



W E S T B E R G H O L T P A R I S H C O U N C I L

# VILLAGE NEWS

Edition One  
November 2011

Welcome to edition one of Village News, which will be coming out on the months without a Village Bulletin. It will also be posted on the village website. Please would anyone with an item of news for this new venture let Liz Harrington know, on 241411.

Anyone with concerns regarding travellers visiting us should contact, in the first instance, Marcus Harrington (241411), or Dennis Willetts (240314), our Borough Councillors, who will be able to obtain assistance for you.

## [Blue Owl Gift Shop](#)

At the beginning of September, Alison

opened a new shop in West Bergholt called Blue Owl, selling nearly-new children's clothes and gifts. The shop is located at 10a Colchester Road, which some of you will remember as 'Brown's General store'.

"I have had lots of lovely, positive comments from customers who have been surprised at the variety of stock including children's toys, games and books, gifts for new babies, and home accessories. I am also selling some beautiful jewellery, accessories and home furnishing items which are handmade by local craftspeople. Good quality greetings cards and wrapping paper have also been very popular and saved several trips into town!

In time for the festive season I have Christmas decorations, cards and plenty of ideas for children's (and adults) presents. I will also be serving teas and coffees very soon - by popular demand! I will keep my website updated with any news, promotions and events: [www.blue-owl.co.uk](http://www.blue-owl.co.uk)."

### "West Bergholt Oil Purchasing Co-operative"

We have been approached to see if there is sufficient interest in the village to run an oil purchasing cooperative, as is successfully run by other rural communities. There is also interest in Eight Ash Green, which could most likely help us here.

As we all know utility bills are rising again (typically as winter is approaching!), but oil prices in particular have rocketed over the past year. It would make sense if residents could order fuel for delivery to the village in one combined delivery reducing the cost, hopefully significantly for all, also making it more environmentally friendly delivery-wise, and traffic-wise less heavy lorries travelling to and from the village.

"West Bergholt is quite a spread out village and residents especially on the outskirts, have no choice but to use oil to heat their homes. After being caught behind large oil delivery lorries a number of times in the village negotiating the smaller lanes, I was thinking it would make sense for oil users in the village to work together for these mutual benefits, and was wondering if there was anyone else in the village who would be interested in starting an oil purchasing co-operative."

Would interested residents please contact Liz Harrington on 241411, with a view to arranging a meeting, probably in December to discuss this with an experienced user of the system.

### Safety on Footpaths in winter – Volunteers wanted

During the ice and snow of last winter many people had difficulty going out because of the hazardous conditions. The Parish Council has organised for all necessary salt bags and equipment to be available to keep certain pavement areas and footways safer.

Following our request for volunteers in the last Bulletin only 2 residents offered their help, which was disappointing. More offers of help would be appreciated.

Priority areas have been identified:-

School/Heathland approaches; Orpen Hall areas; Co-op approaches; Bus stop areas; Unpaved roads; Doctors' surgery approach paths.

If you live near these areas or if you are just keen to offer to be part of a "Snow Clearing" team of residents please contact:-

David Short Tel: 2341715 or

Jenny Church Tel: 240792 or

Parish Clerk email – [wbergholt@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:wbergholt@tiscali.co.uk)