



Village Bulletin

March 2017
Issue 149

www.westbergholt.net

A PROMISING DAY

The morning is still, nothing stirs, all is quiet
a quaint light diffuses the sky
away to the east, a pale golden glow
the magic of daybreak is nigh.

It happens but slowly, the moments pass by
dawn puts the darkness to flight
The call of an owl carries over the fields
its hunting is done for the night.

Trees emerge slowly, still shrouded in mist
indistinct images blur
dew drops are pearls sparkling bright in the light
cobwebs white garlands of fur.

Imperceptibly slowly, the colours return
the countryside stirs with a sigh
birds start to chatter and stretch out their wings
reluctant at present to fly.

The hedgerows respond to the sun's gentle touch
new greenery starts to appear
daffodils curtsy and open their hearts
a prelude to flowers through the year.

The leaves rustle gently, a zephyr of wind
the mist chased away by the breeze
it won't be too long before butterflies come
and the nectar and buzzing of bees.

A cathedral of light, a new warmth in the air
a change in the season is near
as nature awakens, new lives will emerge
how *lucky* we are to be here.

John Everett





Parish Council Information

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Chris Stevenson, 74 Mumford Road ☎ 01206 241 708

Vice-Chairmen

Harry Stone, Vindens, Chapel Lane ☎ 01206 241 026

Andrew Savage, 6 Garling Walk ☎ 01206 242 015

Parish Councillors

Brian Butcher, 35 Albany Road ☎ 07836 348 955

Jenny Church, Doran, Hall Road ☎ 01206 240 792

Phil Cook, Orchard Cottage, Chapel Lane ☎ 07841 887 761

John Gili-Ross, 67 Mumford Road ☎ 01206 242 236

Murray Harlow, 25 Valley Crescent ☎ 01206 242 007

Philip Spencer, Church Cottage, Hall Road ☎ 07884 186 035

Bob Tyrrell, Albany Road ☎ 01206 240 016

Janet Crichton ☎ 01206 242 546

Parish Council Committees

Premises and Recreation

Chair: Brian Butcher, **Vice-Chair:** Murray Harlow

Jenny Church, Harry Stone, Bob Tyrrell

Environment and Highways

Chair: John Gili-Ross, **Vice-Chair:** Rosemary James

Jenny Church, Murray Harlow, Philip Spencer, Harry Stone

Planning and Development

Chair: Bob Tyrrell, **Vice-Chair:** Brian Butcher

Phil Cook, Murray Harlow

Finance, Policy and Personnel

Chair: Andrew Savage, **Vice-Chair:** Chris Stevenson

Brian Butcher, John Gili-Ross, Harry Stone, Bob Tyrrell

Clerk to the Parish Council

Laura Walkingshaw, 80 Chapel Road ☎ 01206 240 772

Email: westbergholtpc@gmail.com

Village Halls Administrator

Vicky Beckwith-Cole ☎ 01206 619 258

Email: hall-admin@westbergholt.net

Mobile: 07434 949 631

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 side entrance.

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.

Welcome to the March edition of the Bulletin.

Spring is hopefully in the air, and with a belly full of pancakes it means that Easter is on its way!

I'm Jacqui Kibby, the new editor of the Bulletin, having taken over after Bernard Colbron sadly passed away last year. I've been an editor and proofreader for over eight years, working with publishers and authors, as well as being a published author myself. Prior to this, I was a medical PA in London for nearly nine years. I moved to the village over two years ago, and absolutely love my new home and its surroundings. My daughter attended Bluebells preschool, and now attends Heathlands.

Having taken on the Bulletin, I have listened to the views of numerous residents over the last few months and have tinkered with it a little. However, the Bulletin Team would love to know what you think, and we have included a questionnaire in this edition to help us better understand the village's views on this quarterly publication that has been a part of village life since 1979!

Jacqui

Have your say...

As this quarterly publication is produced for the village, we thought it only fair to ask the community what it thinks about its current format, and whether or not it could be improved/changed etc. Below are a few questions relating to the Bulletin. We are hoping that the responses we receive will help us understand the village's need in regards to the Bulletin, and continue to adapt it to those needs.

1. Do you read the Village Bulletin? If not, why?

.....

2. How interesting do you find it? Do you find it helpful?

.....

3. How do you rate the Bulletin in comparison to the Look/Connection magazine?

.....

4. What do you think of the changes to the Bulletin so far?

.....

5. Do you think it reflects the needs of the village in terms of information?

.....

6. If you could change something in the Bulletin, what would it be?

.....

7. What would you like to see in the Bulletin?

.....

8. Any other comments?

.....

It would be incredibly helpful if you could complete this short questionnaire and send it back to us, so we can get a better understanding of the village's views on the Bulletin.

Please return completed questionnaires to: The editor, 10 Erle Havard Road, West Bergholt, CO6 3LH

Thank you



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From the Parish Council



Chairman's Musings

Let's hear it for our village handymen!

One of the duties of the Parish Council is to keep the village looking neat and tidy and in good repair. This is achieved through the employment of two part-time Village Handymen, David Hewitt and Matt Harkness, two individuals who really care about our village. Their work may go unnoticed by some but no job seems too much for them, be it clearing up litter, removing graffiti or repairing equipment at the playground or fittings in the Orpen Hall. The village would be less attractive without them and doubtless we are all grateful for their efforts.

Moderate your speed around the school!

Three colourful traffic signs have been erected on the approaches to the school. These were designed by Aaron Monks, a pupil at Heathlands, and reinforce the official 20mph speed limits in New Church Road and School Lane. The Parish Council funded these signs and it is hoped they will further reinforce the message to drivers to moderate their speeds and to drive considerately.

Broadband – progress, Virgin comes to town

We are set to have not just one fibre network laid in our village but two it seems. The Parish Council met with Virgin Media recently and learned that they plan to complete a network by spring this year. This is additional to similar plans by County Broadband which are also continuing.

Traffic & Safety Workshop

A workshop was held at the end of February to examine concerns about traffic and parking in the village. It is hoped that an action plan will soon be put together to work through ideas to improve the problems we are currently experiencing.

Progress with the Neighbourhood Plan

The Steering Group has been hard at work analysing the responses and comments received during the autumn consultations. Around 200 households submitted consultation responses. This time round far more use was made of the on-line response methods. There was strong support for the policies and the proposals.

Chris Stevenson, Chairman



Clerk's Jottings

Village Fete preparations gather pace

An exciting event is being planned for 9th September building on the enthusiasm shown by the community for similar recent events. The Lorkin Daniell Field will be given over to numerous stalls and traditional village show events, and there will be entertainment, children's activities plus plenty of food and drink on offer. Anyone who wants to learn more or who wants to promote a stall should contact the Clerk. More information can be found elsewhere in the Bulletin.

Litter Warriors rewarded with grant

The regular litter picks received a fillip recently with the award of a grant of £200 from Colchester Borough Council for equipment to assist this seemingly never ending work.

Ponds cleared!

The three ponds in Lexden Road, Hall Road and Queen's Road have been cleared of invasive vegetation such as the voracious and rapidly spreading reed mace. This makes them not only more attractive but ecologically more inviting for wildlife. The Parish Council engaged the services of "The Conservation Volunteers" for this work.

MUGA Bookings online?

The Parish Council is to start piloting an electronic means of booking the tennis courts, and if successful may extend this to room bookings at the hall too. This will be similar to other on-line booking systems readers may have experienced, and it is hoped that payment may also be possible as well.

Get your kicks on route 66!

Those of you who use the 66 bus service may care to know that you can get real-time information on your smartphone. First Group markets an "App" for downloading to iPhone or Android devices. So now you can delay your walk to the bus stop to the minimum time necessary, safe in the knowledge that the bus will definitely arrive at a precise time! Hopefully our other bus operator Chambers will follow suit shortly!

Laura Walkingshaw, Clerk



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West Bergholt FC



This season so far, has been a mixed one for the club. We started well, but then had a bit of a turnaround with management and players, resulting in a few defeats. We always have problems retaining our best players, as a result of our continued success at this level, which means that clubs from higher semi-pro leagues often come in for our players. I suppose this in itself is a tribute to the quality of our club, but can be a bit frustrating at times. However, issues have now been resolved, and under first team manager Anthony White and reserve team manager Shane Farrow, things have improved again, and the first team are currently in fifth place in the Premier League, with games in hand, so we look forward to a higher league position. Unfortunately we were knocked out of the fourth round of the Essex Premier Cup 3-1 by Leigh Ramblers. This is a cup that we have won in the past, but it was not to be this season.

On a sad note, we lost two long-serving members of the club in December. Mick Clements, an ex-president, sadly passed away after battling cancer for some time. Then, tragically, our Treasurer Terry Farrow died during a trip to Disneyland Paris with his grandchildren.

Both will be sadly missed by all at the club.

Michael R Bell

Chairman

In memory of Michael John Clements

Sadly, December saw the loss of this village stalwart. Raised in West Bergholt, he attended what is now Heathlands Primary School, and then St Helena Secondary. On leaving school, he went to work for Medcalfs, who were motor and general engineering factors in Colchester. He stayed with this firm, rising to a supervisory position, until they were taken over by Affiliated Factors, with whom he achieved a management post. After several years, he and a work colleague decided to set up in business on their own, and obtained premises in Magdalen Street, Colchester, where they established Gramic Supplies, supplying paint and refinishing products to the motor trade. During this time, Mick, or Clemmie as he was known, moved to Scarlett's Road, Colchester, where he stayed for some time, bringing up his son Daniel, before moving back to West Bergholt with his wife Roz, where he remained for the rest of his life.

Clemmie was a keen sportsman, playing football as a goalkeeper at the age of fourteen, for West Bergholt and later for several local teams. He also played cricket, and was a noted darts player. Later on, he took up golf, and was a long-standing member of Stoke by Nayland Golf Club, during which time, he together with a group of friends, raised over £30,000 for the St Helena Hospice, by organising numerous golfing days. He was a long serving ex-president of WBFC, and a regular supporter, in fact attending matches up till a week before his untimely death. He will be sadly missed!

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Since the last update on the village website, much has happened; Phillip Edwards, Secretary of the West Bergholt Community Broadband Group, offers the following update:

On 24th February, County Broadband wrote to all the households and businesses who have signed up for their Fibre to the Home service, announcing that work will start on the provisioning from the end of April. They have appointed not one but two civil engineering contractors to speed up the work when it starts, to still aim to complete the provision of service by the end of the calendar year as originally planned.

Unexpected Virgin

Suddenly, with no prior notification or information, to neither the Parish Council nor the Broadband Group, Virgin Media have started digging trenches in pavements and installing connection points outside homes in Albany Road, Erle Havard Road and Mumford Road so far. These are aimed at providing, at a future date not yet announced, their version of Broadband Service (200Meg download, up to 20 Meg upload).

A check with the Essex Highways part of Essex County Council revealed that Virgin Media had lodged plans to install 39 street cabinets and dig cable trenches around the village. Several of these pale grey cabinets are now visible in the village.

We asked Virgin Media to tell us how many of the properties around the village will be equipped. They have provided their plans to us, which appear to indicate that the majority but not all the village will be covered.

We will continue to closely monitor progress and any issues, and update the village as new information arrives.

West Bergholt is now in the excellent position of having competition for our custom rather than its previous status as a backwater no fibre provider was interested in, which is fantastic progress.

If you have any questions, please email us at communitybroadbandgroup@westbergholt.net and we will try to answer, or you may wish to contact County Broadband or Virgin Media directly. If you give us permission to use your email address, we will add you to the circulation list for updates from our Group.

Phillip Edwards

Secretary, West Bergholt Community Broadband Group



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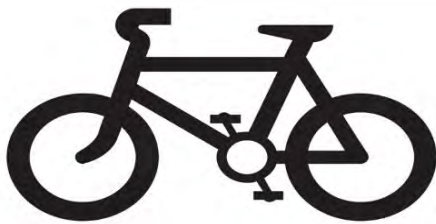
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West Bergholt Gardner's Association

The West Bergholt Gardner's Association is gearing up for another season of talks, events, and outings in 2017.

Monthly meetings and talks are held at the Orpen Hall, West Bergholt at 7.30pm on Mondays. Our first this year was on 20th February, when we welcomed Tim Fuller for his talk on "Good Companions" – plants that go well together.

On 20th March, Matthew Long from Riverside Bulbs is coming to talk to use about bulbs and their many uses in our gardens, and on 10th April, Ben from Black Cottage Nursery is coming to give a talk entitled "Spring into Summer".

Please also note that our annual plant sale will be held this year on Saturday 20th May.

We always welcome new members, and non- members can attend any talk for an on-the-door fee of £3.00 per person. We look forward to seeing you! Further details from Terry on 01206 241256 or wbgardeners@gmail.com



The Orpen Players

Our Pantomime "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" was very well attended and we played to full houses, and judging by the response that we got from our audiences a jolly good time was had by all.

So, a big well done to Peter Cox, who not only wrote the script, but directed the cast and painted most of the wonderful scenery.

This production gave our younger members a chance to shine, and what a brilliant job they made of it, so a big well done to them.

A big thank you also to all the parents, many of whom helped back stage.

For your future entertainment, Michael Poole is directing "Abigail's Party" by Mike Leigh

Production dates on 12th 13th and 14th May 2017 so make a note in your diary's. Thank you for your support which enables us to continue to bring live theatre to the village, for your and our enjoyment, Colin Downer.



Neighbourhood Plan Update

Consultation Results – Summary Of Findings

The autumn 2016 consultations drew in over 450 residents and their families across two Saturday exhibitions held at the Orpen Hall. Around 50 comments were generated by the exhibitions themselves, and 190 valid questionnaires were returned, around 120 via the paper-based surveys and the remaining 80 generated via the Survey Monkey electronic questionnaire. The Steering Group has been hard at work coding in the paper-based questionnaires into Survey Monkey, and analysing all the responses. A full data report is on www.westbergholt.net/neighbourhood-plan . However, the following is a more digestible summary.

The overall support for the introduction of a NP was very positive, with an amazing 99% support in the very important and important categories.

Support for Policy areas is shown below. Note this is an average for each of the many policies under each category.

<i>Policy area</i>	Strongly support or support (%)	Neutral (%)	Oppose or fully oppose (%)
<i>General Village & Community</i>	95	4	1
<i>Environmental</i>	92	7	1
<i>Planning & Housing</i>	78	13	9
<i>Transport</i>	92	7	1
<i>Business and Commerce</i>	81	14	5
<i>Sports and Recreation</i>	86	12	2
<i>Community Safety</i>	96	4	0
<i>Communications</i>	93	7	0
<i>Development Control</i>	91	8	1

From the table above, it can be seen that the support for nearly all policies is overwhelmingly in favour. Areas which have slightly less support include those covering housing and planning matters, business and commerce and sports and recreation. The Steering Group will be looking closely at the comments received to find ways of improving the policy statements to better reflect respondents' views. Over 300 individual comments were generated. All have been read and have been captured in the data report. Many are simply articulations of practical aspects needing to be considered when implementing particular policies, or when these lead to projects or planning applications in specific locations – these aspects are important and will be used to further develop the robustness of the plan and hopefully its acceptability.

The Steering Group will now be working on a final draft reflecting the views of the consultations and looking to see where comments received need to be reflected in the final version of the NP, a consultation on which will be carried out in May or June. After this final consultation, the Neighbourhood Plan will be submitted to Colchester Borough Council for their consideration, before examination by an independent Inspector, and finally put to the community for a referendum.

We have contacted all residents who indicated that they would like to learn more about our work, but if there are readers who wish to discuss any aspect of the NP process, then feel free to contact either myself or the Steering Group Secretary, Laura Walkingshaw. Both our contact details can be found on the inside page of the Bulletin.

In closing, the NP Steering Group would like to thank those who attended the exhibitions and /or who responded to the consultation.

Chris Stevenson, Chairman, West Bergholt Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.



The Wood is, quite rightly, well known for its annual Bluebell display. It is the focal point for a large number of visitors, many of whom take excellent photographs. What is less well known is the effect caused by the actions of a few.

There appears to have been an increase in those wandering from the established paths, often to take pictures of their subject surrounded by an expanse of Bluebells. What isn't usually appreciated is that whilst the Bluebell plants will often recover from the trampling, **they take around 5 years before they flower again.**

This obviously has an adverse effect on the Bluebell colonies with areas being divided by new tracks. When this is mentioned to visitors they often state that they have the 'Right to Roam' and can go wherever they like. Unfortunately for them, they are not in Scotland. In England, the 'Right' is limited to areas that are defined as open access – which Hillhouse Wood is not.

Therefore, it's much appreciated if everyone could keep to the established paths. This reduces the adverse effects on the Wood's environment and maintains the undisturbed areas.

We want everyone to enjoy the Wood – we just don't want the actions of a few to spoil what makes it so special.

Andrew Savage, Chairman

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



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In December we had our Christmas Party evening, when the hall was made very festive with the help of Clarice Chittenden and Joyce Hollock. Christmas table decorations were arranged by Manya Barrow, and members enjoyed the usual quizzes to puzzle over during the evening. The Lawford Bell Ringers entertained with familiar songs and carols, and members then joined in with much jollity.

There were 3 joint competition winners for 2016: Hillary Nugent, Barbara Davis and Susan Leng. Supper was enjoyed by all with a large raffle to follow.

The carol singing just before Christmas was well supported at the Queen's Head, with excellent refreshments supplied by the establishment.

2017 began with a short talk from St. Helena Hospice fundraisers, who gave the meeting ideas on how support could be given to them. There was a presentation on the big screen of our WI activities during 2016.

The first Coffee Morning of the year was held at the new venue, The Queen's Head, and was enjoyed by 20 members.

In February, we celebrated our WI's 96th birthday at the monthly meeting with a cake to accompany the tea and coffee. A week later, on February 8th members enjoyed a birthday lunch at the Green Room, Colchester.

Our speaker at the February meeting was tenor Martyn Harrison, who sang and gave us many interesting facts about musicals in the West End in his talk entitled 'Les Mis to the Lion King'. Martyn included songs from many shows in which he had performed.

Rummikub, play-reading and the coffee mornings are well supported. Afternoon and evening sessions for darts and dominoes have just started with a few keen members, and we are hopeful more members will come along. Our WI is welcoming new members all the time, and there is usually an attendance of between 40-50 ladies at each meeting.



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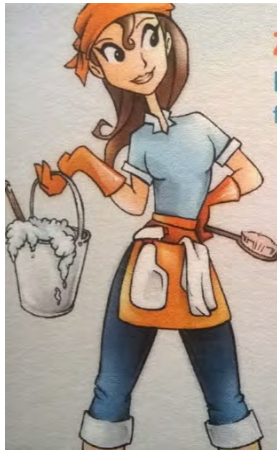


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If you would like to know more or put your child's name on our waiting list, contact Jackie Leach on 241677.

If you would like to feature your business in the Village Bulletin, please get in touch with the Bulletin team, on either 07944 831 258 or 07434 949 631 for more information.

The Tom Bowdidge Foundation had an exceptionally busy Christmas, with many of its events taking place in West Bergholt. The first Christmas Fayre took place at TBF Headquarters in Firmins Court, and hundreds of villagers turned up to browse and shop with over 25 Christmas stalls to tempt them.

The following day saw the lighting of the TBF Christmas tree – a gift from the Foundation to the village to thank everyone for all their support. The village all came together from the very young to the old to provide decorations with the emphasis on blue and silver baubles. Even the youngest villagers took part, with WB Toddler group making and hanging their own baubles full of blue feathers.

We were thrilled to have the actress Nina Wadia come to switch on the lights. She swapped the Queen Vic for The White Hart when she tried her hand at pulling a pint. The Christmas tree would not have been possible without the generosity of Mark and Lyndsey allowing us to plant it on the green in front of the White Hart, and their help in the lighting and the decorating of it. We were joined by the wonderful Julie Bennett and the Knit One, Down One group, who knitted a wonderful range of Christmas items. They were so popular and sold out before the evening finished. It was such a lovely evening, with so many families attending to see the lights and the now infamous blue star shining down. We would like to thank everyone for their help in making this happen, and because so many people have asked, we are hoping to make this an annual event.

We are absolutely thrilled to report that over £3500 was raised at these events, and once again that is down to your incredible generosity.

As we look forward to the Spring and warmer weather, Team TBF will be getting ready for the Colchester Half Marathon, the London Marathon and the Three Peaks Challenge. If you want to follow what we are up to, then check out our website www.tombowdidgefoundation.org or sign up for our newsletter by contacting nikkibowdidge@tombowdidgefoundation.org

Friends of St Mary's Old Church



The main focus of the Friends group has been the campaign to keep the bell ringing which requires the group to raise at least £10,000 of the amount required to repair and maintain the venerable building. A sub-committee led by Jane Lloyd has worked hard on planning and so far over £6000 has been raised which is an excellent result. Thanks are due to Jane and her group, as well as the generous donations made by villagers. The new sets of Christmas cards featuring images of the Church proved really popular and sold out.

The Candlelight Carol Service, which is a well-established event in the village calendar, was very well attended with over 300 folk present, a case of standing room only. The church was decorated with trees and greenery and looked lovely in the gentle glow of the many candles. For many families, this service marks the start of the Christmas festivities and it was lovely to see so many enjoying this unique village event.

The Churches Conservation Trust are hopeful that the works will be commencing in the spring. This involves making the fabric watertight and remedial work on the tower and belfry. When the exterior works are finished, we will be looking to re decorate the interior using the generous bequest of the late Mrs Harrington. It is hoped that by the time summer has arrived, we will have a renovated building which can be the pride of the village for many years to come.

Our church continues to attract a huge number of visitors from all over the world. Being on the Essex Way means a large number of walkers call in for a period of rest and reflection in the peace of the building. We greatly appreciate the many favourable comments made in the visitor's book, and several comment on the peace and tranquillity that they experience on their visit. In this very busy world it is lovely to have such a place available for quiet reflection.

Forthcoming events planned are a curry luncheon, a recital using our historic pump organ and a concert by the Comrie Singers. Details of these will be published nearer the time, but there is no let-up in the Friends resolve to reach the target to keep the bell ringing.

The Friends group is open to all. We ask for an annual subscription of £5 which helps to defray the costs of running the church and maintaining the churchyard. If anyone would like to become more involved with the teams that ensure the building is open daily and assist with the occasional clean-up, I would be delighted to hear from them.

Martin Long

Chairman Friends of St Mary's Old Church



Friends of
St Mary's
Old Church

KEEP THE BELL RINGING appeal

for repairs to our Old Church has reached

£6,628.87

as at the end of January

*Stop press: In recognition of the efforts of
Friends' members and committee, we are
being nominated for the
best regional Volunteer Group of the
Churches Conservation Trust!*



St Mary's Church

First of all, a huge thank you to everyone who made the Christmas services so special: to the team who decorated the church so beautifully, to the Christmas choir, to Rev Mandy Elmes for leading the candle light carol service at the Old Church and the services at St Mary's on Christmas Eve and Christmas morning, to Jo Jeffery for leading the popular Christmas Eve crib service, and not forgetting all those people who work quietly in the background to make sure that the services run smoothly. We were delighted that so many folk from the village were able to join us for our Christmas services.

No sooner is Christmas over then we start looking ahead to Easter! By the time you receive your copy of the Village Bulletin, Pancake Day will have come and gone and we will be in the season of Lent.

We will be holding a series of **Lent Groups** on Tuesday evenings at 8.00pm in the church hall on the following dates: **7 March, 14 March, 21 March, 28 March & 4 April.**

This year we will be exploring some of Jesus' Parables and their relevance for us today. All are welcome and you don't have to come to every session – just come to what you can.



The parable of the lost son

You are also warmly invited to join us for our Easter Services:

Maundy Thursday – 13 April – 8pm, Fellowship Meal and Communion

Good Friday – 14 April – 10am, Devotional service at **St John's, Great Horkesley**

Easter Sunday – 16 April – 11.15am, Easter Communion

Other events coming up are:

Men's Breakfast – Sat 11 March, 8.30am, at the Half Butt Inn, Great Horkesley. There will be a full English breakfast, followed by a talk by Richard Chadborn about his hobby as a model railway enthusiast. Cost approximately £10. Please book in advance with Geoffrey Baker, geoffreybak@btinternet.com

Annual Church Meeting – Sunday 2 April – Vacancy for Churchwardens

Our Annual Church Meeting will be held on Sunday 2 April straight after the 9.30am Communion service. The meeting is an opportunity to review the past year and to think about plans for the future. Dorothy and Richard Chadborn will be stepping down as Churchwardens and we are extremely grateful for their hard work and dedication over the last four years. This means we are looking for new people to take on this role: if you think you might be able to help, please contact Liz Dixon in the parish office on 01206 243683 lwb.wb.gh.parishes@gmail.com

Church Open Weekdays

Don't forget that the church is now open on weekdays between 9am and 4pm for anyone who would like to come in for quiet reflection. There are also some useful information leaflets available to take away on a variety of topics, such as dealing with bereavement, stress, anxiety and dementia.

Wired youth group

Our Wired youth group, for secondary school age students, goes from strength to strength, and in January, the young people came together with the Langham & Boxted Churches youth group to devise and lead a special youth celebration service, called 'IGNITE!'. The theme of the service was 'new beginnings' and the evening included drama, lively music from the band, and interactive prayer stations. The event was very successful and there are plans for a similar event in June, to be hosted by Boxted Church.

Dates for the next few months are **3 March** (Talent night), **31 March** (Easter theme), **12 May** (Graffiti night), **9 June** (Outside games, weather permitting) & **7 July** (pool party). New members are always welcome – for more information contact wiredwb@gmail.com

Messy Church – 9.30am on the second Sunday in the month

The dates for Messy Church up until the summer holidays are:

12 March, 9 April, 14 May, 11 June & 9 July



Details of all our services and activities can be found in Good News (our bi-monthly magazine) or on our website – www.sites.google.com/site/stmaryswbergholt - and you can also follow us on Facebook. For more information, contact Liz Dixon (details above).



West Bergholt Allotments

As we start off another gardening year, the allotments will become a busy place with the warming up of the soil.

The past year was very successful, with the introduction of the stall for surplus produce, looked after by Mervyn Donnelly and Annie Neish with the help of other plot holders. Villagers were invited to make donations for the produce, which went to the Tom Bowdidge charity. This was run in conjunction with the 2016 Open Gardens organised by West Bergholt Gardeners' Association. We would like to thank all those that supplied the produce, the helpers and those who supported us by donating. It has been decided that we will continue with this stall from April to October, and monies raised will go to two local charities/organisations. Mervyn will set up a sub-committee to run this stall.

This year we currently have some plots available for renting. These will be allocated firstly to West Bergholt residents and then to those outside the village. At present, we have no waiting list. To apply for an allotment, contact the Parish Clerk, wballotments@gmail.com or 01206 241256, or see the following village web page <http://westbergholt.net/clubs/allotments/> for information.

Two big changes are happening in 2017 to the way allotment rents are calculated and when the rent will be collected.

1. It has been decided that the allotment rent period will run from 1st October to 31st September, instead of 1st April to 31st March. The decision was made to change the handover of plots at the end of harvest, so that new plot holders have time to prepare them for the coming year. Rent will be collected in September (for 2017/2018 – rent will be for April 2017 to September 2018), and invoices will go out at the beginning of September. Those wishing to give up plots at the end of 2016/2017 rent period (31st March) should contact us during March.
2. Calculating rents – Many allotment plots do not meet the 5 rod measurement, being either smaller or larger, so it has been decided that in future, rents will be calculated by square metres. The area will then be put into one of four bands. Based on these figures, rental income for the site will not increase from those taken in the 2016/17 rent period. However, some plot rents will not stay the same. Plot holders will have received full details of rent changes during February.

The Allotment Site committee have now taken over the internal maintenance of the site, and with the help of volunteers are currently doing grass cutting, hedge cutting and other tasks, which benefit the site. We are in the process of changing all water tanks from tap-fill to cistern fill, which will save water, along with turning off the water during the winter period of November to March.

We would like to thank all those that have helped during the year and the committee members, also the Parish Council for their support. See <http://westbergholt.net/clubs/allotments/> for allotment details/calendar/contacts.

Terry Claydon, Chair – Allotment Site Committee.

Fancy Some Village Cricket? – West Bergholt has a rich 200-year history



West Bergholt Cricket Club, one of the oldest cricket clubs in Essex, who play their cricket at the beautiful Manor Road ground, start their 2017 in May, with the 1st XI once again on the hunt for promotion.

In comparison to other villages of Bergholt's side, the club boast very competitive offerings with three senior sides (who now include women cricketers) and a fantastic colts set up with Kwik Cricket and U11s onwards. The club aims not just to develop future star cricketers (many of whom have gone on to higher leagues) but also the simple enjoyment of Summer team sport.

With three senior sides and an evening team, West Bergholt CC can offer cricket to players of all abilities. From highly competitive league cricket to those maybe returning to the game or wanting to take up a new sport, and are always looking recruit new players to our squad.

West Bergholt CC are an ambitious club with first-rate facilities including a spacious clubhouse, a well-maintained cricket square and two practice Nets; ECB Clubmark accredited to underline the commitment to providing a safe and secure playing environment for all Junior members.

For those interested in learning more what the club has to offer, please contact Owen Jones – owenmbjones@gmail.com/07783051583 or www.westbergholtcc.co.uk

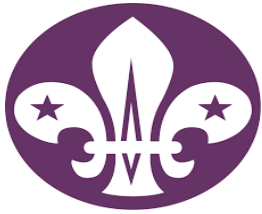


Colne Valley Flower Club

At our March meeting on Wednesday 15th Carolyn Rodgers from White Notley is coming to show us her flowers with the title of "Naturally Perfect". On Wednesday April 19th, Vicki Hease from Finborough is returning to show us "That's not What it's for", and on Wednesday May 17th, Terry Potter is giving us her interpretation in flowers of "Better the Chaos of Creativity", and she comes from Chelmsford.

We are always happy to receive visitors at our meetings so if you would like to see what goes on please come and join us, you will be made very welcome.

For any further details please ring Jayne Lawson on 01376 564135 or Alison Bradshaw on 01206 240262. We meet on the third Wednesday of the month (Not in August or December).



1st West Bergholt Scout Group

We would like to thank everybody who helped make the annual jumble sale such a successful event. We have yet to ascertain the final figure for funds raised, but we have already surpassed last year's total which is fantastic! We appreciated the help of all our regular volunteers (and a few new ones!) We were especially grateful to those people who donated an array of items for us to sell, and to everyone else who arrived at 2pm to buy it all back! The monies raised will help the group enormously.

When the weather is inclement, it is more difficult for the leaders to arrange an exciting programme for the children, but we have still managed to plan several inspiring activities. The Beavers are visiting Pets at Home to help them complete their Pet Badge; they have arranged a sleepover at Boxford Spinney and a nature evening at Highwoods later in the term.

Badger Cubs have been making bird feeders for their Naturalist Badge and have planned a visit to Bounceability. Otter Cubs are undertaking their Artist and Astronomy Badges this term and have invited a guest speaker who will be taking them on a Stargazing Bonanza.

In December, Cubs celebrated their 100th Birthday with a district party at the Girls High School. All cubs throughout the world renewed their promise at 7.16pm on the same day, which was a humbling feeling. There were a variety of games; plates full of food and the children had great fun. It was fantastic to meet cubs from other packs in the district. In February, both cub packs are undertaking a five-mile incident hike.

The Scouts also have a varied programme planned. In February, five of the children will be undertaking their Expedition Challenge which is a requirement for their Gold Award – the top award for Scouts. They need to plan their own route and the kit required; organise their overnight stay as well as compile their menu and shop for the event. This is quite an undertaking for children of 13 years of age!

If anyone has a few extra hours to spare and would like to join us at the Scout Hut, even as an occasional helper, please contact Kevin Sturdy on 07803602779 or Sarah Sanderson on 07795516717. It is such a rewarding opportunity!



1st West Bergholt Rainbows

“Oh, no, you didn’t... Oh, yes, we did...”

The Rainbows started term with a visit to a production of “Dick Whittington” Panto. We enjoyed singing and booing the baddies, and clapped at the happy ending.

We then enjoyed getting into teams to represent our countries in the Winter Olympics. The girls created their own ice dancing routines, had a snow shoe relay, made a bobsled course from ice-cubes, and even did the slalom challenge!

The unit then had a glitz and glamorous evening as we did “Strictly... West Bergholt style”! Lots of sevens were awarded for the Cha-Cha, and the girls really did well learning the ballroom skills from our talented tutor.

We celebrated World Thinking Day, which has been celebrated since 1926 in the Guiding Organisation. This year’s theme is growth and introducing our movement to new members.

We had an exciting evening at the Races, making our hobby horses from socks. We trained, fed and exercised them before the Grand National Race.

As the weather improved, we thought about nature and wildlife, making bird feeders and completed the Butterfly Challenge. This included our favourite activity... cooking! Which rolled onto our Easter celebrations and the end of a busy term.

Good luck to all the girls moving on to Brownies this term and we look forward to welcoming new faces to the rainbow unit after Easter holidays.

Methodist Church News

We were joined by members and friends as we celebrated many of our regular special services and events leading to Christmas.

As a Circuit, we welcomed Lord Rowan Williams, who preached at Castle Methodist Church at the beginning of December, and after the morning service a lunch was served followed by an afternoon session of questions and discussion.

Our annual Gift & Parade service took place on the second Sunday in December this year and, although this proved more difficult for some of the Uniformed Groups to attend, we were pleased to receive a wonderful amount of Christmas parcels on the day, with an extra-large delivery during the following week from the Brownies. This enabled us to deliver six large boxes of gifts shared between Colchester Night Shelter, Beacon house and the ladies and children at the Women's' Refuge, who were delighted with your donations.

Other special events included a Christmas Coffee & Craft session for young families, Carol singing outside the Co-op and our Candlelight Carol service. We hope all who joined us enjoyed and were blessed by this special time.

The Women's World Day of Prayer, arranged by Christian Women of the Philippines, is entitled "Am I being unfair to you?". The Philippines, situated in the Western Pacific, averages twenty earthquakes and typhoons a year. Typhoon Yolande hit the island in November 2013, a Super 5 Category Storm, the highest recorded ever to hit land. It claimed thousands of lives and a million people were still homeless a year later.

Please join us at the Methodist Church Hall on Friday March 3rd at 12.30 for a Soup n' Snack lunch, and at 1.30pm in the Church for the service. All are welcome.

We continue to meet for our Fellowship afternoon on the 3rd Wednesday of each month in the Hall from 2.30 to 4pm. A warm welcome is given, open to all to hear our many interesting speakers.

The next Silver Sunday tea will be held on March 12th from 3.00pm. Transport can be arranged, phone Judith 01206 241969 or Andrew 01206 242511, or just to enquire more about this very enjoyable social afternoon. We would love to hear from you. Don't sit at home feeling lonely, come and join us.

Our Holy week celebrations begin on Monday 10th April with our Easter Coffee & Craft morning for young families in the hall at 10.30 to 12pm. Register with Andrew (as above). The Easter Coffee morning will be on Wednesday April 12th from 10.00 to 11.30am. A Good Friday service on April 14th will be at 10.30am, led by our Minister Rev Ken Chalmers, and on Easter Sunday Mr Alan Beesley will lead our 11.00am service.

Saturday April 22nd is our next Quiz Night at 7pm in the Hall. Tables of 4 at £20 can be booked with Judith (as above). Don't miss your chance of booking your table at this very enjoyable fun evening.

Christian Aid week is 14th to 20th May. Collectors are always needed for our village. If you can spare a few hours during the week contact Susan on 01206 241431. We will be holding a special service at 11am on Sunday May 14th, and a selection of ploughman's take-away will be available after the service for a small donation to Christian Aid.

As a village Church serving our community, we are beginning to reassess where we are in West Bergholt. We are starting a course of seven sessions of thought and prayer with our Minister, Rev Ken Chalmers, entitled "Our Story". Our first session is on Wednesday March 22nd in the Hall, beginning at 10.30am with coffee, and will close by 12pm. All involved with and concerned for our Church are welcome. If you would be interested in joining us, please contact Andrew (as above) for further information.

Methodist Church Diary

April

5 th	"Our Story" in the Hall	10.30
10 th	Family Coffee & Craft in the Hall	10.30
11 th	Communion at St. Mary's	11.00
12 th	Coffee morning in the Hall	10.00
14 th	Good Friday service	10.30
16 th	Easter Sunday service	11.00
19 th	Fellowship in the Hall	2.30
22 nd	Quiz Night in the Hall	7.00
30 th	United Service at Methodist Church with Mr Mike Abbs & Rev Mandy Elmes, includes communion.	11.00

May

9 th	Communion at St. Mary's	11.00
10 th	Coffee morning in the Hall	10.00
14 th	Christian Aid service	11.00
17 th	"Our Story" in the Hall	10.30
17 th	Fellowship– Mrs Betty Rampling	2.30
24 th	"Our Story" in the Hall	10.30
31 st	"Our Story" in the Hall	10.30

All regular services at 11am. Please check the Notice Board for any special or combined services and any change of times. Any Ministerial enquiries can be made to Rev Ken Chalmers, 01206 545253, or Rev Alan Jenkins, 01206 793888.



West Bergholt History Group

From time to time the Secretary receives enquiries from people studying their family history. We have recently received a letter from Kiern

Pettican who lives in Kent and is trying to trace the graves of her great great grandparents William Pettican (1848-1912) and Sarah Rebecca Pettican (1853-1921). They married in the old church in 1869 and were living in Old Church Lane in 1881, but searches of the churchyards have been unsuccessful. She would also be interested in copies of any photographs of Old Church Lane from the period.

If any reader can help please get in touch with Gill Poole.

January Meeting

The first meeting of the New Year took place in the Orpen Hall on January 10th. The guest speaker was Alan Skinner, former Principal of Grey Friars Adult Education College.

Alan's talk was about the history of Grey Friars, or more precisely the area where it is located in the northeast corner of the old Roman town. It is difficult to ascertain exactly what was there during the Roman and Norman periods but between the 13th and the 16th century the site was occupied by Franciscan Monks, the Grey Friars, until the dissolution of the monasteries in 1538.

The buildings remained in a poor state of repair. They were much damaged one hundred years later in the Civil War and Royalist prisoners of war were detained there after the siege. In Georgian times the area became very desirable and several large houses were built close by - Hollytrees, East Hill House, The Minories. The building which is now the centre part of Grey Friars was built around 1750.

The building changed hands several times and in 1829 the area where Roman and Castle Roads are now was leased to the Colchester Botanical Society to make into a Botanical Garden. This initially proved popular with the rich and fashionable although by the 1850s the garden had fallen from favour and was sold off for housing and would eventually become Castle Road and Roman Road.

The Grey Friars house, much extended, continued as a private residence until 1903 when it was purchased by a group of French Nuns who converted it into a boarding school for gentlemen's daughters. The Nuns sold Grey Friars to Essex County Council in 1920 when it was used to house part of the County High School for Girls. They stayed there until the 1950s when they moved to their current premises in Norman Way. Grey Friars was then used at different times as temporary accommodation for Monkwick and Phillip Morant Schools, and the Technical College, now Colchester Institute. In 1965 the building became an Adult Education College until being sold in 2008 for conversion into a luxury hotel, which opened in 2014.

Alan Skinner's talk was very well received and many of the members of the audience had their own fond memories of Grey Friars.

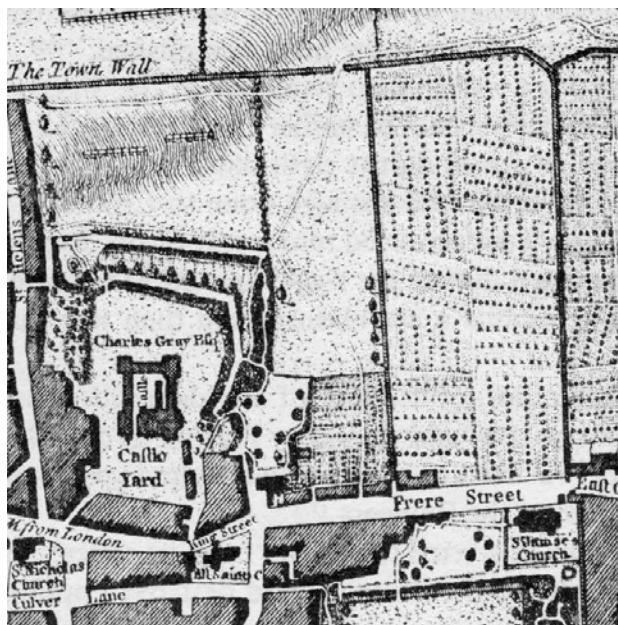
Forthcoming events

February 8th "Silver End the Crittall Village" a talk by Natalie Banks.

March 8th AGM plus a talk and video "Life in the 1950s" by Peter Jones

April 13th "44 Years of Elected Office" a talk by Sir Bob Russell

Meetings start at 7.30. Members £1 - Visitors welcome £3.



Showing the northeast corner of the old town in 1777

Grey Friars House is above the word Frere



West Bergholt Bowls Club

• There is good news from the bowls club – at last, something to cheer about! During the last three or four months, members from our club have played in some of the county bowls matches, and it gives me pleasure to report that Doreen Payne and Patrick McCarthy reached the quarter finals in the pairs competition, as well as winning the clubs annual pairs competition. Many thanks to all members who represent the club in all the competitions that are available.

If you would like to take part in our club activities, come along any Thursday or Sunday evening at 7pm. All equipment is included and free tuition is given. Contact 01206 243301 for further help.

Local Business Spotlight



My name is Susie Jones and I am the proud owner of Little Paws Walking & Boarding. I set up Little Paws after a miserable experience for my own much-loved dog, Lucy, during her stay at a kennels. There was nothing wrong with the kennels and Lucy was taken care of, but she is used to her home environment and I'm sure she missed her human cuddles and sleeping in her own bed at night! It's been a long-held dream of mine to work with animals and, following redundancy from my office-based managerial job in

HR during the winter of 2015, I finally made the leap and could not now be happier! I live in West Bergholt and have been here since March 2016 - time flies! I absolutely love my adopted village home and plan to stay forever. I spend my days (and nights) surrounded by dogs all shapes and sizes and I love each and every one of them as if they are my own. Every dog in my care gets a full hour's walk in some of the gorgeous surrounding countryside or, when we're feeling energetic, we drive to West Mersea or Walton-on-Naze for a paddle in the sea. I am fully licenced and insured and I hold a current DBS check. I have studied Canine and Feline First Aid and am certificated as such plus I have a recognised certificate in Dog Breed Awareness. I am a member of NarpsUk (The National Association of Registered Pet Sitters) which is a professional body committed to promoting excellence and raising industry standards for pet sitters and dog walkers. My own personal aim is to relieve the worry from owners' minds when they need to be away from their fur babies. I will ensure dogs, cats and all other small animals (even goldfish!) are 100% cared for, and will give them a great time whether it's for walking, Doggie Sitting (in doggies own home), Doggie Day Care or Holiday in my Home. I plan to expand during 2017 by employing someone to assist with the walks. This means that I can accept more dog walking bookings than I am currently able to. Obviously, anyone I employ will be insured, be DBS cleared and will love the dogs as much as I do! I'll be researching vans (gives my husband something to do!) and ultimately I'm looking to hire an enclosed field where the dogs and I can go every day to run around, lounge and have fun in. All West Bergholt Doggie Day Care clients enjoy free collection and drop offs and, as my recently renewed licence states, I'm permitted to take up to 6 dogs, I now have space for 2 more in Doggie Day Care! All new dogs are introduced carefully to my existing calm pack. It's been a great experience so far and I'm not stopping yet!



West Bergholt Badminton Club

The Badminton Club meets in the Orpen Hall every Tuesday evening. We play between 8pm and 10pm.

New members welcomed.

Contact Ian on 07754 140707 for more details or just turn up on the night.

Save The Date

West Bergholt Village Fete 2017

Saturday 9th September

12-4pm

at the Orpen Hall & Lorkin Daniell Field

Village Show

In the Orpen and John Lampon Halls, with exhibitions of flowers, fruit, vegetables, baking, children's competitions and arts & crafts.

- Think you can bake the perfect Victoria Sponge?
- Are your runner beans the longest?
- Got a talent as an amateur photographer or artist?

Release your inner Mary Berry or Monty Don! Details of all entry categories are available on westbergholt.net. Entry form & full details to follow in the next Village Bulletin.

Time to start perfecting your scones or growing those prize tomatoes!

Stalls & Pitches

For local clubs & businesses around the Lorkin Daniell field.

- Want to attract more members for your club?
- Or perhaps raise some much-needed funds?

Call 01206 240772 to book your pitch at £10 a plot. Advertising spaces for local businesses also available in the Events Programme at a reasonable price.

Events Arena

- Dance Groups
- Bands
- Tug of War (for the over 18's)
- Fancy Dress Parade for children

Call 01206 240772 if you run a group that could put on a show and entertain the crowd.

Fun for all the family! Support your community!

West Bergholt Village Fete 2017



**The 30th Care Network AGM will be held on Wednesday 19th April
at 7.30pm in the John Lampon Hall.**

We will celebrate this special anniversary with cake and prosecco, and maybe more, so do please come along to hear about the achievements of this well-used support group. If you live in the village and need help with transport for a medical or important appointment, please call 0300 777 3100. If you feel able to offer some time as a driver, as and when it suits you, for maybe an hour or so a month, please contact Harry Stone on 01206 241026.

Back Copies of The Village Bulletin

I am compiling a simple index to the Village Bulletin, which started in February 1979. The March issue will be the 149th! However, I am missing the following numbers: 11 (1982), 15 (1983), 21 (1984), 22, 23 and 25 (1985), 26 (1986). Can anyone help? I can photocopy and return to you. Susan Swan 07739 986047.

NSPCC Book Fair Committee will be collecting books again from 1st April. Collecting boxes will be at Barnplants Garden Centre, Fiveways Co-op, and all branches of Boydens Estate Agents, or phone Teresa Morris on 01206 241878 for more information.



Mobile Library Times

The Mobile Library visits the village **Fornightly on a Tuesday**
on the following dates:

14th & 28th March, 11th & 25th April, 9th & 23rd May

The stops and times for West Bergholt are:

Albany Road	13.55 – 14.20
Scout Hut, Lexden Road	14.45 – 15.30
Queens Road	15.35 – 15.55
Chapel Road	16.00 – 16.45

For queries about the service please telephone Answers Direct 0845 6037628

Friends of
St Mary's Old Church
invite you to



A VILLAGE CURRY LUNCH

*on 11th March 2017, 12-30-2pm
at the Orpen Hall. Everyone welcome!*

*Choice of 3 curries with all the trimmings
followed by fruit crumble and cream.*

Soft drinks & tea/coffee available

Bring your friends!

Tickets £10 (children £5)

from

Teresa 01206 241878; Jane 01206 240167

Gill 240152; Carrie 240466

Pre-order Shepherd's Pie as an alternative

***In aid of the "Keep the Bell Ringing" appeal
for repairs to St Mary's Old Church***



THE CHURCHES CONSERVATION TRUST



Colchester & District Model Railway Club

OPEN DAY

Sunday 2nd April 2017

FREE ENTRY

**Club layouts, models
and second hand stall**

11.00am to 4.00pm at the Orpen Hall,
Lexden Road, West Bergholt CO6 3BW

Light refreshments available

For more info and details of our annual exhibition later
in the year visit our website www.colchestermrc.org



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**Your village needs you...
to pick up your dog poo!**

Over the last couple of months, there has seemed to be a large increase in the level of dog poo left around the village, especially on pathways leading towards Heathlands School.

Naturally, with the rainy weather, any dog mess left on the pavements gets spread around. This not only makes our village unsightly and dirty, but is also a health risk to both children and adults alike. It gets spread by foot and pushchair wheels, which then have to be cleaned, posing even more of a health risk. Children could potentially walk it into school, putting themselves at risk of disease and infections.

It is your responsibility as a dog owner to understand these risks, and to ensure that you pick up after your dog during a walk. Always make sure you leave the house prepared with bags, etc, and keep our village clean and pleasant.

There is no excuse!

**Copy for the June
edition should be received by
1st May 2017**

*Late additions cannot be guaranteed entry
Copy all submissions to the editor, Jacqui Kibby*

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*All articles and letters are accepted on the
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**If you would like to feature
your business in the Village
Bulletin, please get in touch
with the Bulletin team, on
either 07944 831 258 or
07434 949 631 for more
information.**

**We can offer ad space,
special half page ads, and
spotlight interviews/articles
to showcase your business.**

Hall Booking Information

Orpen Hall (108 – 150 persons) & **John Lampon Hall** (30 – 50 persons). To book, contact hall-admin@westbergholt.net

St Marys Church (60 persons) & **Church Hall** (20 – 40 persons). To book phone Nicole Long 01206 240443

Methodist Church Hall (20 – 60 persons). To book phone David Kay 01206 243 574

SOME USEFUL NUMBERS

Please note Police non-emergency number has changed.

Police: Non-emergency dial 101. In an emergency dial 999

Doctors Surgery: 2 Erle Havard Road Telephone: 241137

Pharmacy: Chapel Road Telephone: 240352

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

News Correspondent: Jacqui Hunns The Laurels, Firmins Court
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.*





What's On Guide

Sunday

Service of Worship, at St Mary's Church.

1st Sunday 9.30am Holy Communion; 2nd Sunday 9.30am All-Age Worship; 4.30pm in winter, 6.30pm in summer, Evening Prayer; 3rd Sunday 11.15am Holy Communion; 4th Sunday 9.30am Morning Worship; 5th Sunday variable. Contact Rev. Dr. Mandy Elmes 01206 240906, revmandyelmes@btinternet.com

Service of Worship, at Methodist Church, 11am, Morning Worship

Bowls Club, 7.30pm Orpen Hall. Contact Eileen Brown, 01206 243301

Monday

Bluebells Preschool, 9.15am - 3.15pm, Orpen Hall. Contact Jackie Leach 01206 241677

Parent, Toddler & Baby Group, 9.15-11.15am Term time only. Methodist Church Hall. Contact Kay 0788 527 0217 or Aimee 07881 349 395

Kelly's HIIT, 9.30am, St Mary's Church Hall. Contact Kelly 07453 859583

WB Art Group, 2pm Methodist Church Hall. Contact Mrs Pearce 01206 240200

WB Cubs, 6.30pm-8pm Scout Hut. Contact Charles Hart 01206 241666

Zumba Fitness, 6.45pm - 7.45pm Methodist Church Hall. Contact Mrs Clark 01206 272759

Gardeners Association, 7.30pm 3rd Monday. Contact Terry Claydon 01206 241256

SG Karate Club, 8.30pm-9.30pm Scout Hall. Contact Stuart Glister 01206 365150

Tuesday

Bluebells Preschool, 9.15am - 3.15pm, Orpen Hall. Contact Jackie Leach 01206 241677

NHS Primary Care Trust Baby Clinic, 9.30-10.30, Methodist Church Hall 2nd & 4th Tuesdays.

Beehive Children's Centre, Methodist Church Hall, Chapel Lane. 1st Monday of each month (Charlotte Wilkin visits the toddler group), 2nd & 3rd Tuesday of each month (Baby clinic). Clinic will run with our support as a drop in for families.

Communion Service, 2nd Tuesday, 11am, St Mary's Church

Slimming World, 5.30pm and 7.30pm John Lampon Hall. Contact Katie 0777 4003616

Kelly's HIIT, 6.30pm, St Mary's Church Hall. Contact Kelly 07453 859583

Badminton Club, 8pm-10pm Orpen Hall. Contact Ian Hersey 01206 243378/07754140707, or Vicky 01206 619258

W.E.A., 8pm, Methodist Church Hall. Contact Gill Poole 01206 240512

Wednesday

Bluebells Preschool, 9.15am - 3.15pm, Orpen Hall. Contact Jackie Leach 01206 241677

Coffee Morning, 2nd Wednesday, 10am. Methodist Church Hall

Ladies Afternoon Badminton, 2.30pm - 4pm Orpen Hall. Contact Carol Felton 01206 240126

Pats Pals, 2.30pm Methodist Church Hall

Wednesday Fellowship, 3rd Wednesday, 2.30pm, Methodist Hall

Women's Institute, 1st Wednesday, 7.15pm, Orpen Hall. Contact Susan Leng 01206 241748

Pilates, 7.15pm. Methodist Church Hall. Contact Mrs Clark 01206 272759.

Colne Valley Flower Club, 3rd Wednesday, 7.30pm, Orpen Hall. Contact 01206 241155

History Group, 2nd Wednesday, 7.30pm, Orpen Hall. (visits between April and September). Contact Gill Poole 01206 240512

Parish Council Meeting, 4th Wednesday, 7.30pm, John Lampon Hall
W.B. Scouts, 7.30pm-9.30pm, Scout Hut. Contact Kevin Sturdy 01206 240549

WB Craft & Quilters, 2nd Wednesday, 7.30 - 9.30pm, Orpen Hall. Details Marie-Louise Fuell 01206 240642

WB Knitting & Crochet Group, 3rd Wednesday, 7.30pm - 9.30pm, house group Meeting. Contact 01206 242015 for details.

Thursday

Open House, 9.00 -11.00am (in term time) St Mary's Church Hall

Bluebells Preschool, 9.15am - 3.15pm, Orpen Hall. Contact Jackie Leach 01206 241677

Zumba Club, 9.30am - 10.30am, Methodist Church Hall. Contact Mrs Sanders 07909521306

Pilates, 9.30am-10.30am, Scout Hut, Contact: Mrs Smith 01206 564348

5T's, 2.30pm-4pm Weekly, St Mary's Church Hall. Contact Murray Harlow 07989720256

Kelly's HIIT, 6.30pm, Methodist Hall. Contact Kelly 07453 859583

Pilates, 7pm-8pm Methodist Church Hall. Contact Mrs Smith 01206 564348

Bowls Club, 7.30pm Orpen Hall. Contact Eileen Brown 01206 243301

Colchester & District Model Railway Club, 8pm, Armoury Farm. Contact www.colchestermrc.org

Friday

Bluebells Preschool, 9.15am - 3.15pm, Orpen Hall. Contact Jackie Leach 01206 241677

Kelly's HIIT, 9.30am, Methodist Hall. Contact Kelly 07453 859583

W.B. Beavers, 4.45pm-6.00pm, Scout Hut. Contact Charles Hart 01206 241666

WB Concert Band, 6pm-7pm (Training) 7pm-9pm (Band), Heathlands School. Contact Karen Wilson 01206 824157

W.B. Cubs, 6.30pm-8.00pm, Scout Hut. Contact Kevin Sturdy 01206 240549

Bergholt Youth Goup (BYG), Alternate Friday, 6.30pm-8pm, John Lampon Hall. Amber Harlow 01206 242007

Wired, 1st Friday, 7pm-9pm, St. Mary's Church Hall. Contact Mark Partridge 01206 241617

Orpen Players, 8pm Orpen Hall. Debbie Hornigold 01206 242111

Saturday

NEEGOG Model Railway Club, 2nd Saturday, 2pm, St Mary's Church Hall. Contact Martin Long 01206 240443