

Village Bulletin

December 2015 Issue 144

www.westbergholt.net

Friends of St. Mary's Old Church

It was a beautiful sunny afternoon on Sunday 20th September and the Friends committee were delighted to welcome a large number visitors to the church. There was a delicious array of homemade cakes and a constant supply of cups of tea and coffee.

This was a special occasion to launch a history booklet about St. Mary's Old Church, called *'The People, Priests and Problems of A Country Parish'*, which the Friends had published this summer. Jon Lander, author of the booklet, spoke briefly about his book. He said he was interested in finding out about the people who worshipped at the church and about life in the village in the past. He added that bad news is frequently recorded but rarely good news so we should not think that life in West Bergholt was all bad. Peter Noakes showed a video with excerpts of our concert, which took place in the summer and also a slideshow of the many photos that he has taken of the church, some of which are included in Jon's book.

We had about one hundred visitors in the course of the afternoon and sold 55 books. It was a great opportunity for people to chat with Jon and Peter and meet with friends from the village. If you were unable to come to the afternoon and would like a copy of the booklet, which we are selling for the modest price of £2.50 each, please ring 01206 240167. All profits will be use for the upkeep of the old church.

Workers' Education Asociation (LEARNING FOR LIFE)

On Tuesday 12th January 2016 Bill Tamblin is coming to the West Bergholt branch of WEA to begin his course "On the Shoulders of Giants". His series of ten lectures will cover Bruckner, Mahler, Sibelius, Ives, Vaughn Williams, Brian, Stockhusen, and Berio all composers of monumental symphonies. He will review their creation and ultimate survival of such works in the 'soundbite age' of the 21st century. This will take place in the Methodist Hall, Chapel Lane, West Bergholt CO6 3EF at 8 pm at a cost of £48.

(People on income under £15,276 net per annum or income based benefits/JSA free)

Our first evening is a "taster" so why not come along and sample the course for free!

Village Bulletin *Information*



Chairman

Chris Stevenson, 74 Mumford Road ☎ 241 708

Vice-Chairmen

Harry Stone, Vindens, Chapel Lane ☎ 241 026

Andrew Savage, 6 Garling Walk ☎ 242 015

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Bob Tyrrell	43 Albany Road	☎	240 016
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Vacancy			

PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEES

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<i>Environment and Highways</i>	John Gili-Ross (Chair and Footpath Officer), Rosemary James (Vice Chair), Jenny Church, Murray Harlow, Harry Stone Transport Rep.
<i>Planning and Development</i>	Bob Tyrrell (Chair), Brian Butcher (Vice Chair), Murray Harlow, Andrew Savage, Chris Stevenson
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CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

Laura Walkingshaw 80 Chapel Road, West Bergholt, Colchester CO6 3HL ☎ 240 772

VILLAGE HALLS 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 Orpen Hall on Thursdays between 7pm and 8pm. Please use the old side entrance.

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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.

Mike Smith

Mike Smith, who was a well-known West Bergholt resident passed away on 10th October 2015. The overflowing church for the Thanksgiving service showed how many family, friends and work colleagues wanted to pay their respects to Mike.



Not many people these days are born and live their whole lives in the same place, but this was the case with Mike. He was born in Chapel Lane in a bungalow on the site of the house where his sister now lives.

He built the house where he and his wife of 54 years marriage lived – Micina in Chapel Lane – just a stone's throw from his childhood home. Mike went to West Bergholt School where he would have met Marlene for the first time. He also went to the same Sunday School, and later the Table Tennis Club, firstly in the old Scout Hut and later in the Methodist Chapel Hall, and much more recently in the Church Hall. Table Tennis was to play a big part in Mike's life and he always made time to teach this to others as well as different skills, of which he had many.

He was a Master Carpenter and Joiner – he always had a passion for working with wood, even as a small boy. At St Helena School he excelled in carpentry and joinery. At the age of 19 years he became an apprentice at the local building firm of MacNally's, with evening classes at Colchester Institute, to learn the theory too. At MacNally's, he rose through the ranks to become a senior partner in the business, responsible for surveying and estimating. There are many homes and local buildings that Mike was responsible for building, extending or renovating, and he will be remembered for his quality work.

He will also be remembered for many other reasons, apart from work – his racing pigeons and their magnificent lofts that were built as well as any house, as befitted a master craftsman. His allotment, where he would be seen digging and chatting, always with a cheery wave to passers-by. The corgis, which were loved by Marlene and Mike equally, earned them an invitation from that other famous corgi owner in 2013. They went to

Sandringham House to meet HM The Queen. In Mike's early days, he rode everywhere on his bike, but in later years, nice cars became his passion.

He was a genuinely good man, and it was always a pleasure to be in his company, with his ready smile and dry sense of humour. His real passion was his family though. Marlene and Mike brought up their son and daughter as well as their grandson with abounding love. Sympathy goes to all of them as well as to his sister at this sad time.

At the church service, he was remembered as a well-respected member of the village throughout his life, both in business and family life – A West Bergholt Boy through and through.

A message from Marlene and family – We would like to thank everyone for their kindness and tributes received in recent months, and for the overwhelming attendance at the church service.



December sees a change in the Wood with the fall of leaves covering the paths. This creates a different feel with walkers often having to reconsider where they are even after many years of familiarity with the various areas of it. And the effect is even more pronounced once it's snowed.

However, picking up leaves or clearing snow are **not** jobs undertaken by the Saturday morning Working Parties. Instead there is a whole range of enjoyable activities within everyone's capabilities which all go towards making Hillhouse Wood the place it is. These include path clearing, habitat protection and pond and stream maintenance. Please remember, whilst nature achieves much every year, the rest has to be done by us.

Therefore, putting a little back will help to ensure the Wood continues to be a delight for years to come. Please note that our next Working Party is on Saturday 12th December, meeting at the Old Church just before 9am when all necessary equipment and guidance will be provided.

Andrew Savage, Chairman - 01206 242015

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

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West Bergholt Women's Institute



September was an 'Open Meeting' with several WI's joining us to hear Jenny Gibbs talk entitled 'A Turkish Shirley Valentine'. She wore the traditional costume that ladies wear in the villages today. She explained how colleagues booked a holiday in Turkey for her and on her return to the UK she found the staff had been made redundant. Jenny decided this was an omen, so she sold up and moved to Turkey. She now splits her time between both countries and told us about her new life in Turkey.

Invitations were accepted by past members to join present members celebrating with a WI. Centenary Tea Party. Although the rain teemed down outside a pleasant afternoon was spent by all with scones, home made cakes and plenty of tea on offer.

The October 'Open Meeting' was our annual Fashion Show by Edinburgh Woollen Mill. The shop brought a large selection of items from Shortbread biscuits, soft toys to handbags and scarves which everyone was able to browse and purchase.

President, Susan Leng, welcomed eight local WI's and visitors from the village.

Ten members from West Bergholt WI modelled four sets of Autumn wear with a commentary from our secretary, Jacqui Hunns. Everyone enjoyed the variety of home made cakes and the evening ended with a large raffle. The Spring Fashion Show will be staged on 6th April 2016 – all welcome.

In November we welcomed Peter Jones from Eight Ash Green as our speaker. He gave a very interesting description of the Great Essex Earthquake of 1884, illustrated with graphic pictures of the time. A quiz was played in Social Time and plans were revealed for our Christmas Party in December.

The new year starts early for the WI. – on Wednesday 6th January we will meet at the Orpen Hall at 7.15pm. There will be a film of our WI year in 2015 and Bingo and some other social activities to get the year off to a good start. If you would like to come along and try the WI for yourself, please come and see if you like it – what better time to start than at the beginning of a new year. It will be 95 years in February since the West Bergholt WI first opened, so we must be doing something right!

1st West Bergholt Scout Group

We have had an exciting year of Scouting in West Bergholt. We celebrated our Group's 85th anniversary with a camp at Hallowtrees, Ipswich in May. About fifty children enjoyed a range of activities including abseiling, archery, climbing, pioneering, shooting, a great campfire (with songs and roasted bananas!) and much more. Our weekly programmes are varied and exciting and have included sailing, visits to the local airfield, hikes, sleepovers and badge work to impart many new skills. Scouting offers children new adventures, the chance to experience the outdoors and to interact with others. We love to see how the young people gain in confidence over the years. They have so many opportunities to reach their potential.

In our aim to continue to offer the children these fantastic experiences, we are looking to recruit new volunteers in all sections.

Do you have a background in Scouting or do you simply thrive on offering children new opportunities? Volunteering is fun, rewarding and flexible. You can train as a young leader between the ages of 14-18 and adult helpers have no upper age limit! Full training is given if you wish to progress or you can simply offer to be an occasional helper or to help at specific events such as the camps. In particular, our Beaver Colony is always at full capacity and we would love to see a second Colony established in the near future.

If you feel that you would like to become part of our team of volunteers, please contact Kevin Sturdy, Group Scout Leader on 07803602779 (after 6pm) or email: kevinsturdy@aol.com.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Library Times

The Mobile Library visits the village
fortnightly on a Tuesday.

The stops and times for West Bergholt are:

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Scout Hut, Lexden Road	14.45 – 15.30
Queens Road	15.35 – 15.55
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ROYAL COMMAND

The Queen had just started her reign at the time
when she wrote to me out of the blue
She didn't know me, at least not very well
though of course I was blue-blooded too.

I was resting in bed when I read what she said
I had to join up for two years.
It was all cut and dried or they'd have you inside
and cut all your hair off with shears.

The training was tough and the company rough
with no time at all to sit still
marching, parading, saluting and chores
and polishing boots for the drill.

They shouted and called and insulted and bawled
and the corporal we had was the worst
sadistic and proud and exceedingly loud
the most hated among the accursed.

An impregnable bully with power, so it seemed
for he drove for His Nibs when required
a large khaki Humber, a red flag up front
envied, he thought, and admired.

He was urgently washing the limo one day
hosing it down with a sneer
when His Lordship arrived, with other top brass
and they settled themselves in the rear.

Our man took his seat and a-jiggled his feet
but the water had got in the works
he tried and he tried but it spluttered and died
and they all got out looking like berks.

His world fell apart, he was out on his ear
a driver unwanted and sore
justice was served, it was richly deserved
his tyrannical reign was no more.

Our postings arrived and for two years we strived
the Queen of course owes me a debt
I'll write to her soon at the next harvest moon
'cos she won't know the half of it yet.

John Everreti



The Bulletin Team
wishes all our
readers
a Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year.

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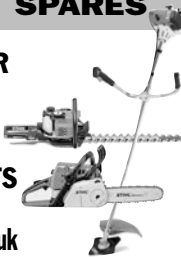
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St Mary's Church

In the last issue we had just enjoyed our first 'Messy Church'. Since then we have been pleased with the response from families, and will continue on December 10th at 9.30am. It was to be reviewed after six months, so by the time you read this we will have decided whether to continue our All-Age service in this form or to make some changes. January 10th and February 14th being the next two. There will be notices outside the church before these dates or you can phone our church office on weekday mornings except Wednesdays.

Please note that Evening Prayer on Sundays during the winter begin at 4.30pm.

Our Christmas programme will be much the same as last year, beginning with Carols at the Old Church at 2.30pm. on Sunday 20th December.

On Christmas Eve there will be a Crib Service for children at 3.00pm, followed by the Carol Service at 6.45pm. For those who enjoy the Midnight Communion, this will be held at 11.30pm at All Saint's Church, Great Horkelesley.

We shall celebrate Christmas Day with a Family Service at 9.30am.

The Heathlands Christmas Tree Decoration competition will be on display on Saturday 12th December, please come and vote for the best!

Carol singing to raise money for the Children's Society will be outside the Co-op store on Friday 18th December from 6.30pm. Singers and givers very welcome!

On Sunday 27th, Methodists and Great Horkelesley Church will be joining us at St Mary's for worship at 9.30am.

The Tuesday morning Communion Service starting at 11.00am is now being held at St Mary's on the second Tuesday each month, and is open to all who love Jesus.

Easter is early in 2016, so Ash Wednesday is on February 10th. An evening service will be held at 8.00pm, followed by a Lent Bible Study course on the following five Tuesdays in the church hall. Meetings will start with coffee and chat at 8.00pm and end at approximately 9.15 and again we would be pleased to see anyone interested in sharing their thoughts.

Richard Chadborn

St Mary's Church

The harvest season has passed with the church beautifully decorated. Many windows were packed with produce from local gardens and allotments. Thank you to everyone who donated their produce for this and also to everyone who came and helped to decorate the church.

The Colchester Open Door Project (based at Colchester Baptist Church) had the pick of the produce and dried goods that had been donated and were very grateful to receive them.

For the past few months St. Mary's has changed the way we lead our family services and have been running 'Messy Church'. This is part of a national organisation and doesn't mean we, or the church, get messy but it's an informal and fun way of presenting the Christian message to everyone of all ages with crafts, quizzes and games as well as worship and prayer. The next one will be on December 13th on a Christmas theme. Please come along – you will be made very welcome.

Our thoughts are turning towards Advent and the Christmas season and the special services to celebrate these events are:

Old Church Carol Service – Sunday 20th December at 2.30pm

Crib Service (suitable for all but particularly the very youngest family members)

Christmas Eve at 3.00pm

Carol Service at St. Mary's – Christmas Eve - time yet to be confirmed

Looking forward to the New Year, we will be hosting one of our popular Senior Citizens' lunches in January. At the time of writing the date has not been fixed but please look out for details in the new year. If you would like to come along, please contact either Murray Harlow on 07989720256 or Kate Penrose on 210225. Transport is available if required.

Details of all our services and activities can be found in Good News our bi-monthly newsletter or on our website -

www.sites.google.com/site/stmaryswobergholt. If you would like a copy of Good News delivered to your home, please contact Kate Wilson on 752056.

Colne Valley Flower Club



The group was asked to participate in the 'Aldham Flower Festival' in September arranged by the Colchester group of Flower arrangers. Two of our members took part arranging flowers to depict 'Mothering Sunday' and 'Fathers Day' adding to their theme of 'Celebration'

Colne Valley does not meet in December. Why not join us at our AGM on Wednesday 20th January 2016 when we will be having a talk on the 'National Garden Scheme'. Guests are welcome. We are looking for new members on our committee please consider if you could come and join us. Please contact 01376 564135 or 01206 240262 for any further information



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Methodist Church News

Our regular services and events have continued during the past three months as changes take place in our Colchester Circuit. As we do not have a minister living in the village, contact for any Ministerial enquiries can be made by telephoning Rev Alan Jenkins - 01206 793888 or Rev Ken Chalmers - 01206 545253.

Fellowship Meetings continue to be well attended and a full programme of interesting speakers has been arranged. Why not come along to our next meeting of Carols and Tea in December.

After our Harvest Service in September we were able to again donate three large boxes of Harvest Gifts to the Womens Refuge, Colchester Night Shelter and Beacon House. Letters of appreciation have been received.

We have arranged Quiz Nights, Family Coffee and Craft mornings, a Silver Sunday Tea and our monthly Coffee Mornings. Have you ever thought about visiting us? Call in for a Coffee and Chat on 2nd Wednesday of each month from 10.00am. You

may want to browse the book stall, bric-a-brac, cards and gift wrap, buy from the cake stall or just enjoy the company.

All our services and events leading up to Christmas can be found on our Diary Page with an invitation for you to join us for our Gift and Parade Service, Carol Singing outside the Co-op and a Traditional Candlelight Carol Service. We wish you a Happy and Peaceful Christmas.

Methodist Church Diary

December

6th	Gift and Parade Service	
	Coffee Morning in Hall	11am
9th	Coffee Morning in Hall	10am
16th	Fellowship in Hall – Carols and Tea	2.30pm
18th	Carol Singing outside Co-op	
	In aid of Action for Children	6.15pm
20th	CANDLELIGHT CAROLS	
	followed by Mince Pies and Coffee	
	in the hall	6.30pm
21st	Family coffee and craft in Hall	10.30am
27th	United Service at St. Mary's	9.30am

January

13th	Coffee Morning in Hall	10am
20th	Fellowship in Hall -	
	Speakers Martin and Jean Hill	2.30pm
23rd	New Year Social in Hall	3 - 5pm
31st	United Service - Methodist Church -	
	(coffee at 10.30)	11am

February

10th	Coffee Morning in Hall	10.00am
17th	Fellowship in Hall -	
	Speaker Rev Martin Camroux	2.30pm

All regular Sunday Services at 11am

Please check the Notice Boards for any special or United Services and change of times

Baby and Toddler Group

We have had a busy start to the new academic year with many new families joining us, along with the safe arrival of some of our youngest members of the group! We welcome anyone, so if you are thinking about coming along, but worried if you are new to the village or you do not know anyone yet, then please do. We are a friendly group and pride ourselves on the fact that whilst we provide toys, singing and snacks for the children, we are also here to provide a meeting place for new mums and dads, grandparents and carers too. We run Monday mornings, term time only, at West Bergholt Methodist Hall.

On Monday the 12th October we set off to walk down to the apple orchard. It was a glorious morning and although there was a nip in the air, the sun was shining. Children were able to explore the rows and rows of different apple varieties and were shown how to pick an apple correctly. Of course this was followed by tasting a few - which were delicious!

In November we held our biggest fundraiser to date...a Baby and Children's Table Top Sale. We have consistently charged £1 per family per week to come to our group, and we feel passionate about keeping this, as well as providing fun craft activities and replacing broken toys; in order to do so we must raise vital funds. We had over twenty sellers; a bouncy castle; face painting and tattoos for the children, plus refreshments and a fabulous raffle for adults. Please spread the word as we hope to see many of you at our future events.

Lizzy, Fay and Sue



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

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Calls 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.

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THE CHURCHES CONSERVATION TRUST

Friends of St Mary's Old Church

It has been a while since the Friends Group had a report in the Bulletin but this does not mean that we have been asleep. There have been several events at the church over the last year which have been successful and have encouraged the Friends to try to do more in the future. Two weddings are also planned for next summer. The Churchyard has been tidied up and brushwood cut back thanks to Geoff Gibbins and his "Graveyard Club". More spring bulbs have been planted and remedial work has been carried out on the pews where their age was giving us cause for concern.

As a result of the work done we now have safe seating for 310 which means that seats will be in great demand for the annual Carol Service on the 20th December. Early attendance is necessary to ensure that you are safely seated as demand is high for this very popular event. We do not want to have turn people away but we cannot allow the safe number to be exceeded.

The Church also has a new memorial featuring the names of villagers who perished in the two World Wars. Grateful thanks are due to Susan Swan for the parchment and to Ian of Montrose Carpentry who made the frame. Thanks are also due to Mr Phil Goody who has made a set of stands for the window ledges which will allow us to display flowers etc. safely.

Finally we now have an electricity supply thanks to the co-operation of Mr and Mrs Bonham Carter and this has been valuable at our events this year as it means we can boil a kettle etc.

The Friends Group has support of over one hundred wellwishers in the village but we would always like more to ensure that the oldest building in the village remains in service for the years to come.

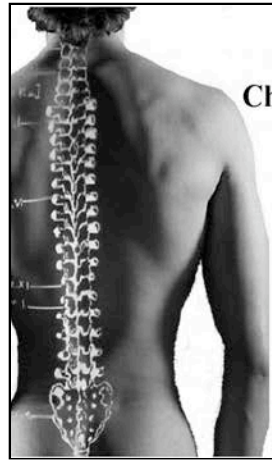
Martin Long

Chairman of Friends Of St Mary's Old Church

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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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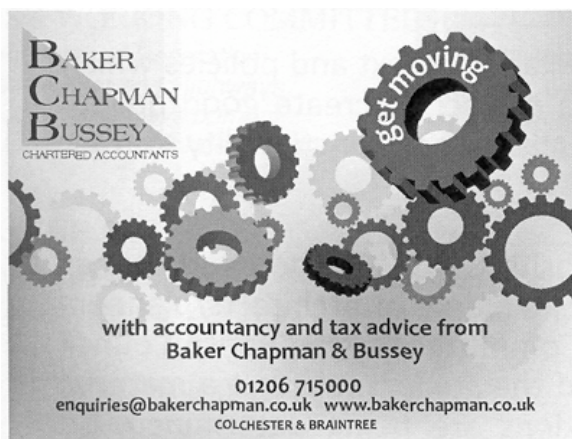
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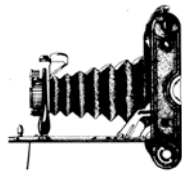
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West Bergholt History Group

Due to the lack of space in recent Bulletins, the History Group report needs to catch up, so here goes.



March 2015 began with our Annual Meeting. This was followed by Terence Nicholson, one of our members, giving an illustrated talk about Cressing Temple Barn.

In April Simon Gallop, a Blue Badge Tourist Guide came. His talk "Unknown Constable Country" was very interesting.

May was the first of our summer visits. Nick Ellis gave us a talk through the history of the Round Church at Little Maplestead.

In June we were given a very warm welcome as the first group to visit the Wivenhoe Chapel Museum, which had only opened the previous month. It is located in the middle of a cemetery in a small chapel, built in 1906. Although it is still consecrated, it is rarely used as the cemetery is virtually full. Their growing collection of items associated with the history of the town is expected to expand in the future.

Bernard Colbron presented the Mayor with a donation and wished the museum success for the future.



Our July visit was to West Mersea Museum to view their latest exhibition "Business as Usual – The Home Front in 1915". The very enthusiastic members of their group were justifiable proud of their much larger, established premises, complete with computers which they enjoyed showing to us.

In August for our last outing we paid a return visit to Alan and Pauline Matins in Great Tey. Another lovely evening exploring their ever-growing collection of fascinating items from the past, not to mention eating homemade cakes!

We returned to Orpen Hall in September. David Whittle of the Harwich Society came to talk about Captain Fryatt, a hero of WW1.

October provided a real treat. From the Colchester Archaeological Trust, Adam Wightman, site director of the excavations at Williams and Griffin gave an illustrated talk about the dig. This included telling us about his very exiting last minute discovery of buried treasure. The collection of gold and silver jewellery had been tightly packed into a very small pit, probably for safekeeping during the Boudiccan revolt. It had later been covered over by the remains of a collapsed building. Although this has been widely covered by the press, it was great to hear Adam explain the recovery process and how the conservators dealt with what we now call The Fenwick Treasure. Absolutely fascinating!

Fenwick Ltd. currently have the treasure on display in their Bond Street, London, store. Generously, they will be donating it, along with the display case, to Colchester Museum. It is hoped it will be on show in the Castle Museum by the spring.

In November Chris Farnell will come to talk about some of his experiences as a forensic photographer for Essex Police.

We do not arrange anything for the group in December to allow for all the Christmas arrangements and events.

Our first meeting in 2016 will be on Wednesday 13th January. At the moment we have had no information from our selected speakers, so look out for details. It looks to be an interesting year.

Our AGM will take place in March.

We meet on the second Wednesday of every month (not December) and during the summer months visit various historical places.

For more information please contact Bernard Colbron on 240297.


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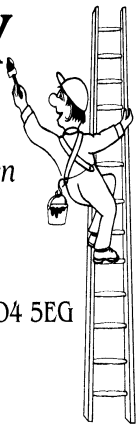
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1st West Bergholt Guides



This term we started by taking part in a County Sailing Day at Alton Water. We had five take part and all had an excellent day. They took part in sailing one man dinghies, kayaking, making their own rafts (which was hilarious to watch especially when one raft fell apart during their race!!) and sail boarding. It was a brilliant day and I am sure we will take part again.

We have worked on 'Go for its and badges' and have cooked pancakes on our new portable stoves. We went for a walk where all of the Guides had to have torches and each group were given a list of items to find starting with the letters G U I D E S. It was great fun and everyone found interesting items.

We have a further cooking evening arranged for this week and then we will be spending a couple of weeks working on Thanksgiving followed by an evening on St Andrew's Day. It will then be nearly Christmas when we hope to do a craft evening and maybe finish with a meal out before we finish the term.

Guides will start again on January 14th 2016. Hope you all have a lovely Christmas and New Year.

Sandra Gates

Copy for the March 2016 edition should be received by 1st February 2016.

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

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Help protect your young child from flu

Parents and carers across north east Essex are being reminded to get their young children vaccinated from the flu. Local GPs are asking parents to make an appointment to take their child to receive the nasal spray.

Last year many parents across Colchester and Tendring took advantage of the free vaccination to help prevent the spread of flu. It's hoped even more parents will take up the offer this year.

The nasal spray vaccination is available free on the NHS – as part of the national *Stay Well this Winter* campaign which has been recently launched. It's quick, effective and painless and available to children aged two to four years, as well as those in school years one and two, who can receive the vaccine in school.

Dr Nirmalan de Silva, a GP in Colchester, said: "The vaccination is given by squirting a single dose of nasal spray up each nostril. Not only is it needle-free, for children it works even better than the injected flu vaccine with fewer side effects."


Clinicians say that flu can be a particularly unpleasant illness for children.

Dr de Silva added: "Children suffer the same symptoms as adults including fever, chills and aching muscles. However some children may develop complications such as bronchitis, pneumonia and painful middle ear infection which may need hospital treatment. Vaccinating your child will not only protect them but also help to reduce the chance of flu spreading to others, especially amongst the vulnerable, such as babies, older people, pregnant women and people with serious long-term illnesses."

If you have children aged two, three or four, or in school years one and two, and have not yet vaccinated your child, you can phone your GP surgery to make an appointment to have the nasal spray vaccine.

Online advice for parents of young children can be found at:

www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/pages/child-flu-vaccine-questions-and-answers.aspx



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West Bergholt Concert Band



Autumn is always a busy term for the band and this year is no exception, with an open rehearsal in September followed by a Training Band workshop in October and a schools workshop and concert in November, plus of course a small group of us playing at the village Remembrance Service. This term's events have been some of our most successful ever, with lots of new players joining us for our open rehearsal, and a good number of young musicians joining the band after our Training Band workshop at Stoke By Nayland Primary, which turned out to be one of the most enjoyable we've run.

At the time of writing this, our November schools event is imminent so we're looking forward to a fun day of music from Stage and Screen, and to welcoming more new players. The band remains committed to encouraging young musicians to experience the variety of music a concert band offers, and to maintaining the band's balance of musicians of all ages and abilities, and all of these events help us to achieve those aims. The events also receive great feedback from players, teachers and parents, with the most common themes being how much fun the events are, and what a great experience they provide, especially in these days when it's unusual for a school to have enough players to warrant a concert band.

The highlight of the Autumn term is of course our Christmas Concert on Saturday 12th December at 7:30pm, which this year will again be at the beautiful St Peter ad Vincula Church in Coggeshall. As always we'll be performing a wide range of Christmas music, with this year's new pieces including Holst's Christmas Day, Rutter's Christmas Lullaby, and Mariah Carey's All I Want for Christmas Is You, together with favourites such as White Christmas, I'll Be Home For Christmas, and The Christmas Waltz among others. We'll also be performing a selection of carols, some to sing to, and some beautiful arrangements that are perfect for listening to. We hope you'll join us for a lovely evening of festive music in a lovely setting.

As always, details on all of our events are available on the band website www.wbcb.org, and new players of any age are always welcome to come and see us

on Friday evenings at Heathlands School, including at our next Open Rehearsal on 22nd January. Don't forget, it's not too late to ask for a musical instrument from Santa, and then you can come and share the enjoyment of making music amongst a great bunch of fellow musicians. Finally...on behalf of the band...we look forward to seeing you at our Christmas Concert, and we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year West Bergholt

Everything you need to know about the band is on our website www.wbcb.org, or you can call or email Graham on 01206 824157 or Graham@wbcb.org.



Orpen Players



Jack and the Beanstalk

The Orpen players have a deserved reputation and following for their pantomimes and this year they are presenting the tale of Jack and the Beanstalk. Written by John Morley and adapted and directed by Peter Cox, it is the traditional story of the triumph of good over evil, where young Jack, in payment for his cow, is given a bag of beans which grow into an enormous beanstalk. Jack climbs the beanstalk where an evil giant lives with his hen that lays a golden egg and a beautiful harp. Jack kills the giant and returns with the hen and the harp to win the hand of the princess.

Starring Ricci Mussi as Dame Trot, Colin Downer and Deborah Hornigold as the immortals and a large supportive cast of all ages, this is the fifth pantomime Peter has directed and so promises the usual colourful and enjoyable show theatre goers have come to expect.

The show is on for two weeks starting the 29th and 30th of January, and the 5th and 6th of February 2016. Each performance starts at 7.30pm and on each Saturday there is a matinee at 2pm.

Tickets are £7 for adults and £5 for children and can be booked on 01206 241048 or at Ash's Store West Bergholt two weeks before the production. Tickets on the door will be subject to availability.



In September the youth group began again after the summer break. We introduced many new members and a few new volunteers from West Bergholt and the surrounding areas. We now have a total of over 100 young people!

We enjoyed a chocolate evening, karaoke night, halloween and christmas crafts and we are all looking forward to our Christmas Disco on Friday 18th December.

We need new volunteers to keep this successful club running.

Anyone who would like to volunteer please contact Harry Stone on 241026.

Dates for 2016

8/1/16 - Welcome Back;

22/1/16 - 'Onsie' and Pamper Night;

12/2/16 - Valentines activities

26/2/16 - Flower Club

11/3/16 - Normal activities

Hannah Woodgate, Youth Committee Member

We would like to congratulate Amber Harlow for receiving a special award from Colchester Rotary Club for her services to Bergholt Youth Group over the past seven years.

Well Done Amber.



3rd West Bergholt Brownies

The Brownies have been busy with lots of crafts and games.

We made 'wooden spoon scarecrows' for St Mary's Church Harvest Festival display. We also helped, with some of our parents, to clear the churchyard hedges which had become very overgrown.

Our eldest Brownies took part in the Remembrance Parade and Service at the Memotial Orpen Hall.

The Brownies also enjoyed an afternoon of Christmas crafts at Greenstead Community Hall to gain their 'Round about Christmas Badge'.

We took part in the parade with the other village organisations and then joined in the Gift Service at the Methodist Church. We contributed toiletry to be given to homeless people and the womens refuge. The girls enjoyed lots of Christmas crafts and, of course, ending with a Christmas party.

Next year we are looking forward to seeing the village pantomime!

Brown Owl



Bluebell Preschool

We have welcomed several new children during the Autumn term. We planned several activities to get to know their interests and things they like to do at home.

We enjoyed a few weeks playing outside in the mild weather - we love playing in the sand, water, playing football and we were lucky to have a new mud kitchen made by Adrian Leach to make our mud cakes and grass stew in!!

We went in the turtle bus to the apple orchard and picked lots of juky apples that we enjoyed for our snack.

During the second half term our activties were based on pirates - making treasure maps, playing on the climbing frame pirate ship, dressing-up and finding the gold.

Our Christmas Fair in the Orpen Hall will be on -

Saturday 5th December 10am-12noon

Father Christmas £2 - face painting - bouncy castle - tattoos - tombola - refreshments - Christmas crafts

and much more. - Everyone welcome

We will end the term with lots of Christmas Fun.

We still have a few vacancies for January places - for more information phone 07969510120

Open Gardens event



The West Bergholt Gardeners' Association

are planning an Open Gardens
Event on

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West Bergholt Badminton Club



Yes. The Badminton Club still meets in the Orpen
Hall every Tuesday evening - except either side of
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We play between 8pm and 10pm.

New members welcomed.

Contact Bernard on 240297 for more details OR
just turn up on the night.



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, at St Mary's Church.

Contact: stmaryswestbergholt@googlemail.com

1st Sunday 9.30am Holy Communion,

2nd Sunday 9.30am

All-Age Worship, 3rd Sunday **11.15am**

Holy Communion, 4th Sunday 9.30am

Morning Worship, 5th Sunday variable.

2nd Sunday 4.30pm in winter,

6.30pm in summer, Evening Prayer

Contact Rev. Dr. Mandy Elmes: 240906

revmandyelmes@btinternet.com (Day off Fridays)

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 or

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 Glistler 365150

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

Contact: Mrs Clark 272759

Tuesdays:

NHS Primary Care Trust Baby Clinic, 9.30-10.30

Methodist Church Hall second and fourth 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

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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

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.colchestermrc.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

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