

village bulletin

March 2009

Issue 117

www.westbergholt.net

Community Policing in West Bergholt



There is a perception amongst some residents that village policing has deteriorated for many villages in the Borough. The reality should be somewhat different as there are now many more Police Officers serving our communities than there were ten years ago.

What has changed is the way in which our Police Officers address community needs. The days of the village "Bobby" have gone and are unlikely to return. In their place we now have "Neighbourhood Policing" which is a larger but shared resource pool operating across groups of villages. For West Bergholt this consists of a team of Police Officers – a Police Sergeant, a Neighbourhood Specialist Officer (NSO) and a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO). In addition, up to three other Police Officers can be called upon if necessary, to deal with specific local policing needs. This team provides a near 24 hour service from 8am to 4am and is just one of the community teams based out of the Copford police station. In addition to this Neighbourhood Support Team (NST) emergency call out and traffic teams are enabled for village issues where appropriate.

Neighbourhood Support Team

The NST interfaces with the community either directly with residents, via our Neighbourhood Watch team or through the Neighbourhood Action Panel (see below). To be successful the NST has to work with the communities it is there to support and relies on feedback of issues that are causing concern. Neighbourhood Watch are the eyes and ears of community policing and are most effective when issues are developing in our village i.e. antisocial behaviour, suspicious activity or just awareness when security alarms are activated. An occurrence of such incidents can be recorded by an effective NW team and reported to the police for them to take appropriate action. For many years West Bergholt has been home to one of the most efficient Neighbourhood Watch teams in the Borough. To continue this success our village desperately needs a volunteer to replace John Ford and take over the

co-ordination of the village team to act as a local interface to the NST. If you feel you want to make a major contribution to your village and can provide a few hours of your time to co-ordinate our Neighbourhood Watch then please contact Richard Green on 01206 241716 or email mngreen2@aol.com.

Neighbourhood Action Panel

The Neighbourhood Action Panel (NAP) is a government led initiative. The panel is made up of non-police volunteers who live within the communities served by the NAP. NAP's have been established to record and co-ordinate community issues that require resolution by the Police, Colchester Borough Council, Essex County Council, Parish Councils or a combination of these authorities. NAP meetings give residents the opportunity to formally register issues or concerns and the NAP will agree community priorities and decide on a realistic and achievable course of action. West Bergholt is part of the "Constable NAP" which includes the villages to the north of Colchester from Wormingford in the west to Dedham in the east. NAP meetings are held regularly in one of the villages that form part of the Constable area. Details of the next NAP meeting are available on our village web site www.westbergholt.net or the Essex Police web site.

Our Police Neighbourhood Support Team can be contacted on 0300 3334444 and is made up of PS Mike Lee, NSO Vicky Sanders, PCSO Sue Donaldson

In 2009 Constable NAP meetings will be held on the following dates:

Wednesday 11th March 18:00 Wormingford Village Hall

Thursday 14th May 18:00 Fordham Village Hall

Tuesday 14th July 18:00 Gt Horkeley Village Hall

September meeting – awaiting confirmation

Monday 9th December 18:00 Dedham Assembly Rooms

The number one issue reported by residents to the NAP is excessive vehicle speeds through villages. Requiring Police action, this issue will be targeted over coming months.

the village bulletin *information*

PROVIDED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL OF WEST BERGHOLT

Chairman

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



Vice-Chairman

Mr R W Tyrrell
Grey Gables,
8a Colchester Road
West Bergholt
☎ 240 016

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Mrs Sally Butcher	59 Mumford Road	☎	241 923
Mrs J Church	Doran, Hall Road	☎	240 792
Mr B M Colbron	64 Mumford Road	☎	240 297
Mr A P Savage	6 Garling Walk	☎	242 015
Mr D Short	60 Albany Road	☎	241 715
Mr P Sleigh		☎	07973 841104
Mr C Stevenson	74 Mumford Road	☎	241 708
Mr H Stone	Vindens, Chapel Lane	☎	241 026
Mrs S Day	62 Albany Road	☎	241 040

PARISH WORKING COMMITTEES

Environment	Mr Short, Mrs Church, Mr Colbron, Mr Sleigh, Mr Stone
Finance & General Purpose	Mr Savage, Mrs Butcher, Mr Gili-Ross, Mr Tyrrell
Hall	Mr Colbron, Mrs Butcher, Mr Sleigh, Mr Short
Planning	Mr Tyrrell, Mr Savage, Mr Stevenson, Mr Stone
Parish Plan	Mr Stevenson

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Jill Tod	cllr.jill.tod@colchester.gov.uk	☎	574 896
Cllr. Dennis Willetts	dennis.willetts@btinternet.com	☎	240 314

CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs 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

Mrs J 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.

SOME USEFUL NUMBERS

Police	210 441 or 211 680 or 762 212	In an emergency dial 999	
Doctor	Surgery - 2 Erle Havard Road	☎	241 137
Pharmacy	Chapel Road	☎	240 352
Post Office	Chapel Road (Half day Saturday)	☎	240 355
St Mary's Church	Rev. C Horseman, The Rectory, Ivy Lodge Road, Gt. Horkesley	☎	271 242
Methodist Church	Rev. Ruth Ridge, Marks Tey office	☎	210 141
News Correspondent	Mrs J Hunns, The Laurels, Firmins Court	☎	240 712

(for Essex County Standard and The East Anglian Daily Times) - submissions for news items to be in two weeks prior to publication.
Email address for News Correspondent allanhunns@aol.com



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.

West Bergholt Neighbourhood Watch



Update

A meeting was convened in the Orpen Hall between WBNW, PS Mike Lee of the Community Police Team and the Chairman of the Parish Council to understand how effective community policing will operate in the village. It was made clear that Ward policing as proposed by Essex senior police officer back in 2007 was impractical. The expectation at the time was that West Bergholt and Eight Ash Green would form a "Ward" and have a designated Police Officer, PCSO and a special constable being assigned for the two villages.

However, due to lack of resources and other operational issues, PS Lee explained that it is simply not practical to implement Ward Policing for West Bergholt as originally proposed. The Policing arrangements which have now been put in place are described in the article on Community Policing on the front page of this edition.

It was agreed at the meeting that, while the new arrangements fall well short of the original proposals, WBNW broadly accepted they will have to work within the new guidelines. The most pressing need now is for a WBNW Area Co-ordinator to be appointed as soon as possible.

Recent Village Crimes

The Co-op was raided in December and some money stolen. WBNW has not been informed if any arrests have been made or if the money has been recovered.

A suspicious person was seen in Chapel Road on January 7th and the Police were informed. A suspicious person was heard during that night - January 7th/8th - in Albany Road, but left quickly when a dog started barking. The two incidents may be connected.

In January a male was arrested in Earle Harvard Road for possession of an offensive weapon. An attempt was made to steal a cement mixer in Chapel Road and investigations are on going as at the end of January.

For Emergencies ring 999

Crime Stoppers 0800 555111

West Bergholt NW 01206 241716

NB. Except in an emergency, always use the non Emergency Number 0300 333 4444 to contact the Police. If you cannot remember the extension number or the name of the person you wish to speak to, just ask for the Police Station you require and you should be put through.

1st West Bergholt Guides



It is strange how patrol names change over the years; I was a thistle and a swallow now our patrols are polar bears, dolphins, lions, penguins and puffins.

Last term eleven Guides gained their three nights away badges, one guide has gained her five nights away and another has gained her fifteen nights away. We are hoping to camp again this year at the beginning of August.

Last term we made large cookies and fairy cakes in the microwave. I must say they were different to those you normally cook in the oven.

We worked on a new 'Go For It' called 'Get Moving' which covered activities from America, Sri Lanka and Kenya. The Kenyan activity was all about making an egg go the furthest distance using a balloon as its mode of transport. Very interesting ideas used for this and a lot of fun had by all.

The Guides cooked hot dogs outside on our altar fires at the beginning of November. It was fun encouraging the new guides how to light fires and teaching them how to cook on them.

On 9th November some of our unit took part in the Remembrance Day service at the Orpen Hall and some of us went with the District to Legoland.

One of our Patrols completed their Party badge by holding a party. This went very well with games, singing and dancing. They also brought along the party food which all went down very well.

On 7th December we joined up with the other units in our village and went to the Gift Aid service at the Methodist Church.

We finished the term with a Karaoke party, including a secret Santa, which went very well. Two Guides made their promise at the end of the evening.

This term we are working on Changing the World. This is all part of our centenary celebrations, which start on 5th September. Many events and activities are being organised through 2009 and 2010 all over the UK. We have started by taking part in a challenge called 'Because I am a Girl', Take a Photo. This will lead to an exhibition and hopefully raise money to help build a school in Liberia.

We are very proud to announce that Jacqueline Newman has gained her Leadership Qualification and is now a fully qualified assistant Guider. Well Done!

Sandra Gates, Guide Guider

EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

BULLETIN DELIVERY NEWS

One of the longest serving members of that gallant band of people who deliver the Village Bulletin has retired from the job. Mamie Lampon has delivered the Bulletin, rain or shine, for many years. Thank you Mamie from the present Bulletin Team for your long service to the magazine and to the village. The Bulletin is delivered to every house in the village once a quarter, thanks to people like Mamie. We are very fortunate to have them and every year, just after Christmas, the Bulletin Team arranges a 'thank you' party for providing this service. 2009 is the first time of taking a group picture and here it is!



LEAVING BULLETIN TEAM



Jon Lander is leaving the village and is no longer able to be an active member of the editorial team

Jon has been involved with the Bulletin almost from the start of the publication. He has given constructive comments and contributed many articles.

Our thanks go to him for all the valued work he has put in over the years.

Hope he doesn't miss us as much as we will miss him!



SECOND LETTER FROM AUSTRALIA

I have faint memories of the war years. My brothers used to collect shrapnel from the bombs left over from the attacks on London and dropped near us. They had a lot, some of them big pieces. We used to hide under our dining table when the siren went off. I'm not sure what good it would have been in a direct hit, but luckily we never had to find out! We were issued with gas masks - mine was Micky

Mouse - and we had to carry them everywhere. They smelt dreadfully of rubber, but you could make very interesting noises if you blew into them! At the back of the school were air-raid shelters, dark caves that the children were herded into when the siren sounded. After the war, Fredina Fisher and I used to creep into them, scare ourselves witless in the dark, and rush out again. Freddy's parents were the school caretakers, and lived in the house attached to the school.

The Americans had a base near Bergholt and they'd put on parties for the village children, taking us to the base where we were fed all sorts of food on ration to us, but plentiful for the Americans. I remember at one party I lost my coat, a great disaster then, but I can't remember now if I ever found it! The American convoys would drive past and we would shout out "got any gum chum?" and they'd throw us packets of chewing gum.

The farms had prisoners of war working on them - German and Italian - and we got to know them. We'd wave and have a chat although we weren't supposed to. I believe several of the prisoners stayed on in England after the war.

When we got to our teens we used to have dances in the Orpen Hall, often with a real band! Young people came from the surrounding villages and that was how we got to know each other. There were a lot of inter-village romances! Often we'd go into Colchester to dances. There were no late buses so we'd book Mr. Isom's taxi and share the cost. Mr. Isom was a lovely man, and if you got stuck in Colchester having missed the last bus, he'd let you pay later if you hadn't got enough money. On Coronation day we had a bonfire in the school grounds, a big dance in the Orpen Hall and Coronation Ale - supplied free if I remember correctly. I wasn't old enough to have any but I must admit that I did anyway!

We had a table-tennis club in the scouts hall, and tennis courts along New Church Road. We'd spend most of the summer holidays playing tennis, and were expected to wear proper white clothes. Mrs. Churchman would tell us off if we didn't!

The rector then was Rev. Douglas and he had a cream-coloured pug dog which he carried everywhere with him, even on his bike.

We had a lot of fun back then - making most of it ourselves! We didn't get into too much trouble, and if we did we'd collect a clip round the ear from the village bobby who lived up the Lexden road in the police house. He'd get sued now!

Just a bit about me. Brocklehurst is a little village ten minutes from Dubbo - population thirty-nine thousand plus. We are in a mostly agricultural area, growing lucerne, wheat etc.

Lots of sheep and cattle. Horses everywhere - we have three. I'm coach for Riding for the Disabled, which you also have in the U.K. and I write a bit, short stories etc, some published in anthologies. Our weather is hot in Summer - today we had 31C and getting warmer - but we have frost in winter. Our gardens have the same plants as yours but with a fair few hotter climate species thrown in. We have around an acre of garden.

I hope we can keep the West Bergholt/Brocklehurst link going every so often. Hoping West Bergholt has a super Christmas. Isabel Wallace

Orpen Players



Aladdin

- Friday January 30th

The hall was a buzz with children and adults all keyed up to boo and hiss in the appropriate places. They soon got the chance because a particularly 'booable' Abanazar soon got the show off to a flying start with his taunts and swagger.

The scenery and costumes were spectacular and all credit must go to the unsung back stage crew who had certainly worked their magic yet again.

This Panto has a wealth of colourful characters, the delightful young chorus who played all manner of parts, Abanazar and his side kick, the Slave of the lamp, The Emperor and the Princess and the Genie. There were comic policemen, the resplendent Dame Widow Twankie and of course Aladdin and Wishie Washie.

However there was nothing wishie washie about this production it certainly measured up to The Orpen Players high standard. There were any number of performances that could have gained an award but the top accolade this time must go to the Director herself who had a fall but still carried on directing with her leg in plaster from a wheel chair or on crutches.

That is what amateur village theatre is all about. No real stars, no fuss just a dedication to a time consuming hobby and to ensure that the paying public get value for their money.

Here's to the next time, which is the Spring Production on April 30th, and May 1st and 2nd.

The play is 84, Charing Cross Road, written by Helene Hanff, a true story of 20 years correspondence. Directed by Michael Poole.

Joyce Lucking



Library Times

The Mobile Library visits the village
fortnightly on a Tuesday.

For queries about the service telephone

Answers Direct 0845 603762

The stops and times for West Bergholt are:

Albany Road	13.45 – 14.20
Scout Hut, Lexden Road	14.45 – 15.30
Queens Road	15.35 – 15.55
Chapel Road	16.00 – 16.45

Friends of Hillhouse Wood



More essential management work has been carried out by the work parties including clearances of scrub, bramble growth and the surrounds of both ponds. There will be a major removal of reed mace and other growth from the top pond and also the dredging of silt build-up. Care has to be taken in this operation because of the presence of a number of dragonfly and damselfly species and also of great-crested newts, which are a scheduled 'red data' species given special protection. More attention is being paid to removal of dead growth on elms affected by disease and some coppicing in order to try and protect the colony of the uncommon butterfly species, the white-letter hairstreak, the caterpillars of which feed on elm leaves.

The wood now has increased status for wildlife following the discovery of a colony of a rare damselfly; the beautiful demoiselle in the stream on the Fordham edge of the wood and permission has been obtained for careful clearance of overgrown sections with advice from a dragonfly expert. There is continued evidence of badger activity in the wood and there have been sightings of otters along the Fordham-side of the stream. Small parties of roe deer are regularly seen in fields bordering the wood and muntjac deer are seen commonly in the wood itself. Because of this some protection is being given to wild flowers especially the early-purple orchid colonies.

The annual fungus foray led by local expert Ian Rose in October resulted in the discovery of more than 60 species including some rare or uncommon. Thanks to the excellent poster distribution by Chris Stevenson sixteen attended. During the fungus searches Philip Smith saw (and heard) a nuthatch and this is the first record of this uncommon woodland bird for the wood in recent years. The winter bird walk on January 11th led by myself and Philip Smith was attended by fifteen people. There was a good mix of species seen including three little egrets; a grey heron; kestrel; snipe; goldcrest; green and great spotted woodpeckers and twelve siskins feeding on alder seed cones.

There will be a memorial to Peter Johnson who was for several years chairman of the Friends and a tireless worker for the conservation of the wood and its wildlife. It is expected this is likely to be a dedicated tree.

Here are some dates for your diary:

Sunday, April 5th Spring Nature Walk led by Joe Firmin and Philip Smith. Dawn Chorus of Birdsong meet at the Old Church 3.45am. A chance to hear the wood's famous nightingales.

Saturday, April 25th Bluebells and Spring Wildlife Open Afternoon. Meet at entrance to the wood 2pm.

Nature walks will be led by Philip Smith and Joe Firmin.

Joe Firmin

West Bergholt Women's Institute



Our Annual Meeting in November saw the election of our new President, Mrs Pat Moran and two new committee members. Thanks were given to retiring committee members with special mention of our past president Mrs Joyce Woolhead who had struggled through illness to serve the W.I. The meeting closed with play readings by our members which were very entertaining and amusing.

The December party, a very light hearted social evening, saw us being entertained by Mr Paul Clancy with "The art of Magic" – how do they perform these acts when we are so close, and no camera tricks are involved? It is very clever.

January's meeting saw two local speakers sharing the evening – Gemma Goskie explained the work of our local First Responders group and Susan Leng described cruising around the British Isles, which with many hours of research enables her to give talks to fellow cruise passengers on the destinations they will be visiting. Why not join us on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 7.15pm in the Orpen Hall.

Mrs Joyce Woolhead

It was with sadness that after a year struggling with ill health Joyce died on January 3rd. She had been an active member of the W.I. for many years serving on the committee as well as being President on two occasions.

Always keen to take part in local and regional W.I. activities, she enjoyed outings, activity days and performing in plays, showing her humorous personality as well as serious nature.

She will be missed by all who knew her in the village and many W.I. members. Our thoughts go to her family at this time.

COLCHESTER & DISTRICT MODEL RAILWAY CLUB

OPEN DAY

Orpen Hall, West Bergholt

Sunday 5th April 2009

10am to 4pm

Admission Free

Light Refreshments Available



Now is the time to book your place for the Bulletin Quiz!

Which will be held on
Saturday 6th June 2009 at
the Orpen Memorial Hall,
starting at 7.30pm.

If your team comes first they will have the honour of holding the Challenge Cup for a year, then trying to win it back the following year.

There will be a raffle and refreshments - please bring your own liquid refreshment!

Each table consists of four people to make up a team. They can be from your village club or just good friends as long as one member is a village resident.

Fill in the application form and return it to Susan Swan at 20 Church Close by the 1st June. The cost for a table of four is *still* £14 - so come and enjoy yourselves.

All proceeds will be donated to the Bergholt Youth Group.

VILLAGE BULLETIN QUIZ ENTRY FORM 2009

Name of team

Name of person applying

.....

Address.....

.....

Phone number.....

For each team of four people please enclose a cheque for £14 made payable to West Bergholt Parish Council



SPECIAL EDITION



Welcome to this special supplement in the West Bergholt Village Bulletin.

We hope you find reading about the work of the First Responders interesting. We're normal people with jobs, families and interests **but** we are willing to give a small amount of time in case we are called to help others in need of emergency medical care. We want the whole Village to know what we do and to support us; we could really do with some new members too!

So sit back, relax and remember that whilst you're reading this you could be on call as a West Bergholt Community First Responder, **Yes being on call is that easy!**

Best Wishes the W.B. First Responders

Lastly – Please remember if you'd like to find out more about being a First Responder our contact details are on page 4.

DIARY OF A FIRST RESPONDER

The equipment was delivered to me by the responder who had chosen the night shift. Before switching on the dedicated mobile phone I checked the equipment before placing it in the car. I then put the folder, containing official forms and street maps, by the front door with car keys, disposable gloves and fluorescent coat with id. badge attached.

I switched on the phone by 9a.m. and called ambulance control to tell them I was ready to respond. I would estimate that preparation time was no more than 10 minutes.

During the morning I read the paper and then cleared all the ironing which is saved up for responding days. A friend called around for a coffee. In the afternoon I went across to my allotment (directly opposite my house) to get some vegetables for dinner. I do enjoy gardening, which I can still do whilst on call, but I cannot do any sort which involves getting covered in mud in case a call comes. We aim to be on route within two minutes of receiving the call so there is no time to change clothes or footwear.

At 3p.m. I needed to go to the station to collect my son so I put the phone off for the 15 minutes needed for the journey. We are told by the ambulance service that they do not want us to be inconvenienced by being on call so if we find we need to go out during our session we will not be reproached for doing so.

At 5p.m I called the next person on duty and delivered the equipment to them. If there is no one listed on the rota to follow on immediately we have a list of reserves that can be called to see if they are available but they are not obliged to go on call. It is very satisfying to be on call and to complete all the household tasks at the same time!

WANTED

FIRST RESPONDERS

ARE YOU?

- **A DRIVER**
- **A RESIDENT OR EMPLOYED IN WEST BERGHOLT**
- **AGED 18 to 70**
- **COMMUNITY SPIRITED**
- **EAGER TO LEARN NEW SKILLS**

The more First Responders there are the better the emergency medical cover for West Bergholt. Being a First Responder will not change your lifestyle; you can offer as much or as little time to suit you. Joining will give you new skills and the opportunity to make a difference in West Bergholt.

Meet your First Responders

Name: Adrian Elmer

Job: Police officer

Family: Wife, three step-daughters, one daughter, one son and one grand-son and one grand-daughter

Interests: London shows, football with my son and locally with him at Colchester United.



Reason for joining First Responders: Having been brought up in the village it is rewarding to be there for local people in times of need.

Name: Jenni Pizzuto

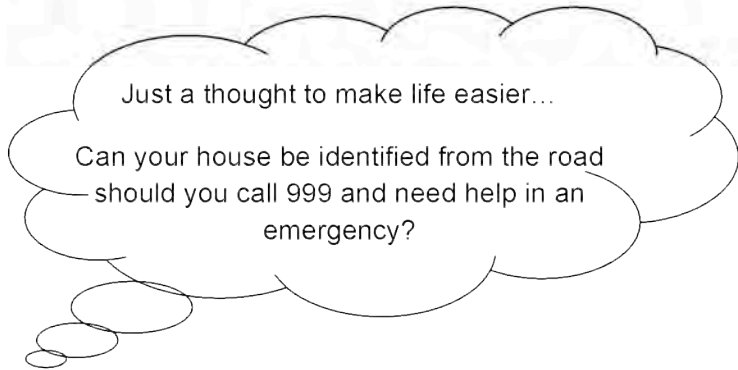
Job: Trampoline Coach

Family: Husband, 2 children, 2 grand Children

Interests: Reading, music.



Reason for being a First Responder: Having suffered a heart attack in 2006 I know how important it is to receive expert help quickly. Also I wanted to help my community.



WHAT TYPE OF CALLS WILL YOU ATTEND?

The type of calls you will be asked to attend are life threatening emergencies such as heart attacks, chest pain, cardiac arrest, fits and breathing problems.

SO HOW DO I FIT IN?

When a person calls 999 you are notified of the emergency by ambulance control via a dedicated mobile phone. As you live or work in the West Bergholt area you should arrive before the ambulance and be able to assist the patient.

Once the crew arrive you are then able to return to your normal daily routine.

The few minutes you have spent with the patient could help save a life.

The more responders there are the better the cover in the village. Being a Responder should not change your lifestyle but it will give you new skills and the opportunity to make a difference in West Bergholt.

??

Did you know that among our group we have;

One entrepreneur, two retired nurses, two police officers, two community carers, one retired head teacher, one surveyor, one bid manager, a printing engineer and a trampoline coach!

So, as you can see, our volunteers come from a wide cross section of backgrounds and not all have previous medical experience. Full training is given to all members and regular support.

Come and see how easy it is to support the village!

Two's Company - Responding in a pair

Being a First Responder doesn't mean working alone. In the village we have two couples who respond as a pair, therefore sharing the responsibility of being 'on call'. Nick and Eileen Blayney and Phil and Sue Walby have been Responders since March 2007 when the group formed. They chose to respond as a pair as they felt more comfortable working together rather than alone. "When working in a pair you can help each other out and divide up the jobs" commented Phil. "For example, should Sue and I get called, then I will drive whilst Sue navigates and when we arrive, should we need to give Oxygen or use the defibrillator then Sue and I have particular tasks we each carry out. Working together is a great way of Responding as we can help each other remember what to do and back each other up. We also tend to be on call overnight to fit in with my job in London so being in a pair when called out at night gives us peace of mind".



Pictured above: Phil and Sue Walby and Nick and Eileen Blayney. Could you and a partner/friend/family member respond together?

Meet your First Responders...

Name: Annie Neish

Job: Retired nurse, school secretary, Police officer. Now voluntary West Bergholt First Responder Co-ordinator.

Family: Husband, son, daughter, mother and dog.

Interests: Gardening, cooking, travelling.

Reason for joining First Responders: I enjoy co-ordinating, handle emergencies and being a Responder fits in with my life.



Thanks from one of our patients

"As one who has been on the receiving end of the First Responder service, I would like to pay tribute to their professionalism and valuable role in West Bergholt village.

Last year my husband called for an ambulance, the First Responder arrived in minutes. She then administered oxygen to help me with my breathing and comforted me until the ambulance arrived. She was an absolute angel and only later did we learn it was her first call out.

What a wonderful service this is and how fortunate we are in West Bergholt to have such volunteers who provide valuable cover and reassurance during the period before an ambulance arrives. Our grateful thanks"

– A resident of West Bergholt

QUIZ TIME

By placing the initial letter of each answer in the box you will form the word describing something we need more of in West Bergholt. Can you work out the answer?

1. The * * * * provide the upper part of the cage that encloses the heart and lungs with the diaphragm at the bottom.
2. Which organ of the body has the smallest bone?
3. The common name for the scapula.
4. The name of the spice which is renowned to make you sneeze.
5. This gas makes up 20.95% of air.
6. This gas makes up 78.09% of air.
7. The disease resulting from the body's inability to produce insulin.
8. The organ of the body known as the organ of sight.
9. The word used for the action of breathing.
10. What bone of the body lies at the joint known as the snuff box?

How First Responders are supported by the

National Health Service

Our link with the East of England Ambulance Service is Dan Firmin (paramedic) who comes to our monthly meetings. He gives his time on a voluntary basis and conducts the re-testing sessions, when due, for each member every six months. In addition Dan welcomes any member of the group to voluntarily join him or other members of the service for an observation shift in the ambulance or in the rapid response vehicle.

These shifts can be extremely enlightening and help members of the group to learn more than they have been taught at their initial training session. Team members are part of the East of England Ambulance Service albeit as volunteers.

Joining a shift with the ambulance service in Essex has also been extended to one of our group who was welcomed aboard with the Queensland Ambulance Service in Australia. If you become a First Responder with the West Bergholt group you too could experience a special experience abroad!

See below for details on finding out more about First Responders.

To find out more about being a First Responder in West Bergholt please call Annie Neish for an informal chat on **240469**.

Or have a look at the website:

www.west-bergholt-first-responders.co.uk

Or call John Hopkins, the East of England Co-ordinator for Community First Responders on

01245 443344

West Bergholt Concert Band



Mamma Mia, Mozart, and more !

The band's 30th Anniversary celebrations in 2008 proved to be wonderfully successful, with great concerts and social events again proving the band's unique mix of musical talent and friendly enjoyment continues unabated.

The band's 2009 activities are already underway, with Training Band leading another series of workshops with primary school musicians, this year with schools from the West Bergholt and Gt Horkesley area. We're then into our first full concert of the year, featuring a programme of brand new music such as Die Fledermaus, Manhattan Beach March, Mozart's Bassoon Concerto, Gabriel's Oboe, and selections from Rodgers and Hammerstein, the Big Bands and Rock 'n' Roll music, among others.

Sunday 29th March – 3:00pm – West Cliff Theatre, Clacton
(in aid of the Royal British Legion)

After the Easter break, we'll be performing another of our hugely popular "Instant Concerts" with local secondary schools, featuring our favourite music from the band's library, such as Mamma Mia, Oklahoma, Dvorak's New World Symphony, St Louis Blues, I'm A Believer, Star Trek...and The Stripper.

Saturday 25th April – 7:30pm – St Botolph's, Colchester (in aid of Muscular Dystrophy)

For our two summer concerts, we're returning to the "Last Night Of The Proms" theme, sharing our first concert with the Cavender Singers, a popular ladies vocal group

Saturday 13th June - 7:30pm - West Cliff Theatre, Clacton
(in aid of St Helena Hospice)

...and the second concert featuring a first half of music from the swing greats, such as Harry James, Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman, Louis Armstrong and Glenn Miller.

Sunday 12th July - 3:00pm – Stoke By Nayland Golf Club
(in aid of the Captain's Charities)

As always, we continue to welcome new members to replace those who leave us for university, so do come and see us any term-time Friday evening at Heathlands School if you'd like to join...there's no audition, age or ability limits. Everything you need to know about the band (including concert details and directions, how to buy tickets, and how to join us is on our website (www.wbcb.org), or you can call Graham on 01206 824157. We look forward to seeing you at some of our concerts...and wish you a belated Happy New Year !

Friendship Club



A cheque for £40 was sent to Heathlands School as a contribution from the proceeds of the tombola stall held at the school fete in the summer.

Our autumn session began with an enjoyable game of bingo and once again we were grateful to Mick Morrissey for keeping us mentally alert with his varied and often colourful quizzes in between our own card playing, 'bingo' and other quizzes.

At the end of November, we were right royally entertained by a group of children from Heathlands School. They regaled us with a variety of solo instruments, as well as extremely energetic dancing (oh to be young and agile again!) and rounded off by playing carols for us to sing. Their afternoon ended with refreshments and chatting to members, which we all thoroughly enjoyed, before returning to school. We look forward to their visit again near next Christmas.

December 11th was our Christmas party but we already had a speaker arranged, so it was quite a full afternoon. Peter Timpson, from Age Concern, told us how to keep safe and warm throughout the winter months, and then members donned their competition Christmas hats. Mavis Byrne's was chosen as best decorated, which was a blue straw, covered in small silk poinsettias and very fetching it looked, too. An ample tea was provided by members and thoroughly enjoyed by all. A swapping of Christmas gifts brought the afternoon to a happy close.

Due to the extra cold weather in January we had fewer members at our first meeting of the New Year because some had, mistakenly, expected the hall to be cold but those who came enjoyed an amusing game of beetle.

Our second meeting in January was an extremely interesting, informative and colourful talk about Peru illustrated with slides by Mrs. Short. I've no doubt we shall be having her again by popular request, so that once again she may transport us in spirit where we fear to go in body. So ended a very pleasant term for us all.

If you would like to join us, we meet on the second and fourth Thursday of each month in the Orpen Hall at 2pm until about 3.45pm. Anyone over 50 is very welcome to come along; we shall be pleased to see you.

Dorothy Winter, Chairman

DON'T FORGET

British Summer Time Begins on
Sunday 29th March

Put your clocks forward by one hour

A Community Bus for West Bergholt?

Following a consideration of transport issues raised in the Parish Plan the Parish Council is investigating the possibility of some provision by a Community Bus for the village similar, but on a lesser scale, to those at Coggeshall and Manningtree. This could take the form of a minibus with up to sixteen seats provided by Essex County Council from their fleet based in Colchester, mainly for evening and weekend use. The plan would be to operate under Section 19 of the Transport Act and so would need a team of volunteer drivers. The cost of hiring this vehicle would be £1 a mile. Arrangements would need to be made to cover this cost.

Three potential areas of demand have been identified:

- * To provide a daily service from North Station to the village for regular commuters returning after 7.00pm
- * To provide at least a once weekly service (between 11.00am and 2.00pm) to an out of town shopping area (possibly Tollgate)
- * To be available for one off trips for clubs, societies, BYG, Scouts, the school for example.

In order to proceed it is necessary to have some idea of demand. If you feel you could make use of such a service please contact Gunter Klaphake on 240792 or E-mail klapchurch@aol.com or Harry Stone on 241026 or E-mail stone.vindens@btopenworld.com

Alternatively please fill in the contact slip below and return it to the collection box in the Co-op, near the Post Office Counter, by end of March.

Also if you are willing to join the team of volunteer drivers we would be very pleased to hear from you

Please cut an return lower portion _____

Name.....

Address/telephone/e-mail.....

Please indicate (tick appropriate boxes) your interest in this idea:

Travel Option Very Interested Possibly Interested Not Interested

Travel to/from the rail station

Travel to shops or other local places

Travel opportunities for clubs and societies

Please indicate if you are willing to join a team of volunteer drivers: Yes/No

Methodist Church News

After a very busy Christmas period we began 2009 with our New Year Social afternoon when church members and friends from the village enjoyed a fun afternoon of games and quizzes with a "bring and share tea".

The Women's Fellowship after a short time of closing has been re-opened and now meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month in the Church Hall at 2.30pm. Do come along and join us.

The Women's World Day of Prayer takes place on Friday 6th March. We are joining St. Mary's for a service at 1.30pm which this year has been prepared by the Christian women of Papua, New Guinea. Please join us for this wonderful service which will be used by churches all over the world on this day. We are meeting for a "soup and fruit" snack at 12.30pm. in St Mary's Hall before the service – everyone is welcome.

Our Annual Quiz takes place this year on Saturday 21st March at 7.00pm. in the Hall. Book a table by contacting Judith on 01206 241969. Tables of four at £16.00. Light refreshments will be provided as usual.

Please join us for any of our regular Sunday Services including Easter Day, Sunday 12th April at 11.00am.

Christian Aid Week in the village is May 10th – 16th.

E.mail to the Editor

Hi Bernard,

My family name is Pettican and from about 1800 to the 1920's we had direct ancestors living in West Bergholt, more specifically in what was then called Church Lane where my great grandparents William and Sarah Pettican lived. They had ten children - William, George, Eva, Ada, Frank, Harriett, Elsie, Minnie, Daisy and Ernest.

Having emailed Old St. Mary's Church I received a reply letting me know that Church Lane was where Hall Road meets at a crossroads. Church Lane is sometimes referred to now as Old Church Lane. Having finally had the chance to make a brief visit to West Bergholt last weekend we went to this spot which now has two relatively modern houses in it leading into the fields.

I was wondering if you had any information about what was Church Lane or any copies of old photos of the area? I have visited the West Bergholt website and been very interested in the historic images displayed there.

By way of additional information, our research has thrown up the possibility that some of our Pettican's worked for a time at High Trees Farm just down the road from Church Lane, Elsie Pettican worked at the Old Rectory as a domestic servant.

If you have any information - or know of someone who it might be worth me contacting that would be wonderful.

Thanks for your time,

Regards, Kiern Pettican, kiern.pettican@googlemail.com

Can anybody help Kiern with any information? Editor

Wesley Guild

The Guild begins its season of evening meetings, held on the 4th Friday of each month, on March 27th at 7.30pm. Our first speaker, Mrs Sandy Bernet will be telling us about the work of The Mercy Ships. Do you know anything about this work? Please come along and join us.

The Guild movement was started in the Methodist Church in 1896 and has seen many changes over the years. It began as a Youth Movement to encourage young people in the Church to join a Young People's Society with weekly or monthly meetings for devotional, literary and social purposes linked to Young Peoples Work. There was however no age limitation and gradually the membership was not particularly youthful. In the early 1900's membership of the Guilds was 152,000.

In 1970 a working party was established and found that the Guild had become more attractive to older members. The title "Youth Club for Oldies" best described the Guild whose charter was Comradeship, Consecration, Culture and Christian Service.

There are no age limits in our Guild and we hope the range of interesting speakers who relate topics on charities, social issues, holiday experiences and entertainment will be of interest to you. Please come along or contact Judith on 01206 241969 for more information.



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 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 a day in advance the numbers given below for the day on which you make the call. 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	242319	Thursday	247074
Saturday/Sunday		242075	

The Care Network is holding its Annual General Meeting in the Methodist Hall in Chapel Lane on Tuesday 21st April at 7.30pm. Any residents are welcome to attend, especially if they are prepared to become volunteers.

West Bergholt Football Club



We are now well into the season, and both men's teams are lying fourth in their respective leagues, with games in hand. On current form, both teams have every chance of a top slot finish to the season. The ladies team however are showing the way, topping their league with a 100% unbeaten record, and look almost certain to finish as champions, gaining promotion to the first division. This would be their second promotion in two seasons. Quite an achievement!

On the social front, Christmas and New Year events were very enjoyable and well supported. Nothing much else to report at the moment, other than the junior Saturday morning coaching sessions are proving as popular as ever with regular good attendances. Don't forget to visit our web site www.westbergholtfc.co.uk for up to date club news and use the link for your on-line shopping.

As always, we are pleased to see supporters, old and new, on match days, and training nights.

M.R.Bell, Chairman.

West Bergholt Bobbin Lace Class

The bobbin lace classes at St Mary's Church Hall continue this year. The students work on their own projects: lace pictures, flower medallions in Bedfordshire lace and



Torchon lace bookmarks and mats. We have also started looking at Bruges flower lace this term. The illustration shows an example of this type of Belgian lace. It is a small mat (about six inches across). The flower shape at the centre is typical of this

type of lace.

The classes take place during term time on Mondays from 1pm until 3pm. The cost for a twelve week term is £78.

Please contact me if you would like to join us.
Carol Maxwell Tel: 0771 2648468

Bergholt Youth Group Progress

The Bergholt Youth Group (BYG) is now formally established with a management committee, its own bank account and affiliation to the Essex Association of Boys Clubs. (Please note this is purely for administrative purposes and girls have equal roles within the Club). Eddie Cote has taken on the role of voluntary Club Leader and he is advised by Hannah from Essex Youth Service.

The Club is open to all village residents between 11 and 16 (Years 6 to 11). The plan is to have Club evenings every two weeks on a Friday from 6.30 to 8.30 at the John Lampon Hall starting Friday 13th February. A members committee will organise events and activities and the hope is to have something new for each session, at least initially. We also very much hope that it will not be long before we can use the 'all weather area' (MUGA) especially in the summer months. The Club will be staffed by volunteers and more are needed. If you are able to help please contact Eddie on 242258 or Harry Stone on 241026.

The intention is for the Club to be self financing but we have received a generous start up grant from Essex County Council and we are grateful for some donations from the village. This money is being used to purchase various sports equipment, electronic games and music equipment for example. The prospects for the village are exciting and we hope will be welcomed and supported by young people and parents alike.

Amber Harlow, Chair of Members Committee

Allotment Matters

As reported in the last Bulletin the demand for allotments grows and there is now a waiting list of about sixteen. We are hopeful of meeting this demand before the new growing season starts as several lettings are not being renewed, fully or in part, when rents are paid in February. One such plot holder is Stan Rideout, well known to many of us in the village, who has had a fall and is in hospital. We wish him a speedy recovery.

As plots do become available they will only be let in five rod lots which should help increase supply. Also those from outside the village will be given low priority until the list is cleared.

In the last bulletin we wrote about the policy on bonfires. Once again we hope residents, especially those near the site, will appreciate that we will do our best to minimise any nuisance caused by smoke and as such continue to reinforce the guidelines we give to plot holders.

All are on a Monday evening unless stated and from 17:00 to 20:00 unless otherwise stated. These time intervals are for plot holders to add material to a fire but it must be appreciated that the bonfires will in fact take longer than this to burn out.

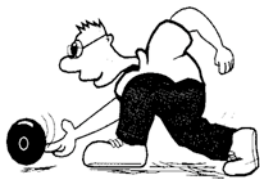
The dates for the coming year have been agreed and are as follows:

- 2nd March (16:00 – 19:00)
- 6th April, 5th May (Tues), 1st June, 6th July, 3rd August,
- 7th September, 5th October
- 2nd November (16:00 – 19:00)

Allotment Committee

Bowls Club

First, we welcome four new members to the club. In November Barbara Davies and George Coppin got through to the finals day of the Gt.Yeldham Charity match and three teams entered for the Essex County Bowls Pairs Competitions, but no trophies this time! At the end of the year the Club held their Christmas Bowls Evening – with some past members joining in the bowls games, quiz and bingo.



The New Year started with the Peter Boyden Charity Match in Braintree with all monies going to the London Chest Hospital – four teams entered from West Bergholt. The club's own competitions have now finished and winners will be announced next time. The AGM will take place on Thursday 26th March.

The Bowls Club are looking for new members, so if you would like to come along and have a "Bowl Up" you will be most welcome on any Sunday and Thursday evening at 7.15pm in the Orpen Hall. First night FREE. Telephone 240824 for further information.



Cricket

West Bergholt Cricket Club is now hard at work making plans for a very busy season. Our fixtures run from April to September. Our seniors will be represented in the Two Counties League on Saturdays and the PDQ North Essex League on Sundays, as well as on Wednesday evenings in the Colchester Community Evening League.



As for our juniors, they will be competing in local leagues at Under 11, 13, 15 and 16 levels and coaching sessions will start on Friday evenings in April, running through to July. Net sessions for all are being arranged at Littlegarth School.

Although we are in the depths of winter, cricket does not stop at WBCC; we are represented weekly in the Braintree Indoor Cricket League.

The club's AGM will be held at West Bergholt Football Club at 7.30pm on Monday 23 February and all members are invited to attend.

The annual Festival is scheduled for 25 - 27 June and plans are already well in hand with many visiting teams joining us at our beautiful Manor Ground.

As a Clubmark registered club, we represent a very attractive option for new members at all levels. Anyone interested in playing for us, from Under 11 upwards, should contact me in the first instance on 240225 or Nigel Passmore Chairman

Bergholt Heath Youth Football Club



Well the Bowling event passed off without incident and we have left the seasonal festivities behind us and returned to the pitch in earnest. All except our Under-10 team who have January off to protect their young limbs from freezing pitches or freezing rain! They will return in February to continue their strong challenge for the title. Next year they move up to eleven-a-side and we are all excited at their prospects of emulating the feat of the current Under-15 team and achieving A-League status.

It is pleasing to report that they are holding their own in that elevated company and the Under 14's are in the top four and challenging for promotion again. Our Under-13 side continues to find it hard going though, so let's hope for better news on them next time.

We are planning a tour at the Spring Bank holiday and hoping to take our two older age groups to Camber Sands or somewhere equally exotic!

Also keep an eye out for an announcement of our annual Race Night, which will hopefully be scheduled for some time in May; and our Awards Night, which, we hold in June.

Finally - our results, including scorers are posted each week on the village website www.westbergholt.net

Leslie Wright

Colne Valley Flower Club



Come and join us for our Spring programme. We meet on the third Wednesday of the month in the Orpen Hall at 7.30pm.

March 18th Jenny Baker is demonstrating and her theme is 'Bargain Buys'

April 15th David Wright is returning and his subject will be 'Spring Weddings'.

May 20th Crystal Dyball will be presenting 'Floral Fun'. At this meeting we will be holding our annual Plant Stall. Please bring along any plants that we can sell, all proceeds going to our Charity.

Parish Council Monthly Meetings

Meetings start at 7.30pm

MARCH Wednesday 25th 2009

Annual Parish Meeting - Wednesday 22nd April 2009

MAY Wednesday 27th 2009

JUNE Wednesday 24th 2009

West Bergholt Gardeners' Association



An entertaining autumn and early-winter programme of speakers culminated in our members' social evening on December 15th, when we were entertained by Mike Dodsworth, who had a "Seasonal Tale" or two to tell. A very expressive raconteur, Mike put a new slant on some Christmas parables.

We have no speaker meeting in January but Committee members will be working to make sure that our spring programme - and beyond - works smoothly. On Monday, February 16th we welcome back Andrew Tokeley of Thompson & Morgan to tell us what is new to grow in 2009. Also returning, Clare Heyes will give a slide presentation on the changing seasons at Marks Hall on Monday, March 16th. On April 20th we shall be holding our Annual Plant Sale and the doors at Orpen Hall will be open to everyone at 7.30pm - this is always a successful event and we are grateful to all who support it. On Monday, May 18th Bill Wye will give a presentation 'Fuchsias' on which subject he is a recognised authority.

This year we have decided to visit a garden of considerable interest much closer to home - GREEN ISLAND GARDENS, Ardleigh - and this will take place during the evening of Monday, June 15th. These gardens have been the subject of widespread complimentary reviews and should be at their best in June. There will be a guided tour for our group and if anyone would like to join us, please contact Gordon Dean (242194). The cost of admission for non-members will be £3 per head.

Although a little way ahead, we shall be paying a Club visit to Thompson & Morgan's OPEN WEEKEND on Sunday August 2nd ... make a note in your diary. Finally, be assured that a warm welcome awaits prospective new members and guests at our speaker meetings that start at 7.30pm in the Orpen Hall on the dates shown.



Knitting Circle

The village now has one! We meet at one another's houses once a month and enjoy a natter and nibble while we knit. We are making items for children's charities as well as pursuing our own projects. No regular commitment is required...join us whenever you can. We are also very grateful for any donations of double knitting wool.

Telephone Rosemary on 01206 241048 for further details.

Parish Plan Second Issue

The second Issue of the Parish plan has now been published and can be viewed at www.westbergholt.net.

This new issue updates the first release of the plan with the inclusion of over 20 photographs of the village, some maps and a preface explaining how the plan was produced. Bulletin readers will know that the first issue was adopted by the Parish Council as forming the forward plan for the community in September of 2008.



The plan, which has been sent to the Rural Community Council of Essex (RCCE) Essex and Colchester Councils, will be used to help define in

planning terms, what the village as a third sector (in the planning jargon) wants to see achieved, and lists aspirations for a whole range of community facilities and services.

As a first stage in monitoring the plan's progress, a workshop was held in the John Lampon Hall at the end of November. Over 20 people attended, and helped to define how the action plans can best be taken forward. Initial thoughts on this are that many of the actions can be progressed or initiated by the Parish Council, but that some (such as transport matters) need more people involved in order to take matters forward. Communication in the village was seen as needing a co-ordinator to help with spreading the word about community initiatives, and this matter is now being progressed by the Parish Council.

As a direct result of holding the workshop the Steering Group has welcomed three new members onto its committee. There have been some changes to roles and responsibilities with Claire Cunningham and Catherine Bailey stepping down from their positions of Treasurer and Secretary; whilst Catherine will remain on the committee, Claire will be leaving the Group completely. We thank both Claire and Catherine for their contribution to the plan's development over the last 3 years. Victoria Power is the Group's new Treasurer and Gunter Klaphake takes on the role of Secretary. Anyone who wants to learn more or wants to help is encouraged to contact Gunter on klapchurch@aol.com or 01206 240792. The village website lists all the Steering Group members and has a section which documents the progress of the plan.

Chris Stevenson,

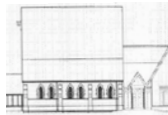
Chair, West Bergholt Parish Plan Steering Group.

Chrisstevenson@orange.net (01206 241708)

Editorial Team:

John Bates and Nora Bates (distribution) 240741, Bernard Colbron 240297, Susan Leng 241748 and Susan Swan (advertising) 242319. Copy for June issue should be with the Editors before 1st May 2009 - Regrettably late submissions cannot be guaranteed entry into the Bulletin

St. Mary the Virgin, West Bergholt



Developing St.Mary's for a growing community

GROUNDBREAKERS update...

around 70 children came to Groundbreakers on 20th December to celebrate 40 years of christingle. We had great fun learning what the parts of a christingle represented, playing games and making our own christingles and enjoyed talking about how we could shine God's love on our friends and family and the wider world. Our christingle service followed with many more families attending. When the lights were turned off and christingles lit St. Mary's really did shine like a beacon.

All the proceeds of the afternoon (over £200) were paid to The Children's Society so thank you for your contributions.

Also a HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who helped on the day, before and after and with resources. We really couldn't do it without you.

Easter Groundbreakers will be on Saturday 11th April between 10 and 12 noon. Groundbreakers is open to primary school aged children whatever school they attend.

Invites will be sent out to Heathlands School pupils early in April but if your children don't attend Heathlands and would like to come, please telephone Kate Wilson on 752056 for details and to register them.

CAROLS BY CANDELIGHT

Sunday 21st December found St Mary's (Old Church) filled with parishioners for the Christmas carol service. The dry, mild weather encouraged many to come on foot across the fields or via Hall Road to join in the worship and listen again to the Good News of our Saviour's birth.

Under Caroline Finlay's inspired direction the choir produced some lively unaccompanied singing in the gallery, whilst Mike Neish accompanied the congregation on the hand-pumped organ.

This joyful celebration of the coming of the Christ Child into our world was led by Rev. Colin Horseman, our rector, who warmed our hearts with his message of peace with God and goodwill to men.

Our thanks go to the Ladies who look after and decorate the Old Church for our brief visits there.

Roy White



Lexden Rackets and Fitness Club

formly Holmwood House Squash Club

Our member's club is renowned in the rackets world of Tennis and Squash for its friendly and welcoming disposition. We welcome new members to our now quite super clean and heated inside swimming pool, our moderately sized gym, our two+ Tennis courts and our five squash courts, three of which are glass backed. The

club's licensed bar and surrounding areas are being refurbished by enthusiastic volunteer members.

Lexden Rackets is above all a family club. Members bring their children, who eventually become members themselves and bring their own children and so it goes on. We not only tolerate children, we encourage them and have a fine record of promoting sport to children. Our Saturday Squash and Tennis mornings are always well patronised. Most of our top players were at one time juniors at the club. We have junior teams and individuals competing in national events.

We are certainly highly competitive and successful in our sporting disciplines. For many years Lexden Rackets has featured at the top of both tennis and squash league and knock out events, at local and national levels.

We have been extremely lucky to have had a succession of top class club Squash coaches. Currently we enjoy the superb skills of Paul Allen, who possesses exceptional coaching and court communicative skills. Needless to say, his services are in great demand and frequently the county's teams benefit from them!

The club's Tennis has benefited from the profound coaching skills of Nick Crown for over 20 years. He was the club's Tennis protagonist and was responsible for not only building the club but for achieving extraordinary results in both team and individual events, at county and at national level.

The Club was formed in 1972 by the Holmwood House Prep School in conjunction with it's 50th anniversary. The school was evacuated in the second world war - [w.bbc.co.uk/ww2peopleswar/stories/55/a4875555.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/ww2peopleswar/stories/55/a4875555.shtml) for more details. For more club history visit the club's web site at lexdensc.com

Dixie Deane Chairman,
Lexden Rackets and Fitness Club



Royal Mail Woods Bowls Club

Have you thought about trying your hand at Lawn Green Bowls this summer?

Whether you are a complete novice or an established outdoor bowler you will be welcome as a new member of our friendly community club situated at Keepers Green in Braiswick. The club caters for both social and competitive bowlers of all ages and abilities. Ladies, Gentlemen, Senior Citizens, and Juniors are all welcome.

The outdoor season runs from April to September and prospective new members are invited to visit the club early in the season to try the game without obligation or charge. Initially, there would be no need to purchase any equipment as this can be lent to you by the club.

Contact either Sheila or Malcolm Braithwaite on (01206) 851182 or Bob Barrett on (01206) 330326.



Bowls...
a healthy outdoor sport for all ages and abilities



village bulletin *what's on guide*

Regular Village Events

Sundays:

- Prayer Meeting**, 10.15am 1st Sunday every month - Methodist Church
- Service of Worship**, 11am Morning Worship - Methodist Church
- Bowls Club**, 7.30pm - Orpen Hall

Mondays:

- Bluebell Preschool**, Monday to Friday - Orpen Hall
- Parent and Toddler Group**, 9.30-11.30am - Methodist Hall
- Village Art Group**, 2.00pm - Methodist Church Hall
- Gardeners' Association**, 7.30pm 3rd Monday-Orpen Hall (Sept-Dec, Feb-May)
- SG KARATE**, Scout Hut - Mondays 8:30 - 9:30 pm. £4.00 per class.
- Bobbin Lace Class**, 1pm-3pm, term time only, St Mary's Church - Carol Maxwell, 0771 2648468

Tuesdays:

- NHS Primary Care Trust Baby Clinic**, 10am to 11am - Methodist Hall
- Miss Jackson's Dancing Class**, 5.30-7.30pm - Orpen Hall
- Tai Chi**, Continuing Class, 7.30-9.30pm - Scout Hut - Fiona 240339
- Methodist Church**, 11am 2nd Tuesday Communion Service
- Badminton Club**, 8.15pm - Orpen Hall
- W.E.A.**, 8.00pm - Methodist Hall (Sept. to Dec. and Jan. to Mar.)
- Slimming World**, 7pm - Orpen Hall, Carol French 0794 660 3939
- Morning Prayers**, 9.30am - 10am - weekly in Methodist Church

Wednesdays:

- Coffee Morning**, 10.00am 2nd Wednesday - Methodist Hall
- Women's Institute**, 7.15pm 1st Wednesday - Orpen Hall
- Colne Valley Flower Club**, 7.30pm 3rd Wednesday - Orpen Hall (not August or December)
- History Group**, 2nd Wednesday (not December) Phone 240297 for details
- Parish Council Meeting**, 7.30pm 4th Wednesday - Orpen Hall
- West Bergholt Craft and Quilters Group**, 2nd Wednesday (except Christmas) - Joyce Lucking Room
- Ladies' Afternoon Badminton**, Orpen Hall, 2.00pm to 3.30pm. New members welcome - contact Pat Butcher for details 242075
- Aerobics-Legs, Bums and Tums**, Methodist Hall, 6.45pm-7.45pm. Tel 243773.

Thursdays:

- Friendship Club**, 2.00pm 2nd and 4th Thursday - Orpen Hall
- Squeals on Wheels**, a service for pre-school 'toddlers' and families in St Mary's Church, 10.30am every Thursday, in term time.
- Colchester and District Model Railway Club**, 8pm - Armoury Farm
- National Women's Register**, 8.00pm fortnightly, telephone 240588 for details
- British Legion**, Gt & Lt Horkesley branch which includes West Bergholt - meet Beehive Pub, Lt Horkesley 2nd Thursday at 8pm
- Bowls Club**, 7.30pm Orpen Hall
- Table Tennis Club**, 7.30-9.00pm St Mary's Church Hall
- Pilates**, 9.30am, - Scout Hut, Methodist Hall evenings tel: 564348 for details

Fridays:

- West Bergholt Concert Band**, 6.00-7.00pm (Juniors), 7.00-9.00pm (seniors) - Heathlands school
- Wesley Guild**, 7.30pm, 4th Friday - Methodist Hall (March to September)
- Orpen Players**, 8.00pm - Orpen Hall

Saturdays:

- The Performing Arts Centre**, 10.30am-12.30pm for pupils aged 6 to 11 years old - Orpen Hall

West Bergholt Care Network

If you live in West Bergholt and need help getting to an appointment the Care Network may be able to help. Telephone the number below for the day on which you make your call. If there is no reply, please try any other number. Please note that we cannot respond to messages left on an answering service.

Monday 241 103 Tuesday 242 185 Wednesday 242 319
Thursday 247 074 Saturday/Sunday 242 075

St. Mary's Church Services and functions

News of other clubs, committees etc. that use the Church hall can be found elsewhere in this Village Bulletin, or access via a computer <http://uk.geocities.com/stmarywb/index.htm> for the Village Diary where you will find out what else goes on in West Bergholt.

March

- Sunday 1st 9.30am Morning Worship and Bugs
- Sunday 8th 9.30am Formal Holy Communion and Bugs
- Tuesday 10th 11.00am United Communion Service in Methodist Chapel
- Sunday 15th 9.30am Family Service and Bugs
6.30pm Prayer Book - Evening Service
- Sunday 22nd 9.30am Communion Service and Bugs
- Wed. 25th 10.00am Holy Communion BCP
- Friday 27th 7.30pm APCM in St Mary's Church
- Sunday 29th 9.30am United Service in Methodist Chapel

April

- Sunday 5th 9.30am Morning Worship and Bugs
- Sunday 12th 9.30am Formal Holy Communion and Bugs
- Tuesday 14th 11.00am United Communion Service Methodist Chapel
- Sunday 19th 9.30am Family Service with Scouts
6.30pm Prayer Book - Evening Service
- Wed. 22nd 10.00am Holy Communion BCP
- Sunday 26th 9.30am Communion Service and Bugs

May

- Sunday 3rd 9.30am Morning Worship and Bugs
- Sunday 10th 9.30am Formal Holy Communion and Bugs
- Sunday 17th 9.30am Family Service with Brownies
- Tuesday 19th 11.00am United Communion BCP Methodist Chapel
6.30pm Prayer Book - Evening Service
- Sunday 24th 9.30am Communion Service and Bugs
- Sunday 31st 9.30am United Service in St Mary's

A 'Creche' is available in the church hall for children under 5 years old, if required.
 Rector - The Rev. Colin Horseman telephone 271242

Bluebell Pre-School - Learning Through Play

Bluebell Pre-School employs Staff who are qualified to encourage the development of your child in all areas of the Pre-School curriculum, as defined by the Education Authority.

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 241677.