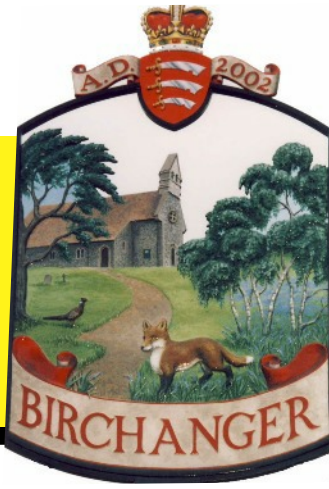


Birchanger
September 2016



Magazine
Issue 164

ART SHOW POSTPONED



Over the years one of the highlight events in the village hall is Birchanger's art show. Each year this event has been put on thanks to the hard work and dedication of a group of villagers to show off some of the best works from around the area. Furthermore, this highly successful and popular event has raised significant funding for a number of local projects including this very magazine as well as other local establishments including the village hall. Sadly, despite being one of the biggest fund raisers and donators to the hall, this year the uncertainty around the re-opening of the hall has meant the event has had to be cancelled. This is because nobody could be certain that the hall would be finished in time, and it was felt that to be fair to all the artists, who allocate work to shows months ahead, we should let them know that there would be no art show in Birchanger this year.

Luckily for the village hall and other local organisations, the Art Show will return next year with a vengeance. It is planned for either September 22/24, or September 30/October 1st depending on other art shows and the availability of the screens which are hired every year.

Watch this space, as it will happen in the refurbished hall, with all the usual attractions and more.

BUS TIMES CONSULTATION

The Essex County Council consultation on plans to reduce the frequency of route 7/7a through the village has now been published. In the proposed timetable buses pass through the village towards Bishop's Stortford at 0804 (to Birchwood School only), 0954, 1046, 1205, 1301, 1425, 1517, 1750 and 1815. Buses leave the town for Birchanger at 0639, 0900, 1010, 1110, 1230, 1320, 1550 and 1810. The 322 service, a single bus each way through the village en route to and from the Joyce Frankland Academy and the Saffron Walden County High School, is likely to be withdrawn.

Some villagers have already made comments to the Parish Council about the changes; these will be passed on to the County. Information about how you can obtain a copy of the consultation together with the proposed timetable have been posted on village noticeboards. If you'd like a hard copy of the consultation you can get one from an Essex library. To view or complete the consultation online then visit <https://surveys.essexinsight.org.uk/BusConsultation>.

If you'd like the Parish council to pass on your comments or ask questions on your behalf then contact Ken Wheatley, the Parish Council's public transport task member. His contact details are ken@birchanger.com, 01279 814678 and he lives at 69 Birchanger Lane.

The closing date is Wednesday 28th September.



a letter from the editor

Dear Birchanger,

Good byes are the hardest things to say... Suffice to say that you will be putting up with my sardonic wit, and grammatical shortcomings for another month. I am pleased to announce that from the November edition you will be in the safe hands of Peter Sampson. Peter has previously handled the marketing and newsletter writing for the club as well as having a whole host of other skills. One of these skills includes that of loving husband to wife Cheryl. Next month will see him pampering her beyond belief to celebrate their anniversary, so he will be getting truly stuck into the magazine from the following month.

If any of you out there has a story to tell, a grumble to put forward or a project you want to shout about then do get in touch. The magazine is only as good as the people who contribute, so make sure to send through all of your information and ideas. Editorial meetings happen in the club on the first Monday of every month, and you are all welcome to attend. Just drop us an email or give us a call to confirm so we can let you know if there's any change of plans.

Kind regards,

Tom Granger



magazine@birchanger.com



816349



319, Birchanger Lane

Village Hall on the Mend

Dear Villagers,

I am really pleased to be able to say that as soon as the main hall floor is dry, work will start on laying the new floor. In the meantime, people from the village have been generous enough to make donations towards the cost of repairing the car park, improving the drainage and upgrading the heating and toilets. We will all benefit from this and my grateful thanks go to:

- Harry Hayden
- Christine and Michael Daw
- Sue and Eddie Gilbey
- Brian and Julie Ross
- Birchanger Sports and Social Club
- Trudy and John Revell
- Mark and Pam Lee

I would also like to thank Liz and Pim Godwin for opening up their home/garden for afternoon teas with all proceeds going to the hall.

If you would like to help by making a donation please contact me on 07702171744

Pam Lee

Editor's Correction

Apologies for any misleading information about events transferred from the village hall to the club. Since the hall has closed only the Tai Chi has been moved to the Club Pavilion on Wednesdays. Other events are indefinitely postponed. Pam and Trudy will update us with all the necessary information as and when, but in the meantime sorry for any confusion caused.



VILLAGE NEWS

Elizabeth Godwin

In Safe Hands?

As regards hospitals in an emergency, we seem to live in a kind of no man's land particularly when it comes to Cardiac arrest. It seems we can be shipped to Welwyn, Harlow, Broomfield, or perhaps even end up in a unit at Basildon, which has one of the best recovery rates from cardiac arrest in the country. It is the centre for cardiac emergency treatment care in Essex. Technically we should go there, but not everyone does. If your heart stops outside an emergency unit, your survival chances can be only 50%. Even if you do survive, your quality of life post cardiac arrest is dependent entirely upon the standard of care received at the time.

At Basildon cardiac patients all benefit from good teamwork, all the latest techniques and equipment, with state of the art imaging as well as a new treatment called therapeutic hypothermia. This involves rapidly cooling the patient, before an artery is opened by the cardiology team. Most patients remember nothing about their treatment, waking up quite literally when it is all over.

A few years ago, Basildon had such a poor rating by the Health Regulator, that it was the place where nobody wanted to go. The hospital is now rated good or outstanding in all eight clinical areas. Cardiology is one of those classified as outstanding.

You can review local hospitals by going to NHS Choices. The address is:
www.nhs.uk/Services/hospitals/DefaultView.aspx?id=RDDHO

Joined up Care at Last

It is all very well being transported to the best care units for miles around, however, if the other professionals treating you have no idea what has been going on outside their particular sphere, it could well affect your treatment.

Now at last there are proposals to create an individual care record for everyone, which can only be used with the patient's permission. If you do not give permission, the information will only be available to the health professional concerned.

It seems like common sense to me, but what happens if you arrive unconscious in a hospital, is not clear. You would hardly be able to give your permission then, and it is highly possible that your relatives are nowhere around either. There are flaws in this, but it is a start.

Back to Reality

So the summer of sport is over and apart from the Para Olympics, we are back to the usual sporting fare, although there is still the Grand Prix and the new football season for some.

The Euros, although perhaps best forgotten by most of us, provided a fair share of surprise and even interest for those who are not normally football supporters. Iceland taught us a new sound, along with an incredible performance, which put us to shame. Wimbledon provided a great win for Andy Murray, the Tour de France and Chris Froome gave an increasing audience a boost, then came the Olympics, which for many were unmissable.

Summer television can be abysmal, but our own sporting achievements this summer, meant that there was a much bigger involvement than usual. A hard act to follow.

Problem with the Power Supply? Call 105

We all get interruptions to our power supply and whenever it happens it is always at the wrong time and causes maximum inconvenience. These days our computers stop working, our phones need recharging. The central heating goes down and if it goes on too long, we run out of water as the water pumps stop turning and much more.

In the past we turned to our recent electricity bills if we could find them in the dark, now we cannot even access them because we were smart and put everything on line, but the computer has no power and you cannot access anything.

There is now a quick easy to use number which anyone can call to report a problem. After many years of trying, the new 105 number came into use on September 6th. Along with the other 100 numbers, such as 111, this one is easily remembered, and you will be put through to an operator who will be able to help you.

Fields Smelling Less Than Sweet

The fields have changed to gold and shortly after that, the combines arrive. Sometimes the sharp spikes of stubble stay around for weeks, but this year, most of the fields were quickly harrowed and then almost imperceptibly, the nasty smell arrived. Drawing a veil over too vivid a description of the rather less than delectable odour, which was as it smelled, with a few chemical additions,

fertilizer was supposed to nourish and revitalize the fields. Great for the fields, if it works, but not so good for several of the population living nearby. Some individuals reported wheezing and sneezing attacks, headaches, sore throats and sundry other ailments.

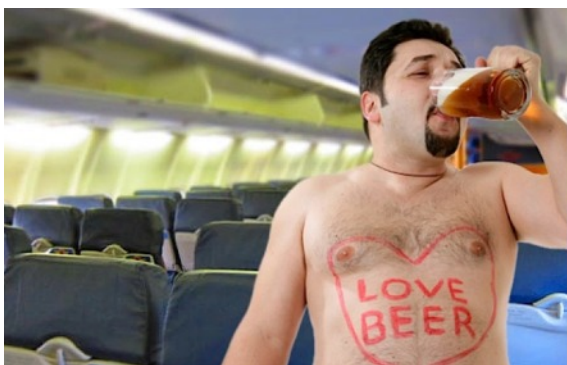
We are promised, that despite all the reports, the fertilizer will not harm the local population. Comforting perhaps, but with the truly horrible smell which took several days to finally wear off, how confident do we really feel?



One Too Many and You Will Miss the Plane

Uttlesford District Council is cracking down on drunken air passengers. We have all experienced them, they come in the form of the stag and hen night gangs, who started the moment their journey began, so by the time they actually attempt to get on the plane, the rest of us are seeing them at their very worst, and if you have ever had the misfortune to sit next to them, you will know just how bad this can get. From now on they will need to sober up, or they will not be able to get on the plane and will face a £75 fine for their efforts.

This is not just stopping at the airport. The crack down on drunks is to hit all parts of the District. Quite how this will work is unclear, but we have been warned.



Dog Bins

They are actually installed at last. If you have not found them, they are installed at the end of Wood Lane by Digby Wood, on the Sand Track behind Harrisons near the barns, and at the end of Bridle Way 12, where it joins Birchanger Lane. The bins will be emptied fortnightly and there is no excuse now not to clear up after your dog. Those who persist in allowing their dogs to foul the footpaths now will face a heavy fine.



British Weather Spoils the Party

After a week of wall to wall sunshine and pleasantly warm summer temperatures, it was hoped that the weather would at least be kind and continue on until Saturday, when there was an afternoon of tea and homemade cakes on offer at Moorswood, in aid of additional improvements to the Hall while the floors were being replaced after the flooding.

As it happened, the capricious weather served up a strong gale, punctuated by the odd shower, which effectively ruled out the garden as a relaxation zone. Understandably potential guests preferred the comfort of their living rooms and an uninterrupted afternoon watching the Olympics.

So the punters were down in numbers but those who did come found that The Olympics were available in one room while those who preferred to relax among friends were able to do that as well, and despite the odds, £150 was raised for the hall.



What's On ...

September 2016						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2 BSSC- Treasure Chest	3 - BSSC - Village Fete and TRAX LIVE	4 St-M- Matins
						
5	6	7 BSSC- 09:30 - Tai Chi	8	9	10	11 St-M- Holy Communion
						
12	13	14 BSSC- 09:30 - Tai Chi	15	16 BSSC- Treasure Chest	17 BSSC - Race Night	18 St-M- Matins
						
19 <small>Autumn Day (Edin.)</small>	20	21 BSSC- 09:30 - Tai Chi	22	23 BSSC- Wheel of Fortune	24 BSSC - LIVE ACT - Hit and Run	25 St-M- Holy Communion
						
26 <small>Autumn Day (Glas.)</small>	27	28 BSSC- 09:30 - Tai Chi	29	30 BSSC - Poker Night		
		BAGS evening @ Michelle's - see p.8				



Live Entertainment - Great Food - Excellent Bar - Snooker - Darts - Pool – Football - Cricket - Bowls

STILL TIME FOR SUMMER



It's official, here at the club we'll be clinging on to summer for as long as possible, which is why we've got a great deal on sparkling wine to keep people feeling fresh as we enter a (fingers crossed) Indian Summer. You can now get a 75cl bottle of Nua sparkling rose or prosecco for £13.95, whilst stocks last.

AGM



We're looking forward to hosting our members for the club's AGM in October. This will be the chance for the club to share it's successes and talk people through the year in general. Two years after the complete refurbishment of the club we have seen significant increases in footfall and in new members, but this is your opportunity as a

member to come along, tell us what you think and have a vote as to who will be in charge of running the club. The club is still interested in getting new blood on the committee so keep an eye on the notice boards and get your name down! Take a look below at some of our previous committee members from around 1900. Prizes for anyone who can point out Jay Levers, who is still on the committee today.



HAPPENINGS - SEPTEMBER



2nd+16th - Treasure Chest - #pleasenotthem If you want to ensure no more committee members walk away with the money, then make sure to turn up in force and buy the tickets!

3rd - Village Fete - Come along both members and non-members to experience this amazing day out. There will be numerous stalls and entertainment including a live performance from Trax in the afternoon



3rd- Trax - LIVE - Tact will be performing on what is always one of the busiest nights in the club as everyone who has enjoyed the fete continues the fun until the wee hours.

9th - Bottle Draw - everyone wants the chance to walk away with a great prize, so this evening we will be running our popular bottle draw.

17th - RACE Night at the club! First race 8.30pm DETAILS



23rd - Wheel of Fortune - Spin the wheel and take your opportunity to win big in this game of chance

24th - Hit and Run - this crew is back by very popular demand to rock our world.

30th - Poker Night, with registration from 7.15pm why not come along and show us your card skills.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Day	Event	When
Saturdays	Meat Draw	1.00pm
Saturdays	Bingo Lottery	Ask bar staff
Mondays	Quiz night	9.00pm
Wednesdays	Steak night	Evenings
Thursdays	Bingo night	08.30pm
Fridays	Bottle Draw	Evenings

Birchanger Sports & Social Club, 229 Birchanger Lane, Birchanger CM23 5QJ
Tel: 01279 813441 email: club@birchanger.com Follow us at: www.birchangerclub.com

Seasonal Advice



Gordon Bleu Review: Hopley's Cafe, Much Hadham – 5 stars

When people come to visit and you want to show them something different, Hopley's in the quaint village of Much Hadham is, in Gordon Bleu's view, the perfect choice - especially if you happen to go on a warm summer afternoon. The landscaped garden is a simple but pleasant stroll even if you still don't quite escape the hum of Ryanair planes, whilst the nearby nursey sells a range of reasonably-priced good quality plants that, combined with the excellent café, makes Hopley's a firm favourite.



On this occasion we find ourselves focusing on our stomachs and the four in this party decide to head straight for the café – a good idea given that it ensured all the freshly cooked food was still available – unlike previous visits when its popularity had got the better of us. As it was a warm day, the range of quiches, salads and sandwiches usually on display inside had been removed to protect them – a shame in some ways because one of the joys of this place is to admire (and drool) at the choice on offer. And what a choice it is. All food is freshly cooked in the morning before the café opens and it shows. The quiches are my particular favourite with typically thin and crispy pastry and good chunks of filling that allow you to properly taste it rather than inferior products which focus on an eggy filling of nothingness. I opted for the smoked haddock and spinach and wasn't disappointed – also because the salad accompaniment contained, as usual, at least 6 different individually prepared

versions that cried out to be eaten. The sandwich options contain some standard fillings as well as some you wouldn't normally see, with a salt-beef offering being crammed full of succulent meat. Other main courses are also available which tends to make choosing all the more difficult.



A licence allows all of this to be washed down with a limited and relatively pricey range of ales, cider and wine (hic) and all of us agreed we were too full to entertain dessert on this occasion – a shame given that the range of homemade cakes really does follow the quality of the main courses. Service is attentive, friendly and chatty but then what else would you expect from this place?

If you do overindulge at Hopley's the beautiful gardens are the perfect place to wander round and tell yourself you're burning off that extra slice of cake or the generous portion of quiche. Furthermore sitting outside by the gardens offers the perfect respite for parents who can grab a bite in the cafe whilst their children burn off a little excess energy in the gardens.

I really shouldn't rave about Hopley's too much, lest the popularity become too great that I have to wait for a table in the future (though you can reserve), but you simply must go – especially as the café is not open all year round (it opens from March and will soon close for hibernation). When compared to the standard and seemingly mass-produced food encountered in other local establishments it is a joy to eat at a venue that takes the quality of its food so seriously.

Hopley's Café - Hopley's Plants, high Street, Much Hadham, Herts SG10 6BU (01279 841188)



Balearics, Dublin, Edinburgh and Rome top the favorites list as Stansted Airport welcomes over 2.3 million passengers in July

Stansted has released highlights of the traffic figures from last month's which show the upward trajectory continues despite economic uncertainty. Ryanair has since announced that Brexit will see them flying 5 million fewer flights next year, so perhaps this upward trend will be reversed to the benefit of many, but to the economic detriment of others. In the meantime:

:

- 2.3 million passengers used London Stansted in July 2016, up 6.6% on the same month last year.
- Rolling annual total rose to 23.6 million, an increase of 8.4% over the previous 12 months.
- July 28, 2016, was the runway's busiest day since October 2008 with 583 flights.
- Balearics, Dublin, Edinburgh and Rome top the favourites list for July.
- Long haul destinations to Orlando and Cancun prove a big hit with families.
- Cargo volumes for the last 12 months increased to 248,085 tonnes up 6.4%

Commenting on the latest figures Stansted's MD Andrew Cowan, said: "The beginning of the school holidays helped boost Stansted's traffic to over 2.3million passengers, while load factors averaged 91.8%, another record for the month of July at Stansted. The rolling annual total now stands at 23.6 million passengers as we close in on our all-time high of 24 million. The month also saw the airport record its busiest day for aircraft movements on the runway since October 2008.

"Western Mediterranean destinations, particularly Majorca and Ibiza continue to top the favorites list with holidaymakers while Orlando and Cancun operated by Thomson and Thomas Cook, proved a big hit with families looking to try out the new long haul offer from Stansted. There was also a rising demand in domestic traffic as Brits jetted off for a summer staycation in Ireland and Scotland.

"The volume of cargo handled continued to increase with the rolling annual total up 6.4% to 248,085. 20,820 tonnes was transported through in July alone including 34 of the world's top equestrian horses bound for the Rio 2016 Olympic



Birchanger All Girls Society

Come along and join us on the last
Wednesday of every Month

Forthcoming meetings:

Wed. 28th September 7.30 for 8.00 A social evening at Michelle's house, 32 Harrisons. Please bring your own drink and some nibbles to share.

Wed. 26th October 7.30 for 8.00 If the village hall is still closed this will take place in Birchanger Scout Hut and will be 'A Christmas Craft Evening'
'A Warm Welcome to all Newcomers'

Tel. for details: Michelle - 814481,
Barbara - 813007, Rosemary - 814678

COMMUTER NEWS

Abellio awarded new £1.4 billion East Anglia rail franchise deal

After fierce competition and a long bidding process the decision was made last month to remain with the Dutch firm, who have been running the line since 2012. Worth £1.4 billion the new deal will run until 2025, with the service being renamed 'Abellio East Anglia'

In order to support the bid, Abellio made a number of promises, which if fulfilled should help Birchanger residents who commute into the big smoke every day.

- At least four 90-minute services (2 in each direction) between London and Norwich each weekday and two 60-minute services per day between London and Ipswich
- Free Wi-Fi for all passengers on trains and at stations
- 1,043 new, state of the art carriages between January 2019 and September 2020 to support the faster timetable, with a full programme of refurbishment for the current fleet in the meantime
- Automatic 'delay repay' for season and advance purchase tickets
- Tough new targets for operational performance levels at 93% - up from 89.7% currently
- A host of new ticketing initiatives, starting in October 2017, including new offers for part time users and those who don't travel every day

Greater Anglia say the new deal is good news for commuters.

"This is great news not only for Abellio but for the whole of East Anglia," Managing Director of Abellio UK Dominic Booth said.

"We are pleased to become the preferred bidder to deliver a transformation in rail services across the region.

"Our plans will greatly improve our customers' experience with faster and more reliable journeys on new trains with higher frequencies and reduced journey times, to support the socio-economic well-being of one of the country's most successful and fastest growing areas."



ANY MAKE, YEAR, CONDITION

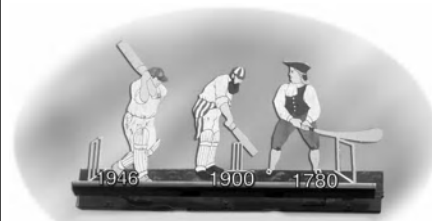
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BSSC is run by and for its members.
Throughout the year the committee are
working hard on entertainments, drinks, food
and sports for the members, but we can't
succeed without you. If you have any ideas or
have time to dedicate to sub-committees then
get in touch!

Drop us an email at
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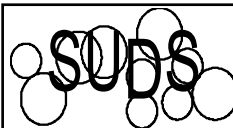
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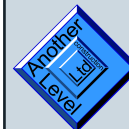


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