're not capable of and will always provide training where required.

Whilst we probably can't reach 200 different roles we have at least one that suits you – right up to the use of powered brush cutters!

So, if you want any additional information, please don't hesitate to phone me. Alternatively, just turn up at the Old Church just before 9am on Saturday 19th September for our first party and we'll provide all the equipment and guidance necessary.

Andrew Savage

<http://westbergholt.net/village-life/clubs/hillhouse-wood/>

Village Bulletin *Information*

Chairman

Chris Stevenson
74 Mumford Road

☎ 241 708



Vice-Chairmen

Harry Stone
Vindens, Chapel Lane
West Bergholt

☎ 241 026

Andrew Savage
6 Garling Walk

☎ 242 015

PARISH COUNCILLORS

| | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|---|-------------|
| Brian Butcher | 35 Albany Road | ☎ | 07836340955 |
| Jenny Church | Doran, Hall Road | ☎ | 240 792 |
| John Gili-Ross | 67 Mumford Road, West Bergholt | ☎ | 242 236 |
| Murray Harlow | 25 Valley Crescent | ☎ | 242 007 |
| Rosemary James | 98 Chitts Hill | ☎ | 241 038 |
| Bob Tyrrell | 43 Albany Road | ☎ | 240 016 |
| Phil Walby | 2 The Hop House | ☎ | 240 000 |
| Vacancy | | | |

PARISH COMMITTEES and SUB-COMMITTEES

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <i>Premises and Recreation</i> | Brian Butcher, Jenny Church, Murray Harlow, Rosemary James, Harry Stone, Bob Tyrrell, Phil Walby, |
| <i>Environment and Highways</i> | Jenny Church, John Gili-Ross, Murray Harlow, Rosemary James, Harry Stone, Phil Walby. |
| <i>Planning and Development</i> | Brian Butcher, Andrew Savage, Bob Tyrrell |
| <i>Finance and Personnel</i> | Andrew Savage, Chris Stevenson, Harry Stone, plus Chairs of the Committees |

CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

Laura Walkingshaw 17 Armoury Road, West Bergholt, Colchester CO6 3HL ☎ 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
Mobile 07434949631

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 | 80 Chapel Road, West Bergholt, Colchester CO6 3HL ☎ 241 411 email: marcus.harrington@hotmail.com |
| Dennis Willetts | email: dennis.willetts@btinternet.com ☎ 240 314 |

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Anne Brown email: Cllr.Anne.Brown@essexcc.gov.uk ☎ 01206 321 241

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 circulated on behalf of 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.

Parish Council Changes

The elections in May seem a long time ago now but it is worth noting that there were Parish Council elections for the first time in many years. Eleven Councillors were duly elected and following the inaugural Parish Council meeting, a number of changes are apparent. Firstly as many of you will know John Gili-Ross stood down as Chairman after many years leading the Council. John continues as a Councillor and chairs the Environment & Highways sub committee and will play a leading role in north Essex generally chairing the Colchester Association of Local Councils amongst other activities. John's service as Chairman was marked by a presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting in May which was attended by over 100 people from the community and he steps down having led the Council in fine fashion over the years guiding it to the quality status award achieved earlier in the year. I now have the honour of being the Chair of the Parish Council, and I hope that I can serve the community as well as John has done over the years. To support me in my role as Chairman, there are now two vice Chairs in Harry Stone and Andrew Savage. Full details of the Parish Councillors can be found on the inside front page of the Bulletin.

Following the election, our long serving Parish Clerk Val Walsom also stepped down and has been replaced by a new Clerk, Laura Walkingshaw. I would like to thank Val for her wonderful service to the Council over the years and to wish her well for the future. Characteristically Val has stayed on in a mentoring role with Laura to ensure that there is an orderly transition. We wish Laura every success in the new role. If you need to contact the Parish Council it is normally best to approach the Clerk in the first instance, again see the inside front page for Laura's contact details.

Changes like buses often come in threes, and the third change saw Rachel Howard resign as a Councillor to join her family in Malta. We wish her well in her new life and thank her for her support not just at the Parish Council but also for the many village activities she participated in, including the Neighbourhood Plan, the Brownies, BYG, the School and the Playgroup. We now have a vacancy, and there are posters advertising this and seeking expressions of interest from anyone who would like to be considered for the role. It is normal for

vacancies to be filled by co-option rather than for a formal election to be held.

Lastly our village handyman Steve Cook is leaving us to allow him more time to care for his mother. Steve has been keeping the village free of litter and undertaking a great variety of maintenance activities over the years and his efforts will be greatly missed. We are in the process of replacing him so that the task of caring for our village environment can continue.

There is no Parish Council meeting in August but we resume our meetings in September. Parish Council meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7.30. There is always a public session, so I hope many of you will be able to come along over the next few months to raise issues and ideas which you would like to see followed up - we would be delighted to see you.

Chris Stevenson
Chairman, West Bergholt Parish Council



Friends of St. Mary's Old Church

Jon Lander, who was a resident of West Bergholt for many years, has written a book about the history of St. Mary's Old Church, titled '*The People, Priests and Problems of a Country Parish*'. The Friends have recently had this published in a booklet form. It is illustrated with colour photographs and is an interesting read, especially for anyone who lives or has lived in West Bergholt. We are selling the 20 page booklet for £2.50. All profits from the sale of this booklet will be used by the Friends to care for the old church.

On Sunday 19th September from 2.30 - 4pm, Jon Lander will be at the old church to meet people and discuss his work. Peter Noakes, who provided the photos for Jon's book will also be there. We will be offering visitors tea, cold drinks and a slice of cake. We hope you will come and join us.

If however, you are unable to come to meet Jon and would like to buy a copy of his book, please telephone Jane on 01206 240167

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West Bergholt Women's Institute



At our June meeting we were treated to a display from the Bows'n'Belles Clog Morris Ladies Dancers from Aldham. One of our members belongs to the group.

Members were invited to join in one of the dances, and one member has since joined the Bows 'n' Belles. The ladies have previously performed in Boston and in front of the White House in the States.

Sheila Boxshall represented our WI at the Centenary Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. Wearing her outfit she gave an interesting account of the day.

Ten members were invited to Mile End WI to hear weatherman, Chris Bell, from BBC Look East, talk about his experiences on chasing twisters in the States and his presenting of the weather forecast on television.

July was our annual Strawberry Soiree when members enjoyed strawberries and cream with home made scones and shortbread. Manya Barrow attended the WI Centenary meeting at the Albert Hall and gave an account of the day's events.

A long and short walk was arranged around the village and 20 members then met at the White Hart for lunch.

August welcomed local auctioneer, Michael Bowles, from Reeman Dansie. He gave a fascinating account from visiting a house to value items, right through to the auction in the sale room. He also mentioned his connection with 'Flog It'.



Members brought a large variety of objects for Michael to value. The competition was a teapot with a wonderful selection made from metal, silver and china.

The monthly coffee morning at the Treble Tile is popular, as well as play reading and fortnightly Rummikub. There will be a Centenary tea party for members and past members. Our numbers continue to grow and we welcome visitors who may like to come along and find out more about us.

October 7th is an Open Meeting with a Fashion Show by Edinburgh Woollen Mill, price £3 and all welcome to attend, at the Orpen Hall starting 7.15pm

Schumann for Nayland this autumn

Nayland Choir have announced their programme for the autumn. The choir will be performing Schumann's Mass in C minor together with five motets by Bruckner. The concert will take place on 29 November at St James' Church.

New singers and choir veterans are invited to rehearsals at Nayland School, on Thursday evenings from 10 September onwards, at 8.00pm.

It's a change in tone for the choir since its March concert, Songs from the Jazz Age, covered some of the classic inter-war songs in a packed Village Hall. Over the summer, the choir also participated in the Picnic in the Park.

More information can be found at [HYPERLINK "http://naylandchoir.org"](http://naylandchoir.org) naylandchoir.org, on Twitter at [@naylandchoir](https://twitter.com/naylandchoir), or telephone 01206 242319.

Copy for the December 2015 edition should be received by 1st November 2015.

Late additions cannot be guaranteed entry
Copy submissions to any of the Bulletin team.

Advertising:

Vicky Beckwith-Cole telephone 619258

Mobile: 07434949631

hall-admin@westbergholt.net

Susan Swan - telephone 242319

Susan Leng - telephone 241748

Jane Williams - telephone 243636

Distribution:

Julie Farrow - 971514

Editor: Bernard Colbron - telephone 240297

bernardcolbron@btinternet.com

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West Bergholt Parent and Toddler Group

Hello from all at toddlers! Recently we had some feedback on the friendly atmosphere of our group and we are pleased to see so many families returning each week. This means a lot and we hope you continue to do so when we recommence in September.

We had a busy term leading up to the summer holidays, including a dressing up morning which the children thoroughly enjoyed; making Father's Day crafts and ceramics as well as a fabulous visit to McLauchlan's Pick Your Own Fruit Farm in Boxted. The children had a brilliant time learning how to pick strawberries correctly and then of course trying some at their picnic lunch afterwards!

The term kicked off with a trip to the newly opened visitors' centre at Abberton Reservoir and back in April we completed a sponsored toddle to Hillhouse Woods admiring the beautiful bluebells on display there. This was in conjunction with Little Stars (a group run in Eight Ash Green) and together we raised around £250 for Barnado's. Finally, we ended off the term with a wonderful visit from Jurassic Encounters, a mobile petting zoo, who brought with them some rather exotic animals for the children to feed and touch, including a skunk, a tortoise and a skinny pig!

We are a friendly group run by mums for any local families and their children. We meet Monday mornings (term time) in the Methodist Hall at 9:30. New members are always welcome.

Lizzy, Fay and Sue

West Bergholt Concert Band –



After a well-earned summer break the band start their autumn events with an open rehearsal for brass and woodwind players on Friday September 18th at Heathlands. This is a great opportunity for anyone who fancies giving the band a try to come along for the first time, alongside other new starters, to see what playing in a band is all about. Our Autumn 2015 programme is themed around

“Stage and Screen” and will include music ranging from Miss Saigon, Grease and Wicked through to Rocky, Gabriel’s Oboe and The Blues Brothers. The majority of this term’s music is brand new, so we’ll all be trying the music for the first time together. After that we’ll be performing another of our popular workshops with local primary schools on October 10th, and a secondary schools workshop and concert on November 14th at Philip Morant school.

As mentioned in previous bulletins, 2015 marks 25 years since the band’s founder suddenly passed away, so it’s appropriate that we’re performing a concert at a school whose concert hall still contains a plaque commemorating the affection in which he was held.

The band’s summer activities marked a milestone for our current conductor, with our concert at Marks Hall marking the 100th concert he has conducted as sole conductor, although that didn’t prevent him from leaving his baton in his car at the start, or prevent him from missing the significance of the concert. Having decided not to risk the showers which were threatened but never arrived, the band performed a programme of recent favourites ranging from Mancini and John Williams through to Bon Jovi and Joseph inside a lovely atmospheric barn, which contributed to the relaxed atmosphere of the event.

Shortly after that we returned to Coggeshall’s St Peter ad Vincula Church for a wonderful concert featuring music from Rachmaninov and Gershwin through to James Horner and Les Miserables, with the concert highlights including a new percussion heavy arrangement of Africa by Toto, and the audience demanding an encore of our Neil Diamond medley. The band continues to raise thousands of pounds for charities, and have a fully booked calendar for 2016.

We also continue to welcome players of all ages and joining couldn’t be easier - there’s no audition, you can just pop along any Friday evening, and you don’t have to make every week. We remain a fun and friendly bunch who help each other out, especially when the notes get tricky. 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.

Bluebell Preschool

The children and staff have had a lovely busy summer term. We enjoyed watching Heathlands School Infants Sports Day and taking part in the toddler race. We then enjoyed our own races back at preschool. During the week after Father's Day we invited our Dads, Grandads and Uncles to stay and play at our sessions. We had great fun playing football, reading stories and showing all the things we do at our sessions. During our open afternoon we had an opportunity to meet our new families and look forward to them joining us in September.

Thank you to everyone who supported our Fun Afternoon. We had lots of fun on the bouncy castle, face paints, tattoos, hair braids, tombola, hook a duck and refreshments at the cake stall and sweet stall.

Some of the children enjoyed the day at Mrs Bennetts house - toasting marshmallows over a campfire, feeding the goats and making bright bunting to hang up at preschool.

At the end of term we held Bluebell's got Talent - and then said goodbye to 45 children who have finished their preschool journey with us and are now going on to school.

Looking forward to the Autumn term !!

3rd West Bergholt Brownies

The Brownies have enjoyed a busy summer term with lots of evening activities and outings.

We enjoyed a Teddy bear sleepover, an American themed Fun Day at Thorrington, an evening painting ceramics at The Blue Owl, a campfire with the other guiding units in the village - run by 1st Guides and an end of term party with games, pizza and water fun. We held a badge night and a Promise evening.

Sadly we said goodbye to Forest Owl and our pack leader - off to live in sunny Malta- we wish them well and want to hear all about their new Brownie and Guide units.

In September we are welcoming two new girls and looking forward to hearing about everyones summer!

Brown Owl

St Mary's Church

Messy Church that we introduced on 14th June was enjoyed by a good crowd of all ages. This is to continue monthly on September 13th, October 11th and December 13th at 9.30am but not on November 8th as this will be Remembrance Sunday when St. Mary's and the Methodist Church will be at the Memorial Hall at 10.45am. On these Sundays there will be an Evening Prayer service.

Is your child starting school in September? Would you like to meet other parents for a chat and a coffee? If so, drop into St. Mary's Church from 9am on the 9th September. Pre-school children are welcome too.

Back-to-Church Sunday is on September 27th at 9.30am. Did you used to go to church, here or where you previously lived? Come and join in worship here, you will be made very welcome.

Harvest celebrations will be held on Sunday 4th October. Anyone wishing to help with decorating the church should come on Saturday 3rd October from 9.30am. Donations of harvest produce welcome at 9.30am also.

If you are interested in exploring the Christian faith, please contact Rev. Mandy Elmes on 240906 or Ronnie Seymour on 273579. Should you be interested in joining a Bible study home group, Michael Foster would be pleased to help on 241022. Richard Chadborn is still looking for help with churchyard maintenance. If you can help, please telephone him on 240541. There is a vacancy for Hon. P.C.C. (Church Council) secretary. Please ring Rev. Mandy on 240906 if you can help.

To assist Mandy in the four parishes we have appointed Liz Dixon as Administrator, working at St. Mary's on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings from 9am until 1pm.

The office address is St. Mary's Church, Church Close, West Bergholt, CO6 3JE and the telephone number is 01206 243683.



This term Gill and Tina have run a team making evening and the Guides had to do various challenges

with marshmallows hanging by a thread and a marble game needing the use of straws, cocktail sticks, rubber bands, string and tubes. It was a lot of fun.

We have also started a 'Year in the Life of 1st West Bergholt Guides' album. With the cameras we purchased with the help of the Jack Petchey Award we are taking photos every week and collating them into an album. Having two cameras means we get different perspectives from each girl that uses them.

For Valentines the Guides made iced chocolate chip cookies, wrapped them in cellophane and tied with red ribbon. They also made photo frames with multi coloured lolly sticks and placed a photo taken the week before in the frame. They all looked really good.

We are proud to advise that two of our Young Leaders, Eleanor Ringrose and Ciara Harlow have both decided to become Leaders and are now in training. They have already run a few evenings with the Guides and are doing really well. We are hoping that they will be fully qualified by the end of the year.

We spent one evening doing economics by asking the girls how they could make money grow. We gave them scenarios to work on which turned out very interesting. The ideas were taken from Girls Matter resource.

Chloe Taylor has won a Jack Petchey award and the money has helped purchase some valuable camping equipment and some very useful portable gas stoves. We have already used these and spent the evening making omelets in bags, frying chipolatas and some very nice camp doughnuts. Well done Chloe!

We organised a campfire for all of the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides in the village which went very well with over a 100 turning up. We finished the evening with our new parachute which was enjoyed by everybody.

On our last evening we had a barbeque in my garden and the whole unit came and enjoyed hot

dogs and burgers. It was a lovely evening. Thank you to all for coming.

Our next term starts on 10th September and some of our Guides are taking part in the County Sailing Day on 19th September.

Hope you all had a lovely summer.

Sandra Gates, Guide Guider

1st West Bergholt Brownies.

This term we undertook the 'I'm a Brownie, Get me out of here' badge. For this we combined it with fundraising for Children with Leukaemia. We had 26 different jungle activities from tribal face painting, jungle crafts, obstacle courses and we even got the Brownies to put their hands in lots of goo to see what they could discover. To finish the badge we had a visit from Snakes Alive who visited the unit with a few of their residents. The girls were very brave and held a variety of animals amongst which were snakes, tarantula, bearded dragon and even a nice friendly tortoise.

McLauchlan's at Boxted welcomed us again for strawberry picking which the girls loved. As usual they ate more during the picking than they took home in their punnets!

We also attended the campfire that was organised by the Guides, for the Guiding units in the village. The Brownies enjoyed tucking in to their hot dogs and singing really loud!!! Sandra even surprised the girls with a parachute game to end the fun.

For more information or If you are interested in joining 1st West Bergholt Brownies, please contact us at 1stwestbergholtbrownies@gmail.com.

Nora Bates

It was with great sadness that the Bulletin Team learned of the death of Nora Bates on 1st June 2015. Nora organised the distribution of the Village Bulletin for many years, until very recently. She also took key roles in a number of village organisations, as a member and as a committee member. Nora loved West Bergholt and worked hard for the things she believed in.

Nora will be sadly missed and our condolences go to her family.

Bergholt Heath Youth Football Club



The club is busy preparing for the new season with a new team and many changes to the committee.

Last season was a little disappointing with no silverware but with so much non-competitive sport, it is hardly surprising. This season we welcome a team at Under 7 together with their manager Dan Thorogood. Unfortunately, we say goodbye to our Under 16 team from last season who decided not to go forward to Under 18. Without a doubt they have been our most successful team over the years, having been in the top three at their age group for long periods. Our good wishes go to Simon Ashurst who has now moved on to work at a senior club.

We have also seen changes of both Treasurer and Fixture Secretary. Both Graham Truluck and John Williams step down after having been associated with the club almost from the start. The good news is that we welcome back Iain Turner as Treasurer and we now have Kelly McLean as Fixture Secretary.

We also have a new sponsor courtesy of one of the dads. Triton-Global has agreed a three year shirt sponsorship. Our thanks to them and to Mark Duffy for his past sponsorship.

Whist our teams are busy signing up players for this season and arranging friendlies, the season is just over a month away and our traditional barbecue on the first day will be on Sunday 13th September from 3pm on Lorkin Daniell field. The chairman will be behind the barbecue as usual but still needs to draft in an assistant!

Leslie Wright, 07891239117

Library Times

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| Queens Road | 15.35 – 15.55 |
| Chapel Road | 16.00 – 16.45 |

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BYG - Summer Term

The young members have enjoyed the lighter evenings outside playing tennis, football, swing ball and skipping.

To tie in with Wimbledon we organised a tennis knockout evening. The winners won Haribo prizes and in the tuck shop we enjoyed strawberries and cream.

On Saturday 27th June we held a summer fun afternoon. We had lots of our regular activities - football, Wii, PS3, X box, pool table and craft. The Essex Girls and Boys Club organised archery which was very popular. We also ran an adult and children's raffle. Inside we sold a variety of cakes and scones along with tea and coffee.

We thank everyone who supported our fun afternoon - we raised over £100 for BYG funds.

The end of term the members enjoyed an evening of Zorbbing fun.

Our first evening of the new term is on
FRIDAY 11th SEPTEMBER 6.30-8 pm

We run every fortnight throughout the year. Year 6 and above young people are welcome - new yearly membership fees will be due from all members of £3, then 50p each visit. Membership forms need to be completed.

We are looking forward to lots of fun activities and always welcome new volunteers!!!

Bergholt Youth Group (BYG)

SOME USEFUL NUMBERS



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| Post Office | Chapel Road (Half day Saturday) (in Co-op) Telephone: 240355 |
| News Correspondent Jacqui Hunns | The Laurels, Firmins Court Telephone: 240712 Email jacquihunns@aol.com |

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



West Bergholt Vehicle Show

The annual West Bergholt Vehicle Show took place on Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 July 2015. The event, once again sponsored by Colchester and Clacton Solicitors, Thompson Smith and Puxon (TSP), involved a display of historic vehicles, trade stands, charity stalls, exhibitions and attractions for everyone to enjoy.

Unfortunately, the weather was rather unkind with heavy rainfall on Friday evening and for most of Sunday. However, this failed to dampen spirits and for those who braved the weather there was an impressive array of classic cars, motorbikes, tractors and other vehicles on display, together with various shows and stands.

TSP Family Law solicitor, Shelley Cumbers, who lives in West Bergholt, was particularly pleased to attend the event and said, *“I am proud that TSP have again sponsored the local vehicle show. I attended on Saturday with my young family for the first time and we will be sure to attend this annual event in future years. It was a great shame the RAF Falcons Parachute Display team could not perform in the poor weather, but we still had a very enjoyable time. My son especially enjoyed looking at the classic red fire engines!”*

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

NSPCC Book Fair

Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th October 9.30-4pm

At Holmwood House School, Chitts Hill, Lexden.

There will be over 35,000 new and second-hand books, plus hundreds of jigsaws, games, CDs and DVDs. Refreshments are available and the Entrance is £1.50. Under 16s have free entry. This year we have been donated an especially large number of brand new books and lots of excellent children's books too. We replace the stock for the Sunday sale so come both days!

Brains of Bergholt

The Village Bulletin Quiz has come round again – to be held on Saturday 24th October starting at 7pm in the Orpen Hall. Teams of four people can enter. They can be from local businesses, local clubs or a group of friends – at least one of the team must be a West Bergholt resident. Cost £16 per team. This year, all proceeds will go to the local charity

PARKINSONS UK (*Colchester Branch*)

Please sign up your team and come along and have a happy evening with the Bulletin Team – no hard questions! Bring your own drinks. A sandwich supper will be served to you in the interval.

Many thanks to the Parish Council for giving the use of the Hall for this event.

Come and try to win the honour of being “Brains of Bergholt” – there’s a cup for the winning team!

Please return form to 36 Albany Road,
West Bergholt with your £16 cheque made payable to West Bergholt Parish Council.

Name of Team Captain

Address

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Shelley, who lives in West Bergholt, is a solicitor in the TSP Family and Divorce team. Shelley advises clients on all aspects of family law and is able to offer a free half hour initial chat for prospective clients.



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Neighbourhood Plan – a great response from the community!

Many thanks to the literally hundreds of you who responded to the Issues and Options consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) held in the spring.

The consultation started in the Village Bulletin and on the website, but really took off when the exhibition was displayed at the Annual Parish Meeting and two further occasions in the weeks that followed. Over 100 people attended the annual meeting with a further 150 attending the other exhibition days.

Responses in the form of returned questionnaires were equally good, with around 200 responses received. These are now being analysed and a report of the consultation will be published on the village website later this autumn.

Over the summer the Steering Group has been in discussions with neighbouring Parish Councils and Colchester Borough Council. This is to ensure we learn from best practice and to keep in step with the master plan being assembled by the Borough Council, which is expected to consult on its New Local Plan early next year.

The next steps in the assembly of the NP are envisaged as follows

- completion of the evidence base, including results of the recent consultations (autumn 2015)
- spatial options, looking at where the best place for limited development could be proposed (autumn 2015)
- consultation on spatial options (winter 2015)
- drafting of NP (spring 2016)
- consultation on Draft NP (summer 2016)
- statutory aspects of the NP, examination in public, referendum etc (winter 2016)

As ever I close with an invitation to anyone who wants to join the NP Steering Group to get in contact with me. We are at the writing stage, so anyone who enjoys drafting concise and clear reports, analysing information or editing documents would be especially welcome! We meet on the first Wed. of the month at the John Lampon Hall.

Chris Stevenson
Chairman,
West Bergholt Neighbourhood Plan Group
cdstevenson@gmail.com or 01206 241708

WEA - West Bergholt Branch

In September 2014 Roger Beckett came to West Bergholt to give us a course on “The Great War; Fact, Myth and Memory”. We explored the political and social issues that led to the outbreak of the Great War, the many conflicts and appalling loss of life. We then went on to consider the longer political effects and how many issues were left unresolved and consequently led to World War II. Everyone in the class felt that they had greatly increased their knowledge of the “War to end all Wars”!

Our spring course was “Inland Waterways” by Stephen Worsley. Stephen spoke about the first canal builders and how canals greatly improved the transport of goods around the country especially in the Midlands. We then learnt of their gradual decline as the railways arrived and how the tourist industry is now helping to keep the surviving canals open and has even led to the revival of others.

After our summer break WEA’s course for autumn 2015 is “Shakespeare’s Villains” by tutor Ron Marks. This course aims to consider the origins of Shakespeare’s Machiavellian and Satanic characters: explore the roles of political intrigue, ambition, warfare, sibling rivalry, jealousy, obsession and the impulse to revenge in unleashing violence and cruelty in the plays.

The course commences on Tuesday 15th September at 8pm and is held at The Methodist Hall, Chapel Lane, West Bergholt, CO6 3EF. It lasts for 10 weeks (with a break at half term for the AGM) and costs £48. For those on income under £15,276 net per annum or income based benefits/JSA it is free.

Why not come along and learn about Shakespeare’s plays in a very interesting and accessible way. You can sample the first evening for free!

For further information please tel: Gill Poole on 240512.



West Bergholt Badminton Club



The Badminton Club meets every Tuesday, except for days either side of Christmas. The NEW times are 8pm till 10pm. New members welcomed.



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Methodist Church News

After eight years as our Minister we said good bye to Rev. Ruth Ridge and her husband James in July. Ruth was part of our family here in West Bergholt and our Sector Churches as was evident by the many special events and services arranged as a sad farewell. Our deepest thanks and good wishes go with her.

For the forthcoming months any ministerial matters can be directed to our Circuit Ministers by contacting one of our three church stewards - Judith 241969, Andrew 242511, or Susan 241431.

We have continued our Shared Village Communion midweek monthly services in our church for many years. From September we will be meeting at St. Mary's on second Tuesday of each month at 11.00am where all are welcome to join us.

Our Womens Fellowship meetings continue to flourish with many interesting speakers. We meet at 2.30pm on 3rd Wednesday of each month in the hall. As we no longer have a Wesley Guild meeting to which the gentlemen could attend we have decided to encourage everyone to join us and will in future just be called The Fellowship Meeting.

On Saturday 12th September A Special Family Fun Day Festival is being held in Lower Castle Park from 11.00am - 4.00pm. Last years event was very successful and included BBQ, Bouncy Castle, Crafts and Entertainers. It is FREE ENTRY - all are welcome.

Our own Harvest Festival Service is on 13th September at 11.00am followed by a faith lunch at 12.30. Any donations of Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables as well as packet and tinned goods would be appreciated and any volunteers to decorate the church on FRIDAY 11th from 9.30am would be most welcome.

Saturday 3rd October is our Autumn Quiz Night. We begin at 7.00pm. Tables of four at £16.00. Bookings of tables have already been made so don't delay if you want to join us. Please ring Judith 241969 to book a table.

Silver Sunday Afternoon Tea will be from 3.00 - 5.00pm on 11th October. If you have previously heard about this very enjoyable afternoon and not been able to join us ring Andrew 242511 or Judith 241969 to find out more. If you are housebound, lonely or just enjoy other company we would love to meet you. Transport can be arranged.

Summer Holiday Family Coffee and Craft mornings have been extremely busy. News spreads quickly among young families about the fun time had by all. We hope to arrange a half term event on Monday 26th October from 10.30-12. Posters will be displayed nearer the event. Details from Andrew 242511

All regular services and events are found on the Diary Page and include special arrangements for Remembrance Day and United Service at Great Horkesley. We are planning our Christmas Coffee Morning on 28th November from 10.00am to 12 noon where our usual display of Gifts, Cakes, Cards, Wrapping Paper and Mystery Parcels will be available as well as the Traditional Mince Pies and Coffee.

We hope to see you all at many of these services and events.

Methodist Church Diary

September

| | | |
|------|--------------------------|---------|
| 9th | Coffee Morning - in Hall | 10.00am |
| 13th | Harvest Festival | 11.00am |
| 16th | Fellowship - in Hall | 2.30pm |

October

| | | |
|------|--|---------------|
| 3rd | Quiz Night - in Hall | 7.00pm |
| 11th | AFTERNOON SILVER SUNDAY TEA in Methodist Hall | 3.00 - 5.30pm |
| 14th | Coffee Morning - in Hall | 10.00am |
| 21st | Fellowship - in Hall | 2.30pm |
| 25th | Church Anniversary | 11.00am |
| 26th | Family Coffee and Craft in Hall - | 10.30-12noon |

November

| | | |
|------|---|------------|
| 8th | Remembrance Day at Orpen Hall | 10.45am |
| 11th | Coffee Morning - in Hall | 10.00am |
| 18th | Fellowship - in Hall | 2.30pm |
| 28th | CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING Mince pies, Gifts, Cakes and Mystery Parcels | 10 -12noon |
| 29th | United Service at Gt. Horkesley | 11.15am |

December

| | | |
|-----|-------------------------|----------|
| 6th | Gift and Parade Service | 11.00 am |
|-----|-------------------------|----------|

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


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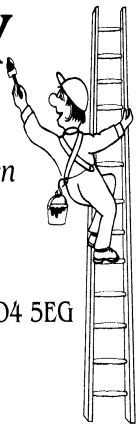
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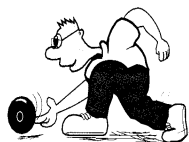
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West Bergholt Bowls Club



We at the Bowls Club have recently lost a very loyal and long serving member. Nora Bates had been a member since 1990 and had served on the Committee for many years. She was a vice-chairperson and arranged refreshments at all our club functions. Nora won many trophies and is the only club member to have held every shield and trophy in the same year. We send our condolences to her family.

The club recently entered two teams in the Prettygate Challenge Competition, although neither team won they had a great days bowling.

You could be a part of this friendly club. We bowl at the Orpen Hall on Thursday and Sunday evenings at 7pm - do come along we look forward to seeing you there. Call Eileen on 243301 or just arrive, you will be made welcome.

1st West Bergholt Rainbows

The Rainbows are the youngest girls aged between 5-7 years in the Girl Guiding organisation. The unit follows The "Rainbow Jigsaw" programme which provides fun and challenging activities not only for the Girls but Leaders too!! It helps the Girls to discover and develop new skills. We encourage the Rainbows to think for themselves and grow in confidence when working in small groups or as a team when playing games.

This term we had two girls make their Rainbow Promise and enjoyed an evening based around games and activities to welcome them into Guiding. The unit now has 15 girls who enjoy coming every Monday evening.

We did lots of Summer activities this term, including a challenge to be Wimbledon Champions! The Unit went to the village Tennis courts and we learnt the Tennis rules, scoring, what it would be like to be a ball-boy or girl and being an Umpire sitting in the hot sun! We then learnt fore-hand, backhand strokes and even getting the ball over the net. The rainbows enjoyed the evening and got a taste of being a Champion and gaining a badge for their efforts which is better than a "double foot" fault!!

We looked at other elements of the Summer months, being "Safe in the Sun" when Olivia the Rainbow mascot went on holiday. We made shell bracelets and shell jewellery boxes as examples of gifts she could bring home from her travels. We had an evening looking at fish. The girls had the chance to look and handle a Sea Bass learning about their gills / sea conditions they live in etc.

We enjoyed a fine warm evening around a Campfire with the Brownies and Guides in the District singing at the top of our voices..!!

Then its time to say Good bye. We had three Rainbows leave to continue their Guiding career in Brownies and one starting a new life in New Zealand !!! where she is keen to continue with the organisation.

Leaders went to University and one had a change in work commitments so the Unit wish them lots of luck for September.

I am pleased to announce we will have a new team for September with renewed enthusiasm for another busy year ahead.

If you ever feel you would like to be involved in the unit, would like to Volunteer any time one evening to a meeting or have a special skill you would like to share with the Girls please contact me.

Your in Guiding

Karen Howard Mrs Tiggy-Winkle Leader



Yellow Lines

Shortly after three o'clock, towards the end of the Summer Term, I was walking past Heathlands School. Having passed eight vehicles parked on yellow or double yellow lines (not then enforceable) a large car parked in front of me on the yellow zig zag lines by the school entrance. As the driver got out, nearly knocking the door into me I said "Do you know you are parking on the zig zag lines?" "Yes" she said "but my little boy's safety is more important". I said "What about the safety of all the other little boys?" but she rushed off down the drive.

Sent by a West Bergholt Resident



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Colne Valley Flower Club



We commence our Autumn programme on Wednesday 16th September with Jacquie Aldous from Swanton Morley with her demonstration titled "That's Entertainment".

On Wednesday 21st October we welcome back David Wright from Tunstead and his demonstration is called "Famous Ladies".

The last demonstration for 2015 is on Wednesday November 21st which is our 'open meeting' when members and friends are invited to join us for Flowers and refreshments. Our demonstrator for this evening is Susan Phillips from Orpington who will show us how to "Deck the Halls".

All our meetings are held at the Orpen Hall commencing at 7.30pm. Any further details can be obtained from our chairman Jayne on 01376 564135 and our Secretary Alison on 01206 240262.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

Please allow me, through the courtesy of your columns, to thank those residents who voted for me at the local election on May 7th. I am humbled to be re-elected and will endeavour to continue my work for West Bergholt and Eight Ash Green Ward. The areas that always attract most interest are planning and roads/traffic.

This Ward had seven candidates to choose from, the highest number in any of Colchester Borough's election. Four of the candidates live in the Ward but one of these received 12 votes, the lowest number of any candidate in the Borough. Just two candidates attended the declaration at Charter Hall.

This term is for one year. Next May sees a change in all Borough Wards with all out elections. Parts of Lexden, Myland and Great Tey Wards will be added to ours. All Wards will have three Councillors.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Marcus Harrington

Dear Sir,

My fellow Ward Councillor, Dennis Willetts, and I have been given £2,000 by Colchester Borough Council to spend on community projects within the Parish of West Bergholt. There are many voluntary local groups which operate in the village and already contribute so much to our community. For some, a little extra financial assistance may be important. We welcome bids for a share of this Community Budget Fund which may be used to support new projects or match funding to existing projects.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Marcus Harrington,
marcus.harrington@hotmail.co.uk



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West Bergholt Football Club



With the new season about to start, following last season's spectacular results, we have unfortunately become the victims of our own success. Four of our first team squad have been signed by semi pro teams from higher leagues leaving us with a huge void to fill. While this is a great compliment to the quality of our team, it has left us with a big restructuring problem. To the credit of our team managers, we have managed to recruit new players, and pre season friendlies have produced favourable results. At the time of writing, the league program is yet to start, but the club is looking forward to continuing success, although last season will be a hard act to follow.

Michael R Bell



Contacts and what's on guide

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

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

Mondays:

W. B. 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 St. Mary's Church

Badminton Club, 8pm-10pm 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

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 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.

(visits between April and September)

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. 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.

Details Marie-Louise Fuell 240642

WB Knitting & Crochet Group, is a house group. Meeting

3rd Wednesday from 2.30pm - 4pm.

Details Phone 01206 242015

Wednesday Fellowship, 3rd Wednesday 2.30pm, Methodist Hall

Thursdays:

Open House with Squeals on Wheels, 9.00am -11.00am

(in term time) 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,

Armoury Farm, 8pm . 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, 9.30am-10.30am Scout Hut and

7pm-8pm Methodist Church Hall.

Contact: Mrs Smith 564348

Fridays:

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. Amber Harlow 242007

Orpen Players, 8pm Orpen Hall. 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: Kevin Sturdy 240549

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

Contact: Mark Partridge 241617

Saturdays:

NEEGOG Model Railway Club, 1st Saturday at 2pm

St. Mary's Church Hall - Contact Martin Long 240443