

village bulletin

June 2010

Issue 122

www.westbergholt.net

West Bergholt Concert Band



from Presley to the Proms

Spring 2010 was another busy and successful one for the band, with our two concerts raising over £1000 for local charities, as well as generating lots of congratulatory emails from audience members. Our year started with a return to one of our favourite venues, Clacton's Westcliff Theatre, with the band performing at the top of their game to an appreciative and very interactive audience. We followed that up with our first ever concert at the East Anglian Railway Museum, which proved to be as atmospheric as we'd expected, and a train load of fun. Some of the band members were very excited at tuning up next to Thomas the Tank Engine!

One of the band's best ever events was last summer's "Last Night Of The Proms" Concert with Clacton's Cavender Singers. The success of the event has led to us being asked to repeat it this year. So if you missed last year's, do come along to Clacton's Westcliff Theatre on Sunday June 13th at 3:00pm. We'll be playing all of the "Last Night" classics, such as a lovely new arrangement of Jerusalem, Pomp & Circumstance and Fantasia on British Sea Songs. It really is a wonderful event, so we'd love to see our village supporters waving their flags and joining in with the fun (and singing of course).

We're then into our main Summer Concert at St Botolph's on Saturday July 10th at 7:30pm, featuring music from Elvis, Gershwin, Artie Shaw, Henry Mancini, Sousa, Copland, Sondheim, Strauss, Queen and Coldplay...and not a single mention of football. The concert will be raising funds for Macmillan Nurses, in memory of members of the band and some family who have recently been taken from us by Cancer.

The younger band members continue to grow up and leave us for University, so we're always looking for new members

to replace them. If you'd like to join or find out more about the band, wander up to Heathlands any term-time Friday evening, or come and see us at any of our concerts. The band's uniqueness is that we have players from 7 to 70, so there's always someone younger/older/worse/better than you...and we're blessed with an incredibly friendly group of musicians who really do make music fun.

Everything you need to know about the band (including tickets, details and directions for our concerts) can be found 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!



Workers Educational Association

As usual we try to provide an assortment of courses. Our next one is clearly planted in the arts camp. It starts on 21st September 2010 with the life and work of that busy man William Morris who died in 1896. His work had close connections with the Arts and Crafts movement and this will be developed.

The course will follow the usual pattern of ten Tuesday evenings 8pm to 9.40pm at the Methodist Church Hall with its wheelchair access and, should it be needed, a LOOP system. Fees are only slightly increased at £44 for the term, with nil fees for those on Income Related Benefits or JSA; also financial help should be obtainable from WEA Cambridge, if household income is under £15,000 net pa (from Discretionary Learner Support Fund).

If you are unsure whether this course is really for you, do come and sample the first evening free. Further information is available from our Secretary on 01206 240791.

We look forward to hearing from you.

the village bulletin *information*

PROVIDED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL OF WEST BERGHOLT

Chairman

John Gili-Ross
67 Mumford Road,
West Bergholt

☎ 242 236



Vice-Chairman

Bob Tyrrell
Grey Gables,
8a Colchester Road
West Bergholt

☎ 240 016

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Sally Butcher	59 Mumford Road	☎	241 923
Jenny Church	Doran, Hall Road	☎	240 792
Bernard Colbron	64 Mumford Road	☎	240 297
Sue Day	62 Albany Road	☎	241 040
Andrew Savage	6 Garling Walk	☎	242 015
David Short	60 Albany Road	☎	241 715
Peter Sleight		☎	07973 841104
Chris Stephenson	74 Mumford Road	☎	241 708
Harry Stone	Vindens, Chapel Lane	☎	241 026

PARISH WORKING COMMITTEES

Premises and Recreation

Bernard Colbron, Sally Butcher, Jenny Church, Harry Stone, Sue Day

Environment and Highways

David Short, Sally Butcher, Jenny Church, Sue Day, Harry Stone

Planning and Development

Bob Tyrrell, Andrew Savage, Peter Sleight, Chris Stephenson

Finance and Personnel Advisory

Andrew Savage, John Gili-Ross, Chris Stephenson, Harry Stone

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

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

ORPEN HALL ADMINISTRATOR

June Mayhew		☎	240 694
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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.

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

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



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

Cable Theft Failure – Activity Update

In March when most of West Bergholt was cut off from its telephone and broadband service, it brought home the importance of these services to our daily home and/or business activities. Many asked why it was happening yet again with the third failure in a year being the result of cable theft.

Unfortunately, this type of crime is not just affecting BT and its customers. Many Essex companies that rely on or use cable within their business can be equally affected. The more rural the setting the more opportunity there is for this type of theft. Be warned, however it is not just restricted to quiet country roads as cable theft occurs right across Essex and one recent incident occurred on a busy road off the A12 where thieves made off with cable laid along side the main road.

Following the March incident John Gili-Ross, Chairman of the Parish Council wrote to Ian Livingstone, CEO of BT asking what his company was doing to reduce this type of crime and how West Bergholt residents could be assured that they were not just another unfortunate statistic. The letter, sent by e-mail on the Thursday before Easter led to a number of e-mail exchanges between John and BT's CEO throughout the Easter weekend. Following this exchange, a meeting of the Parish Council, BT and the Neighbourhood Police Team (NPT) was held in the John Lampon Hall to identify the scale of the problem locally, discuss remedial options, and how the community could be engaged to help prevent a recurrence. The meeting was most helpful for all concerned. BT detailed the actions it has put in place to deal with cable theft and it has created a new department with this objective as its sole function. Working with local police authorities, they are keen to strengthen links with our NPT, which also serves most of the rural villages to the north of Colchester. This type of theft relies on there being a market for stolen materials and local scrap dealers are encouraged to help prevent this crime. Removing the ability to convert stolen metal into cash is an important step and local scrap dealers are being encouraged to question the source of scrap metal offered for sale. Local intelligence on unlicensed traders is to be pooled by BT, the police and CBC to help further this cause.

In the short term, preventative action is needed to stop cable theft in our area and BT has agreed to commit resource and capital to cable theft in our area. All cable ducts between Fordham exchange and West Bergholt will have "duct plate plant protection" installed, making duct entry extremely difficult and in the interim local police

patrols will concentrate on the roads between Fordham and West Bergholt. BT and the police will also examine shared intelligence of suspicious activity reports to help detect cable theft gangs.

The public have an important role in this prevention exercise. Anyone using our rural roads at night and observing unusual activities where cables may be laid should immediately report this activity to the police using 0300 333 4444. Please do not wait until morning when it may be too late to prevent a possible theft.

Unfortunately we are still in a Broadband "Slow Spot"

Residents and businesses in West Bergholt and parts of Eight Ash Green are in one of the UK's broadband "slow spots". The speed or bandwidth of our broadband service is less than a quarter of the Government's target for 2012. Whilst paying the same monthly charges our broadband speed is approximately 1/16th of that currently enjoyed by Colchester town residents.

BT owns the majority of the broadband local cabling links between the exchange in Fordham and the homes and businesses in West Bergholt or Eight Ash Green. History has dictated the cable routing and the cost of modernisation to an all fibre local loop could be some years away. The "Digital Britain" programme is unlikely to improve this situation even assuming this vital programme remains intact after the general election. This leaves only two options – wait for a large-scale investment programme or for communities to take up the challenge and replace the local connectivity using other means. It appears that West Bergholt must look to the latter option if a quality faster broadband service is to be a reality in the near future.

West Bergholt Parish Council has asked Essex County Council for financial help to install a wireless broadband service. Working collaboratively with an Essex based rural broadband supplier, the Parish Plan broadband sub-committee and ECC funding, it is hoped that a new service will be installed costing the equivalent of the current broadband monthly charges paid to BT or other Internet Service Providers (ISP).

In the latest broadband survey carried out by the Parish Plan group there was overwhelming support for this initiative. With funding support, a new high-speed village broadband service could be in place within 6 months.

John Gili-Ross

The Friends of Hillhouse Wood



The protracted winter with day and night low temperatures persisting to the end of April meant a delay in the full flowering of the wood's famous bluebells and also late leafing of the trees, especially oaks. But ahead of the bluebells in April there was a very good show of wood anemones, primroses and even early purple orchids and lesser celandines.

The nature walk in the wood led by Philip Smith and myself on April 18 was blessed by a fine sunny day with the temperature reaching a high of 17°C. The 25 who joined us were rewarded at the entrance to the wood with good views of a pair of creepers, further proof of the colonisation of Hillhouse by this uncommon woodland bird. Also, before we entered the wood, we had excellent views of up to ten roe deer on arable fields northeast of the wood. There were up to ten singing male blackcaps and there was a pair next to the stream on the Fordham side of the wood with the male carrying nesting material and during the walk seven male chiffchaffs were heard and some seen. These warblers had returned to their nesting territories in the wood after spending the winter in Africa and southern Europe.

Only a few drifts of bluebells were showing bloom but there were plenty of primrose clumps and a beautiful carpet of wood anemones. Also flowering were cuckoo flowers (lady smock), yellow archangel and moscatel (town hall clock), bugle, wood sorrel and alternate leaf golden saxifrage. The large colony of wild garlic (ransoms) next to the stream on the Fordham side of the wood was just coming into white bloom. The only surviving flowering clump of marsh marigold (king cup) growing next to the stream in the wood interior was pointed out to the party. There were already up to half a dozen flowering spikes of early purple orchid, mostly near the top pond. A male great spotted woodpecker was heard "drumming" on tree branches. Three peacock butterflies just out of hibernation were seen, one nectaring on blackthorn blossom in the lane on the approach to the wood. Other butterflies seen were a male orange tip, green-veined white and small tortoiseshell. Several bee flies were nectaring on flowers with female red and white-tailed bumblebees. A grass snake was even in the middle of the wood. A male yellowhammer was on wires at the lane leading to the wood and two others were seen flying.

There was also welcome sunshine for the bluebells and spring wildlife open afternoon on April 24 attended by more than 60. The Friends of Hillhouse Wood had a display of photographs of wildlife and the activities of the volunteer work parties next to the old church and a new colour-illustrated nature trail leaflet was available for the visitors. Philip Smith and myself led one party round the wood to see (and hear) the wildlife. Several chiffchaffs and blackcaps were singing and butterflies seen were male orange tips, comma, peacock, green-veined white, large white and speckled wood. More early purple orchids were in bloom but the bluebells had yet to reach their impressive blooming that came a week later.

The popular dawn chorus walk at the wood is scheduled for May 16 (weather permitting), to be led by myself and Philip Smith. It is hoped that nightingale song will be the star attraction, as well as a host of other early bird songsters heard after the 3.45am start from the old church.

A grant has been secured by The Friends to help with the clearance of the overgrown top pond and this will be carried out in the autumn together with necessary de-silting. This operation has to be carried out with great care as the pond has a number of breeding and uncommon dragonflies and damselflies as well as a colony of great crested newts, which are a Red Data species. There is a total of fifteen dragonfly and damselfly species in and near the wood including the rare beautiful demoiselle damselfly which is along the stream on the Fordham side of the wood.

There will be a summer butterfly, dragonfly and insect walk in July led by Philip Smith and myself and the date will be notified in the village by posters as well as in the local press and on websites.

Joe Firmin



Colne Valley Flower Club



Our next meeting is on Wednesday 16th June when our demonstrator will be Lisa Howarth who comes from Sandy, Bedfordshire and her title is "Summer Holiday".

July 21st is our Members Evening and we will be having a 'Hands on Workshop'

The Club does not meet in August.

Meetings are held in the Orpen Hall at 7.30pm on the third Wednesday of the month. Visitors are always welcome at any of our meetings. For any further information you can contact our Chairman on 01206 241145.



CHARITY NO: 299094

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	240 569
Friday	240 167	Saturday/Sunday	242 075

Just a reminder that the Care Network is also available to take people to visit relatives in hospital or to accompany people to appointments etc.

Dear Residents,

I would like to say a big thank you to all those who supported me in my bid to represent West Bergholt and Eight Ash Green by voting for me in the Borough Council Elections on 6th May. Whilst the majority of votes for the two villages went to the incumbent political party, your vote placed me second with a creditable 653 votes, ahead of the Lib Dems, Labour and the Green Party.

This defeat has not dampened my enthusiasm to represent our village at Borough level. We deserve full representation at the local level where our council tax is collected, distributed and spent. Our village must be defended from the effects of over development, either directly or as a consequential effect of large-scale developments in neighbouring communities.

As to the future, we will have another Borough Council election next year when the second of our Borough Councillor positions comes up for election. If however, current proposals are agreed, then both of our councillor positions will be up for election in May 2011 because CBC is considering moving to a four year term for the entire council. This means savings in our council tax money and we will only be disturbed every four years by the normally absent political parties. Not a bad position I am sure.

I heard from one of my most favourite and respected supporters that they have found an excellent secondary use for the flyer I distributed as part of my campaign. Rather than being despatched to the bin, they apparently make excellent bookmarks. I still have a few spare flyers if anyone should want one.

I am very proud to have received your support and I will work harder for our village and hopefully persuade more of you to support me next year. I do believe our village deserves the very best representation.

Yours sincerely,

John Gili-Ross



Dear Sir,

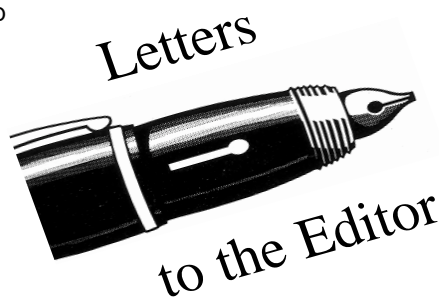
Visiting Hill House Wood to see the beautiful display of bluebells I stopped to read the information board at the entrance to the wood and was surprised to read that the wood was bought for the Woodland Trust by Colchester Borough Council and with donations from local people.

In fact Colchester Borough Council only contributed £3,000 of the £34,000 needed to buy the wood - less than 10%. The parish council donated another £3,000 (a much more generous contribution, taking into account their relative lack of financial resources compared with the borough council)

and the Woodland Trust gave £5,000. The rest of the money (£23,000) was contributed by local people and, amazingly was raised in six weeks.

I am sure many people must be as annoyed as I am at the misleading information on this board. It reads as though the Borough Council was the main contributor. The people of West Bergholt and other well wishers who gave so generously deserve to be recognised for their terrific response to the appeal. West Bergholt Parish Council's donation should also be acknowledged.

Helen Lander



Dear Sir,

I was delighted to read Stephen Miller's letter which you published in issue 121. Like Mr Miller I am a dog owner and have walked through Hill House Woods for many years and until fairly recently enjoyed the sights and sounds of the wildlife that used to be there. Mr Miller is I believe absolutely correct in his assertion that the real reason for the disappearance of the wildlife [including the Nightingales] is the wholesale decimation of virtually all the ground cover except of course for the blessed Bluebells!

Nightingales were always present in the woods and regularly used the same nesting areas year after year until the clearances began and since the flailing of large areas of bramble and bracken the birds have quite naturally gone elsewhere. Should any bird have the courage to try and nest in the tiny clumps of cover that are left then they would be very easy pickings for the increasing numbers of foxes - good luck to them!

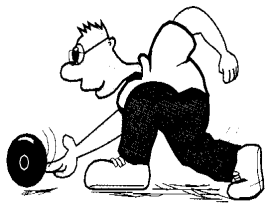
I also read in the same issue [Joe Firmin's column] that it is proposed to clear the last remaining "wild area" on the western edge of the wood. If this occurs it will undoubtedly guarantee that no Nightingale will ever again inhabit our woods. I would state at this juncture that I agree totally with Stephen Miller as regards the rights of "The Friends" to restrict access to the woods. This would have to be a matter for the owners and that is another "Can of Worms".

To suggest that our dogs are a main cause for the disappearance of the Nightingales and indeed other creatures is not only ludicrous but insulting to the intelligence of most of the people it has been my good fortune to meet whilst out walking with our dogs.

Like Mr Miller I am sure that "The Friends" are a well meaning band but it is clear they need no help from our dogs in scaring away the wildlife as they are more than capable of doing that unaided.

David Goodbourn

West Bergholt Indoor Bowls Club



Essex County Champion for Bowls Club

For the second time in three years, the club has the County Singles Champion in bowler George Coppin, congratulations to him from the Club for this achievement.

The Annual General Meeting was held recently and as we had a dinner at the Cricketers on Fordham Heath earlier in the month, members had a plated supper with drinks. This was followed by a fund raising raffle and the presentation of the Annual awards.

Winner Singles: Paul Leach .
Runner up: Patrick McCarthy

Winners Pairs: Eileen Brown and Nora Bates
Runners up: Beryl Conway and George Coppin

Winners Triples: Nora Bates, Eileen Brown and Jan Lumb
Runners up: Barbara Davis, Greta Leatherdale and George Coppin

Winners Fours: Doreen Payne, Ivan Payne, Bett McCarthy and Patrick McCarthy
Runners up: Beryl Conway, Barbara Davis, Greta Leatherdale and George Coppin

Winner Points George Coppin Runner up Barbara Davis

We also ran a new competition this year of a two wood game. This proved extremely popular with all members and we hope to play for it annually. Winners were Ilona Read and Patrick McCarthy, runners up Barbara Davis and Beryl Conway. We had several friendly matches and the results were about even, everyone enjoys playing in these games and we meet some nice people.

A few vacancies are available for new members so why not come along on Thursday or Sunday evening at 7.15pm at the Orpen Hall or ring 240379.

COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS

will be holding a

SCAVENGER HUNT

for all the family

Sunday 27th June

starting from St Mary the Virgin Church Hall at 2pm.

**Get to know the village
and have a bit of fun on the way.**

Tea and cake at the finish.

Further details on page 16

West Bergholt Women's Institute



The March meeting was a large gathering as six other Women's Institutes were invited to attend a Viyella and Country Casuals Fashion Show. Seven of our own members were models with their make up from the Clarins range who also gave a demonstration and a gift bag of samples to everyone. Visitors commented on how much they enjoyed the homemade cakes with their coffee.

The president, Pat Moran, welcomed Mr Derek Webber in April. His talk entitled A Glimpse into the Bee's World was absolutely fascinating and with the aid of a beehive, members learnt the process of gathering honey. Large selections of cakes were brought to the meeting as our annual contribution to St. Helena Hospice.

Following Resolution voting in May, speaker, Simon Gallup, talked about Flatford and Constable Country



RADIO SUPPORT

Village businessman Andrew Ross was a guest on the Dave Monk show on BBC Essex on May 13th. The broadcast was a special live edition from Basildon library which centred on giving positive advice to people who are facing redundancy or looking to change their career. Andrew who has run nicensstrip, a garden maintenance company, since 2006 joined speakers from Essex organisations such as Business Link to talk about the sources of support available to those in the job market as well as what to look for when considering buying a franchise.



West Bergholt Spring Clean

Ten worthy villagers turned up on Saturday 1st May to join in a litter pick for the village.

The biggest problem areas were Nayland Road and Colchester Road where several bags of rubbish were collected. One team needed to return and use a car to fetch the bags of rubbish as they could not carry them back, they were so heavy.

The streets in the main part of the village were not too bad but the event was well worth while as twelve bags of litter were collected in total.

The Beaver Scouts had already cleaned up the Poores Land, the Heath and the Lorkin Daniell field the previous Friday at their club meeting.

Many thanks to them and all the volunteers who gave up their Saturday morning to help keep the village cleaner and greener.

Bergholt Heath Youth Football Club



With our tenth anniversary season drawing to a close we can reflect upon mixed success by our teams. Our Under 11 side had a great first season in the A League of the XI a-side format and finished a creditable 3rd. Our Under 14 side struggled a bit but remained resolute to the end. They will be keen to get some more players at Under 15 level next season though. Our Under 15 team finished sixth in League C which was good and our senior Under 16 side consolidated their position in the A League.

As it was our tenth anniversary, we held an event at the John Lampon Field behind the Orpen Hall over Easter where the original side from 1999 played the current Under 16 team. Youth was the winner 4-0 just proving that the lifestyle of the average 24 year old isn't as healthy as it could be.

The next event is our Awards Evening at Orpen Hall on 5 June - managers will be in touch with further details, and then on 22 June, our AGM at the White Hart from 8pm. Further details will be sent to members soon. At that meeting we are looking to introduce our new Under 16 manager for next year. Mark Duffy is stepping down as manager due to business commitments but his company, CFPI Ltd, remains the main sponsor of the club and his wife Tina is our Child Welfare Officer, so I am sure he will be around us for some time. At this stage, Mark, we wish you all the best and your contribution (as manager) will be missed. We have a new manager lined up but we aren't leaking his name yet (in case Inter want him to replace Mourinho).

Finally, at the time of writing, we are in discussion with West Bergholt FC - the senior club in the village - in order to explore ways in which we can consolidate the football offering in the village. The committee see this as a potentially exciting development, so watch this space.

Here's to England winning in South Africa and West Bergholt-based teams having a great season next season.

Leslie Wright

NOT HITTING THE RIGHT NOTE

...two dogs and a cat go to a classical concert at The Royal Albert Hall. They enjoy it so much that they ask to go backstage to meet the orchestra. The doorman says 'You can't come back here, what do you know about music?' The first dog said: 'I Bach', the second dog said: 'I Offenbach' and the cat said: 'I'm Debussy'.

West Bergholt Gardeners' Association



After the big chill, fill gaps in beds and borders to create a perfect summer garden. But note that our hard winter has had no effect on scale insects, a sap-sucking pest that can attack trees and shrubs. Although odd pests can be rubbed off, infestations need a pesticide containing horticultural soap, or use a control such as Organic Pest Spray.

Some important seasonal jobs for May are:

Thin spinach, carrot and lettuce, then water the rows well
Harden off dahlias and tender exotics
Feed and top dress permanent pot plants
Plant up pots of summer bedding and harden off
Continue to weed beds and borders
Cut back flowered shoots of Choisya for a second flowering in autumn

Everyone has noticed the plethora of dandelions so far this year. One way to destroy the root as well as top growth is sprinkle half a teaspoon of salt into the middle of the rosette.

Consequent to a very successful plant sale in April, our summer programme is as follows:

12 May Visit to RHS Wisley
17 May Robert Strathern speaking on Fairfield Farm Crisps enterprise
21 June Afternoon visit to Olivers Gardens, Colchester
28 June Evening visit to Cants Rosefields, Colchester
19 July Evening visit to Kings Seeds, Kelvedon

After a break in August, our next meeting will be on 20 September. We will welcome Darren Tansley who will talk on The Search for Ratty at 7.30pm followed by the AGM in the Orpen Hall. An exciting programme of speakers and outings will follow through to summer 2011.

We welcome visitors and new members at all our meetings. For further information please contact Valerie Lofthouse (Chair) tel: 855450 or Gordon Dean (Secretary) tel: 242194.

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

Essex Police

Please make sure that when leaving your home, windows and doors are fully secured. There have been dwelling burglaries in West Bergholt, which have occurred during the day and jewellery is quite often the target. The method of entry is normally at the rear of the property so please keep your eyes peeled for any people or vehicles that seem out of place and do not hesitate to contact the Police.



IDENTITY THEFT

A number of waste sacks have been removed from outside houses prior to collection. These have been gone through to find paper containing householder's personal details. Please ensure that all personal items, letters, bills, receipts and credit/debit card details are shredded to protect your identity.

TELEPHONE PROBLEMS

Recent cable thefts in the area have obviously had a huge impact on the phone lines in West Bergholt. Police and chair of the Neighbourhood Action Panel (NAP) have been in meetings with BT and an agreement was made to weld down manhole covers that were considered most vulnerable and likely to have a detrimental effect on the village, if you see any suspicious vehicles parked at the side of the road that do not look legitimate please call the Police. The number for Essex Police is 0300 333 4444. In case of emergency or crimes in progress please continue to use 999.

Your local Neighbourhood Specialist Police Officer is Pc 2910 Vicky Sanders from the Copford Neighbourhood Policing Team. Your PCSO's are Natalie King and Sue Donaldson. Mike Lee is the Sergeant for your area.

Joint CBC and Police anti-social behaviour hotline

Colchester Borough Council and Essex Police have joined forces to provide you with a direct line to report anti-social behaviour. You can now speak to a team of dedicated specialists who can talk through your problems and deal with your call more efficiently by assigning it to the correct agency.

The ASB hotline number is 282731, it will operate between 8.30am and 5.30pm Monday to Friday. Callers outside these times should leave a message, but urgent calls (i.e. threats to life) should ring 999.



West Bergholt Parent, Baby and Toddler Group



The Toddler Group is a great place to meet other parents/carers and their little ones in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere. Children from birth to 5 years of age are able to play safely together, or side by side, with a variety of toys.

We enjoy singing every week when the children choose from our nursery rhyme basket and our dedicated singing lady will lead us with lots of actions to keep the children interested. Don't worry about your own prowess - if you don't want to share your singing talent at first, you'll soon realise that everyone just has fun and as with all other aspects of the group, no one judges your talents! We also have regular craft sessions for those special occasions such as Mothers Day, Easter, Fathers Day, Christmas and lots of other times during the year to encourage your child's creativity.

Our group enjoys lots of visits from our Health Visitor, Usborne Books, Card Lady, Hairdresser, a friendly goat(!) and even Father Christmas graces us with his presence at our Christmas party. We are trying to organise for a fire engine to tantalise the children's senses next term too, so fingers crossed. For a breath of fresh air, we also take trips out to places like the Bluebell Woods and the Orpen Hall Park for our Summer Party.

Social activities extend beyond the children too (perish the thought) with events such as 'Pampered Chef' to give you a chance to let your hair down without the little ones to worry about, as well as to raise money for the toddler group, so that those well used toys can be replaced with new ones.

So why not come along for a cup of tea and be assured that your children will have lots of others to play with. There is a small weekly charge of £1 per family and if you become a member, your child will receive a hand delivered birthday card, an Easter egg and a Christmas present from Father Christmas himself for a small annual fee of £5.

Please feel free to contact either Nikki Hillier (01206 867056) or Donna Luxton (01206 240475) with any questions.

Do You Have A Baby Or Toddler Under 5?

Come and Have a Coffee and
Talk To Other Mums!!

Squash, Biscuits, Craft, Singing, Lots Of Toys
and Other Children To Play With!!

West Bergholt Methodist Church Hall
Mondays from 9.15am to 11.30am
(Term Time).

*This Group Is Run By Mums,
For Under 5's And Their Carers.*

Telephone:
Nikki (01206 - 867056) or
Donna (01206 - 240475)

From strength to strength



The Royal British Legion

I am not quite sure where my mind was when writing the Legion article in March issue with reference to the collection for the

Poppy Appeal. Actual figures show the total amount collected by the Branch was £8,277.90 of which well over £801 was collected in West Bergholt, that's about 10%, which is pretty good going. So thank you everyone who helped raise this amount. Be sure either me, or one of the Branch members will be outside the Co-op this coming November!

In October, Branch members accompanied by their wives and friends gathered for the Autumn Dinner at the Lion, Leavenheath, which always coincides with the start of the Poppy Appeal. We also enjoyed the well-attended annual AGM in November and social afterwards.

Final bit of news - over the past three months we are very glad to have welcomed two new members to our branch. If you have considered joining The Royal British Legion and would like to learn a little more about it, please ring me, Hugh Brivent-Barnes, on 07875 428 120 as I live in the village, and would enjoy a chat with you, or ring the secretary, Roger Drury on 271454.



West Bergholt Football Club



With the season drawing to a close we look back on a hugely successful campaign.

Earlier this month, we reached the final of the Essex Premier Cup for the second time in the club's history. The first time in 1999 ended in a 0-1 defeat. However this time we went one better with a tremendous 2-1 win over Galleywood from the Olympian league in an exciting final played at Billericay's stadium. Exactly one week later we went to Sudbury to face White Notley in the final of the Border League Cup.

As the holders, we went into the game as favourites, but received a rude awakening when we went 0-2 down in the first half. However, the team showed their fighting spirit to battle back to 2-2 to take the game in to extra time, where we showed our class to secure a 3-2 victory and retain the cup for a second year. In the league we are currently in second place after being top for most of the season. Success in the cups has left us with a backlog of games, but if we can win our remaining seven games we will retain the league title, which would be an all time record for the club.

To add to the success of the first team, the reserves are enjoying one of their best ever seasons with a good chance of winning their league. It is largely due to the strength of the reserves that the first team has been able to maintain their momentum.

Further honour was heaped on the club, when we were named as Colchester & District team of the year at a presentation evening held at Colchester United's stadium. This was in recognition of last season's achievement in winning the double and conceding the least amount of goals in football's level 7 in the whole country. Next season we are hoping to build on our success with the introduction of an under 16 side, which we hope will act as a feeder team for the senior sides. The aim is to give local youngsters an opportunity to get involved with the club at an earlier age than is currently possible.

On the social side, over the Easter holiday we entertained our twin club RSV Bublingshausen from Germany. We enjoyed some good times together, including a trip to Romford Dog Racing and a Barn Dance in a barn at Manor Farm, which we are grateful to Owen and Lois DeAth for allowing us to use. On the Sunday we played our traditional football match, which we won 7-1 possibly due to the celebrations of the previous evening taking their toll on the visitors. We are holding our Annual Presentation Evening at Marks Tey Hotel on the 21st May and we already have some silverware to display.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the supporters who travelled to Billericay and Sudbury for our Cup Finals, and those who support all our games. It is much appreciated by players and management, and we hope you have enjoyed the season.

Don't forget to keep up with the club news on www.westbergholtfc.co.uk and use the on line shopping link. M.R.Bell, Chairman



West Bergholt Bobbin Lace Class

This term everyone is continuing with their own projects. At the moment these include several bookmarks using a range of torchon lace techniques. One member of the class has also been learning basic Honiton lace. We have also been looking at examples of Bruges Flower Lace, such as this stylised picture of a swan.



The classes take place during term time on Mondays from 1pm until 3pm at St Mary's Church Hall.

Please contact me if you would like to join us. Carol Maxwell, Tel: 07712 648468

St. Mary's Church

Services and functions

News of other clubs, committees etc. which use the Church and Hall can be found elsewhere in this Village Bulletin, or www.stmaryswestbergholt.web.officelive.com for the Village Diary where you will find what else goes on in West Bergholt

June

Sunday 6th 9.30am Morning service and Bugs
 Sunday 13th 9.30am Formal Holy Communion and Bugs
 Tuesday 10th 11.00am United Communion service in Methodist Chapel
 Sunday 20th 9.30am Family Service with Bugs
 6.30pm Prayer Book – Evening Service
 Wed. 24th 10.00am Holy Communion BCP
 Sunday 27th 9.30am Communion Service and Bugs

July

Sunday 4th 9.30am Morning Worship and Bugs
 Sunday 11th 9.30am Formal Holy Communion and Bugs
 Sunday 8th 9.30am Family Service with Bugs
 6.30pm Prayer Book Service
 Wed. 21st 10.00am Holy Communion BCP
 Tuesday 20th 11.00am United Communion Service in Methodist Chapel
 Sunday 25th 9.30am Communion Service and Bugs

August

Sunday 1st 9.30am Morning Service and Bugs
 Sunday 8th 9.30am Formal Holy Communion and Bugs
 Sunday 15th 9.30am Family Service with Bugs
 6.30pm Prayer Book - Evening Service
 Tuesday 17th 11.00am United Communion Service in Methodist Chapel
 Sunday 22nd 9.30am Holy Communion and Bugs
 Wed. 25th 10.00am Holy Communion BCP
 Sunday 29th 11.00am Joint Service with Methodist at St Mary's

Also please note 26-28th Groundbreakers Holiday Club

The above are the known times and dates of services at time of going to press. Accurate times and services are to be found in Good News, the monthly church magazine.

If you would like a copy delivered to your door, please contact Kate Wilson on 01206 752056

A Crèche is available in the church hall for children under the age of five years old, if required.



Rector – The Rev Colin Horseman telephone 271242



A discussion group for women

NWR is a national organisation for women with many groups across the UK. The West Bergholt group is always keen to welcome new members. We meet fortnightly on a Thursday evening from 8pm to about 10pm. We are a friendly group with a varied programme of discussions as well as talks and occasional visits to places of interest. If you would like to know more about NWR then you will find some general information on the website - www.nwr.org.uk.

If you would like to know more about your local group then you can either email Judy Harvey, the Local Organiser - judithharv@googlemail.com or telephone - 01206 576293 (evenings are best).



West Bergholt Cricket Club



The new season is now well underway and the weather has been kind to us with none of the early matches affected by rain. Our Seniors are competing in the North Essex League and Two Counties League at the weekends and the Colchester Community Evening League on Wednesdays. Our Juniors are competing in the local leagues at Under 16, Under 14 and Under 12 levels; the newly formed Kwik Cricket section will be playing in various tournaments over the summer and includes our first girl member.

The new net surface is in place so the club is now able to boast two ECB-standard practice nets alongside each other. Our next aim is to purchase pitch covers to help prevent match cancellations due to rain. This is a major project costing in the region of £5,000 so our fundraising efforts are concentrated on this target.

Plans for the club's annual Cricket Festival are well advanced and will comprise matches and 'round-robin' tournaments against a number of visiting teams. As usual there will be plenty of fun activities planned for all the family as well as a licensed bar and barbecues. The Festival dates are from Thursday 24 to Sunday 27 June.

We welcome everyone in the village to come and watch cricket at the lovely Manor Ground and we are always looking for volunteers to help out at the club.

Keep in touch with new developments at the club on www.westbergholtcc.co.uk. If you want to play cricket or just help out, call me on 240225 or 07769 697542, or e-mail on npassmore@sky.com

Nigel Passmore, Chairman.

Thinking of Golf



Think Colchester Golf Club

We are proud to be part of the local community.

Established over a hundred years ago, Colchester's only members' golf club,
and a James Braid course.

Try our Trial Membership, two-month membership plus golf lesson from one of our
PGA professionals all for £150, or.....

Want some relaxation after a hard days work? What about Twilight Golf.

Details are all on our website www.colchestergolfclub.com .

Alternatively call Julie or Richard on 01206 853396 for more information and
mention the West Bergholt Village Bulletin.

Colchester Golf Club, Braiswick, Colchester CO4 5AU

First Responders

**Congratulations to First Responder member
Peter Murphy and his partner Dawn on the
birth of their second child, Matilda.**



Fun for all the family – get to know the village in our Scavenger Hunt!

Things are rarely dull in the world of the village First Responders. Never resting on their laurels, plans have been made to hold an exciting scavenger hunt on Sunday June 27th for everyone in the village to join in.

The idea behind the hunt came about when the group decided that they needed to create a fun way to get to know the village and optimise call out times. It was decided that the event should be open to anyone - so come and join us!

A quiz sheet can be purchased on the day of the hunt for 50p which will give twenty five clues and send each team around the village collecting answers and objects. The hunt is not a race or a competition, it's about having fun, getting some exercise and appreciating the village we live in. The route is approximately one and half miles long so suitable for all ages and abilities.

Light refreshments will be served in the church hall afterwards for which donations will be appreciated.

Insurance requirements may limit numbers so it would be helpful if you could express your interest in taking part to Annie Neish in advance of the day by giving her a call on 240469 or by popping a note through her door at 50 New Church Road naming your team 'leader' and the approximate number in your team.



“Spring is sprung, the grass is riz, I wonder where the birdies is”.

Don't know about the 'birdies' but here are the ducks and ducklings.
Much cheerier than the snow scene on the cover of the last edition of the Bulletin.

Photos by Carol Felton





Nayland Road, West Bergholt,
Colchester, Essex

Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th July 2010

Starting at 10am both days

HISTORIC VEHICLE SHOW

Over 500 historic vehicles of all descriptions, plus trade stands, static exhibitions, Charity stalls, parade of Suffolk horses, quad bikes, funfair and much more.

Arena Events on Saturday will include:

To Commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain there will be a fly-past by a Spitfire.

Helicopter fly-past.

Vehicle Parades.

Arena Events on Sunday will include:

The Romford Drum and Trumpet Corps Band

The No Limitz Motorcycle Display Team

The Princess of Wales Royal Regiment

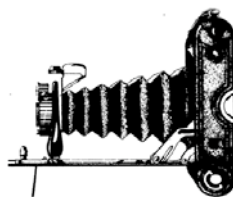
Parachute Freefall Team 'The Tigers'

SHOW TO BE OPENED ON SUNDAY by BBC Radio Presenter RICHARD SPENDLOVE, MBE

FREE Country and Western Concert 7.30pm Saturday
Licenced Bar - Usual High Quality Refreshments.

ENQUIRIES: M.J. Culham 01206 271 253

West Bergholt Local History Group



In February a previous speaker, Roy Walters returned bringing some other Colchester Blue Badge Guides to make good use of the facilities in Orpen Hall. Under their title of "Colchester History Alive" they dressed in costume and presented their version of Colchester in Conflict. This was truly something completely different which was well attended and enjoyed by all.

The evening in March began with a short Annual Meeting. Kathy Carlo and Terry Doonan retired from the committee and I would like to thank them for their help and assistance. Peter Noakes volunteered to join the committee. Lists of the meetings and visits that had been held during the previous year were handed out asking members to make comments to help the committee with future plans. This was followed

by John Worland talking about Ursula Kemp whose remains were found at Brightlingsea.

In April Richard Turner gave a talk about the History of Boxted Airfield. It was about the airmen, both American and British, who were stationed there during the second world war and was also accompanied by various slides. Word had spread and we were joined by several visiting non-members.

May will be our first outing of the year when we are due to visit Paycocke's in Coggeshall. The resident guide, who was appointed by The National Trust last year, will show us round this historic building and, weather permitting, the garden as well.

In June we are due to have a guided walk in Sudbury.

At the time of writing, July and August have not been confirmed.

Contact Bernard Colbron 240297 for details.



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
Baby and Toddler Group, 9.15-11.30am term time - Methodist Church Hall
Village Art Group, 2pm - 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.
Bobbins Lace Class, 1pm-3pm, term time only, St Mary's Church - Carol Maxwell, 0771 2648468
Dru Yoga, 8-9.30pm - John Lampon Hall, 07887 511412

Tuesdays:

NHS Primary Care Trust Baby Clinic, 10am to 11am - Methodist Hall
Miss Jackson's Dancing Class, 5.30-7.30pm - Orpen Hall
Taost Tai Chi, Beginners Class 7.30-9.30pm - Scout Hut - Fiona 240339
All Welcome
Methodist Church, 11am 2nd Tuesday Communion Service
Badminton Club, 8.15pm - Orpen Hall
W.E.A., 8pm - 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, 10am 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, 2.30pm to 4pm.
New members welcome - contact Pat Butcher for details 242075
Aerobics-Legs, Bums and Tums, Methodist Hall, 6.45pm-7.45pm. Tel 272759.
Women's Fellowship 2.30pm third Wednesday each month
Methodist Church Hall.

Thursdays:

Friendship Club, 2pm 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, 8pm fortnightly, telephone 576293 for details
British Legion, Gt and 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, 7.30-9pm St Mary's Church Hall
Pilates, 9.30am, - Scout Hut, Methodist Hall evenings tel: 564348 for details
Bible Study, 2.30pm, - Methodist Church Hall - third Thursday

Fridays:

West Bergholt Concert Band,
6.00-7.00pm (Juniors), 7-9pm (seniors) - Heathlands school
Wesley Guild, 7.30pm, 4th Friday - Methodist Hall (March to September)
Open Players, 8pm - Orpen Hall
Dru Yoga, 9.30-11am - Methodist Church Hall, 07887 511412
TinyTalk Baby Signing and Singing Classes, 10 to 11am - Scout Hut
During school term times only. - First Class starts 23rd April.
Contact: Debs Taylor Tel: 01376 573241 or Email: deboraht@tinytalk.co.uk

SOME USEFUL NUMBERS



Police 0300 333 4444
In an emergency dial 999
Doctors Surgery - 2 Erle Havard Road
Telephone: 241 137
Pharmacy Chapel Road Telephone: 240 352
Post Office Chapel Road (Half day Saturday)
Telephone: 240 355
St Mary's Church Rev. C Horseman
The Rectory, Ivy Lodge Road,
Gt. Horkesley Telephone: 271 242
Methodist Church Rev. Ruth Ridge
Marks Tey office Telephone: 210 141
News Correspondent Jacqui Hunns
The Laurels, Firmans Court
Telephone: 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

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.

Copy for the September edition should be received by 1st August 2010.

Late copy cannot be guaranteed entry

Please submit copy to any of the Bulletin team -

Advertising: Susan Swan - telephone 242319

Susan Leng - telephone 241748

Jane Williams - telephone 243636

Distribution: John and Nora Bates telephone 240741

Editor - Bernard Colbron - telephone 240297

Email: bernardcolbron@btinternet.com

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