

village bulletin

December 2012 Issue 132

www.westbergholt.net

Your Village needs YOU.

Are you concerned with speeding traffic through the village?

Many people in the village have complained about the speed of some motorists as they drive through the village.

Speedwatch is a small group of volunteers who have been trained by the local Police, and who are able to check speeds of vehicles using an official radar speed gun. We are able to go, when we are able, to locations which have been assessed as safe, and to note the details of cars or other vehicles travelling above a speed threshold. These motorists will then receive letters from the Police.

West Bergholt works on our locations include the B1508 (Colchester Rd), Lexden Road. Any session requires a minimum of two volunteers but extra people are helpful to collect details.

If you could spend a hour or so, when convenient to you, and would be interested in joining us, then could you let me know as soon as possible. If we receive enough volunteers, then we can arrange another training session with the local police.

We are not anti-motorist, most of us are motorists ourselves. Our aim is to get all to obey the speed limits, for the safety of all road users. There are many places with restricted views in our village, one motorist well in excess of the limit at one of these motivated me to get involved with this project.

If you are interested and would like to join us, please contact me as soon as possible by phone on (01206) 571910 or email anthony_robin@hotmail.com.

Anthony C Robin



The Bulletin Team
wish all our readers a
Merry Christmas
and a Happy and Healthy 2013



Winter Draws On

We may consider ourselves fortunate to have had only one bad spell of ice and snow last year. As a result of the efforts of a team of volunteers we were able to keep much of the village safely on the move by clearing pathways at an early stage.

The Environment Committee of the Parish Council is now making plans to repeat the operation should the same or worse happen again this winter. Naturally the more people that volunteer the more we can do to help ourselves. If you are prepared to help in this initiative please contact Harry Stone on 241026 or email stone.vindens@gmail.com

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

June Mayhew ☎ 240 694
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.



BALMORAL CASTLE

To The People of West Bergholt, Essex

The Queen wishes me to write and thank you all for the splendid card and kind message which you sent on the occasion of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee.

The Queen greatly appreciates your thought for her in this historic year, and wants you to know how touched she has been by the wonderful response to her Jubilee.

Her Majesty hopes you will understand that, because of the enormous number of messages received in the past few months, it has not been possible to reply to you until now.

I am to thank you all very much once again for writing to The Queen at this time.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Mary Forster'.

Lady-in-Waiting

2nd October 2012.

Reproduction of a letter received from Balmoral in response to our card of congratulations that was sent to the Queen for Her Diamond Jubilee.

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Friendship Club

We started the autumn session in September with a very interesting talk by Judy Alden entitled 'Snippets from the Middle East'. This was followed at the end of the month with an afternoon of quizzes.



In October members gave short talks on things that had happened in their lives and some very interesting things emerged. Also in October Mick Morrisey tested our brains with his well known quizzes and puzzles.

In the next couple of months we have a talk with slides by Dorothy Winter. Music, dancing and singing by the pupils of Heathlands School and, of course, our Christmas party.

We meet in the Orpen Hall every second and fourth Thursday afternoon between 2pm and 4pm.

We look forward to seeing you if you are over 55 years (men and women.)

For further details please telephone 240824.

West Bergholt Badminton Club



The Badminton Club 'still' plays 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 March edition should be received by 1st February 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

Editor - Bernard Colbron - telephone 240297

Email: bernardcolbron@btinternet.com

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.

New Editor Needed



After nine years of producing the West Bergholt Bulletin I have decided it is time for me to move aside and invite someone else to take over. I have enjoyed working on the Bulletin and probably will miss it.

I would like to thank all the people who have supported the Bulletin, including the correspondents from the various clubs and societies in the village.

The Editorship is now up for grabs.

Anyone who is interested on taking on the position please telephone the Parish Clerk on 01206 240149 or for more details telephone me on 01206 240297.

Bernard Colbron



It is good to report that the Care Network is thriving and now that more volunteers have been recruited we feel confident that we can respond to most requests for help with the transport.

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.

Monday	241103	Tuesday	242185
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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Light up a Life

Take time over the busy festive period to celebrate your loved ones by attending one of St Helena Hospice's Light up a Life events. These events allow you to reflect upon special relationships in your life, be it in remembrance or in celebration of a loved one.

We will be holding several Light up a Life services this year throughout the North Essex area. Each event includes traditional Christmas carols and readings.

Our events are as follows:

Wednesday 5th December 2012
West Mersea – 6:30pm.
The Parish Church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul,
West Mersea

Friday 7th December 2012
Halstead – 6:30pm. St Andrew's Church, Halstead

Sunday 9th December 2012
Colchester – 4:30pm. St Botolphs Church, Colchester

Thursday 20th December 2012
Colchester – 6:30pm. St Helena Hospice, Myland Hall

For additional information or to make a dedication to a loved one, please contact the St Helena Hospice Fundraising Office on 01206 791740.

Bergholt Heath Youth Football Club



The newly formed Under 8's have yet to find that elusive first win of this season, despite some close matches and good performances. As the season has progressed, the boys have definitely improved as they continue to learn their positions and get valuable match practice. Hopefully that first victory will soon arrive

The under 10's who had been top at the end of September had a difficult couple of games to start October.

Playing against the two title favourites in consecutive weeks they were defeated in both; the latter by their biggest ever margin.

They followed this up the next week, with a great passing game and came away with their biggest ever win 10-0. All outfield players have now scored this season and the team have surpassed last years league goals scored in under half the matches played. They currently lie third in the table.

The Under 14 team have had a mixed start to the season, under their new coach Simon, with wins, draws and losses. However there have been some very good

performances that didn't yield the result they deserved. One being the away trip to play Writtle Minors in the Essex cup. A game that saw the team dominate the play and pepper the home team goal without finding the net and then get caught with the sucker punch once in each half to lose 2-0.

The Under 18 team have made a solid start to the season with two wins, two draws and three losses. There are sixteen boys in the squad, all of whom are second year sixth formers. Many of the boys have played for the club since they were very small and are pleased to have played all the way through for Bergholt Heath!

It is the turn for our Under 14 team to go on tour next Spring. Simon has put his contacts to good use and is arranging for the boys to tour in Holland, playing local teams and also visiting the Ajax stadium. Many boys have already signed up and we might even undertake some fund raising for a change.

Finally - we have yet to arrange our Christmas treat for the teams. There is much discussion but no decision as yet!!!

Leslie Wright, Chairman

Library Times

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

The stops and times for West Bergholt are:

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

Queries about the service-telephone Answers Direct 0845 6037628

SOME USEFUL NUMBERS



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Pharmacy Chapel Road Telephone: 240352

Post Office Chapel Road (Half day Saturday)
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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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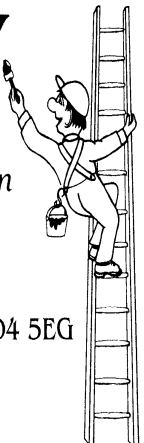
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Orpen Players

The Orpen Players production of 'Dancing at Lughnasa' by Brian Friel was a departure from the norm in that its staging entailed that some of the auditorium be taken up by extra performance space. The poignant drama that unfolded challenged the very strong cast and they rose to the challenge with aplomb. Two new members took roles; Donna Francis as the head of the Mundy clan and Kim Bennett as the rather simple Rose.



Both acquitted themselves admirably. Debra Hornigold as the exuberant ever optimistic Maggie probably stole the show and she was extremely well supported by her other two sisters Jenny Deal as Agnes and Frankie Wenden as Chris in her most emotive role to date. Of the men Paul Reed was superb as the narrator, Ben Maytham played an excellent cad as Gerry Evans and last but not least Father Jack was brought to life in splendid fashion by Colin Downer, he relished the role and it was one of the finest portrayals he has given. The show was directed in tandem by David Wenden and Andrew Bott both of whom coached and cajoled their terrific cast into an emotionally charged ensemble. Well done Orps – now for the Panto!

Don't miss 'Dick Whittington' our traditional fun for all family pantomime. Starting Friday 25th Jan 8.00pm, Saturday 26th Jan 2.00pm and 6.00pm. Friday 1st Feb 8.00pm, Saturday 2nd Feb 2.00pm and 8.00pm
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Register at www.orpenplayers.co.uk to receive our newsletter and you may now view our archive going back over 40 years!

Orpen Players

Last Posting Dates for Christmas 2012

Second Class. Tuesday 18th December
First Class Thursday 20th December
Special Delivery . . . Saturday 22nd December

West Bergholt Concert Band



It's been another busy and successful year for the band, which as always will be wrapped up with our favourite concert of the year, the Christmas Concert, on Saturday 15th December at 7:30pm. This year's programme includes brand new arrangements such as A Fireside Christmas, Christmas On Broadway and A Jazzy Christmas, which all feature classic Christmas tunes such as Winter Wonderland, I'll Be Home for Christmas, and The Christmas Song among others. We'll also perform a brand new vocal arrangement of Michael Buble's Grown Up Christmas List, together with some of our Christmas favourites such as Christmas Festival, Troika, Mary's Boy Child and Little Saint Nick, so please come along for what is always a cracker of a concert and a really fun evening of music. Due to a clash of dates, the concert has been moved from the village to St Peter ad Vincula in Coggeshall, so we're hoping our village supporters will come and join us at this beautiful and atmospheric church.

Prior to the Christmas concert, the band held a 'Play In A Band Day' workshop and concert for local musicians at St Botolph's on November 24th, with the concert in aid of The Mayor's Charities. The first half was again themed as 'A Youthful Concert' with Training Band performing music from Adele, Michael Buble and CeLo Green alongside pop and soul classics, whilst also featuring solos from some of our youngest musicians. For the second half, Concert Band performed music from '50 Years Of Film', including James Bond, Pirates Of The Caribbean and Cinema Paradiso. The day is the latest event in the band's ongoing mission to encourage and inspire young musicians, enabling them to perform the widest possible range of music in some of the best local venues, all whilst having a good time.

November also marked the start of the band's 35th year, which means we've held over 1300 rehearsals, performed over 130 concerts, and have raised £25,000 for local and national charities in recent years. We've got a number of events planned to celebrate our 35th anniversary during 2013, with different types of concerts at different venues, together with return visits to our favourite old haunts, so check the band's website for the latest happenings. This means 2013 will be an especially good year to join the band, and to help us replace a raft of members who will be leaving for University shortly.

If you're interested in joining the band, just come along to Heathlands School any Friday evening and we'll guarantee a warm welcome. We'll also be holding our termly Open Rehearsal on Friday 25th January where Brass and Woodwind players of all ages can come and experience the fun and enjoyment of making music amongst a great bunch of fellow musicians. If you'd like any more information on the band, please either call Graham on 01206 824157 or visit our website www.wbcb.org.

Finally, on behalf of the band, we look forward to seeing you at our Christmas Concert, and we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

1st West Bergholt Guides



So far this term the Guides have worked on four different cultures, America, Spain, China and India. Each patrol created their own board game divided into the four cultures. Within each culture they had to create a craft, find out what types of foods are eaten, what their national clothing is and a dance or song. The Guides also had to research in their own time to be able to put together questions to be able to move round their games. They all created amazing games, all different but all covering the same cultures.

Natalie Rogers, Hannah Lucey and Emily Blackman were awarded with their Jack Petchey awards from Lord Petre at a very inspiring awards ceremony at the Charter Hall, Colchester.

Isabel Salt and Natalie Rogers took part in their BP Challenge weekend away in October. They really enjoyed meeting new friends and taking part in their Adventure. This adventure celebrates what they have done in gaining their BP Challenge.

Last week one of the Patrols organised a party to gain their Party Planner Badge. It all went very well, including trying to eat giant ring doughnuts off string.

On 11th November we will be celebrating Remembrance Day with the other groups within the village at the Orpen Hall.

We will also be taking part in the Gift Service at the Methodist church on 2nd December.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

We will return to Guides on January 17th 2013.

Sandra Gates, Guide Guider

Allotment Update

Since the article about vacant Allotment plots in the September Bulletin a number of people have shown an interest in obtaining a plot and in particular the smaller five rod plots. At the same time it has become apparent that some of those showing interest are younger residents of the village who have enthusiasm but limited experience of growing vegetables. The Allotment Committee is keen to support such new plot holders and is proposing to introduce a "buddy" scheme whereby those who feel they need advice and help can be paired up with an established and experienced plot holder. We already have one example of this arrangement working well. If interested you can contact Terry Claydon on 01206 242124 or Email terryclaydon@aol.com

Harry Stone (Chairman of Allotment Committee)

West Bergholt Women's Institute



In September members enjoyed a talk from Canine Partners Assistance Dogs, helping people with physical disabilities. The wheelchair bound speaker brought along Guy, his dog, who demonstrated his skills used around the home and when out shopping.

Squares are being knitted and made up into blankets for the special baby care unit. In August five members who visited WI Denman College for the day spoke about their impressions of the house, gardens and teaching facilities during social time.

Mr Rick Boreman was the October speaker. He is a volunteer with West Mersea RNLI. With the aid of slides members heard about the history of the organization and the many incidents involving the Mersea lifeboat.

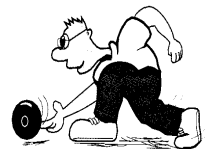
Members enjoyed a visit to Tiptree and Perrywood Garden Centre for lunch and a browse round.

November was an Open Meeting and members from six WI's were welcomed as well as visitors. Mr Furnival Jones from London spoke about his 41 years working at the Palace of Knightsbridge i.e. Harrods.

An average of 16 members attend the monthly coffee morning at the Treble Tile.



West Bergholt Indoor Bowls Club



The autumn season has seen lots of activity at the bowls club. Inter club competitions have been held on Sundays followed by a pleasant tea with a raffle. Members really enjoy the competitive edge these events bring.

There is also a good turnout for the friendly matches which George Coppin, our match man, arranges for evenings during the darker months of the year. We have played Gt. Yeldham, Prettygate and Boxted. County Competitions also occur at this time - we enter in all the disciplines with either two or three teams giving a good account of themselves.

We welcome new members and give free tuition to all who come along and enjoy an evening with us. We have bowlers from as young as eighteen to mature seniors. Come to the Orpen Hall at 7pm on a Thursday or Sunday evening you will be made most welcome or call 01206 243301.

Diamond Champion

Many residents will know that for about thirty years Bob Gooden has been a dedicated volunteer and supporter of this community. In his earlier days in the village he was a well respected scout leader, a Church Warden and a member of the Parish Council, as well as having oversight of the running of the allotment site.



Notable among his contributions to the village has been his part in establishing the Care Network over 25 years ago. Most significant is the number of jobs Bob has undertaken, often topping the list with up to fifty in a year. In this time he has clocked up 3,634 miles for the community and at the age of 86 is still going strong.

In recognition of his outstanding contribution to this village Bob was nominated, through the Parish Council, for a Diamond Award in the national scheme organized for the Prince of Wales and Duchess of Cornwall by the WRVS. This was run on a regional basis and Bob was one of 60 selected from 860 nominations in the Eastern region.

On 19th October Bob attended a ceremony in London where he was presented with his award by Patricia Routledge of "Keeping up Appearances" fame. A well deserved and fitting tribute to a stalwart of our village.

Harry Stone

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Colne Valley Flower Club



Our September Meeting was in the form of "Ready, Steady, Cook". Three members, Liz Clark, Joan Bunting and Jayne Lawson armed with the same bunches of flowers and greenery, produced very different arrangements in twenty minutes. This was followed by Sheila Greaves and Frances Chasney giving a demonstration.

For the October meeting, Brenda Eyres subject was "Autumn Delights" living up to their title, sourcing her flowers from a supermarket, proving you can keep costs down. Brenda said she was retiring from demonstrating as she is to be vice-chairman of NADFAS East of England Area.

Alan Smith from Ipswich, well known to our members, will be giving a special Christmas demonstration "Seasons Greetings" on November 23rd.

On December 5th there will be a Christmas workshop to make wreaths. Two sessions 2pm - 4pm or 7pm - 9pm.

At our AGM on January 16th Oggie Weldon will give a talk on "Couture Millinery".

We meet on the third Wednesday of the month at the Orpen Hall at 7.30pm. Contact Pat on 01787 227833 or Alison 01206 240262 or just turn up for a meeting.

West Bergholt Parish Council

Dear Sirs

I wish to express my thanks to Harry Stone and the Parish Council for nominating me for the "Diamond Champions" award for service to the community.

From over 4,500 nominees I was chosen to become one of sixty in the region.

The award was presented by Patricia Routledge at the Sloan Club in London.

I was invited to bring one additional adult to the event and I thank Harry for being my companion also the Parish Council for their assistance.

Bob Gooden



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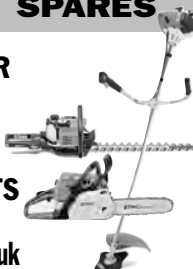
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West Bergholt Gardeners' Association

At the Annual General Meeting in September members unanimously re-elected Valerie Lofthouse as the Chairman. Speaker, Ben Potterton of Blacksmiths Cottage Nursery, South Norfolk gave an enlightening account on 'Perennials for Late Summer Colour'. He brought along a varied selection of aromatic flora, some more pungent than others!

The Association has recently donated funds raised from this year's plant sale to two village youth organisations and the East Anglia's Children's Hospices.

In October Tom Cole, Head of Faculty for Land Based Studies at Writtle College, presented on 'Garden Maintenance'. On 19 November Graeme Proctor spoke on 'Small Trees for Small Gardens'.



Barry Gayton's subject on 10 December will be 'Modern Day Conservatory Plants'; a buffet supper will follow.

Members are requested to pay a small charge and provide their own drink and glass.

After a January break, monthly meetings resume on 18 February for 'The Magic of Plants' with Ric Staines.

Large garden, small window box, devoted gardener, allotment holder or just a passing interest – why not join our gardeners' association. There's a warm and friendly welcome. Yearly subscription is £10; visitor entry £3.

For further information, telephone: 01206 242124 or 241038.

Email: valerielofthouse1@hotmail.co.uk



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The West Bergholt Parish Council website was entered into a competition and gained a Highly Commended certificate which is reproduced above. The website has recently been upgraded to improve the visual appearance and ease of finding information. If you can, why not have a look at www.westbergholt.net and see for yourself.

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St Helena's retail team looks forward to Christmas

St Helena Hospice is delighted to announce that they have a new addition to their shopping experience during the festive period, in the form of a pop-up Christmas shop. It opened at the beginning of October, directly opposite Sainsbury's at 29 Priory Walk, Colchester and will be running until the end of December.

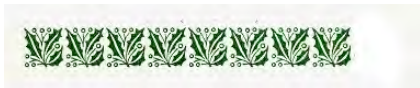
All the sparkle of Christmas will be on offer, with a range of Christmas gifts, toys and decorations. As we move nearer to the holiday season, there will also be a chance to meet Father Christmas and his helpers at the shop. It is the perfect place to stock up on all those essential gifts for all the family. Why not update your decorations and even meet Santa!

We'd like to thank everyone who has supported us throughout all our retail outlets this year, and we look forward to seeing you at Priory Walk!

For more information, please call the retail team on 01206 890170.

Did you know that our new shop and warehouse is open at Angora Business Park, Peartree Road, Stanway, and is operating from 9am-4pm, Mondays to Saturdays.

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Methodist Church News

The Womens Fellowship continues to grow in numbers. With a variety of speakers and an invitation to friends from Wycliffe Baptist Church to join us, members look forward to the monthly Wednesday afternoon meetings. The programme for the coming months is available from the Church or Rev. Ruth Ridge for more information. All ladies from the village are most welcome.

Our very popular **Quiz Night** in October was supported by many of our regular teams, as well as visiting groups from Colchester. The hall was full, competition was keen, but lots of fun with much laughter. Thanks go to our regular Quiz masters Michael and Anita. Look out for our next Quiz in the Spring and book your table early to avoid disappointment.

Great Horkesley church are holding a **Christmas Tree Festival** on 1st and 2nd December and we have been invited to decorate a tree for the display. We are not sure yet what our theme will be – Why not go along and see?

December is always a very busy time. We begin with our **Annual Gift and Parade Service** on 2nd December at

11.00 am. Uniformed organisations and parents from the village join us and donate gifts which are taken to the Women and Children at the Colchester Womens Refuge, Night Shelter and Beacon House for the homeless. We hope to make the Christmas Season happy and joyful for all.

Our traditional **Candlelight Carol Service** will be on Sunday evening 23rd December at 6.30 pm. Come and celebrate the Christmas Story with us and enjoy coffee and mince pies in the hall afterwards

We are joining with Eight Ash Green on Christmas morning at 10.00 am when the Rev Ruth Ridge will lead our worship. Other services will also take place on Christmas Eve at 11.15 pm at Marks Tey and Christmas Day at 9.45 am at Lexden.

A short quiet time of reflection with Rev Ruth Ridge will take place on Christmas Eve at 11.00 am in our church. Please feel free to join us.

Saturday 19th January is the date for our **New Year Social** from 3.00 -5.30 pm. An afternoon of fun and games for all ages. No need for tickets, Bring and Share Tea we supply coffee and tea.

All our regular services, meetings and coffee mornings will take place as usual.

Rev Ruth Ridge is available on Saturday Mornings 9.30 am – 10.00 am in the church for a time of prayer and support.

METHODIST CHURCH DIARY

- Dec 2nd Gift and Parade Service 11.00 am.**
Dec 11th Shared Village Communion 11.00 am
Dec 12th Coffee Morning 10 00 am
Dec 19th Womens Fellowship –
Carols and Tea 2.30 pm
**Dec 23rd Traditional Candlelight Carol Service
6.30 pm Followed by Coffee and
Mince Pies in the hall**
Dec 25th No Service West Bergholt. Sector
Service at Eight Ash Green 10.00 am
Dec 30th United Service at St. Marys 9.30 am
- Jan 8th Shared Village Communion 11.00 am
Jan 9th Coffee Morning 10.00 am
Jan 13th Covenant Service 11.00 am
Jan 16th Womens Fellowship – Mr M Foster
**Jan 19th New Year Social 3.00 pm - 5.30 pm
Bring and Share Tea**
- Feb 12th Shared Village Communion 11.00 am
Feb 13th Coffee Morning 10.00 am
Feb 20th Womens Fellowship – Rev Ruth Ridge
- Mar 1st Womens World Day of Prayer
Regular Sunday Worship 11.00 am

All our regular services, meetings and coffee mornings will take place as usual.

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West Bergholt Cricket Club

Despite the best efforts of the weather to stop cricket being played at the Club this season, I am very pleased to report that it has been a very successful one for WBCC. On the Senior front our Sunday side have won promotion and only narrowly missed out on winning the league, finishing a close second to Wormingford. Our Saturday XI finished mid-table with some significant wins, including a 232 run victory at home to a Witham XI. Our midweek side, who play in The Colchester Evening League, won the Division Two Chairman's trophy, beating West Mersea in the final. 2012 also saw Ladies League cricket being played at the Club under the captaincy of Helen Barnes, with notable victories against Sudbury Ladies and Mistley Ladies.



The Junior section of the Club goes from strength to strength. The Club ran Kwik, U12, U14 and U16 cricket this year with the U12's winning their league, particularly remarkable as the majority of the squad were playing up an age group. The Junior section has been represented at District level by; Cillian Rew, George Crowe, Samir Rhaiti and Matthew Rogers. Next season we will be running Kwik Cricket, U11, U13 and U15 cricket. The Kwik Cricket section is oversubscribed and operating a waiting list. Many thanks to all of the coaches but particularly to Neil Storey who gets to finally put up his feet after eight years as his players now move on to senior cricket.

The Club ran a successful Festival at the end of June, with the main events being a six-a-side tournament, won by the WBCC Evening League Side and a Kwik Cricket Tournament hosting several local clubs.

At the end of August we hosted the second Treble Tile Cup, a 20/20 tournament featuring WBCC, Camul CC and Great Horkesley CC. Camul were overall winners. Many thanks to James Howland-Jackson at the Treble Tile for sponsoring this tournament.

Finally the Club said a farewell to former Chairman Nigel Passmore, at our AGM in October. Nigel served as

Chairman and Secretary for many years and will be missed by the Club as he has moved away from the village.

Winter nets will be starting in February 2013 and anyone interested joining the Club can contact me

Simon Lockwood, Chairman
lockwoods@willis.com



West Bergholt Football Club



With the season now in full swing, both senior teams are having considerable success, with both lying third in their respective leagues two points below the leaders. Unfortunately the first team have been knocked out of the league cup, but the reserves are still in contention in their league cup.

Work carried out on the pitch in the close season has paid off. It is in much better condition than last season, with a much better grass covering. Thanks goes to the Parish Council for their financial help with this.

Junior training sessions are well under way on Saturday mornings, proving as popular as ever, and this in itself has given us a problem. We desperately need some adult help for the overworked trainers who give up their Saturday mornings to make this so successful. So anyone out there who could assist would be warmly welcomed.

Our all conquering under 18 side have unfortunately become too old for the competition, so we are currently without a youth side. Something we hope to remedy in the future. The up side of this is that several of that squad have successfully integrated into the senior sides, proving the benefit of bringing the younger players through.

Don't forget to get the latest updates on our website www.westbergholtfc.co.uk and we look forward to seeing as many people as possible on match days.

Michael R Bell, Chairman

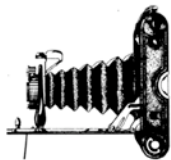


Newspaper Correspondent

Your correspondent would like to say that I send information to the Essex County Standard but now only one page is allocated for all the villages little is published. I do send items to the East Anglian Daily Times and reports to Dave Kingaby for the website.

Jacqui Hunns

West Bergholt History Group



Can you remember back in the 'summer' when the village celebrated The Queen's Diamond Jubilee? Well, the June Bulletin was advertising it and the September Bulletin reported it,

There were another two issues that lacked space for us. The History Group report needs to catch-up, so here goes.

Back in August 2011 we visited the newly opened museum at Boxted Airfield to view their collection of memorabilia of the wartime airfield.

In September, Christine Edwards came to give us an interesting talk about War Memorials.

In October we welcomed back Patrick Denny for another of his excellent talks. This time he spoke about the history of the Colchester cloth trade and managed to very clearly explain the fulling process.

Following his very successful talk in September 2010 when he stepped in at very short notice, we were pleased to have actually 'booked' Peter Jones for November. His presentation was on old mills in the nearby area, which we all enjoyed. Luckily, he has promised more.

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

Now for 2012!

January saw our return to Orpen Hall when, to celebrate the New Year, we had cakes with our tea/coffee rather than the usual biscuits! Following our visit to Pitchbury Wood last May, our guide from then, Mitchell Mclean came to give a talk.

In February Don Goodman and Andrew White, from the Colchester Archaeological Group, came back to continue the tale of digging at Wormingford Hunting Lodge and the closure of the site.

Following the annual meeting in March, we had a talk by David Eniffer from Essex Family History.

Our first outing for 2012 was in April, when we returned to see the enlarged Combined Military Services Museum in Maldon where they have many new exhibits on display.

In May, Bures History Group arranged a guided walk for us to see some of the historic buildings there.

We returned to Sudbury in June for another walk with friendly Blue Badge guide Dianna James. This time she shared her knowledge on their section of the River Stour.

In July we went to Little Horkesley Church. During a wander round the outside, Brenda Green set us a quiz, then gave a talk on its interesting history before providing us with refreshments.

August saw us visiting the small but interesting local Museum in the heart of Coggeshall.

During a rain soaked September evening, we went to

Dedham Church for a guided tour. We were then shown some of the wonderful old books, manuscripts and artifacts stored in their archive room, which is not normally open to the public. The trek up the flight of 18 narrow steps was certainly very worthwhile.

We returned to Orpen Hall in October. Sean O'Dell gave an illustrated talk about the history of the River Stour navigation.

In November, Peter Jones is due to talk about Trams in Colchester.

In keeping with tradition, we will not be meeting in December and that will then bring us to 2013.

Bernard Colbron telephone 240297.

Village Bulletin

The Bulletin Team apoligises for cancelling the 2012 Bulletin Quiz. Unfortunately the arranged date coincided with the Heathlands School fireworks display.

The team will get together and arrange a date for the quiz in 2013.

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St. Mary's Old Church

The Friends Group has been in existence for just over a year and now consists of some 70 supporters and their families within the village. Of course more are always welcome.

The Church has been open throughout the summer and has received visitors from as far away as Canada and New Zealand. The lovely comments left in the visitors book are very rewarding to those who help maintain the church. The numbers of visitors seem to be increasing and this trend is very welcome. Please remember to sign the book if you go to the Church as the Churches Conservation Trust is partially funded on the basis of the numbers of visitors who go to their churches.

We are pleased to report that several couples have chosen or are contemplating having their weddings at the Church in 2013. We are delighted that our wonderful old building will be a major part of their celebrations and will thus be part of the memories of their big day. It all adds to the sense of history as they make their promises following countless thousands of villagers over the centuries. If any village couple are thinking about their wedding then please consider using the Church. The contact number is below.

The Friends have been given a report on the state of the building which was carried out by the Churches Conservation Trust's authorised architect. For such an old building the structure is in reasonable shape but it does require quite a large amount of work to make good the ravages of the weather over the years. The amounts involved are significant and the group will be looking at ways of fundraising to assist the Trust in funding the remedial work required. A meeting is to be held with the Trust's Conservation Officer to ascertain priorities and timescales. If anyone would like to know more concerning this, the Friends group will be holding a meeting in February where the matter will be discussed. In the meantime if anybody feels they would like to materially assist the costs of the work required by gift or perhaps a legacy, the Friends will be delighted to hear from them.

The Group has plans to raise awareness of the Church within the village community generally by working with the School and other village and community organisations. We also hope shortly to provide more information on the village website (www.westbergholt.net) and the Churches Conservation Trust website (www.visitchurches.org.uk) so that the public are more aware of our wonderful building, parts of which date back to the tenth century.

The next big event in our calendar is the Candlelit Carol Service which is to be on the 16 December at 2.30. This

event is always popular and as seating is limited, early attendance is recommended. A collection will be taken, the proceeds of which are applied to the Church's maintenance. We hope to see as many of you as possible there.

Further details about the Church and the Friends Group are available from 240443.

Martin Long

Traffic Safety Plan

In recent years village residents have become increasingly aware and concerned by the deteriorating safety aspects relating to the level of road traffic in West Bergholt, particularly in the environs of Heathlands Primary School. Parked vehicles in and around New Church Road, particularly in the area of the school in term time, at school opening and closing times and around the area of the Co-op store are known traffic hazards.

In order to improve this situation the Parish Council has approved a traffic safety plan to address these concerns. The plan has at its core the following statement: "The Parish Council has a vision for the future travel environment in the village where walking and cycling become the preferred modes of travel, that traffic levels and parking do not dominate our village and that the safety of adult and child pedestrians remains paramount"

An enhancement in levels of safety, both perceived and actual, is the fundamental aim of this plan and its objectives are to:

- Improve all aspects of road safety for Heathlands School and nearby feeder roads.
- Manage traffic in a way that prevents congestion, delays and maximises safety
- To improve conditions for pedestrians and cyclists and maintain access to important travel destinations

It is felt that these aims and objectives can be achieved by restricting parking in the areas that present the greatest dangers while at the same time providing alternatives for parking, particularly those parents who find it necessary to use a car to transport their children to school. Means of slowing traffic are being considered while at the same time facilities are improved for pedestrians and cyclists.

These measures do depend on the support and agreement for funding of Essex County Council and Colchester Borough Council. Some progress has been made and it has already been agreed to construct a "build out" in New Church Road around the exit of the pathway from Mumford Close. This will provide extra safety for pedestrians and at the same time have the effect of slowing traffic. Better signage for traffic around the school is also being given high priority. Discussions are being held with the school to determine how the plan can assist in its efforts to ensure that pupils can travel safely to school.

A full copy of the plan can be obtained from the Parish Clerk or Harry Stone at stone.vindens@gmail.com



Contacts and what's on guide

Orpen Hall - 80 persons John Lampon Hall - 20-40.
To book Phone June Mayhew 240 694

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

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

W.B. Cubs, 6.30pm-8pm Scout Hut.

Contact Charles Hart; 241666

Mondays:

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

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 3rd 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 Club, 6.45pm-7.45pm
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.colchestermrc.org

Zumba Club, 7pm Methodist Church Hall.

Contact: Mrs Sanders 07909521306

Bowls Club, 7.30pm Orpen Hall.

Contact: Eileen Brown 243301

Pilates, 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: 2411048

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