

Village Bulletin

Issue 161 Spring 2020



www.westbergholt.net

The Care Network Spotlight...

West Bergholt Care Network was established in 1987 by a group of local residents and is now in its 32nd year.

The original aim was to provide through volunteers a range of support activities for those members of the village in need. The organisation was registered with the Charity Commission and adopted a constitution to reflect these aims. Under this constitution, a management committee of ten was formed.

Over the years, the activities of the Care Network evolved to focus on providing transport for any resident of the village who would otherwise have difficulty in attending medical appointments, mainly to surgeries and hospitals in the local area, although other needs such as a visit to the hairdresser are catered for. Not many villages locally provide such support for their needy residents but Boxted and Langham have used this model to set up their own scheme.

The service is well advertised in the village and a team of six telephone contact volunteers respond to requests by engaging one of the twenty or so volunteer drivers. A telephone call to the one dedicated number, 0300 777 3100, is automatically transferred to one of the contacts.

The service is free to clients but they are invited to make a donation. Their generosity is sufficient to pay the expenses of drivers and meet other running costs of the service. New volunteer drivers are always being sought, a minimum of twenty generally ensures one is available and if one cannot be found we have an arrangement with a local taxi firm, but this has seldom been used. If you have some spare time and may be able to offer to be a driver there is no minimum commitment! Please email carenetworkwestbergholt@gmail.com

Around 250 jobs are undertaken each year by the Care Network (that is about 8000 since its foundation). Positive feedback shows how much the service is appreciated by those that use it and it has been the feeling of the committee that despite ongoing publicity there are residents who are unaware of the service and could make use of it.

The Care Network is available to anyone of any age who needs help getting to the local surgery, hospital or other appointment such as physiotherapy, chiropody, optician, osteopath, etc. It is also available to take people to visit others in hospital.



Telephone 0300 7773100 to speak to someone who will arrange the transport for you. Transport is only provided within the local area, but in exceptional cases a longer journey may be considered. The Care Network always needs more driver volunteers to enable the service to work efficiently. If you are able to offer an hour or two from time to time, as much or as little time as you are able, please contact Harry Stone on 01206 241026.

If you would like to know more about what the Care Network had been doing over the last year, and plans for the future, you are most welcome to attend the AGM on WEDNESDAY 29 APRIL, at 7.30pm in the John Lampon Hall.

Welcome to spring...

Well, sort of! After the recent storms that have seen the village somewhat battered by wind and rain, the evidence that spring is on its way is beginning to peep out in the form of snowdrops and even absurdly early daffodils.

Filled to the brim with pancakes, we are now on the way towards Easter (where has the time gone already?) and hopefully better weather as we approach the VE Day celebrations to be held in May in the village to celebrate the 75th anniversary of this historic event.

We also have the Village Fete approaching in July so don't forget to save the date for another fun-filled day for the entire village.

Jacqui

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Social Club Room (during the day only). Contact hall-admin@westbergholt.net

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

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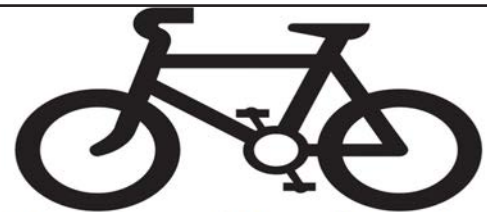
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West Bergholt Swift Project

The aim of this exciting project is to encourage swifts to West Bergholt by working together as a village to provide them with nesting sites. These fabulous birds spend only around ten weeks in Europe each year, but they bring with them the most wonderful sound of summer and spectacular aerial flights! In the past 20 years, the numbers of swifts visiting the UK to breed has halved due to a lack of nesting sites so they need all the new homes they can get.

The project started with a small appeal for support around a year ago, which has resulted in a plan to install swift boxes at the John Lampon Hall and Heathlands School, as well as eight private households. In total, more than 30 new swift boxes will be in place for this summer.

We are so grateful to the Parish Council for approving boxes to go up on the John Lampon Hall, and Heathlands School's own Eco Council held a special non-uniform day in February to fundraise for their swift boxes. More funds have been provided by Essex Wildlife Trust's Colchester Local Group, and The Locality Budget as requested by Cllrs Brian Jarvis, Dennis Willetts and Lewis Barber. Huge thanks to them for their support.



The boxes may take a little while to attract residents, however we hope the unique sights and sounds of the swift will be a regular part of our West Bergholt summer within a few years.

If anyone would like to volunteer their services to install the boxes at any of our sites before the beginning of May, we would love to hear from you.

For more information, contact 07887 724554 or search for 'West Bergholt Swift Project' on Facebook

A big thank you from T.W.A.M

You may remember that at the St Mary's stall at the Village Fete last year, we were appealing for contributions to Tools With A Mission by donating spare tools and equipment for training destitute people and setting them up in work, mostly in Africa.

Many of you responded to that appeal and a huge collection gradually built up. The photograph show some of the garden, woodwork, metalwork and car maintenance tools, together with sowing machines and cloth, school books and computers.



So, on behalf of St. Mary's, I'd like to thank all of you who contributed and assure you that your gifts will be much appreciated. THANK YOU!

Richard Chadborn

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The interior redecoration work has halted due to the discovery of the existence of wall paintings under the whitewash surfaces. These paintings are several centuries old and would have probably been covered over during the time of Oliver Cromwell and the Puritans who eschewed such ornamentation in places of worship. So at the time of writing we are in the hands of the conservation specialists who are evaluating the discovery and will be recommending what is to be done with the paintings. There are various options available, all of which will cost money thus presenting the Friends Group with further fundraising challenges. We awaited the decision of the experts with a degree of trepidation. It has now been decided that one of the wall paintings will be preserved as discovered. The remainder will be preserved under a suitable surface so that they can be restored in the future when and if the funds become available.

EVENTS SPRING/SUMMER 2020

- West Bergholt Concert Band, Sunday 5th April, 3pm. Enjoy our first concert of the year by our local West Bergholt band.
- May Craft Fayre, Saturday 2nd May, 11 - 4pm. An opportunity to display and/or sell your homemade crafts: Knitting, sewing, embroidery, pottery, beading, woodwork... whatever it may be. Apply to fosmochurch@gmail.com or Jane 01206 240167 or Gill 01206 240512 for registration forms after 1 March.
- Resonate Choir, Sunday 7th June. Don't miss this one – we're so lucky to be able to welcome this choir with its vibrant repertoire!
- Comrie Singers and Jubilant Brass, Sunday 28th June. Our annual concert given by this excellent Colchester choir.

Further details will be published nearer the dates.

The Friends group is open to all who love the church and support the endeavours of the group to see it used and become a focal point in the community. A modest membership fee of £5 is charged which does not bring any benefits other than the knowledge that you are helping to keep the old place alive for generations to come.

Further details from Martin Long, 01206 240443
Chairman

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Your Bulletin needs you!

The Village Bulletin is currently in need of more volunteer distributors to help deliver this publication every four months - March, June, September and December.

If you live in the village and can spare a couple of hours to help deliver the Village Bulletin, please contact Victoria Beckwith-Cole:

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Aileen Hirst
Director, Solicitor
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01206 217054
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Dear Reader When I am not enjoying time in West Bergholt, I am a Director and Wills and Estates lawyer at Thompson Smith and Puxon Solicitors. The Wills and Estates team in which I work acts for individuals and businesses, advising on planning for the future, including Wills and succession planning, Lasting Powers of Attorney, using Trusts to protect vulnerable family members and administering Estates when someone has passed away. Alongside Wills and Estates services the teams at TSP can also help individuals with Residential Property, Family and Divorce, Employment and Dispute Resolution matters.

Best wishes
Aileen

Orpen Players

Thank you to everyone who came to see our pantomime, Treasure Island. As well as all the usual panto roles there were pirates galore and the ladies from the Smugglers Cove Women's' Institute, all participating in custard pies, water pistol fights, and even the odd joke or two! We all had great fun putting on the performance and hopefully the audiences enjoyed it just as much as we did.

We were honoured to have three of the guides from the 1st West Bergholt troop join us on stage at the end of the first matinee performance to make their guide promise. Thank you to them for allowing us and our audience to share this with them.

Our next production, "You Had Me From Hello", is a romantic comedy written by our very own Colin Downer. Performances will be on Thursday 28th May to Saturday 30th May, so make a note in your diaries.

Our website is www.orpenplayers.co.uk. New members are always welcome, so anyone interested in joining us, whether its treading the boards, doing wardrobe and props, helping backstage or front of house, please contact us via the website or by e-mailing orpenmembership@outlook.com.



Baby and Toddler Group

We had a wonderful run-up to Christmas. Jo Jeffries, the Parish families worker, came to visit to talk about the nativity and organised a Christmas-themed craft with the children. We had local photographer, Hayley Jayne, come to take photographs of the children with a festive background, and the term finished with a fun-filled Christmas party delivered by Captain Fantastic and a visit from Santa!

The spring term has started positively, with the group welcoming lots of new faces. We are enjoying lots of craft activities including decorating biscuits, making Mother's Day cards, scratch-art bookmarks for World Book Day to name a few. We are also planning an event to keep us all active and raise money for Sport's Relief in March.

The committee continues to change as children grow and move on. As mentioned in the last edition, committee member numbers have dwindled recently and we continue to look for more volunteers to help keep the group running, whether that be by leading the singing, buying the snacks each week, helping set-up or whatever role people feel they can take on.

We continue to strive to provide a safe and welcoming group with lots of toys and a snack every Monday in term-time; a place where adults can relax, have a cuppa and chat about the challenges and triumphs parenthood brings and where children can play, have a snack and socialize with other children. Please do join us!

We meet every Monday in term time 9.30-11.15am at the Methodist Hall, Chapel Lane.

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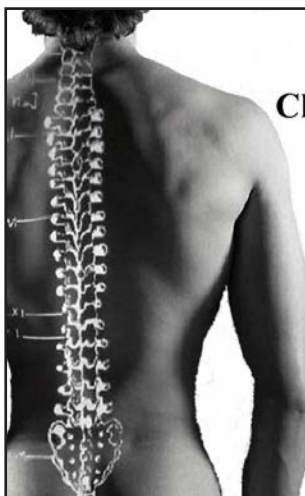
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The Tom Bowdidge Youth Cancer Foundation

Doesn't Christmas seem a long time ago? Once again, TBF HQ was opened for our annual Christmas Fayre. Several hundred shoppers attended and enjoyed browsing the selection of stalls on offer. The Foundation is always so well supported by people from across West Bergholt, Colchester and beyond and we can't thank you enough for helping us to raise over £4000. Thank you also to Leisure Hire for the marquee and to all the volunteers who worked so hard to make it such a success.



Our next big village event will be the infamous Easter Bunny Hunt. This is a firm favourite with young and old alike and gets everyone out exploring the village. A huge thanks goes to Knit One, Down

One and Jenny Noakes who are already busy preparing the bunnies to be hidden. Please get your friends and family involved over the Easter holidays and get hunting.



Richard and Nikki were delighted to be invited to the opening of the Collingwood Centre in November to see the Teenage and Young Adult space that TBF funded. They were thrilled with the finished area and knew that Tom would have been too. Make sure you check out the new TBF film which features their visit.

Remember you can keep up to date with all the news by following the Foundation on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram or check out the website www.tombowdidgefoundation.org.

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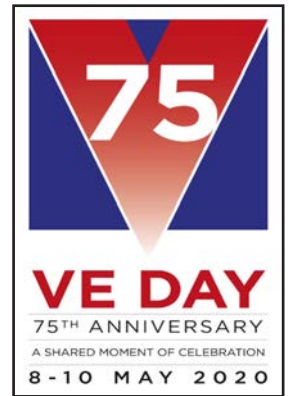
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West Bergholt's VE Day 75th Anniversary Celebrations 8th & 9th May

Centred around the Orpen Memorial Hall, the village will be celebrating the moment victory was declared in Europe by the allies in 1945 by organising four events across the 8th and 9th May, culminating in a firework display.



Collections will be taken throughout for the Soldiers', Sailors' & Airmen's Families Association.



On Friday 8th, a BBQ will be available from 3pm and the Social Club will be open throughout the weekend (serving teas & coffees). Chairs, tables and gazebos will be set up on the carpark. In the event of inclement weather, the below outside events will take place inside.

FRIDAY 8th MAY 2.45pm - Mini army adventure run for under 11s

Bagpipes will play at the start of this opening event to be held on the Lorkin Daniell field.

The event will be free to all. Fair stalls suitable for the children will be set up, e.g. hoop-la, tin-can alley, roll-a-penny, hook-a-duck, etc, at a nominal charge to cover costs, plus a bottle stall selling fruit juice. Face painting will also be available.

FRIDAY 8th MAY 5.30pm - Assault Course for BYG members

To be held on the Lorkin Daniell field, the event will comprise an army assault course on the field, camouflage face painting and chocolate fountain. A BBQ will be available, with "ration book" tickets for food and drinks.

The cost of the event will be no more than £2.50.

SATURDAY 9th MAY 2.30pm - Afternoon Tea for over 75s

This event will be held in the Orpen Memorial Hall, commencing with a military band recital/marching display on the carpark. There will be dancing to Glenn Miller and Vera Lynn, with afternoon tea and cake. Entertainment will also be provided by the Vocal Zones Choir by way of a musical interlude.

The event will be free, with 100 tickets available in advance.

SATURDAY 9th MAY 6.30pm - Evening film for over 15s

The event will be held in the Orpen Memorial Hall, by ticket sold in advance at £10 each, limited to 60.

The evening will comprise a war film, yet to be determined. A ploughman's dinner will be served with one free non-alcoholic drink each. A toast to the heroes of WW2 will be raised at the start of the evening and the Last Post played live at the end of the evening. Additional drinks, etc. will be available.

At 9.45pm a fireworks display will signal the end to the weekend's celebrations.

Please save the date to celebrate this unique occasion. Look out for posters around the village and posts on westbergholt.net for more details closer to the time. We look forward to seeing you. If you would like to help in any way, please email via westbergholtpc@gmail.com or call 07836 348955.

Brian Butcher
Chair of the organising committee

West Bergholt Scout Group

It's probably just a symptom of getting older but the Autumn Term went by in a flash. We pursued indoor activities through badgework and outdoor activities such as "survival skills" camp (Scouts), hikes (Cubs and Scouts) and archery (Cubs). The Beavers had a great day discovering science – including hands-on experiments - with others Beavers from the District. The Scouts really enjoyed a visit to Warhammer Alliance and tried to educate the leaders about Warhammer: Age of Sigmar (and I still don't get it). The rockets built as part of the Scouts' Astronautics Badge are yet to be launched but, with the lighter evenings coming, it could be soon. The Group had a good number join in the Village's Remembrance Day service in November. The Group was also pleased to attend the annual Gift Service with the Methodists in early December and a large number of Christmas presents were donated for distribution through Next Chapter (formerly Colchester Women's Refuge), Colchester Night Shelter and Beacon House.

In the Spring Term, the sections are looking at badge work which considers such diverse topics as Chinese New Year, Burns' Night, Pancake Day, astronomy, bug boxes, Buddhism, model making and much more. Through the purchase of a special badge, we are planning to make a modest donation to Scouts Australia who, like so many others, have suffered losses from the damage caused by the bushfires. We will also look at getting outside again, with hikes and tracking planned ahead of Easter, cooking on open fires (oh, hang on...) and we really want to launch our rockets! In the Summer Term, we are already planning to hold camps at Boxford and elsewhere.

Our grateful thanks to the many people from the Village who supported our annual jumble sale in January 2020, which raised £900. These funds will be used to replace camping equipment. The Group held its AGM in September 2019. We could really do with more adults to help with administration and governance. Even more importantly, we desperately need adult volunteers to work with our sections, in particular the Beaver Scouts (who are aged between 6 and 8 years old). Since September, we've introduced around 10 youngsters into Scouting but we have had to put around 5 on a waiting list who we cannot bring in because of the shortage of leaders. If you can help the Group in any capacity, please contact Kevin Sturdy (kevinsturdy@aol.com).

Nayland Choir

This spring sees a new style of event for Nayland Choir. On the afternoon of Saturday 25th April, we will be holding a singing workshop in Nayland village hall followed by an early evening concert, "A Red, Red Rose". Music will be songs from around the British Isles.

All singers are welcome to come to the workshop (£10 fee) to work up some songs to perform in the evening concert.

For more information please call 07954 334548 or see naylandchoir.org

West Bergholt Concert & Training Band

West Bergholt Concert & Training Band's 2020 events are already underway following their rousing end to 2019 with a wonderful Christmas Concert in Coggeshall's St Peter ad Vincula Church.

First up in 2020 are a series of open rehearsals which are aimed at maintaining the mix of all ages for which the band is renowned. This year we're especially looking to gain some additional young musicians to replace those who keep leaving for university, so if you play a woodwind or brass instrument you are very welcome to come along any Friday to Heathlands School in West Bergholt. Our Training Band (6pm-7pm) is a great place to start if you're Grade 1-4, and our Concert Band (7pm – 9pm) is aimed at players of Grade 4 upwards. Playing in a band is a great way to improve your playing whilst having fun, and our experienced players will help ease you into ensemble playing.

The band's first concert of 2020 is A Sentimental Journey at a venue which holds a special place in the band's heart - Clacton's West Cliff Theatre. The concert (March 29th, 3pm - don't forget to put your clocks forward) marks exactly 30 years since our current conductor first nervously conducted the band at the West Cliff during the memorial concert for the band's founder, so it'll be a very special afternoon for the band. As always, the concert will feature a wide range of music from the Big Bands, musicals, films, pop, classics, marches and more - all delivered in the band's entertaining style. Just like the concert 30 years ago, this year's concert will be in aid of St Helena Hospice to add to the circa £12k we've raised for the hospice in recent years. Tickets are available now from the theatre box office... so get yourself a ticket for a wonderful afternoon of good music.

We look forward to seeing you on a Friday or at our concerts...and if you'd like more information, everything you need to know about the band can be found on our website (www.wbcb.org) or you can contact us via Conductor@wbcb.org.

Women's Institute

Instead of the usual entertainment in December, we decided to make our own. Following a delicious buffet, a reading was given by Joy Budden. There was pass the parcel with a difference; when Hillary read a story and the words left or right were mentioned, so the parcel changed direction. Jacqui read a couple of amusing poems and then the eight tables played building a snowman instead of a beetle. Father Christmas arrived to hand out the gifts from the 'Secret Santa' and to judge the 'One Armed Bandit', which involved 2 members with one arm behind their back to wrap and tie up a parcel. The results of the quizzes were announced, the raffle drawn and Manya and Sheila thanked for the innovative and enjoyable evening.



The January meeting was held in the John Lampon room as it was a week later due to New Year. John Jamison and Neil Richardson gave a lively and fascinating talk on how they were mistaken for each other and eventually met and formed 'The Doppelgangers'. They were amazed at how many similarities they shared. They read some of their own and others poetry with the aid of slides.

A new lunch club has been formed and will visit a different venue each month.

West Bergholt Allotments

Plots are available. If you're interested, please contact Terry on 01206 241256 or email wballotments@gmail.com with your full name, address, phone, email and date of birth. Plots initially will need some extra work. Priority will be given to those within the parish but are also open to those outside. Rents are very reasonable.

We would ask all plot holders to keep us advised on any contact detail changes by sending details to wballotments@gmail.com or 01206 241256. This is very important.

Bonfires for 2020 will be on the first Tuesday of each month from April to November, for a few hours in the evening – we are trying to reduce the amount of waste burnt and would ask plot holders to try and compost more waste or remove from site using the white bag collection. Please check noticeboards on site in case of cancellations due to weather etc on the day. No waste to be deposited around the bonfire area until the time of the actual bonfire.

The WB Allotment Association committee now have 2 vacancies, if you are interested in helping on the committee – we have 4 committee meetings a year in the evening from 7.30pm for around a couple of hours. Please give us a call.

We Would like to thank Graham Welham and Paul Walker who have both resigned from the committee. A big thankyou for all the work they have done over the years, it has been much appreciated.

Charity Stall - This year we would please ask Plot holders if they have any surplus vegetables, fruit or flowers to put them on the charity stall. This helps us provide donations over the year to local charities or organisations. Your help in this would be much appreciated.

If you are a local charity or organisation who would like to be considered, please send an email to wballotments@gmail.com or letter to WBallotments c/o 44 Pirie Road, West Bergholt CO6 3TA.

West Bergholt Open Gardens 2020 - The Allotments will be opening the site on Sunday 28th June in association with the West Bergholt Gardeners

Terry Claydon



Save the Date!

West Bergholt Village Fete 2020

Saturday 18th July from 12 - 4pm
at the Orpen Hall & Lorkin Daniell Field

Put it in your diary and come for a great day out!



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Caring for St Mary's Churchyard

In previous articles we promised to let everyone know when we undertake the next care session for the churchyard. We will be trimming the hedges and grass etc., collecting leaves, and tidying graves on Saturday 14th March, between 9.30am and 12 noon. If anyone has a hedge trimmer, strimmer, rake etc. and can spend some/all of this time as part of the team working in the churchyard, we'd be very grateful.

If any items are removed from a grave they will be placed by the tap, and can be collected from there for a period of up to two weeks from 14th March.

The regulations for the care of Churchyards in the Diocese of Chelmsford can be seen on the church's website, if you would like to know about the practicalities.

Fresh flowers can be placed on graves but artificial flowers are not permitted, except for wreaths at Remembrance, Christmas, or for two weeks on the anniversary of the person who has died.

Kerbs to graves have not been allowed for many years, so it is welcomed when families remove them from around older memorials, making it easier to maintain the grass round a headstone.

The use of chippings and other stones create hazards for modern equipment and can cause damage if thrown by vandals. We do not allow chippings, stones or glass beads on graves.

We understand why people wish to leave personal items on graves and we are as understanding as possible, particularly in the weeks after a funeral, but personal items, such as photographs, toys, lights and other ornaments are not allowed on graves without permission.

Those who visit the churchyard regularly will understand that there are many graves which do not conform to the regulations and we respectfully request that all graves conform to the Diocesan regulations.

Our churchyard is a place of beauty and calm in the middle of our village for people to rest in peace and for people to visit. We are so fortunate to have this wonderful space and I hope that we can all work together to preserve it.

Rev'd Mandy Elmes

West Bergholt Open Gardens 2020

This year's Open Gardens event will be on Sunday 28th June 2020. Please put this in your diaries now. A number of villagers have already offered their gardens but we are keen to have some new ones. If you are prepared to open yours, please contact wbopengardens@gmail.com.

Profits from the Open Gardens will go to The Tom Bowdidge Foundation and The Essex & Herts Air Ambulance.



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We are open from 9.15am to 3.15pm. Full day care and sessions available for 2 - 5 year olds. Sessions are held in two large halls daily.

If you would like to know more or put your child's name on our waiting list, contact Jackie Leach on 07855 715 658

Woods Bowls Club - Braiswick

We are a small and friendly lawn bowls club that is open to all ages and abilities throughout the spring & summer months of April to September.

The club consists of a mixture of male and female members with ages ranging from 'Thirty-somethings' to sprightly Octogenarians! You are never too young or too old to play Lawn Bowls.



Urban Myths dispelled!

- You have to be old and grey to play Bowls – Nope!
- You have to be retired to play Bowls – Nope!
- You have to be physically fit to play Bowls – Nope!
- It's a difficult game to play & understand – Nope!
- It will take up all my free time in the summer – Nope! (unless you want it to)

New to Bowls?

Most people find bowls an easy sport to start playing, the basic skills are not hard and it doesn't require any physical strength or athletic ability. A few practice games will get you familiar with the rules and etiquette, which will help you understand the scoring system and order of play.

We have a range of matches to suit all abilities including internal club matches and friendlies, to more competitive matches in the Colchester and Sudbury leagues. Matches are played midweek afternoons and evenings with some Weekend afternoons.

After matches, retire to the clubhouse for refreshment, where you can chat and reflect on the successes or shortfalls in the day's play.

Social Events

The Club organises social events throughout the season, which are open to members and guests. These events usually comprise of BBQ's or Dinners, with a Quiz and raffle.

****Open Day: Saturday 9 May 12pm**

If you would like to try the game please come to our open day. It's free of charge, just bring a pair of flat shoes. It's an ideal day to come along to have a go and meet some of the members. Refreshments will be provided.



We would love to see you at the Open day, but if you can't make it and would like to try the game then please contact our club secretary Peter Pushman 01206 863854 or go to our website -www.hugofox.com/community/woods-bowls-club-8629

West Bergholt Local History Group

We will hold our AGM on March 11th when we will invite new and old members to join the West Bergholt Local History Group for the coming year before watching some short films. Our first meeting of the new season will be held on April 8th, when Peter Noakes (our current Chairman) will be discussing the "Impact of the Daniell Family on West Bergholt". From May to August, we will visit local places of historical interest.

Over the last 4 months, member numbers have increased and there has been an excellent turn out at our meetings. At our 3rd Bernard Colbron Memorial Lecture in November 2019, Neil Catchpole told us about "Songs and Tales from the Countryside". Neil has many talents and is involved with the Stour Valley Trust, the Dedham Vale Area of Natural Beauty and Clare Country Park. A number of his stories were supported by him singing traditional countryside songs.

In January, Charlie Haylock returned to tell us about the History of Surnames. Initially we were reminded of the history of the English language. We then learnt that surnames really only became significant following the Norman Conquest and the collection of information for the Domesday Book. Charlie told us that the source of a surname can be traced to a specific location, or is related to an occupation, or is derived from a nickname, or indicates that the person is the son of. Or, if it ends in an "s", maybe the family of a widow, or in some case it could be either / or, meaning it could be derived from one or other of these. See the village website for further information.

At our February meeting we heard about the long-term excavations of a Roman site on the Fordham Hall Estate by John Mallison and Jonathan Oldham from the Colchester Archaeological Trust.



West Bergholt Flower Club

On Wednesday 6th March, Crystal Dyball from Horsford, Norfolk, is coming to demonstrate her flowers, titled 'Up The Garden Path'.

On Wednesday 15th April, we have a return visit from Vicky Hease with the second part of her demonstration, 'Treasured Moments part II'.

Our next meeting on Wednesday 20th May, we welcome Moira Neville from Ely and the title of her demonstration is 'Second Hand Rose'. We are holding a PLANT SALE at this meeting. Any donations for the stall would be appreciated.

Guests are always welcome at our meetings for a fee of £6. Our meetings are held at the Orpen Hall, West Bergholt, on the third Wednesday of the month.

For any further information please telephone Manya on 07759331719 or Alison on 01206 973563.

West Bergholt Guides

An exciting first term in guiding for us all and let me begin by issuing a HUGE thankyou to all of those villagers who popped their little green token in our Co-Op collection pot. This made us feel very supported and encouraged and earned the guides a massive £200, which we will be using for resources and to supplement a summer trip.

We enjoyed seeing our group's numbers continue to steadily grow and currently have 17 girls enjoying Guiding together in West Bergholt. We went to an all-guide showing of Frozen 2 at the cinema before Christmas which was fun and even earned us a badge.

This coming term sees us enjoying a Chinese cookery evening, a visit to the village pantomime, an evening hike, crafting, celebrating International Women's Day and lots of badge work, which is more exciting than it sounds! The guide program that was introduced a year or so ago is really great and relevant to modern girls. We will also be holding a joint Saturday event with the Brownies, celebrating World Thinking Day – a day celebrated by guides all over the world.

If you have a daughter interested in being part of this inclusive friendly group, please get in touch by email westbergholtguides@yahoo.com or apply directly for a place by visiting <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/>

Rachel Hopkins
Leader in training

SESAW Animal Sanctuary

What a scary day that was! I don't know who Ciara is but she caused a dreadful storm in the garden. Mum was nearly blown over when she went out to check the kennels and stables. The dramatic weather may be a distant memory now but our volunteers are still repairing the damage.

It's been a rough year so far. Apart from battling the elements, we lost dear old Peg, one of our Kune Kune pigs. She and her lifelong pal, Bob, arrived some years ago after their owner died. Sadly, Peg became ill recently and on the morning of her demise, Bob laid by her side with his head across her. As you may imagine, a few tears were shed that day.

We have lots of bargains ready for our £1 Sale on 14th March at Newton Green Village Hall, CO10 0QS. Don't miss it, if only for the delicious homemade cakes! Which reminds me, it's nearly dinner time! It's so cold, even the cats are staying in and taking over our dog beds. As the rain lashes against the window and the wind howls down the chimney, here ends this under the duvet report from me, Kenny (the Boss) Chihuahua.



Suffolk & Essex Small Animal Welfare, Reg.Charity No.1124029, Stoke Road, Leavenheath, CO6 4PP. Tel: 01787 210888, www.sesaw.co.uk. Please check opening hours before visiting.

It's dark... It's raining... It's cold... It's NO excuse...

In these winter months, the dog fouling in West Bergholt becomes a large issue where children and other villagers are having to dodge large amounts of dog waste on our pavements which is both unsightly and incredibly unhygienic. It poses a significant health risk and causes a lot of distress for children if they step in it on the way to school.

As a dog owner it is your responsibility to pick up after your animal, whatever the weather or time of day. If it's dark with little street lighting, take a torch with you. Always carry bags with you when taking the dog for a walk. If you're aware of any health issues your animal has that may make picking up their mess awkward, take a bottle of water with you to flush it away.

There are many responsible dog owners in this village. Please be one of them and pick up after your dog. There is NO excuse for leaving it on the pavement.

Jacqui



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Or contact Linda Truluck 07545 572157
Ann Long 07596 071636

VOCAL ZONES CHOIR



West Bergholt Film Club MOVIE NIGHT

SAVE THE DATES

**SATURDAY 21st
★ MARCH ★**

Why not book tickets for someone for Mothers Day

**SATURDAY 20th
★ JUNE ★**

Why not book tickets for someone for Fathers Day

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AROUND THE VILLAGE**

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 West Bergholt Film Club

THANK
YOU!

West Bergholt Playground Advisory Group would like to thank the Orpen Players for organising a donation bucket at the panto. We would like to thank everyone who donated as £100 was raised.



WEST BERGHOLT PARISH COUNCIL



Contacts:

Chair: Chris Stevenson chair@westbergholt.net
Vice Chairs: Harry Stone Brian Butcher
RFO: Andrew Savage
Councillors: Jenny Church Murray Harlow Norma Smith Bob Tyrrell
 John Gili-Ross David Short Phil Spencer

Parish Council meetings are held every fourth Wednesday of each month except August and December, unless otherwise advised (see notice boards). During the meeting the public are invited to raise any issue for consideration by the Parish Council during the "Questions from registered electors" item.

For general enquiries, email the Parish Council using westbergholtpc@googlemail.com or telephone the Clerk on **01206 240772**. Contact made in this way will be dealt with by the Clerk or forwarded to relevant Parish Councillors. For specific enquiries about matters dealt with committees, email the contacts provided below, although please also copy to the Clerk.

Finance, Policy & Personnel Committee	Environment Committee	Planning & Development Committee
finance@westbergholt.net	environment@westbergholt.net	planning@westbergholt.net
Andrew Savage (Chair) Chris Stevenson (Vice Chair) Brian Butcher John Gili-Ross Harry Stone Bob Tyrrell	John Gili-Ross (Chair & Footpath Officer) Phil Spencer (Vice Chair) Harry Stone (Vice Chair) Jenny Church David Short Norma Smith (Transport Rep.)	Bob Tyrrell (Chair) Brian Butcher (Vice Chair) Murray Harlow Andrew Savage Norma Smith Chris Stevenson

Other Useful Contacts:

Clerk to the Parish Council:	Laura Walkingshaw	01206 240772 westbergholtpc@googlemail.com
Village Hall Administrator:	Victoria Beckwith-Cole	07434 949631 hall-admin@westbergholt.net
Webmaster:	Dave Kingaby	dave@kingserv.org
Communications Officer:	Murray Harlow	comms@westbergholt.net
Borough Councillors:	Cllr Lewis Barber	Lewis.Barber@colchester.gov.uk
	Cllr Brian Jarvis	cllr.brian.jarvis@colchester.gov.uk
	Cllr Dennis Willetts	Dennis.Willetts@colchester.gov.uk
Essex County Councillor:	Cllr Anne Brown	Cllr.anne.brown@essex.gov.uk
MP for Harwich & North Essex:	Bernard Jenkin	Bernard.jenkin.mp@parliament.uk

A daily diary of village events can be found on the home page of our village web site at www.westbergholt.net

Village Diary

Sunday

Service of Worship, St Mary's Church 1st Sunday 9.30am Holy Communion; 2nd Sunday 9.30am Messy Church; 6.30pm in summer, Evening Prayer; 3rd Sunday 11.15am Holy Communion; 4th Sunday 9.30am Praise on 4 Cafe Church; 5th Sunday variable.
Contact Rev. Dr. Mandy Elmes 01206 240906
Bowls Club, 7.30pm Orpen Hall.
Contact John Rookard, 01206 619497

Monday

* * *

Bluebells Preschool, 9.15am - 3.15pm, Orpen Hall.
Contact Jackie Leach 01206 241677
Baby & Toddler Group, 9.15-11.15am Term time only.
Methodist Church Hall. Contact Gemma 07909 678976.
Kelly's HIIT, 9.30am, St Mary's Church Hall.
Contact Kelly 07453 859583
WB Cubs, 6.30pm-8pm Scout Hut.
Contact Kevin Sturdy 01206 240549
Pilates, 6.30pm. Methodist Church Hall.
Contact Jo Clarke 01206 272759.
Gardeners Association, 7.30pm 3rd Monday.
Contact Terry Claydon 01206 241256
SG Karate Club, 8.30pm-9.30pm Scout Hall.
Contact Stuart Glister 01206 365150

Tuesday

* * *

Bluebells Preschool, 9.15am - 3.15pm, Orpen Hall.
Contact Jackie Leach 01206 241677
NHS Primary Care Trust Baby Clinic, 9.30-10.30am,
Methodist Church Hall, 2nd & 4th Tuesdays.
Baby Clinic, Methodist Church Hall, 2nd & 4th Tuesday.
Clinic will run with our support as a drop in for families.
Pilates, 9.30am-10.30am, Scout Hut.
Contact Mrs Smith 01206 564348
Jumble Juniors, 9.45 - 10.45am, Methodist Church Hall,
1st, 3rd & 5th Thursday, term-time only.
Contact Dawn Edwards 07532 160610
Kelly's HIIT, 6.30pm, St Mary's Church Hall.
Contact Kelly 07453 859583
((BOUNCE)) 6.30pm -7.30pm, Orpen Hall.
Contact Kerry King 0788 636 9450
Vocal Zones Choir, 7pm, Heathlands School.
Contact Ann 07596 071636 or Linda 07545 572157
Badminton Club, 8pm-10pm Orpen Hall.
Contact Ian Hersey 01206 243378/07754140707
W.E.A., 7.45pm, Methodist Church Hall.
Contact Gill Poole 01206 240512

Wednesday

* * *

Bluebells Preschool, 9.15am - 3.15pm, Orpen Hall.
Contact Jackie Leach 01206 241677
Methodist Church Hall, 1st Wednesday, 11am, Mid-Week Worship; 2nd Wednesday, 10am, Coffee Morning; 3rd Wednesday, 10.45am, Bible Study Book Club; 3rd Wednesday, 2.30pm, Wednesday Fellowship.
Pat's Pals, 1st, 2nd, 4th & 5th Wednesdays, 1.30pm, Methodist Church Hall.
Ladies Afternoon Badminton, 2.30pm - 4pm Orpen Hall. Contact Carol Felton 01206 240126
WB Knitting & Crochet Group, 3rd Wednesday, 2.30pm - 4pm, house group Meeting. Contact 01206 242015

WB Beavers, 5pm - 6.15pm, Scout Hut.
Contact Kevin Sturdy 01206 240549
Slimming World, 5.30pm and 7.30pm, Heathlands Primary School. Contact Nicky 07957 656 939
Women's Institute, 1st Wednesday, 7.15pm, Orpen Hall.
Contact Jacqui Hunns 01206 240712
WB Scouts, 7.30pm - 9.30pm, Scout Hut.
Contact Kevin Sturdy 01206 240549
Colne Valley Flower Club, 3rd Wednesday, 7.30pm, Orpen Hall. Contact 01206 241155
History Group, 2nd Wednesday, 7.30pm, Orpen Hall. (visits between April and September).
Contact Gill Poole 01206 240512
Parish Council Meeting, 4th Wednesday, 7.30pm, John Lampon Hall
W.B. Scouts, 7.30pm-9.30pm, Scout Hut.
Contact Kevin Sturdy 01206 240549

Thursday

* * *

Open House, 9.00 -11.00am (in term time)
St Mary's Church Hall
Bluebells Preschool, 9.15am - 3.15pm, Orpen Hall.
Contact Jackie Leach 01206 241677
60+ Dance for Health, 11 - 12pm, Methodist Church Hall.
Contact Chloe Brooks 07984 739584/01206 617 110
5T's, 2.30pm-4pm Weekly, St Mary's Church Hall.
Contact Murray Harlow 07989720256
Kelly's HIIT, 6.30pm, St Mary's Church Hall.
Contact Kelly 07453 859583
Bowls Club, 7.30pm Orpen Hall.
Contact John Rookard 01206 619497
Colchester & District Model Railway Club, 8pm, Armoury Farm.
Contact www.colchestermmc.org

Friday

* * *

Bluebells Preschool, 9.15am - 3.15pm, Orpen Hall.
Contact Jackie Leach 01206 241677
Kelly's HIIT, 9.30am, St Mary's Church Hall.
Contact Kelly 07453 859583
WB Concert Band, 6pm-7pm (Training) 7pm-9pm (Band), Heathlands School. Contact Karen Wilson 01206 824157
WB Cubs, 6.30pm-8.00pm, Scout Hut.
Contact Kevin Sturdy 01206 240549
Bergholt Youth Group (BYG), Alternate Friday, 6.30pm-8pm, John Lampon Hall. Jamie Bowden 07581 202960
Wired, 1st Friday, 7pm-9pm, St. Mary's Church Hall.
Contact Mark Partridge 01206 241617
Orpen Players, 8pm Orpen Hall.
Debbie Hornigold 01206 242111

Saturday

* * *

NEEGOG Model Railway Club, 2nd Saturday, 2pm, St Mary's Church Hall. Contact Martin Long 01206 240443
((BOUNCE)) 8am - 9am & 9.15 - 10am, Orpen Hall.
Contact Kerry King 07886369450

Sunday

* * *

((BOUNCE)) 9.30 - 10.30am, Orpen Hall.
Contact Kerry King 07886369450