

village bulletin

March 2013

Issue 133

www.westbergholt.net

West Bergholt Sports Club

After a full year “under new management” it is pleasing to note that the West Bergholt Sports Club (WBSC) tennis and football activities have continued, and indeed flourished in the last twelve months, with fifteen families continuing to take out yearly membership, regular tennis coaching taking place and weekly usage by five aside football teams as well as the odd game of basketball played by members of the Bergholt Youth Group. High levels of informal usage, as recorded by the booking system at the Co-op, is evidence of the continuing enjoyment of the community, no doubt inspired by the recent successes of Andy Murray, Heather Watson and Laura Robson.



As part of trying to ensure that the legacy of the Olympics and the fantastic 2012 summer of sport is alive and well in our village, the committee of the WBSC is keen to see the use of the courts continue and flourish in 2013. To that end the committee reminds all members of the community that you can join as a family for just £45 per annum, as well as being able to book up individual sessions for a cost of £4 per hour for tennis and £8 per hour for football – just ask for the booking ledger at the Co-op and pay over your remittance to include lighting token as required.

Should you require any further information in respect of the above contact:

Chris Stevenson, Chair of the WBSC (cdstevenson@gmail.com or 01206 241708)

Harry Stone, Secretary of WBSC (stone@vindens@gmail.com or 01206 241026)

The club is very informal in nature but we are keen to set up one or two more organised activities so look out for notices advertising an “open day” of tennis being arranged for May or June, where we hope to arrange a mini-competition or some coaching opportunities. However in the meantime, and as we begin to see the occasional ray of sunshine after all the snow and the rain, it’s time to wind up that service and get your muscles in trim for running around the court once more or thumping in the winning goal after a mazy run from the midfield.

**Do you want to influence the future of West Bergholt?
Then we want YOU!**

See page three for information

the village bulletin *information*

PROVIDED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL OF WEST BERGHOLT

Chairman

John Gili-Ross
67 Mumford Road,
West Bergholt
☎ 242 236



Vice-Chairman

Bob Tyrrell
43 Albany Road
West Bergholt
☎ 240 016

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Jenny Church	Doran, Hall Road	☎	240 792
Bernard Colbron	64 Mumford Road	☎	240 297
Murray Harlow	25 Valley Crescent	☎	242 007
Andrew Savage	6 Garling Walk	☎	242 015
David Short	60 Albany Road	☎	241 715
Chris Stevenson	74 Mumford Road	☎	241 708
Harry Stone	Vindens, Chapel Lane	☎	241 026
Rachel Young	1 Ormonde Close	☎	240 360

PARISH WORKING COMMITTEES

<i>Premises and Recreation</i>	Bernard Colbron, Jenny Church, Harry Stone, Rachel Young
<i>Environment and Highways</i>	David Short, Jenny Church, Harry Stone, Rachel Young
<i>Planning and Development</i>	Chris Stevenson, Andrew Savage, Bob Tyrrell
<i>Finance and Personnel Advisory</i>	Andrew Savage, John Gili-Ross, Chris Stevenson, Harry Stone

CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

Val Walsom
17 Armoury Road, CO6 3JN
☎ 240 149
The Parish Clerk is available for Parish business at any reasonable time, but in particular on Tuesday evenings.

ORPEN HALL ADMINISTRATOR

Vicky Beckworth-Cole
email: victoria.cole@btinternet.com
☎
The Administrator is available to deal with enquiries at any reasonable time. Bookings should be made at the Hall on Thursdays between 7pm and 8pm. Please use the old side entrance.

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

Marcus Harrington	Barn End, Cooks Hall Lane	☎	241 411
Dennis Willetts	dennis.willetts@btinternet.com	☎	240 314

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Anne Brown
email: Cllr.Anne.Brown@essexcc.gov.uk

Parish Council monthly meetings are held in the John Lampon Hall on the fourth Wednesday of every month starting at 7.30pm. Prior to the start of the meetings, between 7.15pm and 7.30pm, the public are invited to raise any item for consideration by the Parish Council at its next meeting.

The village bulletin is funded by the Parish Council as part of a community service. It is issued quarterly and distributed to every household in the Parish. The views expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Parish Council.

Do you want to influence the future of West Bergholt?

Are you interested in shaping your local area,
deciding where new homes, shops and other facilities will go
and what they might look like?

Then have your say and get involved with the
Neighbourhood Plan Group.

So what's happened so far?

At the end of November 50 people gathered at the John Lampon Hall to discuss village issues with the aim of starting the process of establishing a Neighbourhood Plan for our area. The workshop proved to be a great start. The meeting divided into small groups to outline specific likes and dislikes that they felt to be important to the village. These were analysed and grouped under the following headings:-

Social and Community
Commerce
Transport and Highways

Environment
Housing and Planning
Recreation and Sport

Amenities
Community and Safety
Communication

Following the workshop more than a dozen interested residents convened the Neighbourhood Planning Group to get the Neighbourhood Plan under way.

Now this is where you come in - any interested village residents who would like to contribute in some way or find out more can contact the following for more information:-

Chris Stevenson - email cdstevenson@gmail.com or tel. 241708

Murray Harlow – email murray123@live.co.uk or tel. 242007

Retirement of the Hall Administrator

As many of you know, in December 2012 June Mayhew retired as Orpen Hall Administrator, a post she had held for 27 years. In all that time she has overseen many alterations to the way the buildings look as well as an increase in the number of clubs/societies and private hirers now using them.

At the start of each year, members of the Bulletin team invite the people who make the deliveries to a 'thank you gathering'. This time we also invited June to include her retirement farewell and say thank you for all the work she has done for the village over the years.

John Gili-Ross, Chairman of the Parish Council, presented June with a garden fountain (still boxed), a plant and some garden centre vouchers. We had found out that she enjoys gardening!

June thanked everyone and said that she will miss meeting all the people that hire the hall. She also thanked all the clubs for their kind words, cards and gifts that she had received over the last few months.

Vicktoria Beckworth-Cole has taken over from June as Hall Administrator. Details on page 2.



June Mayhew pictured with
Val Walsom (the Clerk to the Parish Council)

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Bergholt Heath Youth Football Club



It's half-term in the football world.

The Under 8's continue their quest for their first victory of the season. The team are putting in some great performances but without the success they deserve. They did however taste success at the Xmas event beating the Under 10's at Quasar! Due to the December break and bad weather in January, not many games have been played recently.

It seems that the repair to the pitch following the village bonfire has been successful and the Under 8's and Under 10's can now play on it. The issue for both pitches is still the amount of faeces on them so if you are a dog-walker please respect the fact that youngsters are playing football each week.

The under 10's started the new year in 7th place. Due to several games in hand (and some good play hopefully) they could improve on this and leapfrog their way up the table. The boys have really started to gel and hopefully they can carry this on to the end of the May.

Next season they move up to the revised 9 a side format. As long as we can accommodate the new size pitch required we will be on the lookout for a couple of players to complement the squad.

The Under 14's season is turning around – having won their last 4 matches. No doubt they are looking forward to their end of season tour.

The Under 18 team are enjoying their most competitive season ever in Division B. The teams are well matched with some good games against some competitive teams. Funnily enough there has also been a much more sporting ethos amongst the teams they have played this year, which has been nice. Perhaps philosophically speaking, that is part of growing up - managers as well as players!

With good weather in September, October and November they have played 13 games in total. In the league they have won 4, drawn 3 and lost 5. They stand 5th in the league and are also through to the quarter finals of the league cup, having won through two rounds.

The weather in December and January has, of course, been much less propitious, with heavy rain and then snow and they have only played twice. This has probably been a good thing as they have suffered from a spate of injuries with broken ankles, dislocated shoulders (both rugby!) car crash injuries as well as persistent hamstring and groin niggles, all meaning that a theoretical squad of 16 has been reduced to 11 or 12 on match days.

With all of the team under 18, as opposed to under seventeen, this is the last year in the league and it is excellent that the team, originally managed by our Club Sponsor has played all the way through!

Finally we are scheduling our Awards Evening for Saturday 8 June. "Hope to see you there!"

Leslie Wright

West Bergholt Traffic Safety Plan

Last summer the Parish Council adopted a Traffic Safety Plan which has its origins in the Parish Plan and has as its aim an enhancement of levels of safety in the village. This plan has been developed by the Environment and Highways Committee of the Parish Council as a result of the ongoing and increasing concerns of village residents. A principal objective of the traffic plan is to improve all aspects of safety in the region of Heathlands School and the surrounding feeder roads. To achieve this measures are needed that will help to slow traffic, restrict parking that is irresponsible in dangerous areas and at the same time provide alternative parking for parents who find it necessary to use a car to transport their children to school.

The plan contains a number of proposals for relatively minor structural work in New Church Road and School Lane. These include parking restrictions at the junctions at each end of New Church Road, better signage to improve awareness of the school and a build out from the footpath from Mumford Close. These plans have now been considered for implementation by the Local Highways Panel and it is good to report that all have been approved. It is pleasing to know that if ideas that come forward from the village are put into a plan and discussed with the authorities concerned they can be developed into realistic projects. As yet there is no news of when the work will take place but the village will be kept informed.

For its part the Parish Council has considered ways of providing alternative parking. The Orpen Hall car park will be resurfaced and facilities improved. The works mentioned above will enhance safety for the walk from the car park to school. The Treble Tile has agreed that subject to certain conditions its car park can be used at school drop off and pick up times. To make safe the walk from here to school a new footpath parallel to School Lane is being installed along the edge of Poors Land.

Throughout this process the Parish Council is in dialogue with the school to ensure that as these modifications are put into place maximum advantage for all concerned is achieved by them. A full copy of The Safety Plan can be obtained by E-mail from The Parish Clerk or Harry Stone at stone.vindens@gmail.com or alternatively it can be downloaded from the village website.

Library Times

The Mobile Library visits the village **fortnightly on a Tuesday.**

The stops and times for West Bergholt are:

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Queens Road	15.35 – 15.55
Chapel Road	16.00 – 16.45

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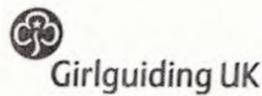
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1st West Bergholt Guides



We took part in the Gift Service at the Methodist church on 2nd December with the other units in the village, including the Rainbows and Brownies. The theme of the service was the journey Mary and Joseph made before Jesus was born. During the term Mary, Joseph and their trusty donkey (woollen toys) visited all the organisations and groups within the village. They joined in with what the groups were doing at the time of their visit including cooking Yule Logs with a top chef from London and the Sleepover with the Brownies, Guides and Senior Section at the Town Hall. They even had their picture taken with the Queen in the background!

During the service we all donated gifts to Colchester and Tendring Women's Refuge and Beacon House. We have received copies of very nice letters received back from them thanking everyone within the village for their support.

This year we made some very unusual gifts for Christmas, including beeswax candles and Christmas crackers.

We finished the term with a party for the Guides. We divided the Guides into teams and held a Christmas Quiz. I never knew how competitive some of the Guides really were until then!! We were also going to play an old game called Musical Crackers – we had the crackers all laid out on two tables (no chairs around the tables) and then the girls had their party food – all supplied by the Guides, and very nice too! Sadly they all decided to sit at the table with the crackers on it and before we could stop them had pulled all the crackers. It was just too funny to say anything, and luckily we had enough crackers left for them each to take one away at the end.

This term is going to be very busy. We have already started on a 'Go For It called Blast From The Past'. The Guides have already done activities relating to going into space and what exercise and menus they would have before and during space travel.

We will be joining the District for Thinking Day on 23rd February at St Helena School, theme this year is Africa. We will also be fund raising for Comic Relief by having a Big Bake Off, Dressing up for £1 and a Guides Have Got Talent Show on 14th March. We will be finishing for Easter on 28th March and are hoping to have a visit from our London Chef once more to help us make something lovely for Easter!

We hope you all have a lovely Easter and we will be returning to Guides on 18th April.

Sandra Gates
Guide Guider 1st West Bergholt Guides
County Residential Adviser Indoor Guides & Senior Section

West Bergholt Women's Institute



November was an 'Open Meeting' at which the president welcomed ladies from eight local WI's and visitors making a total of fifty three, plus our own members.

Mr Furnival Jones travelled from London to talk about his career at the Palace of Knightsbridge i.e. Harrods. It was fascinating to hear about the history of the store with entertaining anecdotes about eccentric clients and their requests, including purchasing unusual animals and flights to the south of France.

Due to poor weather conditions our Christmas Party had to be postponed so we enjoyed a New Year Party instead at our January meeting. Frankie Coulter entertained with a variety of music played on his keyboard, and everyone enjoyed seeing the slide show covering events of the last two years of our WI events.

At the February meeting Dr Jane Pearson spoke to us about "Essex Hospitals before the NHS" which proved very interesting, including Essex County Hospital which was at the forefront of medical science in its early days. I think we all realise how lucky we are now with the NHS and wouldn't like to go back to those times.

Ladies – if you would like to come to the WI as a visitor, maybe with a view to seeing if you want to be a member, you are most welcome to come along to a meeting or two. They are always held on the first Wednesday of the month starting at 7.15pm in the Orpen Hall.

SOME USEFUL NUMBERS



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Pharmacy Chapel Road Telephone: 240352

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

Methodist Church Rev. Ruth Ridge
The Manse, Chapel Lane,
West Bergholt – 01206 242183

News Correspondent Jacqui Hunns
The Laurels, Firmins Court
Telephone: 240712
Email allanhunns@aol.com

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

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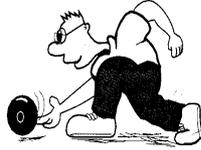
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West Bergholt Indoor Bowls Club



The 2012-13 season comes to an end on the 31st March. All the club competitions have been keenly contested and competed for. At the AGM there will be several matters for consideration.

We have competed in many friendly matches in the area with good results. Attendance on club nights has been quite good considering the snowy weather we have had this winter.

We would like to welcome some new faces to our club. At this time of the year we are able to give time to training new members to bowl, to enable them to really enjoy an evening with our club. Do come to the Orpen Hall on a Thursday or Sunday evening at 7pm, you will be made most welcome.

For more information call 01206 243301.

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Methodist Church News

After a very busy time of celebrations during December donations of gifts were distributed to residents at Colchester Woman's Refuge, Night Shelter and Beacon House. We enjoyed special coffee mornings and our Candlelight Carols with many of our members and village friends.

Our New Year Social afternoon in January was hampered by the weather and only a small number were able to attend, however the time together was very much enjoyed.

We look forward to our Easter Celebrations at the end of March. Holy Week Meditations March 25th - 29th are being planned around our sector churches with our Easter Day Service on March 31st at 11am.

Our next Quiz Night will be held on Saturday 20th April at 7pm in the hall. Remember to book your table early to avoid disappointment. Teams of four at £16 to include light refreshments. Telephone Judith on 241969.

Christian Aid Week begins on Sunday May 12th. If you are able to give some time to deliver or collect envelopes around the village this year please contact Susan on 241431. Further details will be on posters around the village nearer the time.

All our regular services, weekly and monthly events can be found on the Church Diary.

You are warmly welcome to join us at any of our gatherings.

Methodist Church Diary

MARCH

1st	Women World Day of Prayer at St. Mary's	1.30pm
10th	Mothers Day Service	11am
12th	Shared village Communion	11am
13th	Coffee Morning in Church Hall	10am
20th	Women's Fellowship Speaker Lydia Smith	2.30pm
21st	Bible Study at the Manse, Chapel Lane	7.30pm
29th	Good Friday Service	TBA
31st	Easter Day Service	11am

APRIL

9th	Shared village Communion	11am
10th	Coffee Morning in Church Hall	10am
17th	Women's Fellowship Speaker Mrs Jane Allison	2.30pm
18th	Bible Study at the Manse, Chapel Lane	7.30pm
20th	Quiz Night at the Church Hall	7pm

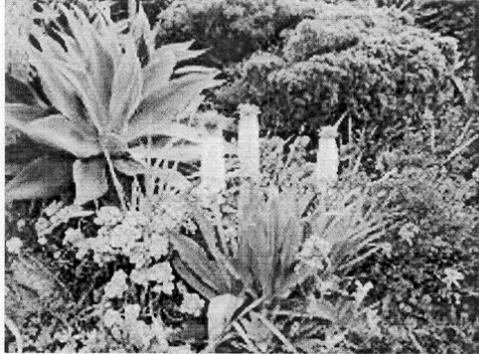
MAY

8th	Coffee morning the Church Hall	10am
12th	Christian Aid Week service	11am
14th	Shared Village Communion Members Meeting- 'Home Grown Items'	11am
15th	Women's Fellowship	2.30pm
16th	Bible Study at the Manse, Chapel Lane	7.30pm
	Regular Sunday Worship	11am

Rev. Ruth Ridge is available in the Church for quiet prayer or support from 9.30 - 10am each Saturday.

West Bergholt Gardeners' Association

Having just returned from New Zealand enjoying summer, I'd like to share this picture which highlights the agave and eucomis that star prominently in many Auckland gardens.



Following a January break our current year's programme will resume on 18th February when Ric Staines, HND. Cert.ED, professional horticulturist, will speak on *'The Magic of Plants'*. Ric has had a book published on both sides of the Atlantic, has a regular gardening column, and features as a long standing garden expert on BBC Radio. More recently, he has been working as a consultant helping the BBC set up local community-based gardening programmes across the country.

On 18th March we will welcome Michael Warren to showcase his horticultural photography portfolio on *'Climbers, Creepers and Crawlers'*. He started his career in a somewhat fortuitous manner answering a request from Adrian Bloom at Bressingham; and has also worked with the legendary Roy Lancaster.

Sarah Cook will present on *'Sir Cedric Morris, Iris Breeder'* on 15 April. She has the RHS National Collection of Sir Cedric Morris Irises that varies extremely and encompasses every colour and type. Cedric Morris was a 20th century artist, plantsman and bon viveur. Prior to establishing her iris collection, Sarah was head gardener at Sissinghurst for fourteen years.

Our annual Plant Sale will be held on 20th May offering a range of perennials, bedding and vegetable plants, small shrubs, etc at bargain prices.

We have a day trip on Thursday 13th June to Great Dixter House and Gardens, near Rye, East Sussex. <http://www.greatdixter.co.uk/> This was the family home of gardener and gardening writer Christopher Lloyd and is now a place of pilgrimage for horticulturists from across the world. The coach leaves the Orpen Hall at 9.00 am; departs from venue 4.30 pm. Cost £25 inclusive of coach, gratuity and admission.

On Wednesday 17th July we have organised a trip to Harveys Garden Plants, Thurston near Bury St Edmunds. This is a family run nursery and Chelsea Gold Medallists for rare and unusual shade and woodland plants. <http://www.harveysgardenplants.co.uk/> There will be a 20 minute talk by Roger Harvey, refreshments and 10% discount on plant purchases. The coach leaves the Orpen Hall at 1.00 pm and departs the venue at 4.45 pm. Cost £18.00 including nursery, coach and gratuity. Trips can be booked with Terry Claydon, Treasurer, on 01206 242124 – terryclaydon@aol.com

All our meetings are held in the Orpen Memorial Hall, Lexden Road, West Bergholt at 7.30pm. We are a friendly club and always welcome new members and visitors. For further information contact either Valerie Lofthouse, 01206 855450 – valerielofthouse1@hotmail.co.uk or Terry Claydon.

Valerie Lofthouse, Chair



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St. Mary's Church

It was a busy start to 2013 at St. Mary's with Christingle Groundbreakers on 4th January for primary aged children and a Seniors Lunch on 19th January. Also we were very pleased to welcome Archdeacon Annette Cooper to lead our worship on 6th January, following Bishop Christopher who led the Christmas morning service. Our home Bible study groups recommenced after the Christmas break too.

Dates for your diary looking forward are:

- Wired – Youth Group – 1st March, 12th April, 10th May
- 10th March – Mothering Sunday Service at 9.30 am with children from Heathlands School
- 21st March – Annual Parochial Church Meeting at 8pm in the Church.
- 24th March – Palm Sunday morning worship at 9.30am
- 25th March – Heathlands School Easter services in Church during the morning
- 28th March – Maundy Thursday supper with Holy Communion 8.00pm
- 29th March – Good Friday meditation at St. John's, Great Horkesley – 10.30am
- 30th March – Groundbreakers Holiday Club 10-12 noon for primary aged children.
- 31st March – Easter Family Worship followed by Easter Egg hunt – 9.30am
- 28th April – St. George's Day parade service 9.30am
- 12-18th April – Christian Aid Week
- 9th May – Ascension Day – Holy Communion 8pm

We will be holding a Lent Bible Study Group on 26th February, 5th March, 12th March and 19th March in the Church Hall from 8pm which will be looking at the theme of prayer. All are very welcome to come along.

Regular events at St. Mary's are:

Open House and Squeals on Wheels (singing, Bible story and toys for pre-schoolers and their carers). Drop in for coffee, cake and chat 9-11am (term time)

5T's - On 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursdays in the month. Come and enjoy afternoon tea and a chat.

Services are at 9.30am on Sundays and Family Service which is suitable for all members of the family is on the 4th Sunday in the month.

Our website – which includes details of the Church Diary is www.sites.google.com/site/stmaryswbergholt/

More details of what's on can be found in *Good News*, St. Mary's monthly newsletter. To get *Good News* delivered to your home, please contact Kate Wilson on 752056.



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The Friends and the Village Bulletin

For some reason I started keeping the Village Bulletin in March 1994 (Issue No. 57) and therefore, when I decided to browse through them to find mention of the Friends, this is where I started. And it couldn't have been better – the first article I saw was:

HILL HOUSE WOOD APPEAL

We did it! Or should I say, YOU did it! Many people said it was impossible (there were times when the organisers thought so, too), but between us we raised £34,000 in six weeks!

And it continued to describe the process for buying the wood, on behalf of the Woodland Trust, through so many people's generosity.

And then, in June 1996, the Bulletin reported that **'Joe Firmin, West Bergholt's well known naturalist, has had a country walk named after him. The Parish Council has agreed that it should be known as "The Joe Firmin Walk".'**

This is of interest as Joe was already providing the Friends with much expertise, reporting in the following December issue **'that a colony of white-letter hairstreak butterflies was discovered on elm trees in the wood during the summer. There was a colony of this uncommon species in the wood in the 1950s and early 1960s, but it had apparently died out when elm disease destroyed many of the trees.'**

In addition, during the following year, Joe started providing the regular article under his own name. This has continued until recently when, due to some health issues, Joe has decided to take more of a back seat for a time. Therefore I will be standing in which means that you will notice a dramatic fall off in expert knowledge being provided in our forthcoming articles!

Andrew Savage, Chairman

SNOW PATROL

Congratulations and thanks are in order to pass on to the group of 20 volunteers who worked hard to keep pavements in key areas of the village cleared during the snow and ice that came in January, helping to keep the areas safer for all of us.

More volunteers would always be needed if we have any further snowfall this winter.

Contact - Harry Stone (Organiser) Tel. 241926



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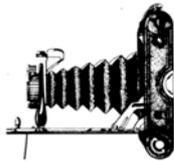


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West Bergholt History Group

In November Peter Jones chose Trams in Colchester, a subject which drew in more visitors than usual. The many excellent slides accompanied by his usual high quality, friendly presentation proved a fitting end to 2012.



The group took a Christmas break in December.

To celebrate the New Year, in January we had Mulled Wine and nibbles as well as tea and coffee. John Worland returned to continue the story of Ursula Kemp. It was particularly interesting to hear how involved his research had been.

In February, once again group member Peter Jones will step in at short notice and tell us about the L33 – The story of the Little Wigborough Zeppelin.

The annual meeting in March will be followed by a local history film.

Contact Bernard Colbron on 240297 for details.

West Bergholt Badminton Club

The Badminton Club 'still' meets at the Orpen Hall on Tuesday evenings starting at 7.30 pm. If you are over sixteen and would like to join us, please come along and play.



We also have space for a limited number aged between fourteen and sixteen but please contact us on 240297.

Copy for the June edition should be received by 1st May 2013.

Late additions cannot be guaranteed entry

Submissions to any of the Bulletin team -
Advertising: Susan Swan - telephone 242319

Email: susan.swan@btinternet.com

Susan Leng - telephone 241748

Jane Williams - telephone 243636

Distribution: John and Nora Bates telephone 240741

All articles and letters are accepted on the condition that they may be edited.

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Attention all contributors

To be fair to all correspondents copy *must* be received in an editable format which allows changes to be made.

Wording sent in a 'picture' format, which cannot be styled and edited for the Bulletin, may be rejected. However photographs will still be welcome.

Friendship Club

We started the New Year in January with a talk by Mr. Collier who is a local gemmologist. Two weeks later twenty-one members met at 'The Cricketers' for a very nice lunch. In February we have advice/talk from a 'Legal Beagle' and a talk on Beatrix Potter.



There are a number of talks and outings lined up in the next few months, so why not come and join us every second and fourth Thursday afternoon between 2pm and 4pm at the Orpen Hall. We look forward to seeing you if you are over 55 years (men and women).

For further information telephone 240824.

Allotments

At the start of the new growing season a few plots have become available. Most are five rod plots for which the annual rent is £15 or £9 for over 60s. A few half size 'Taster Plots' for newcomers are also available. This is a good time to take up growing your own vegetables and if anyone new to the practice needs help there are plenty of seasoned gardeners to offer advice. If interested please contact Terry Claydon on 242124 or Email TerryClaydon@aol.com



CHARITY NO: 299094

The Care Network is holding its Annual General Meeting in the JOHN LAMPON HALL on Wednesday 10th April at 7.30pm. Please note the change of venue from previous years. All residents are welcome to attend including those that use the Care Network Service or may be considering becoming a volunteer.

The Care Network is there to help any residents of the village, whatever their age, to get to appointments if transport is needed and other means are not possible or available. Most of our journeys are to the Doctors' Surgeries or the Hospitals but other local appointments can be considered.

Telephone the number below for the day on which you make your call. Try to phone at least a day or two before you need transport. If there is no reply please try any other number but do not leave answer-phone messages as we are unable to respond to these.

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Wednesday	247016	Thursday	240569
Friday	240167	Saturday/Sunday	242075

If you are interested and are able to help please contact Harry Stone on 241026.



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Orpen Players

Dick Whittington



This year's pantomime from the Orpen Players was a spectacular and sumptuous production with striking sets and fabulous costumes, directed, designed, painted and written by Peter Cox. The traditional story was brought to life by a talented group of performers led by Scott Sophos in his second year as Dame. His Nigella Noodles was both humorous and striking and a big hit with the audience. He was ably supported by Michael Poole as Alderman Fitzwarren with Ann Sexton as his housekeeper and Ben Maytham endeared himself to the kids as Bert. Holly Snowling and Paul Reed played opposite each other as Fairy Campanola and Ratzo respectively to great effect. Dave Elliot and Robin Warnes too were very funny when aboard 'The Saucy Sal' on the high seas. Phoebe Stringer and Kim Bennett made a delightful pair as Dick and his faithful cat companion Catalog. Great performances came from the rest of the cast; too many to mention in this short report but they must take great pride in the success of the show.

Finally two more people deserve mention: Darcy Blake who came in at short notice to play the keyboards and Jenny Deal who conjured up a fabulous set of costumes. All in all a very colourful production that entranced its audience and continued the proud tradition of the annual West Bergholt pantomime.



Members of the cast of Dick Whittington

Join us in May for **Alan Bennett's Talking Heads** directed by Michael Poole - 9th 10th 11th May 2013

'Alan Bennett has an eye for what the rest of us fail to see, a nose for the absurd, and the perfect pitch. Bennett's series of moving affectionate monologues have become drama classics. The poignant, perceptive and comic stories venture beyond their characters suburban normality into loves of secrets, revelation, fears, crimes and passions'.

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West Bergholt Concert Band

- 35 Years and Counting



This year will be an exciting one for the band, with numerous concerts and special events to mark the band's 35th anniversary. We start the year at the West Cliff Theatre in Clacton with a "Mancini to Miller" concert full of new arrangements such as Legends of Jazz, Sinatra!, The Best of Carole King and I Dreamed A Dream featuring local singer Kathryn Peacock. We'll also be playing some of our old favourites from Gershwin and Disney through to Andrew Lloyd-Webber. Sunday 17th March – 3:00pm – West Cliff Theatre, Clacton. Tickets from the Box Office.

The first of our summer concerts takes us back to the West Cliff for a "Strictly The Last Night Of The Proms" concert. After a sequined first half including Mambos, Waltzes, Paso Dobles and Bossa Novas we'll be performing the classic "Last Night" pieces, including Fantasia On British Sea Songs, Jerusalem and Pomp And Circumstance No.1. The audience and atmosphere at the West Cliff are always fabulous fun, so do come along for an entertaining afternoon of great music. Sunday 30th June – 3:00pm – West Cliff Theatre, Clacton. Tickets from the Box Office.

Our second summer event will continue the dance theme and also see the band performing in all its different configurations, including another appearance by the Dance Band that played at the village's summer Jubilee event, and a massed bands finale where Training Band and Concert Band will join forces. This "Dance & Listen" event will also (hopefully) see the audience showing off their dance moves, helped out by some of the band members...so it should be a fun evening.

Saturday 13th July – 7.30pm – venue TBC.

A quick look back at last year shows that it was our busiest ever, with seven concerts and various events with local schools taking our recent charity total to over £25,000. Our November Band Play Day was also a great success, attracting musicians of all ages and abilities, including some of the band's earliest members who returned to join us along with their musical children.

As always new players are very welcome to come and join us at Heathlands school on any term- time Friday evening. There's no audition, and the band's uniqueness is that we have players from 7 to 70, so there's always someone younger/older/worse/better than you. Everything you need to know about the band (including details of all our events, how to buy tickets, and how to join us) is on our website www.wcb.org, or you can call Graham on 01206 824157. We look forward to seeing you at some of our events this year...and wish you a belated happy new year!



West Bergholt Cricket Club

The winter still sees plenty of activity on the cricket front, with the Club playing indoor cricket in the BDICL under the Captaincy of David Applin. The team got off to a dazzling start with some impressive victories winning the first six games, although there has been a mid-season hiccup, which Applin will no doubt turn around.



Indoor nets started on 15th February at St Benedict's School, running though to 22nd March. Colts sessions run from 19.00-20.30 and adults from 20.30-22.00. All members and those interested in joining the Club are encouraged to come along to these sessions. For further details please contact me or view our website www.westbergholtcc.co.uk.

Our outdoor training and season will start in April and we will be hosting some pre-season friendlies, which are an ideal opportunity for new players to be introduced to the Club. For 2013 we will be running Kwik Cricket, U11, U13, U15, a Saturday eleven, a Sunday eleven, a mid-week side (playing on Wednesdays) and a Ladies side. A busy and hopefully successful season lies ahead

Simon Lockwood Chairman, 01206 243659 or lockwoods@willis.com

West Bergholt Football Club

We are just over halfway through the season, and both teams are going extremely well both lying in second place in their respective leagues. The reserves suffered a set back in December when manager Jimmy Michie resigned for personal reasons. This came at a time when they were playing really well and challenging for top spot. However, first team assistant manager Colin Knights stepped in, and the team continued their winning ways.



We have now been fortunate enough to secure the services of a former manager and player Jimmy McIntyre to fill the role and his vast experience in local football, including a spell as Stanway Rovers manager, should be a major asset to the club, Thanks must go to Jimmy Michie for his work in getting the reserves to the position they are now.

The snow was obviously a disruptive factor at the end of January with the league programmes cancelled for two weeks running, along with our junior coaching sessions, so there is bound to be a congestion of fixtures at the end of the season. This can work for or against teams, with the availability of players being a factor in producing results that don't follow form. So although the first team

are in second place and several points adrift, anything can still happen, and another title win is not out of the question.

Hopefully the junior coaching can resume, and as mentioned in the last Bulletin, we are in need of some help with these, so if anyone feels able to offer any assistance please contact us. Both the club and the kids would be most grateful.

On the social side, we had enjoyable events at Christmas and the New Year. Keep an eye on the website for upcoming events, football news and results.

To conclude, we look forward to a successful end to the season and hope to see as many people as possible on match days. We welcome new members, playing or not playing, to support the club.

Michael Bell, Chairman

Village Magazine Competition

Once again the West Bergholt Bulletin was selected for the finals of the Essex Best Village magazine of the year. And once again, we did not come in the top categories with a prize. The prizes were awarded to the glossy, expensive colour productions that always win. This is not "sour grapes" but many who were there felt that the same winners year after year, should perhaps step down, and allow other villages to compete more fairly.

When it was pointed out that the West Bergholt Bulletin is hand delivered to every home in the village and is also free to the recipients, many people were amazed. In many cases, those in the competition are just delivered to people who pay for the magazine, and in some cases, the magazines are free but have to be picked up from a local shop.

So it's thanks to our loyal distributors that we have such a widely read local magazine. But of course, there would be nothing to read at all, if it were not for our Editor, Bernard Colbron, who has produced the Bulletin for the past nine years. Thank you Bernard from your Team of helpers and the Distributors - we know you want to step down now, but we thank you most sincerely for all you have faithfully done for West Bergholt. Hopefully a new Editor will be found, and with Bernard to show the way, it should continue to go from strength to strength.

Susan Leng



THE CHURCHES CONSERVATION TRUST

St. Mary's Old Church

The old year closed with the village Carol Service conducted by lay readers Richard Chadborn and Michael Foster with Mike Neish at the organ and Jon Smith the worthy pumper. The church was cleaned and decorated for the event by the Friends Group and looked at its best. The service was well attended the carols were sung with gusto and the choir were amazing with their two pieces. Thanks go to Caroline Findlay and the choir members for producing such wonderful music. The retiring collection taken was very generous and will go towards the upkeep and maintenance of the building.

In 2012 the church had the highest number of visitors for a long time, the furthest travelled was from New Zealand. The comments in the visitor's book are very much appreciated and we would ask every visitor to sign the book on each visit as this affects the funding provided by central government to the Trust. Our website, which was co-ordinated by Jane Lloyd, is now up and running and will be developed further over time. It is directly linked to the West Bergholt village excellent website.

2013 will be a year of some note for the church. Already four village couples have chosen to have their big day there and hopefully we will see the building used more for weddings in the future. It is a lovely setting for anyone's big day. The Friends are also planning the annual Bluebell Opening to coincide with the splendid display in the adjacent wood. This event is planned in conjunction with the friends of Hillhouse Wood. There also are plans for a concert to be held in the building in the summer.

A programme of works required to keep the building in good condition has been written and costed at around £150,000. Although it seems a large figure, it is not unrealisable over several years. This amount would see the repairs to the premises done, the building redecorated, and would even run to the provision of heat and light and other utilities for the building thus extending its potential use for events in the future. The works required initially are to the roof where the lead flashing has deteriorated causing water to get into the walls. This work is to be done as a matter of urgency by the Trust so scaffolding will soon be erected around the building. Whilst the contractors are on site, opportunity will be taken to examine the tower structure to see if any urgent remedial work is required there. The Trust and the Friends group envisage a five year project period to deal with the major works identified, perhaps longer for the non-essential elements.

If any person who loves the old building and wishes to help with the restoration work by direct gift or perhaps a legacy, the Friends would be delighted to hear from them. As a charity any such donations are tax efficient for the donor. Other than any such windfalls, the Friends group

will continue to raise funds for the building so it will be there for future generations to enjoy and use. This may prove to be a long task but the results will be worth it.

In the meantime, the Friends welcome any villagers who would like to be associated with the building to join them. Membership is £5 for each family group.

Further details regarding the Church or the Friends Group on 240443

WI Fashion Show

Ladies are invited to the WI April Fashion Show to be held on Wednesday 3rd April starting at 7.15pm in the Orpen Hall. It will be presented by Edinburgh Woollen Mill with a range of their Spring Fashions, which can be bought or ordered. Admission is £3 which includes refreshments.



West Bergholt Community First Responders

We have eight active members in our group. Since September 2012 one member has left but we have gained Tom who lives in Stanway and is able to cover the West Bergholt area. He has completed his weekend training, spent a day with a paramedic on the Ambulance Rapid Response car and had his first call out which happened to be in Great Horkeley.

All active members successfully completed their annual re-testing in September with very positive comments from the examiner.

In November we were very fortunate to receive a £220 donation from Waitrose from their community token scheme. We have used the bulk of it to purchase combat trousers for each member plus a few spares for any future members.

A new call out system for community first responders has been commenced by the Ambulance Service. We have always had a dedicated mobile phone but instead of the initial contact being a personal call we are going to be sent a text message to alert us of a possible call. We then acknowledge receipt by text and set off to the address. We will always speak to a member of the control team before attending the patient to check that it is an appropriate call for a responder. It is hoped that this will speed the response time.

Compared with the rest of the county our call out rate is very low but even so we have never been able to cover 24/7 due to lack of members. We are always happy to hear from anyone who would like to be trained and join the group. Please visit our website www.west-bergholt-first-responders or call Annie on 01206 240469

Annie Neish Co-ordinator



Contacts and what's on guide

Orpen Hall - 80 persons John Lampon Hall - 20-40. To book Victoria.Cole@btinternet.com

St Marys Church - 60 persons Church Hall - 20-40 persons Vestry - 12 persons.
To book Phone Murray Harlow 07989720256

Methodist Church Hall - 20-60 persons. To book Phone David Kay 243 574

Sundays :

Service of Worship, 9.30am St Mary's Church.

Contact: stmaryswestbergholt@googlemail.com

Prayer Meeting, 10.15am 1st Sunday every month -
Methodist Church

Service of Worship, 11am Morning Worship -
Methodist Church. Contact: Rev. Ruth Ridge; 242183

Bowls Club, 7.30pm Orpen Hall.

Contact: Eileen Brown 243301

Mondays:

W.B. Rainbows, 4.45pm-6pm. Scout Hut

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 Group, 9.15-11.30am

Term time. Methodist Church Hall - 242431

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

TinyTalk Baby Signing, 1pm-2pm Scout Hall - Contact:

Debs Taylor 01376 573241 or deborah@tinytalk.co.uk

Zumba Fitness, 6.45pm. Methodist Church Hall. 272759

Zumba Exercise Club, 7pm-8pm. Methodist Church Hall.

Contact: Mrs Clark 272759

Tuesdays:

NHS Primary Care Trust Baby Clinic,

10am-11am Methodist Church Hall

Communion Service, 11am 2nd Tuesday
Methodist Church

Badminton Club, 7.30pm Orpen Hall.

Contact: Bernard Colbron 240297

W.E.A., 8pm Methodist Church Hall.

Contact: Mrs Hurley; 240791

Slimming World, 7pm John Lampon Hall.

Contact: Carol French 07946603939

Morning Prayers, 9am-10am Methodist Church.

Contact: Rev Ruth Ridge 242183

WB Knitting & Crochet Group, 7.30pm-9.30pm

1st Tuesday House Group. Contact: 242015

Wednesdays:

Little Ducks, 10am-noon St Mary's Church Hall.

Contact: Fay 262775

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, 7pm 2nd Wednesday Orpen Hall.

Contact: Bernard Colbron 240297

Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm 4th Wednesday

John Lampon Hall

Ladies Afternoon Badminton, 2.30pm-4pm Orpen Hall.

Contact: Pat Butcher: 242075

St Mary's Brownies, 6.00pm-7.30pm St Mary's Church
Hall. Contact: Amber Harlow 242007

W.B. Beavers, 4.45pm-6.00pm Scout Hut

Contact: Charles Hart 241666

W.B. Scouts, 7.30pm-9.30pm Scout Hut.

Contact: Kevin Sturdy 240549

Zumba Fitness, 6.45pm. Methodist Church Hall. 272759

Zumba Exercise Club, 7pm-8pm. Methodist Church Hall.

Contact: Mrs Clark 272759.

Pats Pals, 2.30pm Methodist Church Hall

WB Craft & Quilters, 7.30pm-9.30pm. House Group.

Contact: Marie-Louise Fuell 240642

Thursdays:

Squeals on Wheels, 9.30am-11am St Mary's Church Hall

5T's, 2.30pm-4pm 1st, 3rd & 5th Thursday

St Mary's Church Hall. Contact: Murray Harlow

07989720256

Friendship Club, 2pm 2nd & 4th Thursday Orpen Hall.

Contact: Jan Lumb 240824

Colchester & District Model Railway Club,

8pm Armoury Farm. Contact: www.colchestermodelrailclub.org

Zumba Club, 7pm Methodist Church Hall.

Contact: Mrs Sanders 07909521306

Bowls Club, 7.30pm Orpen Hall.

Contact: Eileen Brown 243301

Pilates, 9.30am and 6.45pm Methodist Church Hall.

Contact: Mrs Smith 564348

Bible Study, 2.30pm 3rd Thursday. Methodist Church

Hall. Contact: Rev. Ruth Ridge 242183

Fridays:

Little Ducks, 10am-noon St Mary's Church Hall.

Contact: Fay 262775

WB Concert Band, 6pm-7pm (Training) 7pm-9pm

(Band) Heathlands School.

Contact: Karen Wilson 824157

Wesley Guild 7.30pm 4th Friday Methodist Church Hall.

Contact: 241048

Bergholt Youth Goup (BYG), 6.30pm-8pm

Alternate Friday John Lampon Hall.

Contact: Amber Harlow 242007

Orpen Players, 8pm Orpen Hall.

Contact: Debbie Hornigold 242111

W.B. Beavers, 4.45pm-6.00pm Scout Hut.

Contact: Charles Hart 241666

W.B. Cubs, 6.30pm-8.00pm Scout Hut.

Contact: Charles Hart 241666

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

Contact: Mark Partridge 241617

Saturdays:

N.E.E. 0 Gauge Model Railway Club, Noon-3pm

St Mary's Church Hall - Contact: Richard Chadborn:
240541