

*Issue 169  
Autumn 2022*



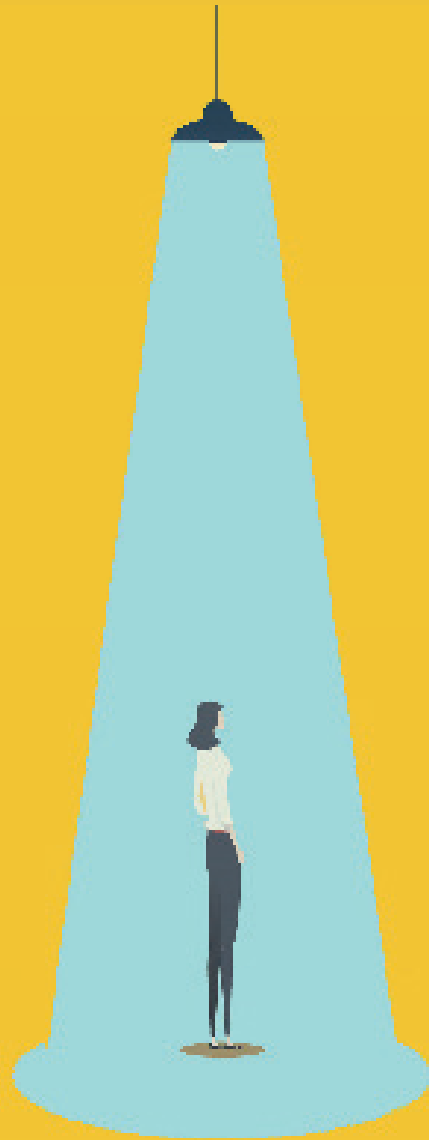
# *Village Bulletin*



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## *Hello...*

How is it autumn time already?

This year seems to be flying by. The children are heading back to school - good luck to all those starting a new school this term! - and the darker nights will soon start creeping in.

We've had an amazing summer this year in terms of the weather - not sure what temperature humans melt at but I think we got pretty close!

There's plenty happening in the village over the next few months, from the Village Quiz to the first Heathlands Firework display in over two years!

You'll find all the details in this edition of the Bulletin, so make sure you save the dates!

*Jacqui*

## *Inside...*

Vandalism .....	5
In Memory .....	5
Parish Council News .....	7
Pylons update .....	8
History Group .....	9
Allotments .....	11
Wordsearch .....	13
Women's Institute .....	14
Letter to the editor .....	15
Concert Band .....	16
Colne Flower Club .....	16
Village Jubilee Festival ...	17
Orpen players .....	18
Heathland's fireworks .....	18
St Mary's church .....	19
West Bergholt gardeners	20
Dog poo in the village ...	21
St Mary's old church ...	21

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**St Marys Church** (60 persons) & **Church Hall** (20 – 40 persons). Contact Nicole Long 01206 240443

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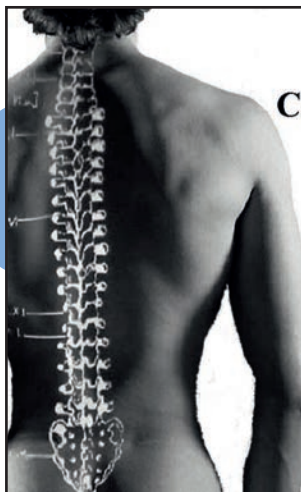
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## Vandalism in the community

It was sad to see that the village has suffered several acts of mindless vandalism over the past few months.

There was malicious damage to the gazebo on the Orpen Field, as well as to the Bluebell Preschool's flower beds, where stones were left all over the ground and field. Staff had to clear the area before the children could be allowed outside for safety reasons.

Luckily, there is a quality CCTV system at the Orpen Hall and the guilty parties were caught very

clearly, allowing the matter to be handed over to the police for criminal damage.

A short time later, the allotment sheds were broken into and a fire started in the grounds of St Mary's Church. This was particularly dangerous given the very dry weather conditions and could have caused much larger fires if they had got out of hand, putting houses and other buildings and residents at risk.

Any suspicious activity in the village should be reported to the police.



## In Memory

It was with great sadness I learnt of the passing of Marcus Harrington. Marcus was somebody myself and my family have known my whole life and he has always been passionately committed to his family and community.

His willingness to help others was clear from work and extra activities, be it as a councillor, through his veterinary practice, supporting the grammar school alumni society or, during the pandemic, joining the vaccination programme as a volunteer.

Marcus was the person who encouraged me to stand for council when he made the decision to not seek re-election. He had consistently supported and helped me during my time in the role, particularly at the beginning where he patiently helped me understand the various challenges that public office brings.

I will always be grateful to him and I miss his unique personality. My thoughts are with all his family and friends, who I know love him very much.

Lewis Barber



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## West Bergholt Parish Council News

### A new chairman for the Parish Council

Firstly, a brief introduction. I am Brian Butcher and took over the role of Chair of West Bergholt Parish Council from Chris Stevenson, who led the Council for seven very successful years in May 2022, having left me a huge vacuum to try and fill. A big thank you goes to Chris for his sterling leadership, and I wish him well in his new endeavours. In the photo below are Chris, myself (the one's with ties on!) and fellow Councillors at the May meeting.

I hope many of you will know me from my chairmanship of the Orpen Hall Management Committee and of the Fete Committee, both roles I have now stepped down from in order to concentrate on the PC Chairmanship. If you don't know me yet, and I hope you will get to know me over the coming months, I'm a sixty something granddad who equally adores his grandchildren and his football team, the Spurs!

The Parish Council meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the Orpen Memorial or John Lampon Hall at 7:30pm.; there is a fifteen-minute slot at the start of each meeting for residents to raise issues or concerns, so feel free to come and voice any concerns or ideas you have for West Bergholt. If you do want to come along, please do let our clerk know in advance on [westbergholtpc@gmail.com](mailto:westbergholtpc@gmail.com) so we can make the appropriate arrangements

### Our Neighbourhood Plan

You'll have seen a few political flyers come through your doors on the security of West Bergholt's Neighbourhood Plan.

Be assured though that with the adoption of Section 2 of the Colchester Borough's Local Plan on 4th July 2022, it's even more secure, and policy SS15 in CBC's Local Plan (see below) enshrines the NP as the determining planning document as far as new housing is concerned. Those who recall the somewhat irrationality of the Inspector in order to grant approval to the NEEB site off of Armoury Road will be pleased to learn that as a result of the PC work that the Local Plan in its final version now says:

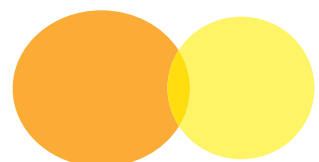
"6.227 The West Bergholt Neighbourhood Plan was made in 2019. It sets out the planning policy framework needed to support the delivery of 120 houses to 2033 and to guide and meet all other development or community needs identified by the community in West Bergholt.

Policy SS15: West Bergholt: All development proposals in West Bergholt parish will be determined against and be required to comply with policies in the West Bergholt Neighbourhood Plan and any relevant Local Plan policies."

### Autumn village quiz

On Saturday November 12th, the Village Challenge Cup quiz will be held again in the Orpen Hall, so please make a note to look out for the posters, Facebook posts and the like, with the funds this year looking to be ring fenced to help fund play equipment for the less able children of the village on the Lorkin Daniell Field.

Brian Butcher  
Chair  
West Bergholt Parish Council





## Say NO! To 180km of pylons

You may be aware, but there's a planning application in for the new large Pylon route.

### What's the problem?

National Grid call this proposal 'East Anglia GREEN', because it is transporting green energy! However, the pylons are intrusive, destroy our historic landscapes and will require huge loss of trees.

Worse still, National Grid have published their own research that shows an offshore grid would save consumers up to £6bn. So it's not a secret National Grid obviously know this, OFGEM know this and the Government know this - so why is this even being considered?

National Grid's idea of 'GREEN':

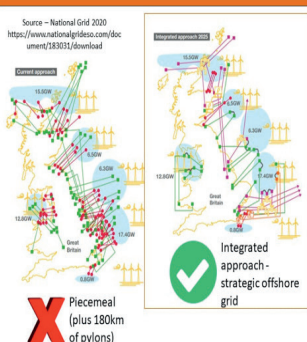
- 180km of 400kV overhead cables
- 50-metre high pylons (except in the Dedham AONB, where they will be buried)
- From Norwich to Tilbury, cutting through countryside, villages and near historic buildings in Norfolk, Essex & Suffolk.
- New 400 kV connection substation proposed at Elmstead Market, near Colchester.

You can find out more details about the Grid Project and the protest group on [www.pylonseastanglia.co.uk](http://www.pylonseastanglia.co.uk) and the facebook page, Essex Suffolk Norfolk Pylons.

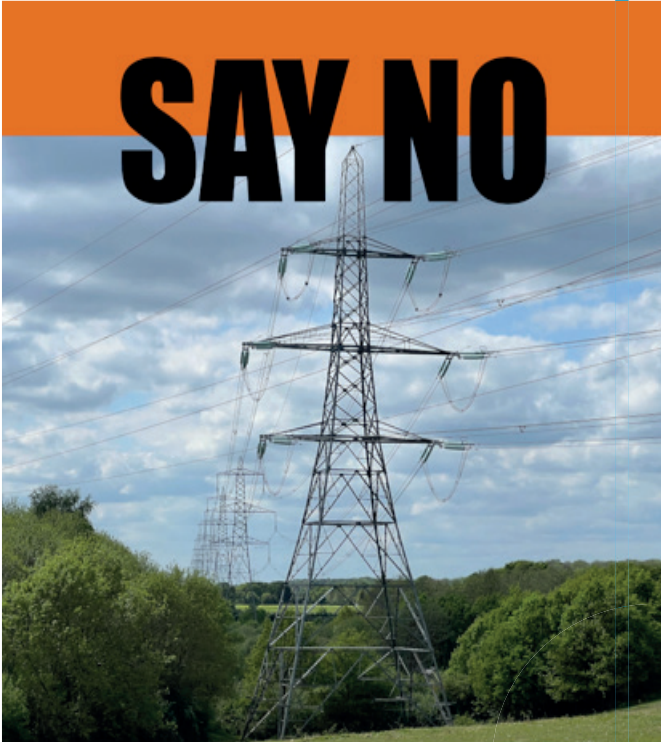
Sign the PETITION! <https://bit.ly/3c97lwc>  
Over 21,000 signatures so far!

### Why we are calling for a strategic offshore grid:

Source - National Grid 2020  
<https://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/document/283031/download>



- It has the potential to **save consumers approximately £6 billion**
- There are **significant environmental and social benefits** with an integrated approach because 50% fewer cables and onshore landing points are required.



**SAY NO**

**TO 180KM OF GIANT 50M TALL PYLONS  
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**PEOPLE VS PYLONS**



## West Bergholt Local History Group

The History Group have visited three museums this summer at Harwich, Little Tey and Brightlingsea. The Harwich Society welcomed the History Group in May with a talk on the founding of this new museum, opened in the summer of 2021, giving a guide on the many diverse subjects the exhibits cover. After a look at the displays, we refreshed ourselves at the café. Well worth visiting.

Little Tey was our destination in June to revisit Alan and Pauline Mattins "Bygones" museum. We found many objects that brought back memories of our past years and enjoyed as always the great hospitality. Always a pleasure to visit.

Brightlingsea was our next outing to see their museum, which is now housed in new premises. This "new" museum has many exhibits in a comparatively small space but is very well presented and we much enjoyed it.

Our programme for the autumn/winter meetings resumes in September. All meetings are held in The Orpen Hall at 7.30pm on the second Wednesday of each month (no meeting in December).

September 14th, "Essex Lights" speaker Peter Jones

October 12th, "Sutton Hoo" with Steve Pollington (this is subject to change)

November 9th, "Colchester 1880 – 1980 " Norman Jacobs



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## West Bergholt Allotments

After the mild spring and, despite the dry weather, we have had a bumper crop of soft and hard fruit this year. The vegetables haven't fared so well, even with copious watering but the beans are now starting to come on so there is hope yet.

At least we didn't have much blight this year, although a few plots did seem to suffer with it. The main thing to try and avoid it is to plant the potatoes in a different part of your plot every year. Of course, this goes for every vegetable, as it helps to avoid diseases of all sorts from building up in the soil.

We have had visits from children of two separate years in Heathfields primary school at the allotments this summer. They enjoyed a walk around, seeing if they could spot all the different types of plants, but the main interest seemed to be the different insects they found! It was encouraging to hear how many of them had family with allotments where they enjoyed helping out so the next generation of allotmenters is here already!

The Open gardens event was a great success, with a lot of people coming to admire the allotments -it even inspired someone to apply for one!

If you have a glut of fruit, why not try a lovely Indian recipe for a cooling drink?

### Mixed summer berry lassi

Makes about 300mls

#### Ingredients

50g mixed berries (strawberries, raspberries, blackberries)

125mls chilled milk

125mls chilled natural yogurt

2 tsp clear honey

1tsp rosewater

Strawberry slices to serve.

#### Method

Hull strawberries and blend all ingredients, except the honey, together until smooth.

Pour into a glass, stir in the honey and decorate with strawberry slices.

Lynda Robinson



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# Bulletin Wordsearch

Can you find the 22 autumn-related words in the puzzle below?

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E	L	E	E	C	H	A	N	G	E	R	H	G	N
B	R	E	E	B	S	W	E	A	T	E	R	N	R
R	E	E	L	E	T	A	N	R	E	B	I	H	T
I	B	N	E	A	T	S	E	E	B	Y	Y	M	R
S	M	R	A	H	A	R	V	E	S	T	Y	N	E
K	A	A	S	E	P	T	E	M	B	E	R	O	B
E	P	E	R	O	R	C	G	O	F	E	R	S	M
L	B	M	L	E	A	V	E	S	L	A	H	A	E
A	R	D	A	L	I	R	O	R	A	N	G	E	V
T	P	A	Y	D	N	E	A	R	T	H	Y	S	O
E	Y	N	N	A	Y	B	R	E	E	Z	Y	T	N
N	G	S	R	A	C	H	I	L	L	Y	Y	E	S
R	K	Y	Z	O	C	E	O	C	T	O	B	E	R

SWEATER  
RAINY  
AMBER  
EARTHY  
ORANGE  
SEPTEMBER  
DAMP  
GOLDEN  
HIBERNATE  
BRISK  
CHANGE  
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SEASON

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## Women's Institute

Our Annual Meeting was held in May, with 4 new members welcomed onto the committee.

Susan Leng retired after 25 years of sterling work and was presented with a rose for her garden with grateful thanks from everyone.

Certificates were received from our members' donations to raise money for the Toilet Twinning in Nigeria. Sheila Boxshall brought this to our attention and now we hope to raise funds for 2 taps.

A fascinating talk by Joanne Larner on 'Handwriting Analysis' followed. Although not a professional graphologist, she was a keen amateur. On the hall screen, many signatures were shown, illustrating famous people and revealing their personalities.

The president organised a trip to Hyde Hall, thoroughly enjoyed by members who attended.

In June, 2 of our members visited Magdalen Wood WI for a group meeting, the first since covid. The speaker, India Roberts, works at Perrywood Nursery and spoke about the care of orchids.

Our speaker, Karen Odinga, brought along a mixed bag of materials with instructions on how to make a jubilee flower in red, white and blue.

There was no meeting in the Orpen Hall in July. Instead, we enjoyed a Garden Party at the Queen's Head. The weather was perfect and several toilet related games were played to raise funds for 2 taps.

Many Barrow reported on the Essex WI County Annual Meeting held at the Charter Hall, Colchester. Several of our members attended and enjoyed speaker, Jenny Bond, talking about her career as a journalist and royal reporter.

The buffet produced by the Queen's Head was excellent, with everyone sitting outside in the garden.

## DISTRIBUTORS NEEDED

Could you help to deliver the Village Bulletin?  
We're currently in need of more volunteers to distribute the quarterly magazine around the village.

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## Letter to the editor...

An update on the works at West Bergholt Doctors Surgery.

I am a member of the Practice Patient Group (PPG) at WB. I do not work for them, but I have been asked to provide an update from the Patients perspective on the progress at WB and I am happy to do so.

Let's start off by stating the obvious that the building work took too long, I think the complications of such a major project during the winter months and whilst Covid was affecting everyone were underestimated. Every time I have made something or decorated something it took longer than I hoped, so I end up very impressed with the end result they have achieved – Well done!

The surgery re-opened 27th June using the Creffield Medical Group (CMG) telephone hub to route calls for all 3 practices. Sadly the days of small practices, with a doctor who you have known for many years are gone. CMG has over 28,000 patients and Colchester is growing on a daily basis, with 920 new houses being built each year. The GP surgeries are having to change to meet the demands. To give a consistent high standard of service across the group, it was decided to centralise the telephone staff and appointments system, whilst allowing patients to choose the most convenient location to visit.

There is over 105 staff on the books and there are at least 10 people answering telephone calls at 8.00am. When you call, you will probably be in a queue, but as there are 10 taking those calls, the queue moves reasonably quickly. It is so much better when you get answered straight away, but everyone phones at 8.00am, especially after a bank holiday, which is why CMG are asking patients to call

at certain times i.e. prescription queries after 11.00am, to spread the load and improve answer times. A telephone hub approach helps smooth the peaks and troughs. CMG can and do look at all the hub information regarding numbers in the telephone queue etc, and are actively trying to give the best service possible.

Something that will reduce the number of people phoning up is to persuade people to use the various websites that are available. I don't think the CMG website is very friendly (I think it's a NHS generic offering, not CMG) and it's not easy to find things, so I am pleased to know they are working on an easy to use 1 page guide with links to all the popular services they offer. Some people cannot use the Internet and the telephone hub will be there to help them. I have seen the hub staff in action and they are keen to provide a quality service – let's support them, not just moan on social media, without offering a solution.

In a Daily Mail online article dated 20th June 2022 entitled "Death of the local GP surgery", our region was rated in the top segment for Face-to-Face appointments. CMG offer Face-To-Face, but I don't object to video calls when appropriate. I don't have to waste time and I can't catch anything - the trouble with doctor's surgeries is they are full of sick people. Try and find the article, it's a bit of an eye opener.

So going back to the start, its open, its surprisingly large with I think over 12 treatment rooms which are modern and well equipped. My guess is there wasn't much change out of £1,000,000 and I thank Creffield Medical Group for their investment in our area.

If you disagree with anything I have written, don't moan at CMG and I'm not on social media, but you can join and support your PPG.

Colin, Fordham resident

## West Bergholt Concert & Training Band

West Bergholt Concert Band & Training Band combined to take part in Colchester's first ever Musicircus in June, and what a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon of music it was. With beautiful weather, a great performance space in Culver Square, a keen audience (some in their deckchairs, some dancing along), and music covering 60 years of classics old & new from film, pop & musicals, the afternoon could not have been more fun.

The band followed that with a wonderful concert of the "Best of British", with highlights including Vaughan-Williams' beautiful English Folk Song Suite (which sounded glorious in the church), a thrilling medley of James Bond Themes, Holst's haunting "Song Without Words", a medley of Andrew Lloyd-Webber's early musicals, and the classic Colonel Bogey March (replete with audience whistling).

As always the concert was notable for the band's fine young musicians, including some who now leave us for University, and some who were performing their first concert with the band. Continuing to attract new young players is key to continuing the band's 40+ years of success, so we are hoping to welcome some more young musicians to the band when we restart on Friday 9th September, or at any of our open rehearsals in September.

The band is a great way to improve your playing whilst having fun and playing a wide range of music, and is a happy & welcoming group. Brass & Woodwind musicians can come along and join (or just try) Training Band (Grades 1-4), Concert Band (Grade 4+) or both, and we can even send you links to practice copies of the music. If you'd like more information either on joining the band, or on any of our events, please visit the band's website ([www.wbcb.org](http://www.wbcb.org)) or email us at ([Conductor@wbcb.org](mailto:Conductor@wbcb.org)).



## Colne Valley Flower Club

Our meeting on Wednesday 21st September sees the return of Vicki Hease from Great Finborough demonstrating "Treasured Moments Part 11".

On Wednesday 19th October, we welcome Susan Horne and the title of her demonstration is "Seasonal Inspiration". Bring a friend for free for this evening.

Our Open Meeting is on Wednesday 16th November. This is our last meeting for 2022 and we are very happy to welcome Lee Berrill from Northampton, who is a very accomplished

demonstrator. Not to be missed, his title is "Made for Christmas".

Guests are welcome and light refreshments will be available. For further information on this evening please contact details below.

Our meetings are held in the Orpen Hall, West Bergholt, at 7.30pm on the third Wednesday of the month. (Not December or August).

Please contact Manya on 07759 331719 or Alison on 07792 397360



## West Bergholt celebrates the Platinum Jubilee

West Bergholt's celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee extended across the long bank holiday weekend in early June, with the festivities beginning with the lighting of the Jubilee Beacon in front of the tennis courts on the Thursday evening.

The lasting legacy of the celebrations was marked by the village taking part in the Queen's Green Canopy tree planting initiative, with the Parish Council planting trees in three areas of the village.

In front of the Orpen Memorial Hall, four ornamental pear trees replaced the diseased ornamental cherries originally planted for her Majesty's Coronation. These trees have been sponsored by Oak View Landscapes, WB Allotment Association, WB Gardeners' Association, and the Parish Council.

On the Poor's Land, two Pin Oaks were donated by the Mayor of Colchester, with a tree planting ceremony taking place with children and staff from Heathlands School in late May.

Two trees were also planted by the children's playground on the Lorkin Daniell Field and were donated by Scissorhands Hairdressers and Tree & Lawn Company.

The focal point of the celebrations was the Jubilee Festival, which took place on Saturday 4th June. The afternoon of entertainment included fete stalls, inflatables, a DJ and performances by live bands, as well as food provided in the form of hog roast, BBQ and pizza stalls. The new zip wire play equipment was also opened during the festival and has been well used and enjoyed by children since then.

Inside the Orpen Memorial Hall, tea and cakes were available with a free afternoon tea provided to those aged 70 or over by Bluebells Pre-School.

Other activities such as U11's football and cricket skills sessions, a tennis competition, a performance by the Vocal Zones choir and a Trampette taster session took place. And of course, who can forget being greeted by Del Boy and his three-wheeler Reliant Regal as well as seeing and hearing the Spitfire during the flypast!

If you have any photographs of the celebrations, Jubilee street parties or events in the village which you would like to share, please send them to [westbergholtpc@googlemail.com](mailto:westbergholtpc@googlemail.com).



## The Orpen Players

Firstly, we are pleased to report that our Production of "Cinderella" has received seven nominations from the North Essex Theatre Guild in the best showcase category. The Awards evening will be held in September, so fingers crossed!!!

At our AGM in July, we said a reluctant farewell to Roger Milne and his wife Rosemary, who have retired from the group. They moved to West Bergholt in 1985 and promptly joined The Orpen Players. Roger soon made himself indispensable. He has been our Treasurer for over 30 years, Stage Manager for 25 and was, of course, Mr Box Office!

He is a walking encyclopaedia of all things Orps and will be greatly missed; but we look forward to welcoming him and Rosemary as audience members in

the future. Thank you both so much for joining all those years ago, weren't we lucky!!

For Autumn (Oct 13th-15th) we have a hilarious comedy in store for you as The Farndale Avenue Townswomen's Guild are back with their latest production of "They Came From Mars and Landed Outside the Farndale Avenue Church Hall in Time for the Townswomen's Guild's Coffee Morning" by David McGillivray and Walter Zetlin Jnr.



Make sure you make a date for this one. Not to be missed!!!!

Check our website and Facebook page for amusing details.



**We're back!** After a 2-year break, Heathlands Fireworks Display is back.

The display returns once again to Heathlands Primary School for a show which promises to enthrall. For 30 years the event has been raising much needed funds for the school. Plans for the 2022 show are well advanced and we will keep everyone updated on our social media platforms.

We are keeping entrance ticket prices at the same level as 2019, and go on sale online during September at discounted "Early Bird" prices.

If you have any queries about the event we can be contacted at [info@heathlandsfireworks.co.uk](mailto:info@heathlandsfireworks.co.uk)

**We look forward to seeing you in November!**  
**Heathlands PTA Fireworks Committee**





## St Mary's Church

### START Course – 29th September

Got questions about life and the Christian faith and looking for answers? Then why not make a START? It's a 6-week course designed to help people discover the basics of the Christian faith. Each session lasts about 90 minutes and involves watching a short film clip with time for questions afterwards. The sessions will take place at St Mary's Church at 11am on the following dates: 29th Sept, 6th & 13th October and 3rd, 10th & 17th November. All are welcome.

### Harvest Fun Day – Saturday 1st October 2 - 5pm

We are looking forward to welcoming everyone to our Harvest Festival celebrations over the weekend of 1st and 2nd October. The church will be open on Saturday 1st between 2pm and 5pm for people of all ages to come in and look at the beautiful harvest flower displays and enjoy some fun activities and crafts. Tea and cake will also be served! There will be an admission charge of £2

per person or £5 for a family, and all proceeds will go towards our project to upgrade the church hall.

Our Harvest Celebration Service will take place on Sunday 2nd October at 9.30am, featuring a special contribution from the amazing Heathlands school choir! All are warmly invited to both events.

Our Wired Youth Group for secondary school young people starts again in October on the following dates: 7th October, 4th November & 2nd December.

On Halloween, the church will be open in the evening serving hot chocolate for any families or young people who are out trick-or-treating.

Finally, congratulations to Liz Dixon who joins the team of Licensed Lay Ministers at St Mary's, and a very warm welcome to Donna Luxton who is taking over as church administrator while Jo Russell is away on adoption leave.



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## West Bergholt Gardeners

After a delay of two years, our Open Gardens Event finally took place on Sunday 12th June, when eleven generous owners, together with the allotment holders, opened their beautiful gardens or vegetable plots to almost a thousand visitors. The weather was sunny and the village was buzzing as people walked between the various sites. The Orpen Hall was the busy central hub where the plant stall and refreshments proved to be so popular that we sold out of preserves and most of the plants, and the supply of cakes had to be topped up on more than a few occasions! The children's garden quiz was also a great success with younger visitors.

Around the Village, pupils from Heathlands School provided the artwork to the garden entrances, Anniemation Clog Dancers entertained at various venues and the Queens Head had plenty of customers, thanks to their generous discount offer to programme holders. Additionally, as usual, the Pharmacy and Scissorhands helped by selling programmes before the day.

As a result, we were able to raise a fantastic £3,500 which has been donated equally between the Tom Bowdidge Youth Cancer Foundation and the Essex & Herts Air Ambulance.

We hope to be able to organise

something similar in 2024 but as these events take lots of hard work and organisation, it will depend on having continuing support from people of the Village. So, please consider if you might be willing to open your own garden next time.

However, our summer activities didn't end there. On 14th July, a coach full of gardeners and friends visited East Ruston Old Vicarage Gardens in Norfolk when, once again, we were lucky to have good weather. A self-drive trip to Uttling Wick in Maldon will take place on 13th September.

Our evening meetings begin again on 19th September, when there will be a short AGM, then Marc McHearne from Beth Chatto's Garden will give a talk on her life.

We always welcome new members and our informal meetings offer varied and interesting topics for amateur gardeners. Coming up, talks will include: "Around the World in 80 Plants", "Container Growing" and "Plants & Nature for Wellbeing", plus the Christmas Quiz, so come along to join us.

Meetings are held in the Orpen Hall and start at 7.30pm. Membership fee is £20 or £5 per session as a guest. For more information, email: [wbgardeners@gmail.com](mailto:wbgardeners@gmail.com) or call Terry Claydon on 01206 241256





## Dog poo on the Lorkin Daniell Field

Dog fouling is a major and increasing concern to many people on the Lorkin Daniel Field, not just because of the mess it causes, but because it can be a health risk. Did you know dogs deposit roundworm eggs in their faeces, which become infectious (and can remain so for up to 2 years!), and particularly children run the risk of picking up infections. Possible symptoms range from aches, dizziness and nausea to asthma and pneumonia. Not pleasant!

You will all have seen the signs banning dogs from the field, whether coming onto the field from Mumford Close or through either entrance at the front of the Hall, the photographs being a reminder! In fact, there has been an order on the field for decades banning dogs.

Indeed, by the time you read this article, you'll have seen Colchester Borough Council's 'dog warden' on the field as owners are required to clear up after their dogs in public areas. Those who fail to do so can get a fixed penalty charge of £100 or a court fine of up to £1000.

The solution is simple, keep your dogs off the Lorkin Daniell Field please.

Brian Butcher  
Chair  
West Bergholt Parish Council



## Friend's of St Mary's Old Church

On Sunday the 12th of June, the Comrie Singers and Jubilant Brass held a concert in the church, which was well supported, even though there was a clash with the popular village open gardens event.

By the time you read this, the decorations will be completed, though the proposals for the conservation of the medieval wall paintings found during the redecorations are still not finalised.

We were able to have two visits from Heathlands school where the significance of the Old Church on village life was hopefully passed on to the young people. It is great that

Heathlands supports our endeavours and we hope the children enjoyed their days with us.

The Friends group is open to all who love the church and support the endeavours of the group to see it used and become a focal point in the community. We hope to make the building the jewel in the crown of our wonderful village. A modest membership fee of £5 is charged which does not bring any benefits other than the knowledge that you are helping to keep the old place alive for generations to come.

Further details from Martin Long 01206 240443

Martin Long  
Chairman

## **Why West Bergholt's 1,000-year-old church always needs a little extra support**

Many (but not all) village residents will be aware that the oldest building in West Bergholt is the magnificent, historically significant St Mary's Old Church in Hall Road (next to Bergholt Hall and directly on the popular walking route to Hill House wood.)

Since Saxon times, the old church has played a pivotal role in local family events but ceased to be the village's principal church when the new St Mary's took over in 1904.

The ancient church sank into decline and in 1974 the responsibility for its upkeep passed into the hands of the Churches Conservative Trust (CCT). Its brief is to safeguard the fabric of the old St. Mary's and ensure its continued existence as a part of Britain's heritage and village life. In the last 4 years, the CCT has repaired the roof and dormer windows and, with the help of a generous legacy from Mrs Yvonne Henderson and a fundraising effort by West Bergholt friends, it has redecorated the interior of the church – the last part of which has just been finished.

A dedicated group of local people - the Friends of St. Mary's Old Church - hold special events through the year to raise funds to help keep the church open and well appointed. The group is planning events from September to Christmas 2022:

- Sunday 18th September - National Heritage Week. The church will be open to visitors from 10am - 4pm who can take a tour, learn about old St Mary's history, and indulge in free refreshments. Donations welcomed.
- Saturday 8th October – Quiz Night at the Orpen Hall with Ploughman's supper and bar. £5 per person. Tickets available at [fosmoevents@icloud.com](mailto:fosmoevents@icloud.com).
- Sunday 27th November – Mulled wine and Mince Pies at the Old Church to meet up and renew/enrol for annual membership (£5 fee per household). No booking necessary.

The Friends are always looking to welcome new members of all ages who have a bit of time to spare and can see the importance and value of this historic and symbolic building. Membership forms are in the Old Church for those who would like to join, or online at the web page below.

The church is open every day between 10am - 4pm and all visitors are welcome. St. Mary's is still a consecrated church and can hold up to four services per year. Weddings, vow renewals and funerals can also be arranged to take place in the church.

If you are interested in joining the Friends or would like more information on events or services, please contact Penny Lansdown at [fosmochurch@gmail.com](mailto:fosmochurch@gmail.com) or visit our web page at [westbergholt.net/clubs/st-marys/](http://westbergholt.net/clubs/st-marys/) or [www.facebook.com/fosmoc](https://www.facebook.com/fosmoc).





## WEST BERGHOLT PARISH COUNCIL



### Contacts:

Chair:	Brian Butcher <a href="mailto:chair@westbergholt.net">chair@westbergholt.net</a>			
Vice Chairs:	Harry Stone	Bob Tyrrell		
RFO:	Andrew Savage			
Councillors:	Manya Barrow	Joel Fayers	John Gili-Ross	Vacancy
	James Owers	David Short	Vacancy	

Parish Council meetings are held at the Orpen Hall Complex every fourth Wednesday of each month except August and December, at 7.30pm unless otherwise advised (see notice boards). During the meeting the public are invited to raise any issue for consideration by the Parish Council during the "Questions from registered electors" item.

For general enquiries, email the Parish Council using [westbergholtpc@gmail.com](mailto:westbergholtpc@gmail.com) or telephone the Clerk on 01206 240772. Contact made in this way will be dealt with by the Clerk or forwarded to relevant Parish Councillors. For specific enquiries about matters dealt with committees, email the contacts provided below, although please also copy to the Clerk.

Finance, Policy & Personnel Advisory Committee	Environment & Highways Committee	Planning & Development Committee
<a href="mailto:finance@westbergholt.net">finance@westbergholt.net</a>	<a href="mailto:environment@westbergholt.net">environment@westbergholt.net</a>	<a href="mailto:planning@westbergholt.net">planning@westbergholt.net</a>
Andrew Savage (Chair) Brian Butcher John Gili-Ross Harry Stone Bob Tyrrell	John Gili-Ross (Chair) Manya Barrow (Public Transport Rep) James Owers David Short Harry Stone	Bob Tyrrell (Chair) Joel Fayers (Vice Chair) Brian Butcher Andrew Savage

### Other Useful Contacts:

Clerk to the Parish Council:	Laura Walkingshaw	01206 240772 <a href="mailto:westbergholtpc@gmail.com">westbergholtpc@gmail.com</a>
Village Hall Administrator:	Victoria Beckwith-Cole	07434 949631 <a href="mailto:hall-admin@westbergholt.net">hall-admin@westbergholt.net</a>
Webmaster:	Dave Kingaby	<a href="mailto:dave@kingserv.org">dave@kingserv.org</a>
Borough Councillors:	Cllr Lewis Barber	<a href="mailto:cllr.lewis.barber@colchester.gov.uk">cllr.lewis.barber@colchester.gov.uk</a>
	Cllr Sara Naylor	<a href="mailto:cllr.sara.naylor@colchester.gov.uk">cllr.sara.naylor@colchester.gov.uk</a>
	Cllr Dennis Willetts	<a href="mailto:cllr.dennis.willetts@colchester.gov.uk">cllr.dennis.willetts@colchester.gov.uk</a>
Essex County Councillor:	Cllr Lewis Barber	<a href="mailto:Cllr.Lewis.Barber@essex.gov.uk">Cllr.Lewis.Barber@essex.gov.uk</a>
MP Harwich & North Essex:	Bernard Jenkin	<a href="mailto:Bernard.jenkin.mp@parliament.uk">Bernard.jenkin.mp@parliament.uk</a>

A daily diary of village events can be found on the home page of our village web site at [westbergholt.org](http://westbergholt.org)

# Village Notice Board

## Sunday

**Service of Worship, St Mary's Church**  
**Bowls Club**, 7.30pm Orpen Hall.  
Contact John Rookard, 01206 626045

\* \* \*

## Monday

**Bluebells Preschool**, 9.15am - 3.15pm, Orpen Hall.  
Contact Jackie Leach 01206 241677  
**Baby & Toddler Group**, 9.15-11.15am.  
Term time only. St Mary's Church Hall.  
**Kelly's HIIT**, 9.30am, Scout Hut.  
Contact Kelly 07453 859583  
**WB Cubs**, 6.30pm-8pm Scout Hut.  
Contact Kevin Sturdy 01206 240549  
**Gardeners Association**, 7.30pm 3rd Monday.  
Contact Terry Claydon 01206 241256  
**SG Karate Club**, 8.30pm-9.30pm Scout Hall.  
Contact Stuart Glister 01206 365150

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## Tuesday

**Bluebells Preschool**, 9.15am - 3.15pm, Orpen Hall.  
Contact Jackie Leach 01206 241677  
**Pilates**, 6pm, John Lampon Hall.  
Contact fleur.parks@gmail.com  
**Kelly's HIIT**, 6.30pm & 7.30pm, Scout Hut.  
Contact Kelly 07453 859583  
**((BOUNCE))** 6.30pm -7.30pm, Orpen Hall.  
Contact Kerry King 0788 636 9450  
**Vocal Zones Choir**, 7pm, St Mary's Church Hall.  
Contact Ann 07596 071636 or Linda 07545 572157  
**Badminton Club**, 8pm-10pm Orpen Hall.  
Contact Ian Hersey 01206 243378/07754140707

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## Wednesday

**Bluebells Preschool**, 9.15am - 3.15pm, Orpen Hall.  
Contact Jackie Leach 01206 241677  
**Ladies Afternoon Badminton**, 2.30pm - 4pm Orpen Hall.  
Contact Carol Felton 01206 240126  
**WB Beavers**, 5pm - 6.15pm, Scout Hut.  
Contact Kevin Sturdy 01206 240549  
**Slimming World**, 5.30pm and 7.30pm, Heathlands Primary School.  
Contact Nicky 07957 656 939  
**Women's Institute**, 1st Wednesday, 7.15pm, Orpen Hall.  
Contact Jacqui Hunns 01206 240712  
**WB Scouts**, 7.30pm - 9.30pm, Scout Hut.  
Contact Kevin Sturdy 01206 240549  
**Colne Valley Flower Club**, 3rd Wednesday, 7.30pm, Orpen Hall. Contact 01206 241155  
**Parish Council Meeting**, 4th Wednesday, 7.30pm, John Lampon Hall

**History Group**, 2nd Wednesday, 7.30pm, Orpen Hall, (visits between April & September).  
Contact Gill Poole 01206 240512  
**W.B. Scouts**, 7.30pm-9.30pm, Scout Hut.  
Contact Kevin Sturdy 01206 240549

\* \* \*

## Thursday

**Open House**, 9.00 -11.00am (in term time), St Mary's Church Hall  
**Bluebells Preschool**, 9.15am - 3.15pm, Orpen Hall.  
Contact Jackie Leach 01206 241677  
**5T's**, 2.30pm-4pm Weekly, St Mary's Church Hall.  
**Kelly's HIIT**, 6.30pm, Heathlands School.  
Contact Kelly 07453 859583  
**Bowls Club**, 7.30pm Orpen Hall.  
Contact John Rookard 01206 626045  
**Colchester & District Model Railway Club**, 8pm, Armoury Farm.  
Contact [www.colchestertermc.org](http://www.colchestertermc.org)

\* \* \*

## Friday

**Bluebells Preschool**, 9.15am - 3.15pm, Orpen Hall.  
Contact Jackie Leach 01206 241677  
**WB Concert Band**, 6pm-7pm (Training) 7pm-9pm (Band), Heathlands School.  
Contact Karen Wilson 01206 824157  
**WB Cubs**, 6.30pm-8.00pm, Scout Hut.  
Contact Kevin Sturdy 01206 240549  
**Bergholt Youth Group (BYG)**, Alternate Friday, 6.30pm-8pm, John Lampon Hall.  
Jamie Bowden 07581 202960  
**Wired**, 1st Friday, 7pm-9pm, St. Mary's Church Hall.  
Contact Mark Partridge 01206 241617  
**Orpen Players**, 8pm Orpen Hall.  
Debbie Hornigold 01206 242111

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## Saturday

**NEEGOG Model Railway Club**, 2nd Saturday, 2pm, St Mary's Church Hall.  
Contact Martin Long 01206 240443  
**((BOUNCE))** 8am - 9am & 9.15 - 10am, Orpen Hall.  
Contact Kerry King 07886369450  
**Kelly's HIIT**, 9am, Daniel Lorkin Field.  
Contact Kelly 07453 859583

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## Sunday

**((BOUNCE)) 9.30 - 10.30am**, Orpen Hall.  
Contact Kerry King 07886369450