

# *village bulletin*

**March 2016 Issue 145**

*www.westbergholt.net*

## **HAPPY NEW YEAR from 1st West Bergholt Rainbows**

It was really good to welcome all the Rainbows back following their Christmas Holidays. We have a new face this term, Emily, who is doing her Duke of Edinburgh Award (Bronze) so it is lovely to have another pair of hands and know that we are as a Unit, helping her to achieve this worthy medal.

We have a busy term planned for our celebration of "World Thinking Day". On this day Guides everywhere think of each other and of their commitment to international friendship and understanding. It is celebrated each year on 22nd February which was the birthday of both Robert Baden-Powell and his wife. So I am sure Cake! will be on the celebration list as well.

The Rainbows in 2015, sponsored for their charity a Hearing Dog puppy.... called Rose. We have regular updates on her progress and schooling as it takes a highly skilled dog to achieve this. We had an extra boost in our stamp collecting over the Christmas period which helps the charity raise money. We are excited that in March, we are going to have a visit from the Charity and meet a handler and dog who is actually in the workplace and fully trained.

Other celebrations that will not pass us by will be: Pancake Day, Mothers' Day and of course Easter!!!

Lots to look forward to and enjoy - all proof that Rainbows is a great night out.

Karen Howard Leader

## **1st West Bergholt Scout Group**

The Remembrance Day parade and service was well attended by all sections. Towards the end of the year we were pleased to join the congregation at the Methodist church for the annual 'Gift Service.' A number of items were donated to the Women's Refuge and Beacon House and we understand that these were gratefully received.

Our jumble sale in January was a great success. We would like to thank everyone who provided donations, helped to run the event and those who supported the sale on the day. It is rare to see a village jumble sale these days and people came from far and wide in search of a bargain!

The Cubs and Scouts have enjoyed their traditional 'Chip Shop Survey' in town during the winter term as well as night hikes to Thorrington and Mersea. The Beavers have been busy enjoying a number of fun activities in pursuit of their badges and awards. Beavers have a full waiting list until 2018 and we would love to hear from anyone interested in setting up a second colony in the village.

All sections have a varied programme planned for this year, including camps and sleepovers. We love exploring the outdoors and once the lighter evenings are upon us we are rarely found indoors. If anyone has a little time to spare and would like to help us to support our local children, please contact Kevin Sturdy, Group Scout Leader on  
07803602779 (after 6pm)  
or email: [kevinsturdy@aol.com](mailto:kevinsturdy@aol.com).

# 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

## PARISH COUNCILLORS

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Brian Butcher	35 Albany Road	☎	07836348955
Jenny Church	Doran, Hall Road	☎	240 792
Phil Cook	Orchard Cottage, Chapel Lane	☎	07841887761
John Gili-Ross	67 Mumford Road	☎	242 236
Murray Harlow	25 Valley Crescent	☎	242 007
Rosemary James	98 Chitts Hill	☎	241 038
Philip Spencer	Church Cottage, Hall Road	☎	07884186035
Bob Tyrrell	43 Albany Road	☎	240 016

## PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEES

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<i>Premises and Recreation</i>	Brian Butcher (Chair), Murray Harlow (Vice-Chair), Jenny Church, Rosemary James, Harry Stone, Bob Tyrrell,
<i>Environment and Highways</i>	John Gili-Ross (Chair and Footpath Officer), Rosemary James (Vice Chair), Jenny Church, Murray Harlow, Philip Spencer, Harry Stone Transport Rep.
<i>Planning and Development</i>	Bob Tyrrell (Chair), Brian Butcher (Vice Chair), Phil Cook, Murray Harlow, Andrew Savage, Chris Stevenson
<i>Finance, Policy and Personnel</i>	Andrew Savage (Chair), Brian Butcher, Chris Stevenson (Vice Chair), John Gili-Ross, Harry Stone, Bob Tyrrell

## CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

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

## VILLAGE HALLS ADMINISTRATOR

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Vicky Beckwith-Cole email: [hall-admin@westbergholt.net](mailto:hall-admin@westbergholt.net) ☎ 619 258  
Mobile 07434949631

*To book either of the Halls, please contact the Hall Administrator by email or phone, at any reasonable time. Bookings can also be made at the Hall on Thursdays between 7pm and 8pm, please use the side entrance.*

## BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

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Marcus Harrington	Barn End, Cooks Hall Lane email: <a href="mailto:marcus.harrington@hotmail.com">marcus.harrington@hotmail.com</a>	☎ 241 411
Dennis Willetts	email: <a href="mailto:dennis.willetts@btinternet.com">dennis.willetts@btinternet.com</a>	☎ 240 314

## ESSEX COUNTY COUNCILLOR

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Anne Brown email: [Cllr.Anne.Brown@essexcc.gov.uk](mailto: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. The public and press are welcome to attend.

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.



# From the Parish Council



## **New Parish Councillors**

I'll begin by introducing and welcoming two new members of the PC team, Phil Cook and Philip Spencer. Co-opted they may be, but they will play a vital part on the Council.

Phil C is a big wig at a major retailer, and Phil S is an Agronomist.

## **Refurbishment of Orpen Hall Toilets**

With thanks to Essex County Council for the grant award, and our Borough Clirs. Marcus Harrington and Dennis Willetts for their pledged contributions, our 1940's loos will be brought up to 21st Century standard. Work will commence later this year, so hold on until then!

## **Precept**

You will notice that the part of your Council tax which relates to the PC will go up from April this year. This reflects the need to upkeep our wonderful assets, such as the Hall and the toilets (above). The charge per band D property per week is still economical at just £1 per week.

## **Communications Initiative**

The PC is keen to engage with as many of the many local clubs, organisations and businesses as it can by way of assisting with promoting life in our lovely village. We have formed a small group and will aim to visit and work collaboratively with as many of you as we can in the coming months.

## **Neighbour Plan**

Follow the success of our exhibitions last year the results of the questionnaire surveys have been published on the village web site. The ideas for the village's future received good support and we aim to complete the plan this year.

## **Parking in New Church Road**

Following the introduction of yellow lines, the PC has been out in force politely reminding parents to respect the restrictions. This is a joint initiative with the school aimed at keeping the route to school safe for our children. So if you do get a polite notice on your windscreen, you'll know why now!

**Chris Stevenson, Chairman**

## **ClerkWest**

Not delusions of grandeur, just my Facebook presence on WB Hub! I'll be imparting news and helping to answer questions relating to PC business. Don't forget to "like" these if you find the information useful, as it helps improve our service to you on social media.

## **Planning Success**

There's nothing more infuriating to many in the community than Planning applications that look and feel wrong. The PC had major success in challenging an application in Chapel Lane recently, and the Borough Council agreed that insufficient use of our Village Design Statement was being made by its officers. A victory for localism!

## **Renovation of Play Equipment**

We now have another swing in the playground! This was part of a renovation to make sure our play area next to the MUGA remains up to the latest safety standards as well as expanding the facilities a little.

## **20mph zone signs - Childrens' design**

We are eagerly awaiting the installation of a 20mph zone in New Church Road, Church Road and School Lane. To lend a local feel and reinforce the message we have asked the children at Heathlands to come up with a suitable design to sit under the 20mph roundel.

## **The Queen is 90 this year**

We are commencing preparation to celebrate our monarch's milestone birthday. Ideas include a Barn Dance, Fireworks and the lighting of our beacon, last used at the Jubilee celebrations. Look out for further news on the web.

## **Annual Parish Meeting**

A note for your diary, this meeting is scheduled for 23rd March; we hope to have Essex Fire and Rescue and the School Council joining us.

**Laura Walkingshaw, Clerk**

Alice is relaunching the West Bergholt Slimming World group at Orpen Memorial Hall which runs every Tuesday at 5.30pm and 7.30pm.

Please contact Alice or drop in if you are interested on 07834195844

[www.slimmingworld.co.uk/slimatwestbergholt/](http://www.slimmingworld.co.uk/slimatwestbergholt/)

or find her on Facebook:

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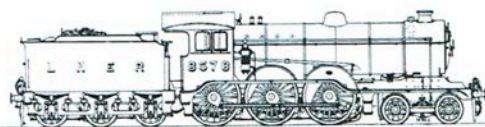


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For more info and details of our annual exhibition later in the year visit our website [www.colchestermrc.org](http://www.colchestermrc.org)



## Bulletin Quiz Night

You may remember that the Village Bulletin Quiz Night had to be postponed last year, as we chose a very difficult date for many of you. We hope by holding it earlier in October we will avoid clashes with half term and the NSPCC Booksale. So please keep the date free – it will be on

### Saturday 8th October

at 7.30pm in the Orpen Hall. More details will be in the next Bulletin along with the entry form, so look out for this in the June edition.

Proceeds will all go to Parkinson's UK (Colchester Branch) to support the very valuable work they do locally. Get your team of four people together for a jolly night out, and who knows – YOU may be "Brains of Bergholt 2016" The team members can be from a local organisation or just friends/family. At least one of you must be resident in West Bergholt.

## Colne Valley Flower Club

2016 started off on Wednesday 20th January with a very interesting talk from the National Gardens Scheme, (the Yellow Book).

Our February meeting was with Helen Newman. On 16th March we are very pleased to have Gill McGregor visiting us and her title is 'Spring Delight'. April sees the return of Wendy Munnion with her arrangements depicting 'A Very British Summer' and in May we have Jacquie Aldous showing us her designs for 'That's Entertainment'.

The club runs a 'Hands on Group' in the Scout Hut which precedes the monthly Flower Club meeting on the Wednesday evening, on a Tuesday afternoon at 2pm. Our theme for this year is going back to basics. This is open to everyone and costs £2.50 for members and £5.00 for non members. This class is run for mixed abilities and is very informal. If you would just like to come and look at what goes on we will make you a cup of tea and a biscuit, you are very welcome. Please contact Jayne on 01376 564135 or Pat on 01787 227833.

The club meets in the Orpen Hall on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.30 For any other information on Colne Valley Flower Club please contact our Secretary on 01206 240262



### Occasional mid-week working parties?

At our last Annual General Meeting the question was raised about whether to bring back the occasional mid-week working parties whenever a specific project required additional help in the Wood. The practice died out a few years ago for various reasons but it seems sensible to judge the level of enthusiasm for their return.

Therefore, if you would be interested in participating in such an event please email me on

*andrewsavage123@googlemail.com*

and indicate any preferences regarding:

am or pm

which day(s) of the week you would prefer

Please note that any session is unlikely to last more than three hours and will often be on a 'job and finish' basis and may therefore be shorter depending on how many turn up.

I therefore look forward to receiving your responses. Please remember that the last Saturday Working Party before the 'growing season' break is on the 19th March (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/>

### Library Times

The Mobile Library visits the village

**fortnightly on a Tuesday.**

The stops and times for West Bergholt are:

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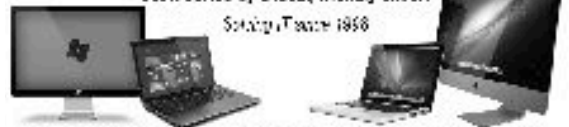


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## West Bergholt Gardeners' Association

The Association did not meet in January. Our first meeting (Feb) of 2016 was an illustrated talk by Sally Hepher on Gardening for Wildlife. In March we will have an illustrated talk by Gill Stitt on "The Shrub Border".

April will be a talk "Over the Garden Wall" by Nick Dobson.

In May we will have our Annual Plant Sale, which consists of plants donated by members and a local nurseries.

All above events are on the 3rd Monday of the month at 19.30 in the Orpen Hall.

Sunday June 12th, we have the West Bergholt Open Gardens – 12.30 to 17.30, all proceeds in aid of the Tom Bowdidge Foundation. Please support this worthy cause and of course those who have opened their gardens.

For all details regarding the Association see the following web page

<http://westbergholt.net/clubs/gardeners/>

Email contact [wbgardeners@gmail.com](mailto:wbgardeners@gmail.com) or phone 01206 241256

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## West Bergholt Allotments

A new growing season has started. We may have a small number of plots available to rent. These plots may initially need some hard work to make them ready for planting.

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- Benefit from fresh air and exercise
- Make new friends and enjoy the company of fellow plot holders.

The downsides are:

- The battle against the weather, pests and weeds.
- The need for a regular commitment of a few hours especially in the Spring/Summer.

We have approx 134 plots of various sizes on the site, so hopefully we can meet your needs.

The Allotment Open Day will be part of the WB Open Gardens on Sunday June 12th, between 12.30 and 17.30, all proceeds in aid of the Tom Bowdidge Foundation.

For more details see our page on the West Bergholt web site - <http://westbergholt.net/clubs/allotments/>

or contact

Terry Claydon 01206 241256/07902332085  
Email [wballotments@gmail.com](mailto:wballotments@gmail.com)

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## West Bergholt Litter Warriors

1st Saturday of each Month from 10-11am meet outside the Orpen Hall.



Following Colchester Borough Council's recently launched volunteer litter picking scheme "Litter Warriors", West Bergholt, now has its very own branch.

Please join us litter-picking around the village, once a month – it's only an hour and can make such a difference. West Bergholt is a beautiful place, let's keep it that way!

Seen a Grot Spot that needs tidying? Let us know, on the Grot Spot Hotline below!

Litter Picking Dates for Spring:

Saturday March 5th  
(Special Clean Up for the Queen Event)

Saturday April 2nd

Saturday May 7th

Laura & Rachel Walkingshaw

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## Bowls Club

We at the Bowls Club are appealing to the residents of West Bergholt for new members. Founded in 1988 we are at our lowest membership and in need of your support. We have all the equipment needed for you to play this enjoyable game. Tuition is given free of charge to enable you to obtain a really good level of play. Please come along any Thursday or Sunday evening at 7pm to see us and join in.

We recently had two of our members, George Copen and Pat McCarthy, play in Essex County Singles competitions and both were successful in reaching the final stages, These take place soon and we wish them good luck.

Our annual competitions are coming to a close and this year has brought a lot of surprise results, good luck to all who were successful. For any information on the bowls club call 01206 243301 and speak to Eileen Brown.

## New Parent Teacher Association Committee

As the newly elected co-chairs of the Heathlands School PTA, we would like to introduce ourselves to you. Our names are Jo Beck and Nicole Presland.

As new co-chairs we are looking forward to working with the local West Bergholt community during our time at the school. We think that we can all benefit from working together, so please feel free to contact us if there is anything you have an idea about. The best way to contact us is via [heathlandspta@hotmail.com](mailto:heathlandspta@hotmail.com) or

[Chair@heathlandspta.co.uk](mailto:Chair@heathlandspta.co.uk)

We would like to share our plans for the forthcoming year with you and hope these events may be of interest to you all:

- Friday 1st July from 3.30pm-6.30pm is our annual Summer Fayre. We would welcome any community group or business that may be interested in getting involved.
- Our popular Fireworks will go ahead, the date is currently being decided but we will let you know in the next bulletin.
- Friday 2nd December – Our annual Hollyberry Fayre.



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The AGM will be held on Wednesday 27 April at 7.30pm in the John Lampon Hall. Everybody is welcome, especially if you would like to know more about this worthwhile and well-used village organisation, now in it's 29th year.



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# West Bergholt Concert Band

2015 saw the band performing another busy programme of events, with charity concerts raising approx. £2500, as well as numerous schools events and open rehearsals to attract new members. The year featured one of our most diverse programmes of music ever, ranging from William Walton to The Who, with James Bond, Batman, Lady Gaga, Vaughan-Williams, Bizet, Gershwin, Sinatra, Glenn Miller and many others also in the mix. This “music for everyone” approach is one of the key reasons for the band’s continued success.

We closed the year with a really enjoyable Christmas Concert in Coggeshall, with the largest audience for a Christmas Concert since our near sell out at the West Cliff in 2013. Prior to that our latest “Band Play Day” at Philip Morant saw local young musicians join us for a fun afternoon and evening of music from “Stage & Screen”.

As always, this year’s concerts start at one of our favourite venues, raising money for one of our most-supported Charities, St Helena Hospice. The “Mozart to the Musicals” Concert at Clacton’s West Cliff Theatre will feature music from The Magic Flute through to My Fair Lady, together with music from The Beatles, Louis Armstrong, John Williams, Gershwin, Henry Mancini and many more. •Sunday 13 th March – 3:00pm – West Cliff Theatre, Clacton.

After that we’re hoping to perform on Castle Park Band Stand, and hope to be helping to mark the Queen’s 90th Birthday celebrations in the village. Watch this space...or at least [www.wbcb.org](http://www.wbcb.org)!

Everything you need to know about the Band (including how to join us, details of all our events, how to buy tickets) is on our website [www.wbcb.org](http://www.wbcb.org), or you can call or email Graham on 01206 824157 or [Graham@wbcb.org](mailto:Graham@wbcb.org). We look forward to seeing you at some of our events this year...and wish you a belated happy new year.

## What gives?

St. Mary’s is dependent on regular giving and donations from its members and supporters. **We do not receive any external financial support** and we are spending more than we receive.

Our main expense is the contribution we make to the costs of our Diocese. In recent years, St. Mary’s has

benefitted from a reduced “parish share” as we have not had our own vicar. This year, we expect to pay our full share. The PCC also wants to support Mandy’s ministry to help grow our church and we are planning to fund a new administrator position to help her focus on her ministry. This means we expect to spend nearly £10,000 more this year than we received in 2014!

We have approved changes to the use of our reserves which means we don’t expect to run out of general funds until 2017....but that’s just two years from now!

We will be talking a lot about giving over the next two years and explaining how we receive and spend God’s gifts. **The PCC wants to encourage an £8,000 increase in annual regular giving by 2017.** So, whether you’re a long-time member, new member, village resident or visitor, we are asking you to prayerfully consider your personal financial commitment to the continued healthy life of this church in West Bergholt.

Thank you.

## Ways to give

### Regular giving

Most members of the Church give by **standing order**. If you already give by standing order or want to do so, please consider regularly the amount you give. Standing order **forms are available in the Church**.

**Gift Aid** allows us to claim back tax already paid on the gift. This means that every £1 gift-aided is worth £1.25 to the Church.

If you are a UK taxpayer, **please gift-aid your donation**.

### Sunday collections and donations

There is a plate, a donations box and white gift aid envelopes in the church for one-off donations. If you pay tax, please complete and sign one of these envelopes and put your donation inside - then we can claim tax back on these gifts too. Please don’t use these envelopes without signing them - it means you haven’t understood what they’re for.

### Non-taxpayers

Even if you don’t pay tax, we can claim tax back from the Government! There is just no need to fill in any forms. **Please don’t give £50 notes!** We cannot claim the tax on a single gift of more than £20.

### Other

Perhaps you can help with fund-raising, helping to explain church finances or with book-keeping. Your help does not need to be just financial. For further information, speak to our Treasurer, Jon Wilson, or a member of the PCC.


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## Welcome to a New Year at Heathlands!

We have had a very full and successful year at the School with many activities and events. We were very pleased to have received a letter in September from the Department of Education and Essex County Council congratulating us on the high level of achievement over the academic year. This would not be possible without the hard work and support of our pupils, staff, governors and parents, well done all!! We are also proud of many sporting successes over the year in Football, Netball and athletics and were delighted to receive an award at the regional Sports Personality of the Year Awards for 'Development of PE and Sport for young people'.

Jeremy Hallum  
Headteacher

## School Council meets Parish Council

Mrs Hopkins and the School Council team met recently with our very own Parish Council representatives to discuss the roles of the Parish Council and how we can work together. Our team came up with some interesting questions and gave pointers on the opinions of pupils at our school:-

### What pupils like:

Freddie (Yr 4) noted that children liked the three village parks, the School, weekend Football, Cricket, that the village is small and friendly, BYG, scouts and guides.....and lots more.

### What the pupils thought could be improved:

Less dog mess on our footpaths and walkways, less speeding cars, less bad and grumpy parking near the school and more street lighting.

It was agreed that the children's' ideas would become part of the Parish Plan and the children are now set with an action plan of activities. Many thanks to Mr Stone and Mr Murray for taking the time to meet with the children.



## Trips and Activities

The pupils at Heathlands have enjoyed many trips and activities over the last year including:-

- A visit to Mrs Penrose's Apple Orchards
- Walks through Bluebell Woods and around the Village
- Trips to Tropical Wings, Mountfitchet Castle, and The Gunpowder Museum.
- Visits by children's Author Jeff Norton, Owl Babies, BMW cars, Brodie the Reading Dog, Professional Ballroom Dancers and Agnes the Headtacher from our twin School in Kenya.
- Our KS2 pupils have also been to Kingswood Activity Centre in Norfolk and Plopsaland in Belgium.

## PTA NEWS

Our PTA is under 'New Management' and we are very pleased to introduce Jo Beck and Nicole Presland as co-chairs. Heathlands is incredibly lucky to have such wonderful parents who give up their time to organise so many amazing events which in turn raise much needed funds.

Over the last year the children and their families have enjoyed amongst other events:-

Summer Fayre, Firework display, Hollyberry Fayre, Giant PTA Sleepover

For more information about our PTA and forthcoming events go to [www.heathlandsblog.co.uk](http://www.heathlandsblog.co.uk).

## Worship Team

Historically on Monday's Mr Hallum would lead the act of worship assembly for infant and junior pupils. In our church inspection one of the main recommendations was that pupils led the worship instead. Last term we invited any Year 6 pupil who wanted to be involved in the worship to apply in writing and explain why they felt they should be selected for this opportunity. Ten pupils were successfully selected to lead our Monday assemblies. We have split them into two groups and they will alternate weeks. Well done to Eleri, Bethany, Will S, Ruby, Ella, Jemima, Lauren, Chloe, Daisy and Ben on being selected.



**AT HEATHLANDS WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM FORMER PUPILS FROM YEARS GONE BY IN THE HOPE TO CREATE A 'HEATHLANDS ALUMNI' PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**Would you like to join the Bulletin Team**

We have a vacancy for deliveries in White Hart Lane and The Crescent.

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## St. Mary's Church

Over the past few months St. Mary's has been hosting an event known as Messy Church (or as it is known by one attendee "Mucky Sunday")! This is now going to be a permanent fixture and takes place every second Sunday of the month at 9.30am. No one is too young or old to come along. The youngest attendee is just a few weeks old and the oldest - well it would be rude of us to say. We really don't get too messy or mucky but just have a great time, learning and worshipping together. There are usually two or three crafts to join in with, one usually edible, quizzes, toys for the youngest and opportunities for quiet reflection. The last Messy Church featured a mini panto with the three wise men visiting Jesus and while Peter, Nick and Jon were great we don't think they'll be auditioning for the Orpen Players any time soon!

The next Messy Church is on 13th March and everyone is very welcome.

In the afternoon following a 'Messy Church' there is a service of evening prayer for those who might prefer a quieter service. This starts at 4.30pm but will change to 6.30 from April.

We will be well into Lent by the time you receive your copy of the Village Bulletin with probably only two or three of the Lent evening meetings remaining where we will be looking at the topic of personal prayer. You are very welcome to come and join with members of the three parishes in our benefice and the Methodist Church here in the village. The remaining sessions are on March 1st, 8th and 15th starting at 8pm with refreshments and end by 9.15pm and are held in the church hall.

Leading up to Easter, there will be a Maundy Thursday fellowship meal and communion service at 8pm at St. John's, Great Horkesley.

On 25th March - Good Friday service at 10.00am at St. Mary's and on 27th March we are pleased to welcome Rev Geoff Read to lead us in an Easter Sunday Holy Communion at St. Mary's at 9.30am

You may have heard about the popular Senior Citizens lunches held at St. Mary's. They are currently held termly but we would like to hold these more frequently as they are a welcome opportunity for the older members of our community to enjoy company and a home cooked meal. If you would like to be involved in any way,

please contact Liz Dixon at the Parish Office on 243683.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting is to be held on Sunday 17th April at 12.15pm - straight after the 11.15am communion service.

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/stmarys@bergholt](http://www.sites.google.com/site/stmarys@bergholt)*

If you would like a copy of Good News delivered to your home, please contact Kate Wilson on 752056.

### Copy for the June 2016 edition should be received by 1st May 2016.

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

#### Advertising:

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Telephone: 240712  
Email *jacquilhunns@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 Woman's Institute

December was our Christmas meeting and after the business, Belinda Elliott demonstrated how to make a Christmas tree bauble. Everyone enjoyed putting it together with gold or silver net, ribbons and sweets inside. Quizzes on the table were attempted whilst enjoying the supper. Diane Digby played the keyboard for members to sing carols and festive songs. The evening concluded with a grand raffle with everyone winning a prize.

Monthly Competition winners for 2015 were Manya Barrow and Mary Langstone who were presented with WI badges.

The January meeting began with the president, Susan Leng, welcoming eight visitors of whom five decided to join the WI. straight away!

Eight resolutions were read out, with the most votes being cast for 'Mind and Body – equal funding for care'. The nationally chosen resolution will be taken to H.M. Government by the National Federation of Women's Institutes in London later this year.

A game of bingo was organised by vice-president, Sheila Boxshall. Using power point the president screened all our events throughout 2015.

At the February meeting we celebrated our 95th birthday, having started here in West Bergholt in 1921. The cake was cut by some of the new members (two more joined in February) and enjoyed by all. The speaker was Mr. Norman Jacobs of Clacton, who gave a fascinating talk entitled 'Hi de Hi'. In sound and pictures he gave us a



history of Butlin's Holiday Camp with special reference to the one at Clacton,

We celebrated again with our birthday lunch later in February at The Crown, Wormingford.

Our usual activities of Play Reading, Rummikub and monthly coffee morning at The Treble Tile are always well supported.

## West Bergholt History Group

In November Chris Farndell came to talk about some of his experiences as a forensic photographer for Essex Police. It promised to be an interesting subject, which it was but it also became very much more than that. He brought along some of the old cameras and other items from his collection - almost a mini museum. In particular, box cameras brought back memories which were talked about. Chris explained what things were, as well as telling us about the background histories. It was hard to believe that old-fashioned plate cameras were still in use at the beginning of his career, not that long ago! The enthusiastic, friendly way he shared his knowledge with us was greatly appreciated by all.

The group does not meet in December.

2016 began with Father Alexander Haigh giving a talk about St. Helen's Chapel. In tradition passed on through the generations, it was firmly believed that Helen or Helena, mother of Constantine, built the chapel as her place of prayer. From the Reformation in 1539 it ceased to be a place of worship. It has been a house, a Quaker meeting-house, a school and a storeroom for the Castle Museum. Philip Crummy says that three walls have Roman foundations, the fourth hasn't been excavated. Only in 2000 did it again become a place of worship. The Orthodox Church uses it now.

In February, Chris Thornton, Editor of Victoria County History Essex, will talk about mills.

In March, after our short Annual Meeting, members will be invited to share memories of the village.

We meet the second Wednesday of the month (except December), making summer visits to places of historical interest.

For more information please contact Bernard Colbron on 240297



## Village Interview

The Rev. Dr Mandy Elmes talks to Jane Williams after 18 months as West Bergholt's Priest-in-Charge.

Arranging to meet the Rev. Dr Mandy Elmes is a reminder of her busy diary – crammed with meetings - preparing for a visit for Year 4 pupils from Heathlands Church of England school, helping a family prepare a funeral service...She has many responsibilities as well as taking services as Priest-in-Charge of the parish of West Bergholt – and also the parishes of Great Horkesley and of Langham with Boxted.



As the Rev. Mandy says, “I cover 3 parishes, 4 villages, 5 churches and 6 schools – including 3 Church schools.”

Those in West Bergholt may well come into contact with her through her role as an active school governor at Heathlands, as well as through the Church – or even from seeing Mandy around the village, where she lives in the Rectory.

Village life suits the Rev. Mandy (to use the title given to her by the children of Heathlands) because she feels it is an important part of her vocation to work towards the growth of the Kingdom of God. So she was delighted to become Priest-in-Charge of West Bergholt. She had been aware of St Mary's as a community church, having worked with the previous incumbent Colin Horseman, and his wife Penny, and trained as a Lay Reader with Licensed Reader Richard Chadborn.

“I liked the way the Church was working,” she says, “It has a rich community – a lot of people with many gifts who willingly offer them and use them as the Church grows.”

It was during her time as an active member of St. Peter's and St. Paul's in West Mersea, that Mandy became aware of her calling, and she later became involved in the team ministry there. Mandy was ordained in Chelmsford Cathedral in 2008, became priested the following year, before being licensed in 2014 when she became Priest-in-Charge.

Her husband, Paul, who had worked with her running the church youth group in West Mersea, is very proud of her – as are their two sons, Richard and Christopher, who live nearby in Colchester.

The Rev. Mandy comes to the Church after 37 years as a dentist – 10 years as a forensic dentist, specialising after a doctorate in forensic dentistry. She met dentist Paul while training at the Royal Dental Hospital at London University. Mandy and Paul then set up the West Mersea Dental Practice in 1981, which Paul continues to run.

Family life is important to Mandy and Paul, who enjoy spending time with Richard, and with Christopher and his wife Anu and their daughter Lily Amanda. They relax from their busy lives with short breaks at their pied-a-terre in northern France, enjoying walking, food and wine, and meeting friends there.

Her new career is demanding but satisfying. “Spending time with people is the most fulfilling part. Helping people in times of sadness is a great privilege,” she says of the pastoral side of the work.

She admits that the administrative demands of the work can be frustrating – but not as time-consuming since the parish appointed an administrator . “I am fortunate to have a good strong team at the Church.”

The Church was already active when the Rev. Mandy was appointed 18 months ago – although she continues to develop activities, most recently holding a marriage preparation day. It is one of the events that covers those from all her parishes. “There are some things that we can do together, such as a parochial church council away day, but there are other things that we keep separate, such as most of the worship.”

It is a busy life, with pastoral as well as spiritual commitments, but the Rev. Dr Mandy Elmes believes in making St Mary's Church the centre of the community

# Methodist Church News

Services and events leading up to Christmas were well supported by members and friends. Collections were made for Action for Children during the year including our collection while Carol Singing outside the Co-op which was enjoyed by evening shoppers. If you joined us for any of our Christmas Celebrations including our Candlelight Carol Service it was enjoyed by all.

Our New Year Social, a time to renew our energies and relax after the bustle of Christmas, is always looked forward to. A time of light hearted fun filling a cold Saturday afternoon.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER will be celebrated this year at St Mary's on Friday 4th March. The Service arranged by the Christian Women of Cuba is entitled "Receive children Receive me". We are changing the time of the service this year with Tea & Cakes at 4.00pm followed by the Service at 4.45pm. We hope that we may encourage Mums & Dads to bring along the children after school.

Our Fellowship Programme has some very interesting speakers arranged (see Church Diary) and takes place every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 2.30pm in the Hall. A warm welcome is given for all Ladies and Gentlemen to join us.

Our Easter Sunday Service is on 27th March at 11am. And Easter Holiday Coffee & Craft will be on Monday 4th April. Children are invited to bring along an adult to enjoy the fun. To book this popular event ring Andrew on 242511.

As well as all our regular Sunday Services, Coffee Mornings and Fellowship we are again arranging Our SILVER SUNDAY TEA for any lonely, housebound or elderly people living in West Bergholt. Have you come along before or have you missed out. Put the date on your calendar - April 17th, at 3.00pm. Transport can be arranged, Ring Andrew on 242511 or Judith on 241969 to book the date.

Our next QUIZ NIGHT is April 23rd in the hall at 7.00pm. Teams of 4 at £20 to include a light Ploughmans Supper. Don't delay. Book your table today, ring Judith on 241969. Space is limited.

Christian Aid Week is May 15th - 21st. We are planning a special service at 11.00am on May 15th with the opportunity to support Christian Aid by selecting food for a packed lunch to take home after. We hope to continue collecting in the village - however a new co-ordinator is needed owing to Richard Chadborn standing down after over 30 years very hard work. We thank him for all the time he has given. Can you help - contact Susan for more details 241431.

# Methodist Church Diary

## March

- 4th Women's World Day of Prayer  
at St Mary's. Tea at 4.00pm  
Service at 4.45pm
- 6th Mothering Sunday 11.00am
- 8th Communion at St Mary's 11.00am
- 9th Coffee Morning 10.00am in Hall
- 16th Fellowship Speaker Mrs Jane Allison  
2.30pm in Hall
- 27th Easter Sunday Service 11.00am

## April

- 4th Family Coffee & Craft 10.30am in the Hall
- 12th Communion at St Mary's 11.00am
- 13th Coffee Morning 10.00am in the Hall
- 17th SILVER SUNDAY TEA  
3.00 - 5.30pm in the Hall
- 20th Fellowship Speaker  
Mr Phil Bingham 2.30pm in the Hall
- 23rd QUIZ NIGHT 7.00pm in the Hall

## May

- 10th Communion at St Mary's 11.00am
- 11th Coffee Morning 10.00am in the the Hall
- 5th Christian Aid Service 11.00am
- 18th Fellowship-Speaker - Women's Refuge  
2.30pm in the Hall
- 29th United Service at St Mary's 9.30am

All regular services at 11.00am

Check Notice Board for any special services and Events or change of times.

Any Ministerial Enquiries can be made to  
Rev Alan Jenkins 01206 793888 or  
Rev Ken Chalmers 01206 545253

## Goodbye and Hello

Jane Williams who has been on the Bulletin Team for many years has decided to step down, and we thank her very much for her valuable contributions over that time. You can read her very last article about Revd Dr Mandy Elmes in this issue.

We would like to welcome one of the Bulletin distributors who is willing to help additionally as a member of the Team with the production of the Bulletin. She is Mrs Janet Limrick – welcome Janet.

## West Bergholt Badminton Club



Yes. The Badminton Club still meets in the Orpen Hall every Tuesday evening - except either side of Christmas and New Year.

We play between 8pm and 10pm.

*New members welcomed.*

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

## Dr David Milne retirement

The NHMG are very sorry to announce that Dr David Milne has decided to retire from the practice in April.

Dr Milne has been a partner in the practice since 1989, and has been based at West Bergholt Surgery for much of that time. As well as looking after generations of patients in the village, he has run a specialist service for the whole of North East Essex, advising on the treatment of people with heart problems. He has also been very active in developing training and teaching in the practice, working with young doctors who are training to become GPs and with students from the medical school at Cambridge.

We at the surgery will greatly miss his wisdom, common sense, and willingness to 'go the extra mile' for both colleagues and patients. We wish him all the very best for his retirement - a well-earned rest!

Dr Milne will be attending the Parish Council Meeting on the 23rd March 2016.



## Do You Know Where This Memorial Is?

It is situated in the front of what was the main entrance of Daniell and Sons' Brewery on Colchester Road and is dedicated to all the men, then working at the brewery, who served in the 1914-1918 war.

The Essex Chronicle dated Friday 10th September 1920 said:-

“At a large gathering - “Mr. W. Gurney Benham chairman of the Company, presided and Mr. T. G. Daniell, a former chairman, unveiled the tablet which in addition to the names recorded bears the following inscription:-

‘To the honour of the men from Daniell and Sons’ Breweries, West Bergholt and Colchester, who served in the British Forces in the Great European War, 1914 – 1919’ ”.

The Essex Chronicle also stated that sixty-six men out of one hundred men employed at the brewery had enlisted and of those nine had died and many others were wounded.

The Memorial commemorates each man with his regiment and service no. and what happened to him.

If you have not seen it please take a stroll to the Brewery Development, the memorial is placed in the wall, (near the large tree) and take a look at this unique and historic item. It is now in a somewhat dilapidated state and a group of residents are hoping to form an action group to prevent further deterioration and to ensure its future.

If you would like to help please contact Gill on 240512.



# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 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: Alice 07834195844

**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 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

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.colchestermrcl.org](http://www.colchestermrcl.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