

# *village bulletin*

March 2011 Issue 125

[www.westbergholt.net](http://www.westbergholt.net)

## West Bergholt Women's Institute



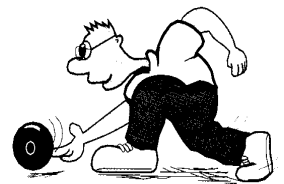
### 90th Year and still going strong

Members braved the icy conditions to be welcomed by the president, Pat Moran, to the Christmas party. Whilst the members were figuring out the answers to the quizzes on the gaily-decorated tables, the committee served the delicious knife and fork supper. Ray Spiller entertained with his CDs from the start of the pop charts inviting members to choose a month and year with special memories for them.

In January the president welcomed everyone to the WI's 90th year and the new secretary Jacqui Hunns to the committee. A congratulations card had been received from Marjorie Thomas, who now resides in Balkerne Gardens as from one 90 year old to another. Majors Margaret and David House talked about The Salvation Army.

2nd February 1921, 90 years ago, the first meeting of the village WI took place in the old school, which is now the hairdressers. Our president read the first minutes to members as we celebrated our meeting on the same date. 134 members were enrolled then, we have just short of 40 members at present. Jan Lumb, Clarice Chittenden and Joyce Lucking talked about their early memories as members of our W I. Early programmes and many photographs were exhibited together with minute books from the 1920s. The 'Taster Evening' was well supported and the recipes could be purchased. Our 90th lunch will be celebrated at the Balkerne Restaurant, Colchester Institute, with the cake being cut by Joyce Lucking and Rene Keates.

## West Bergholt Indoor Bowls Club



Although the snows of winter and the flooding are distant memories for all of us, bowls at the Orpen Hall at 7.15pm on Thursdays and Sundays still goes on. It was good to see so many members arrive to play despite the bad weather.

There have been many county and charity competitions to compete in although we have not had the wins as in previous years so everyone is honing their skills for what is to come during 2011. We are pleased to say our 2010 County Singles Champion George Coppin has got through to the final forty in this year's singles. We wish him luck in this.

A friendly match was held mid January against a very competitive team from Ardeigh, the result went to West Bergholt. We also expect to encounter keen bowling when we play Highwoods shortly.

Mid February sees players competing in a 'two wood pairs lucky dip game' this match bringing some strange results but is enjoyed by all who take part.

The Annual General Meeting will be held in March where the presentation of the year's trophies will take place. You would be made most welcome if you would like to try carpet bowls. Just arrive at 7.15pm on a Thursday or Sunday and play. You will be surprised how interesting it can be, call 01206 243301 any time.

### **In your March Bulletin**

Letter from the Chairman of the Parish Council

Hospice Ladies Midnight Walk

Re-use and Keeping!

Diary Dates

Christmas Candlelight Carol Service

West Bergholt Bulletin Quiz

**PLUS** news from clubs and groups in the village

# 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

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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 Sleigh		☎	07973 841104
Chris Stephenson	74 Mumford Road	☎	241 708
Harry Stone	Vindens, Chapel Lane	☎	241 026

## PARISH WORKING COMMITTEES

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### *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 Sleigh, Chris Stephenson

### *Finance and Personnel Advisory*

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

## BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

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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

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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

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June Mayhew  
☎ 240 694  
*The Administrator is available to deal with enquiries at any reasonable time. Bookings should be made at the Hall on Thursdays between 7pm and 8pm. Please use the old side entrance.*

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.

# 50% Reduction in Grant funding by Colchester Borough Council

Colchester Borough Council has informed the Parish Council that it will reduce the Rate Support Grant (RSG) to the village by 50% for 2011. This means that the income to the village will be reduced by £4,140 unless it can be obtained from other sources. Obviously, if this is not possible then it would have an adverse effect on the services supplied within our village.

The income to the village helps pay for a large number of services including:

- Maintenance and upkeep of the children's play area
- Upkeep and maintenance of the Lorkin Daniel playing field, Poors Land and the village heath
- Upkeep of the three village ponds
- The publication of the village bulletin
- Production and maintenance of the village web site
- Employing the part-time village handymen
- Employment of the Parish Clerk (a statutory requirement)
- Liability insurance premiums
- Association fees, licences and external audit fees

Fortunately, and due to good management, the Orpen and

John Lampon Halls remain self financing with any profit earmarked to fund future improvements.

The Parish Council has decided that the service provided to the parishioners should not be adversely affected by Colchester Borough Council's proposed action and regrettably, the Parish Council will need to raise its element of the Council Tax paid to cover this reduction in the RSG. Currently the amount paid by each "Band D" household is £25.75 p.a. For 2011/2012 the amount paid by an equivalent property will be raised by £3.51 to £29.26 p.a. to compensate for this reduction and take into account inflation. This equates to less than 1p per day per household.

It is expected that Essex County Council, Colchester Borough Council, the Police, Fire and Ambulance services will not increase their part of the Council Tax demand for 2011/2012. In doing so each will benefit by receiving a grant from central government equivalent to a 2.5% increase in the total applicable Band D figure multiplied by the latest available tax base figure. It should be noted that this government grant will not be available for Parish Councils.

Your Parish Council regrets that it will be necessary to impose this small increase in your 2011/2012 council tax payment.

Yours sincerely

John Gili-Ross, Chairman - West Bergholt Parish Council

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## HAROLD WARNER 1914 - 2010

Harold Warner, a distinguished local artist who achieved recognition in the art world with his paintings of the countryside of North Essex, died just after Christmas 2010 at the age of 96.

He had lived in West Bergholt since 1969, and many of his works depict landscapes around the village.

He became a familiar sight in the local lanes and fields, sitting or standing at his canvas to complete his work, and only occasionally taking it back to his studio for final touches,

His paintings showed a unique individuality of technique, with oils rich in colour and beautiful watercolours and haunting in their capture of moonlight and shadows.

Harold Warne was a leading member of the Colchester Art Society. His work was regularly exhibited at The Minories



*Harold and Olive Warner on their  
Diamond Wedding Anniversary in 1999*

and other regional galleries, and also at several of the Royal Academy's annual exhibitions in London. He was a contributor to the Royal Society of British Artists and to the Royal Institute of Oil Painters.

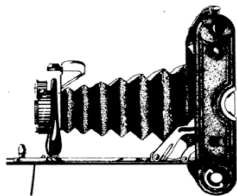
After service in the Army during the Second World War he lived for many years in Old Heath before moving to West Bergholt.

Harold's wife Olive died in 2002.

His son Robert, an equally talented artist with a distinctive contemporary style, has also exhibited at the Royal Academy and local galleries.

In addition to Robert, Harold is survived by his daughter Joan, two grandsons and a great grand daughter.

# West Bergholt Local History Group



August was our final outing of last year. We visited the History Group at Halstead to be given their very first guided tour which was very interesting. We ended the evening by squashing in to their small local museum. What a treasure trove and what a shame we can't have one.

September saw our return to Orpen Hall. Unfortunately, Andrew Phillips was in France and not able to come. We were very fortunate that one of the group's new members, Peter Jones, saved the day by stepping in at short notice. He told us some very interesting background information about Travelling Post Offices and the making of the film Night Mail before it was shown. It was fascinating to see this glimpse of working life in 1937.

In October, Andrew Phillips came to talk about the land army changing the war. As always a great entertaining speaker, he included the effect of the influx of American airmen into Essex and Suffolk.

November was something completely different. Members of Halstead History Group came and entertained us with stories, music and songs depicting the Halstead riots and other historical incidents of the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

In December we took our usual break to allow for the Christmas season.

2011 began with Dr. Ken Rickwood, a physicist with an interest in film making and local history, who stressed that he is not a historian, just a keen amateur. The audience of 21 enjoyed seeing four of his films which illustrated:-  
Windows – showing how designs changed as it became possible to have larger sheets of glass.

Ironwork made locally – including railings, drain covers and lamp posts.

Bridges over the River Colne based on his book which although only 5 years old is already out of date since the completion of the footbridge at the Hythe.

William Gilbert (signed himself Gilbert) 1544-1603 who studied magnetism and static electricity. He found that, after being rubbed, amber has the power of attracting light objects, for example a feather.

Ken's enthusiasm is infectious and he encouraged us all to look around and notice more in the future.

In February we are due to watch a historic coastal DVD.

March will be our annual meeting followed by a look at a selection of our archives with some newly acquired items on display for the first time.

Contact Bernard Colbron on 240297 for details of our meetings.

## WORMINGFORD FLOWER FESTIVAL

### *“Moments in History”*

at ST. ANDREWS CHURCH, WORMINGFORD

**28th, 29th, and 30th MAY 2011**

**Open 10.30 to 5.30pm daily.**

*Sunday Services at 11.00am and 6.30 pm*

No entry fee, but donations would be gratefully received

*Homemade teas and cakes, bric-a-brac barn, raffle.*

*In aid of St Andrews Church and School*

## *Ladies... walk this way!*

St Helena Hospice is launching their third Midnight Walk, which will be taking place on Saturday 4th June 2011. The ladies-only event will commence on the stroke of midnight, when 2,000 ladies will start their walk through Colchester in aid of St Helena Hospice.

The Midnight Walk will start and finish at the Weston Homes Community Stadium, the home of Colchester United and walkers will follow a circular route of 12km (7.5 miles).

Registration for the walk is just £15 and walkers will receive an official Midnight Walk t-shirt along with a full event pack containing helpful information and fundraising tips.

The Midnight Walk is delighted to announce Colchester United, the Gazette, Red Tiger, Balfour Beatty, Water Direct, Anglia Crown, Capel Plant, Adams Publishing, Eat Natural and Total Car Parks as supporters of the event.

Whilst this is a ladies-only walk, there is definitely a part for men to play. The Midnight Walk team needs lots of men to volunteer their support to come along on the night and work as stewards along the route.

The event is set to be a sell out and places are limited so we would certainly recommend getting your place reserved as soon as possible. You can register online at [www.colchestermidnightwalk.co.uk](http://www.colchestermidnightwalk.co.uk)

Don't miss out on the best night of the year...register now!

For more information about the Midnight Walk

Call: 01206 791740

Email: [midnightwalk@sthelenahospice.org.uk](mailto:midnightwalk@sthelenahospice.org.uk)

Visit: [www.colchestermidnightwalk.co.uk](http://www.colchestermidnightwalk.co.uk)



**St Helena Hospice**  
your time...your hospice

Registered Charity Number 280919



# Bergholt Youth Group

## Group Events

The Youth Group continues to be popular with about fifty of our young people attending every other Friday evening. In December we held a Christmas disco in the main Hall, which was well supported and enjoyed. (Thanks to the Orpen Players for their co-operation). At the last January meeting the members were well pleased by a planned visit from a fire engine. Also twenty-three of the volunteers and friends enjoyed an evening together at the Treble Tile.

A variety of events are planned for the spring including activities for Valentines Day, Mothers' Day and a pancake race. Joe Firmin has promised a nature evening. Full details can be seen on the village notice board.

We are delighted to maintain our links with the Essex Boys and Girls Club through Sam Woodgate. On the 8th April he will be organising a sponsored row of The Channel – all 21 miles on machines supplied by the Club. This will be a real challenge for the young people and we hope you will support them through the sponsorship forms that will be coming out soon. All the money raised will go towards BYG funds and help us continue to provide a service to the youth of the village.

Also in order to keep the Club vibrant we need to continue to add to the dedicated pool of volunteers. No one need then feel they are committed to every meeting. If you are able to help do pay us a visit on a Friday evening (next meeting 11th March) or contact Harry Stone on 241026.



## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN REUSE AND KEEPING USABLE STUFF OUT OF LANDFILL? HAVE YOU HEARD OF FREecycle?

The Colchester branch of the Freecycle organisation ([www.freecycle.org](http://www.freecycle.org)) is open to anyone in and around the Colchester area who wants to recycle something rather than throw it away. Communication is by email. Whether it's a chair, a fax machine, a piano or an old door, you can post it (advertise it) on line. Or maybe you're looking to acquire something yourself! Non-profit groups, schools and charities are also welcome to participate.

One main rule: everything advertised must be free, legal and appropriate for all ages and it is your responsibility to collect any items you are acquiring. The Colchester group, which is moderated by local volunteers, is part of the Freecycle Network, which is made up of 5000 groups with over eight million members around the world. It's a grassroots and entirely non-profit organisation of people keen on keeping "good stuff" out of landfill sites. Other local groups are based in Braintree, Ipswich and Tendring

E-mail - [colchesterfreecycleuk-owner@yahoo.com](mailto:colchesterfreecycleuk-owner@yahoo.com) for questions or improvement ideas!

# 1st West Bergholt Guides

On Remembrance Sunday all units joined the 1st West Bergholt Scout Group and walked from the Scout HQ to the Orpen Hall to take part in the service. We joined again with the Scouts on December 5th for the service at the Methodist church where gifts were collected for Beacon House and the Women's Refuge.



On the 25th November we held a ceramics evening. This went really well with everyone being able to decorate a mug, bowl or small plate. These were taken away and fired. They were returned to us two weeks later and looked amazing. Everyone really enjoyed this evening. We had been very lucky and had won a Jack Petchey Award of £200 to help fund the evening.

Sadly due to the very heavy snow in December we had to cancel a few evenings as leaders were unable to get to the village from where they live. We had intended to show our play on December 16th but decided to move this to Easter to give us a bit more time. We decided to hold a karaoke Christmas party which went very well.

We returned to Guides on 13th January with four new girls joining us bringing our numbers up to 29! We have seven Guides working on their BP with four hoping to gain this by June 2011, before they turn 15.

Most of the Guides gained their 25, 50 and 75 Tracking Through Time awards for all the work and fun they had last year, with some of them gaining their 100!

Again another busy term ahead with Celebrating Thinking Day with the District on 27th February at St. Helena School, Pancakes at the beginning of March, Comic Relief in the middle and our play just before Easter.

Sandra Gates, Guide Guider



Thank you to all those who supported the Creations Christmas Craft Fayre in November last year. If you enjoyed seeing the lovely crafts on offer please come along to the next event!

The Creations Spring Craft Fayre will be at the Orpen Hall on Saturday 16th April 2011 from 10:30am to 4pm. A variety of handmade items by local artists and crafters will be for sale. Something for everyone – from cards and jewellery to artwork and crocheted items!

Entry is Free and refreshments will be available.

For more information, including a list of the artists and crafters who will be attending please see the website [www.creationsfayre.blogspot.com](http://www.creationsfayre.blogspot.com)

# The Orpen Players

This year's Pantomime "Babes in the Wood" was written and directed by our very own David Wenden who was assisted by Chairman Debra Hornigold. This year was a change for me as instead of treading the boards I was able to watch the performances assisting Denise Barrett with Front of House. I was therefore able to see the results of all the hard work that goes into bringing entertainment to the Village, and also had the pleasure of meeting you all as well. Being aware of the difficulties David had encountered to bring this pantomime to fruition, especially coping with the severe weather conditions that really hampered the rehearsal schedule, I was delighted to watch a very polished performance from everyone concerned. It was a real team effort with every player doing their part to ensure that our usual high standards were met. This was apparent by the very sincere and favourable comments Denise and I received when our audiences left the building at the end of the show.

Malcolm Barrett was on form as the Dame and brought out much laughter with his amusing banter with the crowd. It is an art to be able to ad-lib with such ease, and then get back to the script. Ben Maythem and Michelle Burrows formed a lovely comedy duo as the Dames children who caused mayhem with their adorable mischievous ways. Francesca Wenden was a delight as Fairy Cake, casting her magic to keep the evil Goblin (Robin Warnes) at bay and out of harms way. We had Elfin Safety and Timon Motion, who were doing their best to put a spanner in the works to halt the show should they find any hazardous elements. Joseph Sales and Ellis Benjamin made themselves suitably annoying, and the moment when Matilda Bonham Carter, and Katie Grace were found playing conkers without a hard hat and goggles was very funny.

All of the Children were marvellous on stage and songs and dances were well executed. I really enjoyed Phoebe Stringer and Emily Hilson as Jack and Jill, and their rendition of 'Dream' was a pure delight for the ears. This was probably the largest production we have ever staged with a cast of 35 with 60 different costumes. 17 children,



members of the cast are from left to right- Matilda Bonham Carter, Katie Crace, Daisy West, Hannaya Watts, and Ella Hartley Mackenzie.



seven of those under 12 and nine new faces on stage, with seven of those were children. We would like to express a very big thank you to all their parents for the support they have given to make this production possible. Well done to all concerned.

Our spring production on 12th, 13th 14th May will be directed by David. Make a date and we hope to see you all there.

Thank you all for your support.

You can find all the information about show times at [www.orpenplayers.co.uk](http://www.orpenplayers.co.uk)

Colin Downer.



## 1st West Bergholt Brownies

Since having 13 months of Centenary celebrations we are now getting back to normal unit meetings, working for interest badges, thinking about fund raising, outings to the local Pantomime and planning our Thinking Day event. February 22nd is the birthday of our founder and his wife, Lord and Lady Baden-Powell and is our own very special day in Guiding. We plan to have a joint meeting with 3rd West Bergholt Brownies and then a wonderful afternoon at a District event when Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Guiders join together in activities, crafts and songs ending with the renewal of our Promises.



When we return after the half-term holidays we shall be thinking of gifts to make for Mothering Sunday and then our annual Easter Bonnet Parade with our home made hats.

Carol Clarke

### SOME USEFUL NUMBERS



Police 0300 333 4444  
In an emergency dial 999  
Doctors Surgery - 2 Erle Havard Road  
Telephone: 241137  
Pharmacy Chapel Road Telephone: 240352  
Post Office Chapel Road (Half day Saturday)  
Telephone: 240355  
St Mary's Church Rev. C Horseman  
The Rectory, Ivy Lodge Road,  
Gt. Horkesley Telephone: 271242  
Methodist Church Rev. Ruth Ridge  
The Manse, Chapel Lane,  
West Bergholt - 01206 242183  
News Correspondent Jacqui Hunns  
The Laurels, Firmins Court  
Telephone: 240712  
Email [allanhunns@aol.com](mailto:allanhunns@aol.com)  
(for Essex County Standard and The East Anglian Daily Times) - submissions for news items to be in two weeks prior to publication.





# Cricket Club

Preparations for the 2011 season are well in hand as we look forward to sunny weather and the sound of leather on willow is eagerly anticipated! Work has been done to the wicket and the outfield to ensure good playing conditions.



Cricket has not stopped this winter and our indoor squad continues to enjoy success in the Braintree Indoor Cricket League.

Next up are our indoor Nets for both our senior and junior members and these run throughout March at Littlegarth School, Nayland. We are inviting new players to join us at these practice sessions and contact details are below. The season starts in April and our seniors will be competing on Saturdays and Sundays once again in the local Two Counties and PDQ North Essex leagues respectively.

As for our juniors, they will have regular Friday evening training sessions, led by our willing group of qualified coaches. This year we will be running four junior groups and the Under 15, Under 13 and Under 11's will be competing in the local leagues. Our Kwik Cricket youngsters will be playing once again in a number of tournaments. In addition, we have entered the club into the Peter Coe tournament and we will be represented locally by a number of very talented young cricketers; we wish them well in their inaugural season. We are also very proud that no less than ten of our juniors have been nominated as triallists to represent the North Essex District league in various age groups.

We are also very pleased to announce that we will be welcoming the club's first Women's Cricket team this season. They will be competing in the local Beaumont Seymour 'Nursery' league for clubs new to Women's cricket. We wish them every success and with two of our Under 11's being girls, we envisage a bright future for female cricket at the club.

On a more sombre note, we have suffered two break-ins this winter and our losses have been significant, in terms of machinery and equipment. It is very sad that a hard-working, community-based club like our own falls prey to such low-life activity. As a result we have strengthened our security and advise vigilance to all other village clubs and societies.

Our new website is attracting increasing local interest so please visit us regularly on [www.westbergholtcc.co.uk](http://www.westbergholtcc.co.uk) to catch up with the latest news around the club.

If you require any further information, wish to join up as a player or become a volunteer in any way, call me on 240225/07769697542 or e-mail on [npassmore@sky.com](mailto:npassmore@sky.com)

Nigel Passmore Chairman

## **DON'T FORGET**

British Summer Time begins on  
Sunday 27th March 2011

*Put your clocks forward by one hour*

## *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](http://www.stmaryswestbergholt.web.officelive.com) or the Village Diary where you will find what else goes on in West Bergholt

As we look forward to celebrating Easter the details of the services at St. Mary's are:

Ash Wednesday - 9th March - Holy Communion 8pm

Palm Sunday - 17th April - Family Service - 9.30 am

Maundy Thursday - 21st April - Maundy Thursday Last Supper 8pm

Good Friday - 22nd April - Holy Communion with Gt. Horkesley at 10am

Easter Sunday - 24th April - Family Holy Communion 9.30 am with an Easter egg hunt for children after the service

Details of our regular services are shown on the church website at [www.stmaryswestbergholt.web.officelive.com](http://www.stmaryswestbergholt.web.officelive.com)

BUGs - St. Mary's Sunday School for primary-aged children meets during the Sunday service at 9.30am.

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Hugh Brivent-Barnes has been the church's contributor to the Village Bulletin for a number of years and now feels that the time is right to hand the role over. We would like to thank Hugh for his hard work and commitment publicising the services and events at St. Mary's.

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Groundbreakers at St. Mary's, our holiday club for primary school-aged children will be held in the Easter holidays. Look out for details in the church magazine and through Heathlands School.

The above are the known times and dates of service 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

## **Scout and Guide Jumble Sale**

The Jumble sale held in the Scout HQ in January was the best ever raising over £1000 for funds. Many thanks to all who donated superb items to sell and of course to the many customers who came to buy (and all those helpers who worked so hard to make it a great success). A great village effort !



## First Responders

The wintry weather may have put some people off going out and about. Not others though, as one of our youngest First Responders committed to carrying out his shift on foot during the snow and ice we experienced in November! With temperatures well below freezing it was a truly dedicated offer and greatly appreciated by all. Whilst on the subject of dedication, the severe weather also resulted in an offer from a local 4x4 driver volunteering to take First Responders to calls should they need assistance in the treacherous conditions. Again the group was very appreciative of this generous offer.



We'd like to make a direct appeal to anyone in the village to come forward as a volunteer Responder. We need more people to join us. All training is provided. You need to be over 18 and able to drive or have a partner/buddy at the same address who can drive you to calls. Maybe you've read about us over the past few years and wondered about joining. Find out the facts from us first hand by talking to one of us or popping along to one of our meetings to see how things work. It's a very rewarding voluntary service and looks great to have on your CV or University application. Retired people, parents, singles, couples, men and women – all are welcome and remember the hours over the monthly rota fit you and your lifestyle not the other way around.

To find out more telephone Annie on 240469



### **COLCHESTER AND DISTRICT MODEL RAILWAY CLUB**

will be holding an

### **OPEN DAY**

**on Sunday 10th April 2011**

at the

### **ORPEN HALL**

**Lexden Road, West Bergholt CO6 3BN**

from 11am to 4pm

Layouts - Displays - Second-hand Stall  
Light Refreshments Available

**ADMISSION FREE**

## The Friends of Hillhouse Wood



After a winter which produced the most severe cold weather for decades, there are already welcome signs in the wood of the approach of spring with tassels of hazel catkins dancing in the wind and snatches of birdsong indicating that the songsters which survived the prolonged harsh conditions are already establishing nesting territories.

A new management plan for the wood is being prepared in 2011 and among the issues to be addressed in this update will be the maintenance of the two ponds; scrub creation and management, including the role of coppicing; facilitating regrowth in the face of deer and rabbit grazing; achieving a balance between visitor enjoyment and the needs of wildlife and looking into the possibility of the development of wildlife corridors between Hillhouse Wood and adjacent areas of woodlands.

During the past two years the Friends' work parties have reduced the area of the wood that is tractor-flailed and this winter it is down to 10 per cent. Hopefully this will allow a larger buffer area of scrub to re-establish itself providing a greater level of seclusion for nesting woodland birds, especially nightingales and warblers.

Before the onset of the winter conditions, the top pond was cleared of most of the choking reedmace and invasive willow and sallow growth and de-silted to allow for restoration of proper aquatic conditions and to promote recolonisation of wildlife.

The pond has colonies of damselflies and dragonflies and also some of the rare (and protected) great-crested newts.

A bird highlight of 2010 was the discovery of nuthatches in the wood after an absence of many years. Two were seen near the top pond during the fungus foray in early November and one was heard and seen elsewhere in the wood on an earlier occasion. This is giving rise to the hope that this increasingly scarce woodland bird may recolonise Hillhouse. Treecreepers are regularly seen in the wood and a pair has nested in the past two years.

Darren Tansley, the Colchester Natural History Society's mammals recorder and Essex Wildlife Trust's Water Wildlife Officer, has reported the unwelcome appearance of a North American mink along the stream that runs through and adjacent to the wood. Mink have predated some of the water voles introduced into the River Colne on the Fordham Hall estate but prompt action to rid the area of mink has been taken to try and secure the safety of the remaining voles. Darren has been offered the loan of a powerful night vision scope which will enable surveying of deer and other animals using the wood during the hours of darkness.

Also there will be daytime surveys to assess damage from deer to ground flora and tree growth.

The bat hibernaculum (box) near the bottom pond was checked and revealed that it had been used by birds, wood, mice and bats. Samples of droppings will be collected in 2011 to find out which bat species are using the box.

Joe Firmin.

# West Bergholt Gardeners' Association



Spring is in sight ...

and March is one of the busiest months of the year. Sowing seeds and seeing tiny green shoots appear is a perennial thrill.

There's a lot to do in the garden with seed beds to prepare; sowing seeds; cutting back winter shrubs and tidying up; planting summer-flowering bulbs; lifting and dividing large clumps of perennials and propagating via basal stem cuttings. Divide hostas before coming into leaf; also hellebores and polyanthus after flowering. Narcissus should be deadheaded allowing leaves to die back. But watch out for aphids as they can multiply rapidly in mild spells and check for sweet pea viruses. Now's time to plant shallots, onion seeds and early potatoes. Do start to feed fish and use pond fountain.

It's a good time to introduce children to gardening. The RHS website holds a wealth of information and interest for families – [www.rhs.org.uk/Children/For-families](http://www.rhs.org.uk/Children/For-families). The Society also supports other campaigns such as 'It's Your Neighbourhood' highlighting grassroots community gardening. Support packs, available on line, are designed to help local community groups in cleaning and greening up their local environments.

Gardens are special ecosystems and global warming is here, raising concerns for gardeners. Impacts of a changing climate are priority on the scientific, political and environmental agenda. We can better manage our gardens on thinking 'sustainable' when buying gardening tools and working in the garden; be greener by storing rainwater for use in dry weather; and storing carbon inside plants and soil.

Turning to our own activities and following a January break members are due to welcome Hilary Thomas, Garden Designer, Lecturer and Writer, in February to present on 'Gardening and Plant Design'. On 21 March Barry Kaufmann-Wright's talk will illustrate the huge variety of aspects of garden wildlife. Also make a diary note of our Annual Plant Sale, a public event, in the Orpen Hall at 7.30pm on Monday 18 April. Natalie Finch will talk on '35 Years in a Garden of Roses' on 16 May.

Do enquire further with Terry Claydon (see below). Please look out for posters on our events on the village Co-op's noticeboard and Essex County Standard's Rural Life page.

Large garden, allotment holder, small window box, devoted gardener or just a passing interest - why not join our gardening club?

We always welcome visitors and new members. Annual subscription is £8 and visitor entry £3 per meeting.



[www.e-ruston-oldvicaragegardens.co.uk/](http://www.e-ruston-oldvicaragegardens.co.uk/)

When summer's here we will have a programme of visits to local gardens. A day outing on 15th June is already booked to 'East Ruston Old Vicarage Gardens'. Cost is £18.50; also open to non-members.

Contact: Chair: 01206 855450

Email: [valerielofthouse1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:valerielofthouse1@hotmail.co.uk)

Treasurer: 01206 242124

Email: [terryclaydon@aol.com](mailto:terryclaydon@aol.com)

Visit: <http://westbergholt.net/gardeners.htm>



## West Bergholt Football Club



There is not a lot to report as like the economy, our football has been badly affected by the bad weather over December and January with league and cup programmes severely curtailed, leaving us with a backlog of fixtures to catch up on. At the moment the first team remain unbeaten in the league, and although we have drawn three games, we are currently in third place with games in hand. We have unfortunately been knocked out of the Premier Cup (which we won last season) in a hard fought 1-2 defeat by Frenford Senior, going out to an own goal and a penalty. However we are still contesting the League Cup (which we also won last season) so hopes are still alive for a league and cup double

The reserve team still continue to be successful, having won seven out of eight of their last games, but like the first, they have a backlog of fixtures to fulfill.

On the social front we held a very enjoyable Christmas Party with some of our out of village members almost being snowed in at the clubhouse, and some making it back to Colchester on foot. Hopefully they were well fortified and did not feel the cold. Our next event will be a race night, date will be on the website

Junior training remains very popular, so bring your children along on a Saturday morning 09.30. You can register them on the day.

As usual, for any interested players, training is on Wednesday evenings, and all are welcome. Watch our website for news and dates [www.westbergholtfc.co.uk](http://www.westbergholtfc.co.uk). We look forward to seeing everyone on match days.

Michael Bell (Chairman)

# West Bergholt Concert Band



2010 was another busy year for the band, with a full programme of concerts plus events with local schools helping to continue the band's work to promote music to young musicians. The most recent of these events were our Autumn workshops and November Concert with local primary school musicians, at which local MP Bob Russell said how impressed he was with the level of musicianship and singled out the band's ongoing work with youngsters for praise and congratulations.



*Bob Russell with some of the youngsters at our last schools concert.*



After that, the snow cleared just in time for our Christmas Concert at a packed St Mary's, with some impressive singing along to a challenging carol medley.

The band's first 2011 event continues our engagement with local schools and young musicians with another of our "Concert In A Day" events, where musicians are invited to join us for an afternoon rehearsal followed by an evening concert.

Saturday 5th March – 7:30pm –  
St Peter ad Vincula Church, Coggeshall.

We immediately follow that with our first concert of the year at Clacton's West Cliff Theatre and a brand new programme of music including Shostakovich, Glenn Miller, Neil Diamond, Gershwin, Rodgers & Hammerstein and The Beatles among others.

Sunday 27th March – 3:00pm – West Cliff Theatre, Clacton  
(in aid of Family Support)

The first of our Summer Concerts takes us back to the West Cliff for a themed programme entitled "The 1940s In Concert", including music from Duke Ellington and Gershwin, as well as the Dambusters and a medley of well known World War II songs. The concert will be shared with the Sweeting Swing Band, who'll perform their usual wide range of Big Band, Jazz and Dixieland pieces...so this will be an event not to miss !

Sunday 12th June – 3:00pm – West Cliff Theatre, Clacton  
(in aid of Headway)

The first half of the year concludes with our ever popular Summer Concert at St Botolph's on Saturday July 16th, with a programme featuring our broadest range of music ever – literally everything from John Williams to Lady Gaga, as well as an amusing arrangement of Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, as requested by Bob Russell. It's looking like 2011 is going to be another busy, busy year !!

The band continues to be great fun for its members, as well as being one of the best ways of improving your playing. New members are always welcome, especially as we look to replace those who leave for University. If you're interested in joining the band or just trying us out, look out for our termly Open Rehearsals, join us at one of our weekend rehearsals or Band Training Days, or come and see us any term-time Friday evening at Heathlands school. There's no audition, and the band's uniqueness is that we have players from 7 to 70, so there's always someone younger/older/worse/better than you.

Everything you need to know about the band (including details of all our events, how to buy tickets, and how to join us) is on our website [www.wccb.org](http://www.wccb.org), or you can call Graham on 01206 824157. We look forward to seeing you at some of our concerts...and wish all of you a belated Happy New Year!

## ST MARY'S OLD CHURCH CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT CAROL SERVICE 2010

This annual event turned out to be somewhat 'different' than in previous years! Owing to the heavy snowfall on the Friday, organisers Eileen and Pam were considering cancelling the whole service - wondering if Rev Horseman would even get there (let alone any congregation!). However he dutifully braved the poor road conditions and we sincerely thank him for making this such a memorable afternoon.

Many children arrived on their toboggan transport (at least 20 of which were neatly parked in the porch). The packed congregation were totally enthralled by Rev Horseman's previously unknown magical talents. Thanks are also due to the organist and his assistant, and not forgetting the choir up in the balcony.

A proportion of the collection will be given to the New Church, and the remainder to the Churches Trust who maintain this beautiful old church - which we must all remember is an important part of the history of West Bergholt.

Looking forward to seeing you all at Christmas 2011.  
Eileen Bridges and Pam Leggett



# Methodist Church News

We managed through all the wintry conditions to complete all services and events planned to take place leading to our Christmas celebrations. The uniformed organisations celebrated our annual Parade and Gift Day Service by generously donating wrapped presents for distribution to The Women's Refuge, The Night Shelter and Beacon House.

A collection was made for Action for Children by a small group of carol singers around the village and £101 was raised.

The evening Candlelight Carol Service was very much enjoyed by members and visitors.

We began the New Year with our Covenant Service on Sunday 2nd January. Members and friends came to our annual New Year Social in the Hall on January 15th with fun and games and afternoon tea enjoyed by all.

The Women's World Day of Prayer will take place this year at St Mary's Church on Friday 4th March at 1.30pm when we shall be taking part in the service arranged by the women of Chile. A Soup and Snack lunch will take place at 12.30pm.

Our annual Quiz Night on Saturday 19th March at 7.00pm takes place in the Methodist Hall. Tables of four at £16 includes light refreshment. Book your table at this popular event by contacting Judith on 01206 241969.

A Good Friday Service led by Rev. Ruth Ridge will be held at 10.30am in the Methodist Church. All are welcome to join us for the start of Easter Celebrations.

A "Light a Candle" Service will be held on Thursday 5th May at 7.30pm. Join us for this special service and light a candle in memory of a loved one.

Christian Aid Week in the village is 15th – 22nd May. Collectors are always needed. If you feel you can help please contact Susan on 01206 241431

## Wesley Guild

Our new season of monthly meetings begins on Friday 25th March in the Methodist Church Hall at 7.30pm. Owing to a postponement of our final meeting last year we begin with a brief AGM led by our Minister Rev. Ruth Ridge and discussions on ideas for future speakers and demonstrations.

Our first meetings are:

- 25th March: AGM – Rev. Ruth Ridge
- 22nd April: No meeting, a special Good Friday Service will be held at the Mercury Theatre.
- 27th May: Beading and Craft, talk and demonstration.

**Come along and join us**

## METHODIST CHURCH Diary

March 8th Shared Village Communion with St. Mary's 11.00am  
March 9th Coffee Morning Church Hall 10.00am  
March 16th Womens Fellowship Church Hall 2.30pm.  
March 17th Bible Study Church Hall 2.30pm  
**March 19th Annual Quiz Church Hall 7.00pm. To book tables contact Judith on 01206 241969**  
March 25th Wesley Guild 7.00pm Church Hall

**April 3rd Mothering Sunday Service 11.00am**  
April 12th Shared Village Communion with St. Mary's 11.00am

April 13th Coffee Morning 10.00am. Church Hall  
April 20th Womens Fellowship Church Hall 2.30pm.  
April 21st Bible Study 2.30pm Church Hall  
**April 22nd Good Friday Service 10.30am**  
**April 24th Easter Day Service 11.00am**

**May 5th "Light a Candle" Service 7.30pm**

May 10th Shared Village Communion with St. Mary's 11.00am  
May 11th Coffee Morning Church Hall 10.00am  
**May 15th Christian Aid Sunday Service 11.00am**  
May 18th Womens Fellowship Church Hall 2.30pm.  
May 19th Bible Study 2.30pm. Church Hall  
May 27th Wesley Guild "Beading & Craft" talk and display  
May 29th United Service at St. Mary's 9.30am

Every Tuesday 9.30am – 10.00am Minister Ruth Ridge is available in the Church for quiet prayer.

Minister: Rev Ruth Ridge. Tel. 01206 242182

## Free Life Coaching with Student Coach

Are you living the life you want to lead? Do you want to make changes but don't know where to start? Then this is the perfect opportunity for you...

Life Coaching is a confidential structured conversation which is future and solution focused, aimed at changing or improving any area of your life you are dissatisfied with.

I am a resident in the village and am currently studying for my Life Coaching Diploma, and am looking for coachees who would be interested in having a free session or a series of free sessions. You do not have to have a crisis in your life to benefit from the process as it is effective for everyday situations as well as in life changing events. You can gain more clarity, understanding, confidence and self awareness.

If you'd like a session or want to know more, please contact me, Lynsey Williams on 07887 751979 or

email: [lyns.williams@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lyns.williams@hotmail.co.uk)

# Bergholt Heath Youth Football Club



We have reached the mid-point of the season and the boys are just getting used to playing again. In the case of the Under 8's they had December and January off, whatever the weather, so their first game back will be 6 February. All of the teams are improving. The Under 13 and Under 16 teams that have been bottom of their respective leagues for most of the season are moving up the league and are both involved in cup competitions - as are the Under 12's who are 3rd in the A League. Our Under 15 team has also managed to achieve a settled squad and are improving considerably.

On the social front we had over 100 tickets for Col U v Yeovil in December and the boys enjoyed, the best they could, what was a dull 0 - 0 draw. Never had Christmas shopping seemed more attractive!

The next event is our Race Night, which has become almost an annual event. This is scheduled for 12th March at the Orpen Hall and is open to players and their families. Tickets are available through your manager or me (at the number below) and, should you wish to sponsor a race, you would be more than welcome! It is always a fun evening and there will be an auction as well as the racing.

We are pleased to announce that we have permission from the Parish Council to site a bench on the Poors Field in memory of Peter Redhead. We raised funds at our barbecue back in September but are looking to raise more. Some of the Race Night proceeds will be used for the cost of the bench and engraving.

Later in the summer we have our annual Awards Evening, which will be held on 11 June at Orpen Hall.

Leslie Wright, Chairman 241438

## Colne Valley Flower Club



On 16th March Hannah Dean from Hickling Broad, Norfolk, makes a return visit to the club, her title is 'Party Party'.

Our demonstrator for our meeting on April 20th is Jane Ellis from Cuffley and her title is 'The Seeing Eye'.

On May 15th Terance Towns from Kirby Cross joins us for a flower demonstration in his 'Favourite Containers'. There will be a Plant Sale at this meeting, any plants or cuttings etc would be gratefully received.

The club meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Orpen Hall. Please call Clare on 01206 241145 for any further information.

### A tribute to Mrs. Barbara Skudder who died during 2010.

Barbara and her husband John lived in West Bergholt during the 1980's. She was an active member of the Parish Council, taking over as Editor and computerising the village Bulletin. It was John and Barbara who donated the Village Challenge Cup that is still presented to the winners of the Village Quiz. Barbara's main achievement was her work with the Local History Group which she co-founded with Godfrey Thompson. She researched and wrote articles and books on the history of the village. It was a privilege to have worked with her on some of her projects and to have known her as a friend.

Joyce Lucking.



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

Which will be held on  
Saturday 25th June 2011 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. Some refreshments will be available - 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 Leng at 36 Albany Road by the 30th May. The cost for a table of four is only £16 - so come and enjoy yourselves.

All proceeds will be donated to the St. Helena Hospice.

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## VILLAGE BULLETIN QUIZ ENTRY FORM 2011

Name of team .....

Name of person applying

.....

Address.....

.....

Phone number.....

*For each team of four people please enclose a cheque for £16 made payable to West Bergholt Parish Council*



# 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.  
**Bobbin Lace Class**, 1pm-3pm, term time only, St Mary's Church - Carol Maxwell, 0771 2648468  
**Weight Watchers**, Methodist Church Hall, 7-8pm, [wwkarenrobinson@gmail.com](mailto:wwkarenrobinson@gmail.com).  
**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**, Continuing Class - 7.30-9.30pm, Scout Hut. Fiona 240339  
*Anyone who has completed the Taoist Tai Chi set will be very 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  
**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.  
**West Bergholt Craft & Quilters** are now a house group Meeting 2nd Wednesday from 7.30pm - 9.30pm.  
For venue phone Marie-Louise Fuell on 01206 240642

### 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 240443 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  
**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**,  
6-7pm (Training Band), 7-9pm (Concert Band) - Heathlands School  
**Wesley Guild**, 7.30pm, 4th Friday - Methodist Hall (March to September)  
**Orpen 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 School term times only. - Contact: Debs Taylor Tel: 01376 573241 or Email: [deborah@tinytalk.co.uk](mailto:deborah@tinytalk.co.uk)

**Copy for the June edition should be received by 1st May 2011.**

Late additions cannot be guaranteed entry

Submissions to any of the Bulletin team -  
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Susan Leng - telephone 241748

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*All articles and letters are accepted on the condition that they may be edited.*

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CHARITY NO: 299094

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 the number below for the day on which you make your call. Try to phone at least a day or two before you need transport. If there is no reply please try any other number but do not leave answer-phone messages as we are unable to respond to these.

Monday	241 103	Tuesday	242 185
Wednesday	242 319	Thursday	240 569
Friday	240 167	Saturday/Sunday	242 075

The Care Network Annual General Meeting will be held in the Methodist Hall in Chapel Lane on Tuesday 12th April a 7.30pm. Any residents are welcome to attend, especially if they are prepared to become volunteers.

### 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.