

Issue 175

Spring 2024

# Village Bulletin



*Inside...*

Save the date for the 2024 Open Gardens!

West Bergholt Village Fete is back!!

& An important pylons update

## Village Spotlight - Lily & Fern

Lily & Fern is the village florist and gift shop owned and run by Lisa Doonan.

Lisa, who is originally from the Village has nearly 20 years experience in floristry.

Starting her floral journey by graduating with a first class floristry degree with distinction from Writtle College. Her background in visual merchandising and her passion for floristry have led to a successful career and achievements in numerous floral activities including demonstrating in national floral design competitions and also at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show. Lisa has spent the last 16 years trading as Miss Lily's, running a successful wedding, funeral and event floristry business from a studio covering Essex and Suffolk.

In need of something new, Lisa opened Lily & Fern in July 2023 on Colchester Road, (which was formerly Kitty Rose).

Lisa & Fern provides flowers for weddings, funerals and events and also creates fresh flower bouquets. In addition to fresh flowers, Lily & Fern have a vast array of dried flowers, house plants, pots, gifts and cards. A one stop shop for a perfect gift!

From the shop, Lisa also runs workshops and classes, including seasonal wreath making, flower design and has guest artists who also

come in to run workshops, including candle making and card making. She also stocks many items handmade by local talented artists, including hand painted candles, clay earrings, paper flowers and cards. Lily & Fern uses fresh, seasonal flowers including flowers grown and supplied locally when available. In the summer months they stock a range of garden plants grown by hand, and stock an array of easy to care for houseplants to give your home a fresh boost. Appointments can be arranged to discuss any wedding or funeral flowers with Lisa, or call into the shop to order a fresh bouquet or just to take a look at all the gorgeous items on offer.

Lily & Fern, 10a Colchester Road, West Bergholt, CO6 3JG

[www.lilyandfern.co.uk](http://www.lilyandfern.co.uk)

[lisa@lilyandfern.co.uk](mailto:lisa@lilyandfern.co.uk)

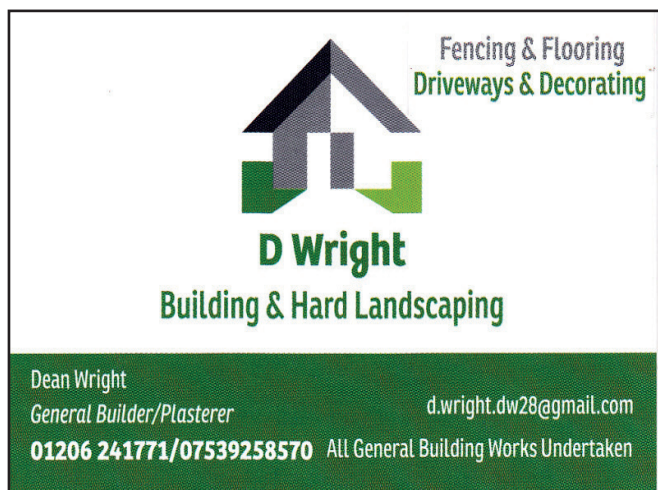
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## Hello...

The weather is trying to warm up, the daffodils and snow drops are blooming, which can only mean one thing - Spring is here!

With any luck, the cold and dreary days are behind us and we can look forward to the summer months.

The Village Fete will be returning in July, along with the Open Gardens in June, and details of both are in this edition of the Bulletin, along with updates from the Parish Council, feedback from our Bulletin Survey and an update on the plans for a drop in cafe for secondary school children in the village.

We also have a guest article by Lily & Fern, the lovely new florist in the village.

*Jacqui*

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### **Hall Booking Information**

**Orpen Hall** (up to 150 people) & **John Lampon Hall** (up to 50 people). Contact westbergholthall@gmail.com

**Social Club Room** (during the day only). Contact westbergholthall@gmail.com

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

**Scout Hut** Contact Kevin Sturdy kevinsturdy@aol.com

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Deadline for advertising: 1st May 2024

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## Women's Institute

In preparation for the festive season, Alison, one of our members, demonstrated two wreaths, one in silver and interesting greenery for the other one. A Christmas table decoration followed, giving us time in November to use her ideas.



Another member, Wendy, gave a talk entitled 'Save your skin for winter'. She gave members a variety of suggestions, with her products available to purchase in shops at under £10.

December was our Christmas Party, with home made sausage rolls and mince pies on

the tables. The committee brought round mini hot sausages, mulled wine and Christmas cake. Each table was asked to read out the best christmas cracker joke.

Hillary with her bottle of gin (water) proceeded to demonstrate the making of a Christmas pudding. Everytime she mentioned left or right, a small parcel was passed in that direction on each table. To add

to the amusement, Hillary became more tipsy and everything was added to the mixing bowl.

Geri organised a seasonal quiz.

Great excitement when Father Christmas in full regalia arrived to help distribute the large festive raffle gifts.

In January, we welcomed back Gary Egerton with his talk about 'Jack the Ripper'. The murderer of the five women was never found. With the aid of black and white slides, he gave an accurate account of the events at that time.

We voted this month for the four WI resolutions. Dental Health Matters came first, with 'Say 'no to gambling advertising' a close second.

With the passing of Mamie Lampon, Barbara Buckley spoke of the welcome and kindness shown to her family on their arrival in West Bergholt by John and Mamie. They were Mayor and Mayoress of Colchester 1988/89.

Our WI membership is increasing and we are pleased to welcome new visitors.

## Friends to the Wood - Unknown Heroes

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You may have noticed that there is usually very little litter about when you visit Hillhouse Wood. Whilst you may have expected to see the occasional drinks can, plastic bottle or crisp packet, their subsequent absence is due to one thing - we are very lucky to have local people, both with and without dogs, who regularly walk through Hillhouse Wood and use the opportunity to pick up such rubbish and take it home.

They may or may not be official 'Friends of Hillhouse Wood' but they are friends to the Wood and deserve thanks from us all.

*Andrew Savage*  
Chair

*andrewsavage123@googlemail.com*  
01206 242015

# West Bergholt Allotments

Now is the time to be thinking about what to plant this year and making sure you rotate your vegetables to try and prevent diseases building up. This is particularly important to prevent blight on potatoes and tomatoes, as we did suffer from it again last year.

There has been quite a turnover of people renting allotment plots since the end of lockdown. Although the appeal of fresh vegetables is an attraction, the amount of work involved in producing them may have been seriously underestimated! Please consider if you have enough time to give to looking after an allotment before applying for one.

We have also had to do a lot of clearing up of plots when they have been given up, so if you are thinking of relinquishing your plot, please make sure you take everything away that you brought on to it.

Rhubarb is starting to grow again and the Charity Stall will be reopened at the beginning of March in order to share the abundance of this.

Julie is running the seed library again this year and would like donations of spare seeds. Leave them in the shed by Chapel Road gate until the Charity Stall opens. Please label any envelopes with their contents if they are not in the original packaging.

The Charity Stall funds made donations to the Brownies, Scouts and 5T's this year and there is still some money available for other projects. There is an application form on the West Bergholt website if your group would like to be considered for a grant from the stall.

The allotments will again be participating in Open Gardens on Sunday 9th June so put the date in your diaries now and come to see what we are growing this year.

Lynda Robinson

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## BYG

BYG membership continues to be strong, with 128 paid members (71 boys and 57 girls). The high membership is being reflected in the weekly attendances, which has now topped the 100 mark on some evenings.

We are actively seeking young volunteers who want to help their community. This could be especially relevant to those who are taking part in the DofE who can use BYG as part of their achievements.

Further further information please contact our club leader Jamie Bowden on 07581 202960.



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## West Bergholt Village Fete 6th July 2024

Planning for this years Village Fete is well under way, with excellent progress already made. So what can you expect to see, hear, taste and experience? Lots!

This year we will have two marques. The first will be for entertainment and we have managed to secure a range of local bands and groups including;

- Essex Police Band
- West Bergholt Wind Band
- Ginger and the Grizzly – Guitar duo
- And I meet you in churches – Live band
- Selion Swing Band
- Vocal Zones
- Yasmin Wood

The second marquee will include a number of stalls (40+) ranging from local village groups through to local artisan sellers

In terms of food and drink we will have local food trucks and outlets onsite including;

- Smokes Catering – Pizza
- Hog Roast – Provided by The White Hart pub
- Joe's Whippy – Icecream
- Norweigan Bakers
- Molley's Drinks Van – Cocktail truck
- Burger van

And both the social and football club will be open for drinks.

There will also be a range of activities including;

- Cricket and football activities
- Kyra's castles – Bouncy castles and mini kids rides
- Bounce
- Hiit Class
- Tug of War competition

And of course there will be a raffle with first and second prizes of Amazon vouchers (1st £200, 2nd £100). We are still collecting prizes so if you would like to donate a raffle prize please do get in touch via our FB Page, West Bergholt Village Fete 2024, or email jamesharvey2@hotmail.com

Make sure you put the date, 6th July, in your diary, it's going to be a great village event.



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## Colne Valley Flower Club

Our meeting on March 20th is an Easter Workshop. Details will be advised at our February meeting.

On April 17th, Madeline Bradley will be demonstrating. Her title is 'Hello Spring' and she comes from Cambridge.

Christine Long visits us on May 15th, and her title is 'Loosely Round the Solar System'

We meet in the Orpen Hall, West Bergholt, on the third Wednesday of the month (Not August or December).

For any further information please contact Daphne on 07712 654616 or Alison on 07792 387360



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# West Bergholt Gardeners

Our village needs you! Please consider welcoming visitors to your garden for our Open Gardens Event, Sunday 9th June 2024

Small, large, tidy or even not so tidy – our Open Gardens event is always popular and our chosen charities are The Tom Bowdidge Foundation and Essex & Herts Air Ambulance. We could really do with a few more gardens, so if you are thinking about it and would like further information about what it entails before committing, please contact us by email – wbgardeners@gmail.com. We know June seems a long way off, but we have to get programmes printed in advance so would love to hear from you as soon as possible.

In other news, we have some interesting speakers lined up for our monthly meetings which are held at The Orpen Hall on the 3rd Monday of the month. Visitors are welcome, £5 on the door, cash or card. Doors open at 7.15 for a 7.30 start.

- **February 19th** – Hannah Powell on the history of Perrywood.
- **March 18th** – Maggie Piper talking about the Eden Project and the Lost Gardens of Heligan

- **April 15th** - Matt Tanton-Brown advising us on summer colour in our gardens.
- **May 20th** – radio presenter Ken Crowther on the Changing Faces of Gardening.

In addition, we have a self-drive visit to Olivers Plants Specialists and Black Horse Cafe near Coggeshall on 24th April, a coach trip to Hever Castle gardens on 13th June and another self-drive visit to Blunts Hall near Witham in support of the NGS charity on 1st August. Again, please do not hesitate to email us if you'd like more information.

## Tip of the Season

This is a good time of year to think about houseplants. A liquid feed added to water is an easy method, once or twice a month throughout the spring and summer.

## Woods Bowls Club

### What's happening in 2024?

In conjunction with Bowls Englands' BOWLS BIG WEEKEND, our open day is on Bank Holiday **MONDAY 27th MAY** from 12pm. There is no charge, all equipment will be supplied, just bring some flat shoes (trainers or pumps ideal).

If you're interested but cannot make our open day, please call our club secretary on 01206 863854 and he will arrange a suitable time to meet you at the club. Alternatively, email us at woodsbowlsclub@gmail.com.

We are on Facebook 'Woods Bowls Club' and our website is <https://www.hugofox.com/community/woods-bowls-club-8629/home>.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

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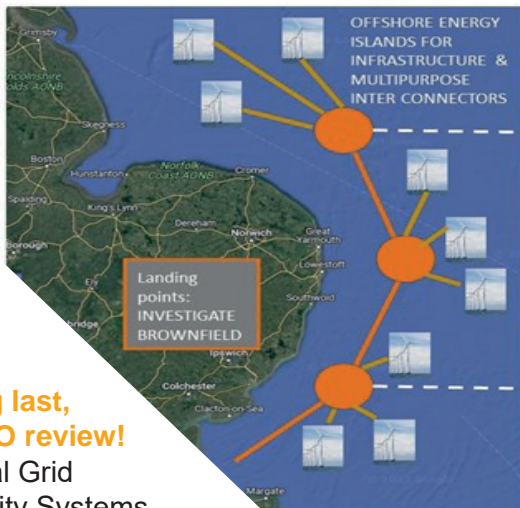
# Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk Pylons Update

## New year, new phase in the offshore grid campaign.

ESN's campaign petition call is: 'say no to pylons and say yes to an offshore grid'. An offshore grid is better, faster and cheaper.

By integrating the grid offshore and pooling the electricity, you reduce the overall infrastructure required by 50%. That makes far more sense than the approach employed by National Grid, in which each wind farm and inter connector is offered a separate onshore connection (miles inland).

An offshore grid would be faster to implement because there would be fewer planning applications and fewer angry locals to contend with. This is what we are arguing for - keep the power offshore for as long as possible, pool it and bring it onshore at fewer, consolidated sites:



## At long last, the ESO review!

National Grid Electricity Systems Operator (ESO) is at long last carrying out its review. Several from the Essex Suffolk Norfolk Pylons campaign group have attended their round tables. ESO is fully independent from NG Electricity Transmission (the one wanting to build pylons).

The formal remit of ESO's review is much too narrow. It is only looking at scenarios involving Norwich to Tilbury Pylons, Sea Link, North Falls and Five Estuaries. The reason for this is that Government's Offshore Coordination Support announcement only included the latter three!

It is far from ideal because the offshore benefits cited above come from maximum integration, not from cherry picking. Yes, we want Five Estuaries and North Falls connecting offshore but as part of the big picture.

The key omission in the review for the West Bergholt area is Tarchon, an inter connector offered at Ardleigh. For as long as Tarchon connects there, the pylons project remains alive and kicking. Our argument for some time has been that Tarchon should connect further south and that Five Estuaries and North Falls should connect into Tarchon.

Aside from Tarchon, the ESO review ignores the other twelve or so wind farm projects in planning in the North Sea. These need to be integrated. Informally, we have been told by ESO that they are in fact also analysing our offshore grid proposal.

## Final pylons consultation

In the meantime, we know that NG ET will launch its final pylons consultation as soon as it can after the ESO review. That ends 9th March. Thank you to all those of you who support our campaign.



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# West Bergholt Parish Council

Dear all,

## Our newsletters

Since April 2023, the Parish Council has published Newsletters each month as a short summary of their meetings, both online and on its noticeboards.

For instance, the November Newsletter noted the funding it received for the Community Hub, the work it was doing on its 2024/25 budget, its developing wish to increase youth engagement in the village and listed all the Council's committee meetings for 2024!

Please do take the opportunity to read <https://westbergholt-pc.gov.uk/villagebulletin/local-news/wbpc-newsletters/>.

## Buses serving West Bergholt

I do hope as many people as possible responded to the Essex County Council Bus Network Consultation in the autumn in respect of its support for the local bus services. The Parish Council public transport rep did!

The outcome, 375 pages, has finally been published, decisions taken, and a procurement process is now underway for providers, with the outcome of that expected to be known in Spring 2024.

The important bit is S3 will remain a supported service for 2024. Time will tell though if by the summer it will be with First Essex Buses Ltd!

## West Bergholt's precept

You may recall the majority of the day to day running costs for the Parish Council come via Colchester City Council, who collect the village's precept via their council tax.

This year, with judicial financial planning, the Parish Council will be asking Colchester City Council for an increase of an average 20p per month per West Bergholt household for the next financial year. Last year it was 32p.

The Council's budget for 2024/25 can readily be viewed on [westbergholt-pc.gov.uk](https://westbergholt-pc.gov.uk) but if you have any queries, please do email these to [clerk@westbergholt-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@westbergholt-pc.gov.uk).

## 1 A date for your diary


With Colchester City's CEO Mrs Pam Donnelly and Lieutenant Colonel Ed Rankin attending the next **Annual Parish meeting on the 26th of April 2024** in the Orpen Memorial Hall, I look forward to seeing as many as possible attending, last year's meeting having been attended by approximately seventy people. Further inducements, if needed, will include free refreshments and nibbles at 7:15pm.

**Brian Butcher**  
Chair West Bergholt Parish Council

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## A drop-in cafe for young people

Several years ago, residents identified in a consultation questionnaire the need to prioritise improving the provision for the young people of our village.

Since then, several initiatives, such as the establishment of the Youth Group (BYG) and the provision of more play equipment, including the Zip Wire, have taken place.

The Parish Council feels this is still an area for further development and so has established a Youth Engagement Working Group consisting of four Councillors.

Our first task has been to review the existing youth organisations we have in the village, ranging from Scouts and Guides to the Church Youth Group and BYG. It is good to see that all are thriving and providing excellent service for our young people. As well as this, members of the Parish Council have termly meetings with the Headteacher at Heathlands School and this is leading to regular joint projects with the school Eco Council.

The meetings of the above youth groups are weekly to monthly and do seem to leave a gap for some of our older secondary school pupils. Through discussions with them and their leaders and parents, the biggest need is to establish a venue where they can meet regularly and socialise, possibly with friends who attend different schools, at the end of the school day.

The experience of the weekly 'warm welcome space' has shown that the meeting room at the Orpen Hall Social Club can be utilised as such a venue. Discussions have now taken place with the YMCA and they are able to provide a professional Youth Worker to lead this project. A Café here can provide for around twenty at a time.

The proposal is to open the Café for those of secondary school age (i.e. Year 7 upwards), initially once a week from 4.00 to 6.00pm, starting from the start of the Autumn term in September. We believe that this is an opportunity to support our young people, which will in turn benefit the whole village.

If you feel able to help, we will be pleased to hear from you. The leader will need the support of adult volunteers, both to be a presence with the young people and to manage the café. Others will be needed to form a management team to run the project.

To discuss or offer help, please contact through the Parish Council, [clerk@westbergholt-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@westbergholt-pc.gov.uk), 0772 6424419

**Harry Stone**  
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## Village Bulletin Survey Results - Feedback

In our December 2023 edition, we gave the highlights from the 2023 Bulletin Survey and promised the results of the open-ended question "Is there anything you would like to see in the Bulletin that isn't already included?"

So what did you say?

The feedback nicely (well, more or less!) fitted under 10 key headings:

- Building & Planning
- Clubs/Groups/Organisation
- Council & Councillors
- Dog Owners
- General responses
- School/Young People
- Transport /Roads/Infrastructure
- Village Business
- Village Events
- Village Life in General

We were delighted with the feedback from nearly 200 people and are already taking action, some of which you will see in this edition, including a list of Key Village Events 2024, updates on the Pylons, Future Planning and Youth engagement articles.

More changes will be introduced in future editions.



## West Bergholt Photography Competition

As you'll know from the last edition of the Bulletin, we ran a Winter Themed Photography Competition for under 18's and under 12's, which ended on the 16th January. The competition had multiple themed categories. We were delighted with the quality of the entries and it made the judging challenging!

Fortunately the panel was led by Tony Morris (our local Photographer), who provided expertise, supported by Cllrs Butcher and Cullis. Tony said that "the standard of photography demonstrated by all the young people showed just what can be achieved by cameras on our phones. Many of the entrants clearly showed they had a real eye for a picture".

Congratulations to all the winners and all the young people that took part.

### U12 Landscape Category

First Place – Sam Ross Age 7  
Second Place – Rowan Oakes Age 10

### U12 Made/Grown Category

First Place – Harriet Ross Age 10

### U18 Animals Category

First Place – Isabella Jack Age 17

Second Place – Amelia Beckwith-Cole Age 12

Third Place – Alicia Waine Age 13

### U18 Landscape Category

First Place; Rachel Walkingshaw Age 17

Second Place; Joe Birchall Age 12

Third Place; Amelia Beckwith-Cole Age 12

### U18 Made/Grown Category

First Place – Alicia Waine Age 13

Second Place – Rachel Walkingshaw Age 17

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## St Mary's Church

We look forward to welcoming you to our Easter Services at the end of March. Events include an Agape Fellowship Meal in church at 8pm on Thursday 28th March, and an Easter Day Celebration Service at 9.30am on Sunday 31st March, with an Easter Egg Hunt and a shortened Communion.

Please look out for more details on our website [stmaryswestbergholt.co.uk](http://stmaryswestbergholt.co.uk) and Facebook pages in March, or contact the parish office on [6parishescolchester@gmail.com](mailto:6parishescolchester@gmail.com).

### Storytime Service – Third Saturday in the Month @ 6pm

Our new informal service for families with children aged 7 and under takes place once a month on a Saturday teatime. The service offers a space to relax after a busy day, listen to a story from the Bible and enjoy a mug of hot chocolate before bedtime. Children can come in their pyjamas!

Don't forget as well, the Café @ St Mary's on the first Saturday in the month in the church hall: 10am – 12 noon, serving bacon butties and coffee and cakes. All

are welcome.

We are delighted to announce that St Mary's has achieved the Bronze Level award for the Eco Church Scheme! Eco Church is an award scheme for churches in England and Wales who want to demonstrate their care for creation as an integral part of loving their neighbour and following God faithfully.

Things we introduced to achieve the bronze award included: using fairtrade and recycled products where possible, measuring our carbon footprint, twinning our toilets with toilets in Zambia, talking about environmental issues in our Sunday services and home groups, and carrying out a wildlife survey in the church yard.

There is more that we could do, however, so now we will be working towards the silver award!



## St Mary's Old Church

The Mulled Wine Event and village Carol Service were very well attended with numbers back to pre Covid days. The generous collection taken at the Carol Service was split between the New Church and the Conservation Trust.

We have sadly said farewell to two Committee members, Joan Gray and Chris Betts. Both have made a significant contribution to the running of the building over the years and we are grateful to them for their time of service.

The churchyard trees need some work to make them safe and this will be undertaken shortly. After some extensive work, the churchyard now looks better than it has for many year and is ready for spring flowers.

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.

*Martin Long*  
Chairman  
Friends of St Mary's Old Church  
[fosmochurch@gmail.com](mailto:fosmochurch@gmail.com)



# Creffield Medical Group

Happy New Year to all of our patients.

Dr Tanmoyee Chowdhury, who had been working at West Bergholt Surgery on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, has now transferred to Creffield Medical Centre. Dr Nkanor will be returning to us from maternity leave and she will be working Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. We are hopeful that a further GP will be joining our team in the near future.

For those patients that have been attending our Dementia Café and Coffee mornings, the venue has now changed to St Cedds Hall.

Did you know that you can contact the Surgery via our website? You can ask us non-urgent questions and request your medication using online services.

Throughout the year we are hosting NHS App promotion through the Digital Access Support Team, provided by Colchester City Council. They will be providing support sessions on how to use the NHS App on the 3rd week of the month. If you would like

more information, please contact us via our website or speak to the receptionist at West Bergholt Surgery for more information.

Creffield Medical Group has recently been awarded the Royal College of General Practitioners Active Practice Status. This means that as a Practice we are actively encouraging our patients and staff to get more active to improve their physical and mental health. We are planning walking groups in 2024 and looking to become a ParkRun Practice.



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## The Orpen Players

The Orpen Players would like to thank everyone who came to watch our latest pantomime, 'Robin Hood and his Merry Women'.

We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did.

Look out for details of our next production on our Facebook page and West Bergholt village hub Facebook page.

If you are interested in becoming a member do not hesitate to contact us on [Orpenmembership@outlook.com](mailto:Orpenmembership@outlook.com) for more information.



# West Bergholt Development Update

The scheme for the site opposite the 'Treble Tile' (next to Hopkins Homes), which has outline planning permission, is being worked up into a reserved matters application which will be submitted in the spring.

The scheme for the site opposite the school playing field (the Poors Land) is planned

for development within the (West Bergholt) Neighbourhood Plan.

The plans are currently being developed. The proposals are being progressed with a view to submitting a planning application in the summer.

## **ROSE**



**Robert Forsythe**

Painter and Decorator

robert.forsythe4@btinternet.com

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**Mobile: 07751018008**



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# West Bergholt Concert Band

West Bergholt Concert & Training Band wrapped up their 45th anniversary year with another hugely enjoyable Christmas Concert with Heathlands School Choir, including the hilariously interactive version of The Twelve Days Of Christmas. Audience comments included "Really fantastic concert - we all came home buzzing! Brilliant fun", with band member comments including "Loved it - great atmosphere with such an appreciative and involved audience".

2024 marks another milestone for the band – the 30th anniversary of the band's current conductor taking up the baton full time. To celebrate, we'll be playing favourites from his playing days such as Phantom Of The Opera, Glenn Miller, The Beatles, Bugler's Holiday & Neapolitan Overture, alongside the classic "Last Night Of The Proms" finale of Land Of Hope & Glory, Jerusalem & Rule Britannia at our first concert of the year on Sunday March 24th at Clacton's West Cliff Theatre. Tickets for the concert are on sale from the Theatre box office or Theatre website, priced at £8 adults & £7 concessions, and will again be raising money for Parkinson's UK.

After a number of successful school events in the last 18 months, the band has regained its balance of young & previously young members. However, there's always room for more, so if you play a brass & woodwind instrument and are interested in joining, just come and visit us at Heathlands School on any Friday evening. We operate both a Training Band (6pm, Grade 1+) and a Concert Band (7pm, Grade 4+), with our experienced players on hand to help ease new members into either.

For more information on the band, please visit the band's website ([www.wbcband.org](http://www.wbcband.org)) or email us at ([Conductor@wbcband.org](mailto:Conductor@wbcband.org)). We look forward to seeing you all at the village Fete in July.



# The Tom Bowdidge Youth Cancer Foundation

We know that the bee population is diminishing, but did you also know that **seven** 13- to 24-year-olds are diagnosed with cancer every single day? That is seven too many! Imagine, as a parent of a teenager, getting the call to say that your child has cancer.

Here at The Tom Bowdidge Youth Cancer Foundation, we are challenging both... We are collaborating with the amazing team at Beebombs who kindly supply us with bags of wildflower pellets. Every donor who gives a minimum monthly gift of £5 to the Foundation receives their very own bag of Beebombs. These pellets will grow into wildflowers that bees love.

Most importantly, your regular monthly donation will make a meaningful difference to the challenging work the charity undertakes every single day. It will help provide specialist equipment, travel costs to and from hospitals and overnight accommodation, to wigs and clothing; as well as practical items such as beds/ mattresses and IT equipment, so the young person can continue with their studies and stay connected with their peers and family whilst in hospital or isolating at home. We also fund age-appropriate rooms and spaces in hospitals and, even more importantly, the research into beating cancer.

You would be giving a brighter future to the young people we support who are living with cancer, as well as their family. So many people receive this devastating news.

As your seeds grow, you will watch them flourish, helping to bring the bees back. So, the bees will be working hard as is your monthly donation. All they need is love, water, and warmth. The essentials for young people battling cancer.

To sign up to give just £5 a month visit [www.tombowdidgefoundation.org/brighter-future-appeal/](http://www.tombowdidgefoundation.org/brighter-future-appeal/)



If you wish to visit or to book

Please email: [westbergholtboardingcattery@gmail.com](mailto:westbergholtboardingcattery@gmail.com) or

Telephone Clare or Martin on 01206 240644 or 07779 637282

# Key Dates for 2024

## Easter Bunny Hunt

24th March - 14th April

## Parish Council Annual Meeting

24th April

## Village Fete

6th July

## Allotment Charity Stall Opens

Beginning of April

## Open Gardens

9th June

## Scarecrow Trail

14th October - 3rd November

## Christmas Lights

1st weekend in December

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# WEST BERGHOLT PARISH COUNCIL



## Parish Council Contacts:

### Councillors:

Chair:	Brian Butcher <a href="mailto:cllr.butcher@westbergholt-pc.gov.uk">cllr.butcher@westbergholt-pc.gov.uk</a>			
Vice Chair:	Harry Stone			
RFO:	Andrew Savage			
Councillors:	Manya Barrow	Paul Chamberlain	Sara Cullis	John Gili-Ross
	James Owers	Katie Pulford	David Short	Bob Tyrrell

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 [clerk@westbergholt-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@westbergholt-pc.gov.uk) or telephone the Clerk on 07726 424419. 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:cllr.savage@westbergholt-pc.gov.uk">cllr.savage@westbergholt-pc.gov.uk</a>	<a href="mailto:cllr.giliross@westbergholt-pc.gov.uk">cllr.giliross@westbergholt-pc.gov.uk</a>	<a href="mailto:cllr.tyrrell@westbergholt-pc.gov.uk">cllr.tyrrell@westbergholt-pc.gov.uk</a>
Andrew Savage (Chair) Brian Butcher (Vice Chair) John Gili-Ross James Owers Harry Stone Bob Tyrrell	John Gili-Ross (Chair) Katie Pulford (Vice Chair) Manya Barrow James Owers David Short Harry Stone	Bob Tyrrell (Chair) Sara Cullis (Vice Chair) Brian Butcher Paul Chamberlain Andrew Savage

### Other Useful Contacts:

Clerk to the Parish Council:	Laura Walkingshaw	07726 424419	<a href="mailto:clerk@westbergholt-pc.gov.uk">clerk@westbergholt-pc.gov.uk</a>
Clerk's Assistant:	Julie Gillott		<a href="mailto:asst@westbergholt-pc.gov.uk">asst@westbergholt-pc.gov.uk</a>
Village Hall Administrator:	Victoria Beckwith-Cole	07434 949631	<a href="mailto:westbergholthall@gmail.com">westbergholthall@gmail.com</a>
Webmaster:	Dave Kingaby		<a href="mailto:westbergholtweb@gmail.com">westbergholtweb@gmail.com</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 <http://www.westbergholt-pc.gov.uk>

## What's On

### 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  
**Dance4health**, 11.30am, Scout Hut.  
**WB Cubs**, 6.30pm-8pm Scout Hut.  
Contact Kevin Sturdy 01206 240549  
**Gardeners Association**, 7.30pm 3rd Monday.  
Contact wbgardeners@gmail.com  
**Orpen Players**, 8pm Orpen Hall.

\* \* \*

### Tuesday

**Bluebells Preschool**, 9.15am - 3.15pm,  
Orpen Hall.  
Contact Jackie Leach 01206 241677  
**Pilates**, 6pm, Orpen Hall.  
Contact fleur.parks@gmail.com  
**Kelly's HIIT**, 6.30pm & 7.30pm, Scout Hut.  
Contact Kelly 07453 859583  
**Vocal Zones Choir**, 7pm, St Mary's Church Hall.  
Contact Ann 07596 071636 or Julia 07775896494  
**Badminton Club**, 8pm-10pm Orpen Hall.  
Contact Ian Hersey 01206 243378/07754140707

\* \* \*

### Wednesday

**Bluebells Preschool**, 9.15am - 1.15pm, Orpen Hall.  
Contact Jackie Leach 01206 241677  
**Kelly's HIIT**, 9.30am, Scout Hut.  
Contact Kelly 07453 859583  
**Ladies Afternoon Badminton**, 2.15pm - 3.45pm  
Orpen Hall. Contact Kathy Bamforth at  
kathy.bamforth@gmail.com  
**WB Beavers**, 5pm - 6.15pm, Scout Hut.  
Contact Kevin Sturdy 01206 240549  
**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  
**Pilates**, 7 - 8pm, John Lampon Hall.  
Contact fleur.parks@gmail.com

\* \* \*

### 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  
**WB Guides**, 7 - 9pm, Scout Hut.  
**Bowls Club**, 7.30pm Orpen Hall.  
Contact John Rookard 01206 626045  
**Colchester & District Model Railway Club**, 8pm,  
Armoury Farm.  
Contact www.colchestermrc.org

\* \* \*

### Friday

**Bluebells Preschool**, 9.15am - 3.15pm, Orpen Hall.  
Contact Jackie Leach 01206 241677  
**Kelly's HIIT**, 9.30am, Scout Hut.  
Contact Kelly 07453 859583  
**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

\* \* \*

### Saturday

**NEEGOG Model Railway Club**, 2nd Saturday,  
2pm, St Mary's Church Hall.  
Contact Martin Long 01206 240443  
**Kelly's HIIT**, 9am, Daniel Lorkin Field.  
Contact Kelly 07453 859583