

VILLAGE NEWS

Edition 5 - July 2012

<u>Diamond Jubilee Celebrations – Monday 4th June 2012</u>

The day started with all hands on deck - busy with bunting to hang, tents to setup, clearing the car park and putting finishing touches to the new Youth Shelter. The hog roast was started with salad bowls prepared. The West Bergholt Concert Band was tuning up and people were arriving with their gazebos and chairs – a real festival feeling came over the Lorkin Daniell Field. The Parish Council inspired event was ready!! The Social Club and the Football Club opened their doors and there was a roaring trade at the bars. John Jowers, an Essex County Councillor, had the pleasure of opening the Youth Shelter officially, supported by Ciara Harlow and Sam Ryan from Bergholt Youth Group.

The Concert Band struck up with all the classics of the "BBC Proms" - great favourites with the crowd. The hog roast was served to the hungry hoards, BBQs were fired up and drinks flowed.

At 10.15 pm the Beacon was lit and a firework display followed - a never-to-be forgotten evening for all who were there. Next day an army of helpers returned to clear the field.

Many thanks to all who helped make this a grand event.

West Bergholt Family Fun Day – Saturday 16th June 2012

Another day started early setting the Lorkin Daniell field ready for this family Fun Day. The wind was blowing a "hooley" but still the food tents went up. The displays from the village organisations were prepared for the crowds. The straw bales were arranged for the display arena. The BBQ stand, the popcorn stand, the bouncy castle, ice cream fridges, sweet stands were all there. The Scout and the History Group set up in the John Lampon Hall, with St Mary's Church and Methodist Group, the Friendship Club, Bowls Club and other exhibitors. County Broadband set up their sound system and compere Mike Foster was Master of Ceremonies. The WI card winner was announced. All were made welcome. The decorated scooter calvalcade arrived from the school and paraded around the arena. The Bluebell's "Teddy Bear Picnic" ensued, all enjoyed their picnic boxes.

andthe wind blew!!

We had singing in the arena, Tug-of-war, Zumba demos, dance and keep-fit displays the Bergholt Youth Group had various competitions including use of a football cage.. The donkey rides were very popular.

.... AND STILL THE WIND BLEW!!!!

It was a successful and memorable day for all, organised by the Parish Council and Heathlands School PTA.

Many thanks to all who contributed and who came to help clear up the next day.

Heathlands School

The increase in pupil numbers at the school has raised issues that require discussion. The anticipated increase in vehicles in the area at the start of the school day and at "going home time" is a cause for great concern. There have already been some "near miss" incidents. The Parish Councillors, representatives from Essex County Council, school staff, governors and a parent rep. held a meeting in May to discuss the problems. The lack of car parking space, the effect of cars parked in dangerous positions, the lack of footpaths in New Church Road and School Road was highlighted. Various ideas were put forward along with many questions. We are currently awaiting a report from Essex Count Council with their responses to the discussions. A meeting will then be convened to make further plans to help reduce the hazards for all.

This is your village we all need to be involved in keeping the school children safe. Contact the Parish Council with any ideas/suggestions you have. Use the village website www.westbergholt.net or westbergholtpc@google.net or contact any of the councillors listed in the Bulletin and on the notice board.

Please give us some feedback about our newsletters

Plans are afoot to set up a suggestion box for village residents to use in the future.