



Birchanger Village Magazine

July 2017

Issue 174



Lucy Haggerwood Bullen shows her musical talent

Birchanger has been the place where many of the inhabitants have been born into families who have lived in, or have been associated with Birchanger for many years. The community as a whole takes great pride in the children when they grow up and develop their own special skills and talents.

One of Birchanger's young people, Lucy Haggerwood Bullen, delighted a large audience in Birchanger Church when she gave a violin concert there in May. Lucy comes from a family who have lived in Birchanger for generations. Her schooldays began in Birchanger School and she is continuing her studies for her MA on the violin at Trinity College of Music.



The audience at the church were in for a treat. Lucy was accompanied for most of the evening by her piano teacher from Herts and Essex High School, Susie Savage, who was also her accompanist from her early days on the violin.

The concert included Beethoven's Spring Sonata, Fantasia number 1 by George Telemann and finally a selection of Romanian Folk Dances

by Bartok. The program was challenging and enabled Lucy to show just how talented a violinist she has become. She appeared confident throughout, her intonation was excellent as she showed just how well she made her violin work for her to deliver a sound which was rich and melodious and which filled Birchanger Church. The audience were proud and delighted that someone who had lived her life in the village had developed into a talented musician. She can look forward to a great future in music. Congratulations Lucy and best wishes for the future from us all.

Watch out, thieves are about again!

Following the theft of a horse box in the village a few days ago thieves have been at it again, this time breaking into a garage, stealing a large lawnmower and attempting to steal a bike. They left no trace anywhere except ripped off covers and padlocks on the ground. Please check your garages and outbuildings and make sure they are locked and secure.

Churton car broken into

Another car has been broken into, this time at Churton on the night of Sunday 11th June. Some money and a watch were stolen. The incident has been reported to the police. There seems to be a spate of these petty crimes on cars in Birchanger over the last few months spurring a number of residents to install CCTV cameras. This will certainly aid police in finding the culprits; meanwhile everyone should double lock their cars and set their alarms.

Report it!

Please report all crimes to our local Public Safety Officer
Alex Stewart on 07846 467575

Bowls Club in danger of closure

After 104 years the Birchanger Bowls club looks like it may have to close, according to Elaine Wright! "We are desperately seeking new members, male or female, to join our club and play in the league and friendly fixtures games during the week and at weekends or generally just to come along and enjoy a game of Bowls. We are a friendly club that has the added benefit of being attached to the Birchanger Sports and Social Club and want to carry on playing Bowls in the village. Can you help? If you can and would like to join us then come along on Sunday 9th July at 3pm for a roll up and have some fun." Please contact the Bowls club on 01279 813820 or 01279 813474.



A letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

So at last the elections are over, we can heave a sigh of relief (or not) and now, as usual, we must wait and see if the elected government keeps its promises! I was amazed and often shocked at the vast amount of personal abuse and defamation candidates were made to suffer throughout the election process by both the news media and social platforms. What happened to fair play, honesty and civility? Was it really necessary for our politicians to have to run the gauntlet of lies, hate and racialism? Some may think so but personally I found it both distasteful and disturbing. Rant over!

Letters to the Editor.....

A sad day for Churton

Dear Ed,

On behalf of the residents of Churton I would like to advise the residents of Birchanger that we had no option but to fell the tree at the entrance of our road recently. The tree was checked by two tree surgeons and they concurred that it was severely rotten and could be a potential hazard. Our road is not adopted by Uttlesford DC so we would be liable if it had fallen and caused damage to persons or property. Uttlesford DC was kept fully informed of our actions and sanctioned them. We are currently looking into planting a mature replacement in the same area. On a lighter note, we are delighted that our local council have finally realised our village is not suitable for heavy goods vehicles and I have an enjoyable time, as I am sure we all do, reading the five warning signs at the roundabout entry to Birchanger Lane advising of the fact!

John Warwick (Chairman - Churton Management Co Ltd.)

Fireworks angers Birchwood resident

Dear Ed,

On Saturday 27th May someone not far from my house let off a stream of extremely loud fireworks just before 11.00pm. Apart from waking us up, my dog was absolutely terrified and as a result made a mess in the lounge and it took almost an hour to calm him down. Now I understand some people love to let off fireworks on the 5th of November and on New Year's Eve, even though most animals hate them but is it really necessary to have them for every special occasion? There was no warning and no notice given to us or our neighbours. I think this was very inconsiderate of the persons responsible. Had notice been given, I could have at least made the necessary arrangements for myself and more importantly my dog.

Sandra Latham, Birchwood

Birchanger over 60's - wrong phone number!

Dear Ed,

Many thanks for printing my letter regarding the over 60's club and for the lovely photo of the Broads, unfortunately "hair brain" here had a senior moment and printed the first 2 numbers of her mobile round the wrong way!!! The correct number should be 07843707249.

Kind regards, Jean Camp

Parked car vandalised for second time

Dear Ed,

My car, a dark blue VW Polo, has been vandalised for the second time. It has been deliberately "keyed" whilst parked legally on the road outside my house. I wish to make the offender aware that the matter has been reported to the police. Whoever is vandalising my vehicle in their spare time, it would be greatly appreciated if they could discuss their issue with me rather than causing such costly damage.

Franki, Birchanger

Don't forget, your magazine is only as good as the content it receives, so please keep sending me your news, views, notices, concerns and complaints. Advertisers are also welcome. All copy should be submitted by the 16th of the month preferably sooner and may be edited depending on available space. Please contact me by E-mail, phone, or letter as shown below. Thank you and Kind Regards,

Peter Sampson



magazine@birchanger.com



01279 813193



2 Harrisons, Birchanger

VILLAGE NEWS

By Elizabeth Godwin

Keep up to date with 'Uttlesford News Service'

If you want to keep up to date with all the Council news and events, Uttlesford has recently launched the 'Uttlesford News Service'. If you have Internet, all you have to do is log onto Uttlesford.Gov.uk/news to find out about council meetings and items of news which might affect you. There is also an Instagram account at Uttlesford.gov.instagram where you can see and post your own pictures of the district and events as they happen.

Volunteer's still needed

'Volunteers Week' may be over but there is still plenty of work out there for volunteers to do. There are many choices as well to suit a wide range of talents. Getting started could be the hardest bit of all. You can find out just what is needed and where by calling 01799 510525.

Ever thought of joining the Ramblers?

Many of us do not know that the Ramblers are a registered Charity with around 150,000 members and who have some 36,000 walks to choose from. As a member, walks can be planned using the Ramblers prolific and detailed routes and maps. Other benefits include discounts at outdoor clothing stores, a free quarterly magazine and walks arranged by the Association in our own district or neighbouring counties. The membership costs are £3.25 per month or £34.50 per annum with longer periods also available. Uttlesford does have its own local walks but the benefit of the Ramblers is that you have access to tested, varied and interesting walks nationwide. Close to home, the nearest walk to us leaves from just outside the library in Stansted at 10.30 am every Friday in the summer months.

'Garden' houses on the increase

If all housing applicants had their own way, there would be a minor explosion of new houses being built in owners gardens. Sometimes even existing houses are demolished and replaced by two new houses. It's happening all over the country, not only in Birchanger but throughout

the district and indeed the whole country which can have a very big effect on everyone in the vicinity. Whether any of these applications actually end up being built is certainly not up to the Parish Council, or any other individual in Birchanger, but they will have an impact on neighbouring properties. Gardens are small, while the houses dominate the site. Parking seems to be inadequate in most cases and the houses disproportionately large. This seems to be a trend which maybe fine for urban areas, but not so appropriate in a village. If one of these planned properties are close to you and there are aspects which you feel will impact adversely on you, tell the District Council Planning Department. You can call them on 01799 510510 and ask to speak to the officer who deals with applications in the Birchanger area. You can also call me (Elizabeth Godwin) or any other member of the Parish Council, to discuss the issues which are concerning you. The final decision rests either with planning officers in Uttlesford, or if the application is large or controversial, with the Planning Committee. Remember, not every application is right for the proposed site and local people know most about local issues.

Starting school for the first time

It may be July and the schools have not yet broken up for the summer holidays but already parents of children about to start school for the very first time are somewhat anxiously eyeing the date and voice their concerns about their child's first few days at school. First of all, schools do understand how the parents feel and try to make it easier with home visits and many opportunities for them and their child to visit the school but there are other places to look for help as well. Essex County Council has special Starting School Bags which can be obtained from their local libraries. These contain stories, aimed at the under-fives and other pieces of information which will help them to understand School and which will hopefully help equip them for this change in their lives. The mobile library calls into Birchanger every other Tuesday, first stopping at Birchwood by the club from 3pm to 3.30pm and then on to High View until 4pm. Why not enquire about your 'Starting School Bag' then?

Birchanger All Girls Society

Come along and join us on the last Wednesday of every month in the meeting room at the village church hall

Next Meeting:

26th July at 7.30 pm. A tour of several members gardens with refreshments and a fun garden quiz along the way

A warm welcome to all newcomers
Telephone for details Liza-815444
Rosemary-814678 Barbara-813007



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Look out for the Blackberries

In the shade of Birchanger Wood, simply talk, meander, listen to the birds or really 'go-for-it' and go for a run in this wonderful local and

ancient woodland. Take your family and the dogs with you if you have them. The all-weather paths are there, so simply enjoy being under the cool green tree canopy of the wood and just sit and contemplate, or if you feel like it, work up a sweat. The British summer can throw a lot of undesirable weather about but even if it does rain much of it will be deflected by the wood's thick canopy of deciduous leaves. In the rain, you will be nowhere near as wet as those outside the woodland boundary and in hot sun Birchanger Wood provides a lovely cool respite from the heat.

In July there should be some blackberries in or about the woods. These berries are usually smaller than those out in the open fields, because the sunshine will have lost a lot of its power after filtration through the woodland canopy and therefore they come to fruition. I have found them very tasty and remember, blackbirds love juicy sweet blackberries!

Depending on the weather in July, and the amount of insects and seeds generated, the small bird population will be bringing up yet another set of fledglings. The earlier babies will have grown enough to appear no different from their parents, and in many cases will be assisting their parents to



feed the new set of youngsters. Animals, birds, and plants should all be enjoying life to the full. As I write this article in early June we have experienced the recent combination of

strong winds, and heavy rain which has loosened the soil. With trees in full-leaf this may have caused some of our trees to be brought down. Please always be aware of any such issues in any woodland, especially if you go out in the woods during wet, windy or stormy conditions. Have a lovely July.

Daphne Wallace-Jarvis, secretary@birchangerwoodtrust.org
www.birchangerwoodtrust.org

High View rubbish skips reported to be an eyesore

Residents of High View complain that two rubbish skips parked in the residential area are a real eyesore. The skips are reported to be parked at the rear of two houses which front onto Bradley Common. Both houses have a driveway both at the front and rear of the property and back onto High View. Luckily for the residents of Bradley Common, including the owners of the houses, they don't have to look at the unsightly skips. However, for High View residents they are clearly visible on an almost permanent daily basis. One of the residents stated that "the skips are often full to overflowing and are a continuous eyesore! If it was just one skip standing there once in while it wouldn't be so bad but two skips almost permanently parked there is going too far. The day after this picture was taken the skip on the left was emptied but we know that there will be a skip on site for a number of weeks until yet again it is overflowing". In addition to this, residents of High View are currently experiencing extra



traffic due to a property being constructed in Bradley Common. "Often lorries reverse the whole length of High View without the assistance of a banksman to guide them" said the resident. "It just seems that we are Bradley Common's dumping ground and surely that is not reasonable! We feel that it is incredibly inconsiderate and un-neighbourly to be subjected to these daily eyesores whilst their owners get to live on a pretty lane and not have to see them. If the skips were parked behind a fence or gates at least we wouldn't have to look at them every day" the resident concluded.



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Men and Boy's Haircuts

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Mob: 07527227943

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ChrisPhysiotherapist@gmail.com

what's on in the village...



July 2017



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Bin Collections: For bin collection days please go to; http://bins.uttlesford.gov.uk/ and enter your post code						
31 Church hall: 10.00 to 15.00 Living with Dementia 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Nt					1 BSSC: 7.30am Brit Lions v All Blacks 13.00 Meat draw Members card draw worth £250	2 St Mary's Church: 11.00 Matins School Fair 11.00-14.00 BBQ
3 Church hall: 10.00 to 15.00 Living with Dementia 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Nt	4 Church hall: 9.30 Ballet for adults 11.00 Zumba Gold 15.45 Ballet for Juniors	5 Church hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 13.45 Lab Tots for Science 14.00 Tea Room 18.30 Dance for children & adults	6 Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimers Group 12.45 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance for advanced	7 BSSC: Bottle draw Poker Night	8 Church Hall: 11.00 Summer sale BSSC: 7.30am Brit Lions v All Blacks 13.00 Meat draw NobLeox - Live	9 St Mary's Church: 11.00 Holy Communion Bowls Club: 15.00 open day
10 Church hall: 10.00 to 15.00 Living with Dementia 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Nt	11 Church hall: 9.30 Ballet for adults 11.00 Zumba Gold 15.45 Ballet for Juniors	12 Church hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 13.45 Lab Tots for Science 14.00 Tea Room 18.30 Dance for children & adults	13 Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimers Group 12.45 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance for advanced	14 BSSC: Bottle draw Treasure Chest	15 BSSC: 13.00 Meat draw	16 St Mary's Church: 11.00 Family Service
17 Church hall: 10.00 to 15.00 Living with Dementia 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Nt	18 Church hall: 9.30 Ballet for adults 11.00 Zumba Gold 15.45 Ballet for Juniors	19 Church hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 13.45 Lab Tots Science 14.00 Tea Room 18.30 Dance for children & adults	20 Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimers Group 12.45 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance for advanced	21 BSSC: Bottle draw Wheel of Fortune	22 BSSC: 13.00 Meat draw 2FBS - Live	23 St Mary's Church: 11.00 Holy Communion
24 Church hall: 10.00 to 15.00 Living with Dementia 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Nt	25 Church hall: 9.30 Ballet for adults 11.00 Zumba Gold 15.45 Ballet for Juniors	26 Church Hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 13.45 Lab Tots Science 14.00 Tea Room 18.30 Dance for children & adults 19.30 BAGS meet	27 Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimers Group 12.45 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance for advanced	28 BSSC: Bottle draw	29 BSSC: 13.00 Meat draw	30 St Mary's Church: 11.00 Matins



BIRCHANGER
Sports & Social Club

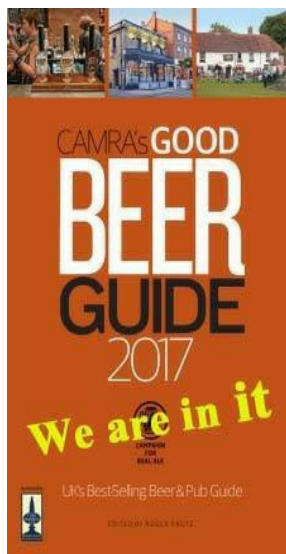
Sports & Social Club News



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

Live on the BIG Screen British Lions V All Blacks

Saturday 1st July at 7.30 am
Saturday 8th July at 7.30 am



Treasure Chest

Try your luck and pick the right key, you could win some serious cash!

Friday 14th July

Wheel of Fortune

Don't forget to come along and spin the wheel
Friday 21st July



Sorry but the Sunday Carvery is unavailable for a short while but will be back soon!



**Don't Forget
Curry Night Every
Wednesday!**



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8th July



VISIT OUR WEBSITE: NOBLEOX.NET
or to make a booking Contact Dave on - 07940 436 063.
Email: contact@nobleox.net

Club Calendar at a Glance

Sat July 1st Brit. Lions v All Black's on big screen. Starts 7.30am
Sat July 1st Members card draw – up to £250 up for grabs
Fri July 7th Poker Night
Fri 14th July Treasure Chest
Sat July 8th Brit. Lions v All Black's on big screen. Starts 7.30am
Sat July 8th Live on stage 'Nobleox' - Duo with a lotta attitude
Fri 21st July Wheel of Fortune
Sat July 22nd Live on stage '2FBS' - The best of 60's to 90's

Weekly Events

Day	Event	When
Mondays	Quiz Night	9.00pm
Wednesdays	Curry Night	Evening
Thursdays	Bingo Night	8.30pm
Fridays	Bottle Draw	Evening
Saturdays	Meat Draw	1.00pm

The 2FBS
Live at
Birchanger social club
Saturday 22nd July

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

Birchanger Primary School



The Summer Term in school is always really busy and Birchanger is in full swing with topic work, sports tournaments, curriculum visits and whole school events.

Year 5 and 6 children in Owls Class are working on the history topic of Kings and Queens. Through this they are finding out about the changing role of the monarchy and how democracy took power to the voting people. Looking at fictional kings and queens they are working on Macbeth, using children's Shakespeare adaptations and extracts from the classic text to explore the story and characters.

Year 3 and 4 children in Squirrels Class are working on a science based topic of habitats. They are exploring different habitats and how the needs of living things are met in different habitats; learning about classification, handling data and about adaptation.

Year 1 and 2 children in Hedgehogs Class are learning through the theme of Pirates. Measuring work to make Pirate Potions, making hats and cutlasses for a Pirate Party and lot of English work based on the brilliant book 'The Night-time Pirates.'

Reception children in Ladybirds Class are focusing some of their work on favourite places and the seaside. The children have also been very excited when one of our parents was able to bring a digger into school to show them up close how it works. The sand area is now full of digging and building.



Ladybirds Class have also started welcoming our new pupils into school as children joining Reception in September have been visiting each week. Nursery teachers and parents come along as well so the children feel very comfortable as they get to know their new classroom, explore the outdoor area and meet staff ready for the move to 'big school' after the summer.

Looking forward to the next few weeks our PTA are planning the annual Summer Fair and Children's Fun Run on Sunday 2nd July; children in Key Stage 2 are rehearsing their end of year play – The Wizard of Oz and we are practicing our running, jumping and throwing for District sports at the end of June and our school Sports Day in July.

We always welcome families who would like to come and look around our school. Please telephone the school on 01279 812362 to arrange a visit. *Helen Coop, Headteacher*



Birchanger Primary School

Summer Fair

Stalls • Bouncy castles • BBQ
and much more! 11 am till 2pm

Kids' 1 Mile FUN RUN

Starts 11 am

★ ★ PRIZES ★ ★

First Girl & First Boy KS1 & KS2

Medals for all finishers

£5

to enter or get sponsored!
Entry forms available at School Office
*U7s must be accompanied by an adult.

Village Church Hall Future Events



Tea Room

The tearoom is open every Wednesday afternoon at 2pm. Anyone can come for refreshments and a chat. Regular functions every weekday.

For bookings and enquiries for the hall please contact Pam on 07702171744

SUMMER SALE

**BIRCHANGER CHURCH HALL
SATURDAY 8TH JULY - 11.00AM TO 3PM**

Homeware, Handbags, scarf's

Books, Ladies Clothing

Puzzles and Toys

Cakes

Ploughman's lunch available - £3

Entry free to all - Ample parking

Our local bus service is safe for now

At a recent bus transport meeting it was decided that the contract for the bus services in Birchanger would be awarded to Acme for a further 3 years, with only minor tweaks to the timetable.

This means that at least for the next 3 years we can expect our services to run as before. However, the warning is there; use it or they may try to tinker with the service again. The bus company cannot withstand a loss on the route. We have all been warned!

Funds transfer request scam

One of the scams in common use at present, are from callers purporting to be from your bank or building society telling you that you are at risk of fraudulent activity. They request that you transfer your funds into a "safe" account, which they will set up for you stressing that you need to act immediately! Whatever you do, don't do this. Put the phone down and call your bank or building society from another phone and check if it is a bona fide request. Always use another phone to call your bank as these people frequently stay on line, play a recorded ring tone and pretend to be your bank. The transfer they request will then be made to their own account!

Church services

July 2 nd	11.00 am	Matins
July 9 th	11.00 am	Holy Communion
July 16 th	11.00 am	Family Service
July 23 rd	11.00 am	Holy Communion
July 30 th	11.00 am	Mattins



Gordon Blue Restaurant Review

The Dog and Duck - Stansted ****

We visited the Dog and Duck pub and restaurant at Stansted on a busy bank holiday lunchtime. The pub has a nice garden, a small room and a bar where children and dogs are welcome. There is also a main bar with a further dining area, while outside there are tables for summer dining. Parking is directly beside or in front of the pub.



The welcome was warm and friendly and despite the busy weekend there was plenty to choose from on the menu. Food is home cooked and the range is wide. Vegetarians and those with special food needs can be accommodated. Service is swift and cheerful and there are a variety of specials on offer. The pub is popular with the locals, the real ale is good and there are wines to suit most tastes. Booking is advisable to be sure of a table.



They have a certificate of excellence 2016 from Trip Adviser and a 5 star hygiene rating.

Now that the evenings are long and light you could take an easy walk from Birchanger, so why not take a stroll over there one evening across the fields, you will be very welcome and there are always Elsenham cabs nearby to take you home if you don't fancy the walk home.



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New Airport Planning Application

Stansted Airport has submitted a 'Scoping Report' to Uttlesford District Council, signalling the start of a process which the Airport says will lead to a planning application later this year seeking permission to expand Stansted Airport to a capacity of around 44.5 million passengers per annum (mppa) and 285,000 annual flights! Stansted handled 24.3 million passengers and 180,400 flights last year. This new application, would lead to an increase of more than 20 million passengers and more than 100,000

flights, 83% more passengers, and 58% more flights. However, Stansted Airport has told Uttlesford that "No significant adverse environmental effects are predicted as a consequence of the proposed development." SSE reacted by saying that the Airport is treating us all like fools.

What's the Rush?

Stansted hasn't even started to make use of its 2008 permission to grow from 25mppa to 35mppa and even by its own projections; it doesn't expect to reach 35mppa until 2023 or 2024. Moreover the Government is in still the midst of preparing an Airports National Policy Statement to be presented to Parliament for approval, next spring. The main feature of this will be a third Heathrow runway but it will also set down the policy for other UK airports, including Stansted. In the meantime, there is no clear Government policy and further uncertainty has been created by the recent election results. SSE says that it would be both premature and opportunistic for Stansted Airport to submit a planning application this year to expand Stansted beyond its present planning limits. SSE Deputy Chairman Brian Ross commented "We may not be able to prevent the Airport from submitting this planning application but we must at least try to ensure that there is a comprehensive, honest and thorough assessment of all the environmental impacts. That will be our immediate focus in responding to the Scoping Report." The Scoping Report can be viewed and commented upon on the Uttlesford website at:

<http://publicaccess.uttlesford.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=OQWZHTON01000>.



St Mary's Church News

Beethoven to Bartok

On the 27th May St Mary's Church was filled with the sounds of spring with music from Beethoven, Telemann and Bartok. Why was this you may ask? The church played an important role by supporting Lucy Haggerwood-Bullen to prepare for her recital exam in violin performance, as she completes the first year of her Masters in London. Lucy, together with Susie Savage on piano, played fluently together without a break for an hour. Every piece was

executed with utmost precision.

The audience, those from the village, family and friends were treated to a performance that was exquisite, expressive, humorous, and joyful. The technique and skill used by both Lucy and Susie was commended after the concert where light refreshments were served. The Parochial Church Council would like to wish Lucy every success with her exams and thank her family and friends who were generous on the night with a leaving collection going to church funds. We look forward to more concerts in the church with Lucy and others in the future.

What is the celebration of Pentecost?

On Sunday June the 4th the celebration of Pentecost took place at St Mary's to mark the official end of the Easter season in Christianity. Pentecost is the celebration of the moment that Jesus' apostles received the Holy Spirit. According to the Acts of the Apostles, he promised that he wouldn't abandon his followers — he'd send the Holy Spirit down to them not long after his departure. When that time came the Holy Spirit is said to have arrived in a gust of wind and fire, giving the apostles the ability to speak many languages so they could spread the word of God to as many people as possible. Church attendees wore red to reflect the fire and to celebrate what is the birth of the Christian church. We thank Tony Wilson for taking the service and Barbara his wife for providing us with tea and cakes.

Organ Restoration Fund

On the 19th August at 7pm a concert in aid of the Organ Restoration Fund will take place. The Courtyard Quartet will be providing a summer bouquet of vocal music so watch this space for more details in the August Magazine. The organ was built by August Gern in 1898 and is one of only three still in a playable condition today. Gern was a foreman of the Paris firm of Aristide Cavaille Coll (1815-1899), and while superintending many of the firm's organs in England he undertook work for a number of private patrons, including St Mary's organ. Please help by giving us your support and save this rare and priceless Icon.

Thought for the Month – July 2017

How are we to respond to the hatred that lies behind the recent terrorist attacks in London and Manchester? Shortly before he became Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams was about to give a lecture at the Church of the Holy Trinity, Wall Street. The date was September 11th, 2001. Less than half a mile away, in an act of unspeakable evil, two aircraft were deliberately smashed into the twin towers of the World Trade Centre. In a book he wrote shortly after this, Rowan asked how we should respond to evil acts. He used the following analogy. As a Welshman, he could speak both Welsh and English but he explained his English was much better than his Welsh. When someone asked him a question in Welsh he had to decide in what language he should answer that question. Sometimes his Welsh was adequate for the reply but if a very careful reply was required he would have to switch to English. The terrorists, Rowan Williams suggested, had spoken in the language of hatred, fear and violence.

In what language should we reply? If we reply in the same language then hatred, fear and violence increase. If we reject the language of hatred, fear and violence, and choose instead to reach across the barriers of that hatred, fear and violence, then we choose to speak in another language, the language of peace and justice! Those who have carried out the recent attacks are evil men whose one desire is to drag the rest of society down to their level. We are better than that. How should we respond to them? In the words of Saint Francis; "Lord, make me a channel of your peace."

Paul Wilkin Rector Saint Mary's Church, Birchanger

Health Matters



Who pays for your personal care?

Under the current rules, the short answer is - you do! That is assuming you have savings above £23,250. What will happen in the future under the recently re-elected Conservative Government has yet to be clarified. Until you reach that point or whatever point the government decides upon, you are expected to contribute some if not all of the costs. If you have ongoing medical needs you could benefit from an NHS continuing care package. Whether you are paying, or contributing to your care does not prevent you from having a free assessment of your needs from Essex County Council. Care is capped at an eye watering £1085 per week. Other sources of help are not as costly. You can arrange to have your medicines delivered for free at most pharmacies. You may require a health care package for which there will be no charge. However, if you do find yourself in a position where you are going to require ongoing care, it is best to seek advice as to what you are entitled to. Uttlesford CAB can provide this on 01799 618830. Meals can also be delivered, frozen ones are available from Wiltshire Farm Foods on 0800 0773100 and Oakhouse Foods on 0800 3706700. Hot food can be obtained from Herts Meals on 01279 417087. Age U.K. Can be consulted for a home help service on 01245 346106. It is neither easy nor cheap for anyone when a debilitating illness strikes. The most important thing of all is to have support and encouragement from neighbours and friends throughout.

Do your medicines look a bit different?

Some of you may have noticed from time to time without notice or explanation your routine drugs look a little different, have a different name or even come in totally different packaging. The reason is that in most surgeries doctors have been looking at the routine prescriptions dispensed each month and have tried to make savings wherever they can. The fact is, where possible, they are replacing premium named drugs with cheaper generic alternatives from other companies. The content of the drug should be the same but in many cases the name



and certainly the packaging may be quite different. Technically there should be little or no difference and patients should not notice the change, although different coatings and ancillary content in some of the alternatives may have an effect on some people. If you do have concerns and new or different side effects you should speak to your Surgery and discover what if anything has been changed.

Is this a record?

We all hear about patients who have spent weeks in hospital unnecessarily because there is no appropriate social care available for them at their home. Some of us may have even experienced this since the demise of the old convalescent units some years ago. It is not a record for any council to be proud of but there is a council in Wales that have this rather dubious accolade. One of their patients has been waiting over four years to go home! The situation is so bad countrywide, that some councils are now looking to the private sector to take on their role under contract. What will happen if that fails defies imagination.

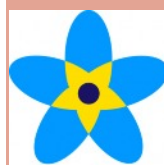


Are things improving at PAH?

Most of us have at some time or another been a patient at Princess Alexandra Hospital and in recent years found that attending the hospital has not been a very happy experience. Even now it seems that they have yet to get rid of or re-train their stropky receptionists and booking clerks. However, on a recent admission I found that for the first time the experience was a positive one. I received careful, friendly and good care throughout my visit and so it seems, judging by the smiles and not long faces of the other patients, they all did too. Maybe the hospital will be out of special measures very soon.

Helping with Dementia

Dealing with dementia, whether as a sufferer or a carer can be one of the loneliest experiences in the world. Both carer and patient alike feel cut off and out of their depth a great deal of the time. The message here is that there is no need to battle along alone. As can be seen from the Church Hall schedules showing what is on, there is a very active dementia group who meet regularly in our own Hall as well as in the day centre in Stansted. There is the opportunity to drop in and find out how the group might be able to help. Alternatively, you could try phoning 815091 on Thursday mornings when the group meets or by looking at the Dementia Friends website at www.dementiafriends.org.uk.



Dementia Friends

An Alzheimer's Society initiative

You do not have to struggle on your own. The good news for those suffering from dementia is that there is funding for dementia

research at Cambridge which is recognised as one of six centres at the forefront of research into the condition. They will be testing new drugs and equipment and looking at sleep patterns in individuals over a number of years. They will also be studying bacteria in the gut which is increasingly implicated in the development of Dementia. It is hoped that it will soon be possible to identify those who are likely to be at risk of developing dementia, and with this knowledge it is expected that cures will eventually be found.

THE FORGOTTEN GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

Open day 23rd July - WW II exhibits & period cars

We have celebrated the building and opening of our Peto tree house and are now looking forward to our open Day on 23rd July when we will share memories of the gardens and estate during World War II. We will be joined by 'Perfect Vintage', who will charm us with their classic songs from the wartime era and maybe get us dancing as the airmen and their girls used to on the lawns. We will also show our latest World War II memorabilia at the Open Day. We have even more



wartime memories, new pictures and stories to tell. We will also have period vehicles, information stalls and of course the

gardens which are looking fabulous after the lovely rain. So there will be lots to enjoy for every member of the family as well as our famous locally sourced bacon rolls and seasonal homemade cakes. For further information go to our website; www.eastonlodge.co.uk Jill Goldsmith

Village Services and Activities

Alzheimer's	Marian	07803 115826
Art Studio & Gallery	Heather Brown	01279 815453
Art Studio & Gallery	Brian Gough	01279 815012
Ballroom Dance	Fred Winters	01763 271942
Ballet	Wendy Mitchell	01992 812781
Birchanger Magazine	Peter Sampson	01279 813193
BAGS	Liza Clarke	01279 815444
Birchanger Voices	Peter Sampson	01279 813193
Birchanger Nursery	The Manager	01279 810800
Bird Food		01279 812248
Builders	Another Level	01279 814273
BSSC Club	The Steward	01279 813441
Chiropodist	Julie Golden	01279 873492
Car Service	D. Bonney	01279 813315
Dementia	Debbie Baker	07927 011345
Dance	Maxine Williams	07854 251528
Dog Grooming	Fiona	07484 673179
Essex Tai Chi	Mary Dann	01376 342416
Garden Services	GWB Horticulture	01799 543483
Line Dancing	Shelley	01279 864781
Launderette	Ian Kennedy	01279 866183
Lab Tots	Sophie Mitchell	01763 274405
Men/Boys Hair	Emma Marks	01279 814273
Over 60's club	Jean Camp	07843 707249
Painting & Décor	David Debnam	07973 861268
Parish Clerk	Keith Williams	01279 814773
Physiotherapy	Chris Lansdowne	07809 879868
Public Safety	Alex Stewart	07846 467575
The Three Horseshoes	Paul & Paula	01279 813429
The Three Willows	John	01279 815913
Village/Church Hall	Pam Lee	07702 171744
Zumba Gold	Tam Coxall	07783 421311



The Hundred Parishes Society

The stately homes in the one hundred parishes

Over the centuries wealthy individuals and families have often built grand houses. In our area many remain, albeit that few still serve as family homes. The best-known is Audley End House in the parish of Saffron Walden. Its splendid 17th-century architecture can be seen from the B1383. The house, now only one third of its size when purchased by King Charles II in 1668, is cared for today by English Heritage and should be open to the public again after July 14. Less-known but also visible, are the following four mansions which can be found in the far corners of the Hundred Parishes.

Moyns Park in Steeple Bumpstead was built around 1580. It is privately owned and a mile from a public road but it can be seen clearly and appreciated from an easy public footpath.



Great Waltham is home to the Langleys, a fine three-storey private house that has been in the same family since it was built in 1719. Clearly visible from the road it can be viewed more closely from the Essex Way footpath which passes the end of the drive.

Fanhams Hall in the far southwest of the Hundred Parishes Wareside has an 18th-century home that was extended in the early 1900's when the Japanese gardens were created. It now functions as a conference centre and wedding venue, whilst the grounds can be enjoyed for the price of an afternoon tea or Sunday lunch.

Aspenden Hall was built in the 19th century. Its pristine white exterior, visible from Aspenden churchyard, hides the fact that its interior was gutted 50 years ago and that it is now used for agricultural purposes, mainly the drying of grain. You can read a little more about each of these interesting buildings within the parish introductions on the Hundred Parishes website; www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Ken McDonald, Secretary

Bin collection dates changed

Many of us throughout Birchanger who formerly had bin collections on Friday have had their collection day moved to Thursday. If you are one of those houses you should have had a sticker put on your bin (assuming you put it out on Friday June 9th). If you did not get a sticker on your bin and are not sure what day your bin collection will be in future, ask your neighbours or go to; <http://bins.uttlesford.gov.uk/> and enter your post code.

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Summer Concert

In aid of the St Mary's Church organ restoration

Saturday 19th August at 7.0pm

The concert will be held at St Mary's Church with the 'Courtyard Quartet'
Please come along and support us and maintain this important local icon

Details to follow next month

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The Birchanger Voices are a Local singing group available for all types of venues & charitable events. Please call:
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