



Birchanger Village Magazine

August 2017

Issue 175



Don't be hoodwinked by Stansted Airport warns SSE

By Brian Ross

Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE) has issued a warning to residents across the region not to be hoodwinked by Stansted Airport's smoke-and-mirror exhibition and biased consultation survey on further expansion plans. Both the exhibition which opened on July 6th and related survey appear designed to trick people into thinking that further expansion at the airport will be painless and sustainable before the environmental impacts have even been assessed.

"The portrayal of the potential impacts that would arise from further expansion at Stansted is deliberately misleading and the public should be very, very sceptical about the claims being made to try to push through its proposals," commented Brian Ross, SSE's deputy chairman, after visiting the exhibition at its first outing. "The airport's so called 'roadshow' has all the hallmarks of a sales pitch for time-share apartments. It's all about spinning the positives and saying nothing about the negatives," Brian Ross continued.



The airport is currently handling 25 million passengers a year and has not yet started to use the extra 10 million

increase granted after a five month public inquiry held in 2007. Despite this, Manchester Airports Group which owns Stansted say that its growth predictions mean that the present 35 million cap 'urgently' needs to be raised to a massive 44.5 million!

Compared with the current throughput, the expansion plans would mean 20 million more passengers per year and 104,000 extra flights. This translates into an aircraft overflying during daytime hours from the current average of a plane every 2¼ minutes, to a plane every 85 seconds. Noise, air quality and especially road and rail transport impacts would all be significantly worsened in contrast to the airport's claim that there will be 'no significant adverse environmental effects.'

Those contemplating the use of the airport's questionnaire as a means of providing comment on concerns about impacts, meanwhile, should also be aware that according to SSE, the survey is deliberately skewed to elicit results which are favourable towards the airport's plans. Analysis of the questionnaire reveals that it is appallingly biased. It consists almost entirely of claims for the benefits of Stansted expansion, and a wish list of further potential benefits with no negatives included. It provides no opportunity to express any opinion about the pluses and minuses of expansion, such as likely damage to quality of life and the environment, except in the 'Anything else we should consider?' question, which does not encourage criticism, in particular because it says 'as part of our proposals'.

SSE recommends that those living in the region who wish to make representations on the expansion plans should email or write direct to Uttlesford District Council Planning Department or use their online planning portal (quoting reference UTT/17/1640/SO) to give their views first-hand, rather than be manipulated into answering a set of questions that are contrived to give an overly positive answer that can be used against the community and support the latest round of calls for growth.



The campaign group is encouraging those visiting the airport's travelling exhibition to ask questions and insist on explanations about the proposed increase in flight and passenger movements compared to the position today. This, say SSE, reveals a very different picture from the one being put forward by Stansted's bosses who have been making the false claim that the extra passenger numbers will only lead to "approximately two extra flights an hour". In reality the proposal would mean an extra 2,000 flights a week compared to today's levels.



A letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

I find it very disconcerting that just lately the village has experienced a spate of petty thieving, damage to vehicles, sheds broken into, property damaged and general hooliganism. A high percentage of this destructive activity is almost certainly made by local irresponsible youths. It is difficult to understand their mentality, living as they do in a nice, sociable and friendly community. What kicks do they get out of this? Do they realise the cost of this destruction to ordinary working or retired people? Please report all such activity immediately to the police and/or our resident Public Safety Officer Alex Stewart 07846 467575.

Letters to the Editor

Birchanger Hooligans

Dear Ed, It is with regret that I find it necessary to ask you to post this subject in the magazine but it is causing upset and concerns to elderly residents in Churton. There is a group of mixed age youths that have taken to riding on residents parking areas and a private road and when challenged are foul mouthed and simply downright disgusting. We know some of them by sight are from the village and if their parents were aware of what they are getting up to I am sure they would take action. One of the elderly residents they are abusing and causing stress to is not in the best of health. What a shame these idiots have to spoil what is otherwise a nice village. This is not the first time these youths have been asked to stop using residents' property as a cycle track. I am not the only resident to challenge them and it's not the first time they have used foul language. Churton is a private road and is signed as such; the residents have to pay for any damage to the road and pathways and are liable for any accidents. Recently, around eight of them arrived again on our doorstep and one of the residents received more verbal abuse from one of the older youths who seems to be the ring leader of the gang. Residents called the police and they attended under incident No 910 and issued a warning to the gang. Hopefully this will nip in the bud the possibility of a destructive and dangerous gang forming in our village.
(Resident's name and address supplied)

Fly tipping in High View

Dear Sir, I am a resident of High View and my garden backs onto the fields. Unfortunately the piece of land which is the access to our gardens on our row of houses is now being used as a rubbish dump by some very inconsiderate people who are believed to be local. It is completely unnecessary when we live only five minutes away from the local rubbish tip. This is absolutely disgraceful behaviour and would not be tolerated elsewhere so should not be tolerated in Birchanger as it shows a complete lack of respect to the environment and to the residents of the village.

Miss H. Shirley, High View, Birchanger



Thank you to the sponsors of Harrisons Street Party

Dear Ed, On the 15th July, Harrisons held their bi-annual Street party which this year was in aid of Essex and Herts Air Ambulance. There were plenty of games for children and adults including a fancy dress competition, Pot of Gold and a visit by 'The Play People'. 'The Birchanger Voices' entertained the crowd with their usual enthusiasm adding a few new sea shanties. During the festivities, BBQ's were lit and the smell of roasting meat made the mouth water. All in all the day was a great success and we managed to raise over £300 for the Essex and Herts Air Ambulance Service. Without our sponsors this would not have been possible so Harrisons would like to give a big thank you to all the sponsors who gave so generously. Thanks go to; Birchanger Sports & Social club, The Three Willows, hypnotherapy consultant Hilary Austin, The Three Horseshoes at Hazel End, The Play People, Village Hall Tea Room, Anne Watkins, HCM and everyone else that donated prizes and their valuable time.

Cheryl Sampson on behalf of the Harrisons Street Party Committee

Doom & Gloom?

Dear Ed, After living in the village for some time now and reading your column, it is quite noticeable that a lot of letters are complaining or negative. We live in a beautiful village and we need to love our neighbours, so here is a quote by my favourite person Roald Dahl. *From Anon, Birchanger*

'If you have good thoughts they will shine out of your face like sunbeams and you will always look lovely'

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 space and content. Please contact me by E-mail, phone, or letter as shown below. Thank you and Kind Regards,

Join us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/birchanger/>

Peter Sampson



magazine@birchanger.com



01279 813193



2 Harrisons, Birchanger

VILLAGE NEWS

By Elizabeth Godwin

Is Birchanger to become a garden village?

Birchanger is a village resting in what little has been allowed to remain of the Green Belt in Uttlesford. However, East Herts has long been casting its eyes in our direction as a convenient place for building an awful lot more houses, a potential garden village in fact. A vote to preserve the Green Belt in Uttlesford has granted Birchanger a stay for now but if any of the other proposed sites currently out for consultation should fail, Birchanger could go right back into the frame.

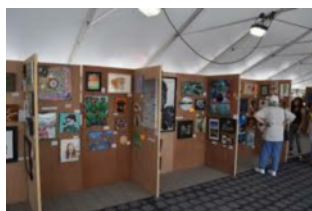
The term 'garden village' is simply a glorified name for a development in which all dwellings are supposed to have their own gardens, local schools and employment and other supporting facilities as part of the infrastructure. This means that such a development would not be small and could reach up to a colossal 12,000 new homes!

There is a consultation on the Local Development Plan happening right now, so if you do not like the idea of a massive development joining Birchanger to Bishops Stortford you must say so. The consultation ends on September 1st and any amendments will be made before it goes to Full Council for final approval which is expected to be later this year. It may not happen, but we are in effect the first reserve.

The three sites chosen for a garden village: Little Easton, Stebbing and Great Chesterford are putting up a strong resistance to any development. South Cambridgeshire is putting up a good fight on behalf of Great Chesterford but East Herts has always looked longingly at Birchanger. The council has voted to retain the Green Belt but this could be overridden in the rush to reach the ridiculously high Government quota of new homes they think are needed in Uttlesford. The Plan can be accessed on line at the Uttlesford website.

The Art Exhibition is back

This is an early reminder that the Birchanger Art Exhibition is back this year and is planned for Saturday September 23rd and Sunday 24th. It has certainly been worth waiting for and will be very well worth a visit. Just keep the dates in mind and there will be more details next month.



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

Forthcoming Meetings:

Join us for an introduction to bowls. Meet at Birchanger Bowling Green at 7.00pm followed by fete preparations in the village hall.

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

Email & Internet Woes

A great many of us at some time or other have experienced problems with our Internet or email. The emails are supposed to have been sent but the recipient never gets them. Often we are told that we have been sent emails which never actually arrive. We find ourselves in trouble over missed information, missed meetings and missed demands.

We complain vigorously to our provider but despite the inconvenience and irritation it causes we are told that our router and broadband is working fine.



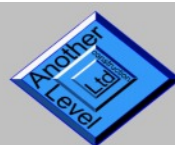
Our broadband is often slow and sometimes, especially in poor weather conditions stops altogether but we never get any warning when this is going to happen. Even though our device tells us the email has been sent

the recipient never receives it. The speed of our line is rarely up to the speed promised by our provider and tackling our ISP on the issue doesn't seem to help; their heads it seems are lodged firmly in the sand or perhaps somewhere else within a certain unmentionable part of their body.

With the multi-million pound investments made recently in providing the so called super- fast broadband in Essex and other areas you would think we would have a better connection but for us, the end user, there seems to be very little improvement. The only thing we can do is to keep complaining to our ISP. Surely, eventually someone will listen?

Six tonnes of rubbish on a road near you

No, I am not talking about Birchanger Lane, although at times you might think it possible as the local selfish element hurl their Macdonald's and other takeaway debris into our gardens and ditches along the lane. Not to mention the gas cylinders they leave in what they think are out of the way places after inhaling the contents. They don't always finish their fat ridden food either, allowing the rats to congregate and have a feast. The road in question is the part of the A 120 which runs through Uttlesford. Council workers on a routine litter pick collected a staggering six tonnes of rubbish! The rubbish consisted of food wrappers, coffee cups, smoker waste, insulation board, plywood pallets, laptops, a driving licence, keys, tyres, vehicle parts and a child's booster seat. The trouble is we have to pay for all this mess to be cleared up on a regular basis.



ANOTHER LEVEL
CONSTRUCTION Ltd
Don't just buildcreate!

- New Build
- Extensions
- Conversions
- Renovations
- Roofing
- Brickwork
- Plastering
- And more



TELEPHONE 01279 814 273 MOBILE 07710 099 284

info@anotherlevelconstruction.co.uk

www.anotherlevelconstruction.co.uk



New street lighting postponed again

The installation of new lighting for Birchanger Lane has been postponed yet again by Essex County Highways. It seems that the lights although promised through Section 9 agreements from the Forest Hall development are as far away as ever. This is the third time they have been delayed and it is simply not acceptable.

Bird Life Increasing

From the number of garden birds which appear to have successfully reared their young this year it would appear that the number of birds in and around Birchanger is increasing. This year there have been greater numbers of blue tits, goldfinches, greenfinches, robins, great tits and many others who have successfully reared their young in and around our garden. Even the flocks of starlings are back and the bullfinches have returned with a large brood of young. Is it possible that the arable field margins have contributed to this? Between the crop and the field boundary, the 'field margin' is not just a wasted edge where nothing really grows; in fact, it provides a vital habitat for some of our much-loved species, from grasses and wildflowers, to the birds and insects that feast on their plentiful seeds and nectar. We are told they encourage nesting birds and just maybe the birds are re-establishing themselves in greater numbers due to this



recent change in habitat. In years gone by farmers used to set aside fields in order to promote wildlife. Today, DEFRA (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) pay farmers to provide and maintain field margins on the perimeters of their fields. This benefits the farmers, DEFRA and not least of all our wildlife. One successful season is certainly not conclusive but if we see similar results next year it may be that the filed margins are serving their purpose and as inconvenient as it may seem to some of us, it does pay for us humans to keep off them.

The long school holidays are here again

The school holidays bring delight to most children and a challenge to most parents. Not everyone is able to go away in the six week period and there are times when tempers run short and it is hard to find something new to do, or someone just to talk to. When it comes to this point you could try to contact an organisation called Essex Mums, which is run through the Red Cross. You can call this number for further information 0207 75622050 or look on line Essexmums@redcross.org.uk

Somewhere to take the children

Saffron Walden Museum has just received a tripadvisor award scoring 4.5 out of 5 and has been described by its visitors as excellent and well worth a visit, something else to do in the holidays perhaps. To see what's on log on to their website <http://www.saffronwaldenmuseum.org>

Keep the barbecue outside

Barbecues are a very important part of the British Summer these days and we all know just how unpredictable the weather can be. You prepare the food; the barbecue is all fired up, then the heavens open. There is a natural need to bring everything indoors and for some of us this may even include the barbecue if it is portable! If you do bring it in, make sure that the windows and doors are open when you are cooking. Not the best prospect in a thunderstorm but a potential life saver. Most of us never realise that barbecues on charcoal produce very large amounts of the silent killer, carbon monoxide. You cannot smell it and you may not even realise that you are about to collapse. The best course of action is to leave the barbecue outside and use an umbrella or the kitchen cooker.



Hello, it's August already and summer has arrived, so here's a little poem to set the mood:

*'Let's go down to the wood today.
Go on, swing along, run or play.
Walk in the trees without a care,
Wander in our green lung of fresh air.
The family, the dog, all ages too,
Healthy for all, for us and for you.'*

But how do you get there you ask? First take the Public Footpath off Heath Row Bishop's Stortford and along a good wide track into Birchanger Wood. This is a good track and is clearly marked by a finger post. Find it almost opposite house number 124, Heath Row, CM23 5DG. If you go by car, please park courteously along Heath Row. There are also buses available which run from Birchwood School, from Bishop's Stortford to Stansted Airport that stop at Heathrow, the 509 runs every half hour except Sundays and the 309 runs every hour (but check with Arriva).

Alternative entrances are; from Woodfields off Heath Row but no real parking, from Northolt, off Heath Row, from the top of Parsonage Lane, going towards the Dunmow Road, just before Birchwood School. There is also a hidden entrance off the Dunmow Road, just after the roundabout with Parsonage Lane and going in the direction of the Airport, no parking but a number of buses from Bishop's Stortford do stop there. Also there is a narrow track from the far right-hand side of Wickes & Pets at Home Stores, on the Stansted Road, Bishop's Stortford, also no parking, and the stores can clamp visitors not using the Stores. Enjoy summer and take care.

Daphne Wallace-Jarvis www.birchangerwoodtrust.org



Emma Marks
Men and Boy's Haircuts

Tel: 01279 814273
Mob: 07527227943

99 Birchanger Lane,
Birchanger,
Herts.
CM23 5QF

Physiotherapy
Chris Lansdowne

Local physiotherapist with 16 years experience
Specific treatments tailored to your problem

Headaches
Neck or back pain
Joint pain
Muscle knots
Sprains and strains
Injury advice
Plantar fasciitis

Koru Gym,
Peak Busines Park,
Bishops Stortford,
Herts.
CM23 5RG

Tel: 07809879868
ChrisPhysiotherapist@gmail.com

What's on in the village...



August 2017



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Bin Collections: Bradley Common collected on Fridays. Rest of Birchanger on Thursdays. Garden bin collections marked with #						
	1 Church hall: 9.30 Ballet for adults 11.00 Zumba for Kids 15.45 Ballet for Juniors	2 Church hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 14.00 Tea Room 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	3 Black Bin Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimers 12.45 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	4 BSSC Treasure Chest	5 BSSC 13.00 Meat draw ReMark Duo - Live	6 St Mary's Church 11.00am Matins BSSC BBQ
7 Church hall: 10.00 to 15.00 Living with Dementia 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Nt	8 Church hall: 9.30 Ballet for adults 11.00 Zumba for Kids 15.45 Ballet for Juniors	9 Church hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 14.00 Tea Room 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	10 Green Bin # Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimers 12.45 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance 18.30 Apton Dance studio	11 BSSC Bottle draw	12 BSSC 13.00 Meat draw Main Offender 5 piece band- Live Classic Rock	13 St Mary's Church 11.00am Holy Communion BSSC BBQ
14 Church hall: 10.00 to 15.00 Living with Dementia 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Nt	15 Church hall: 9.30 Ballet for adults 11.00 Zumba for Kids 15.45 Ballet for Juniors	16 Church hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 1 14.00 Tea Room 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	17 Black Bin Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimers 12.45 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	18 BSSC Treasure Chest	19 St Mary's Church 19.00 Concert with the Courtyard Quartet BSSC 13.00 Meat draw	20 St Mary's Church 11.00am Family Service BSSC BBQ
21 Church hall: 10.00 to 15.00 Living with Dementia 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Nt	22 Church hall: 9.30 Ballet for adults 11.00 Zumba for Kids 15.45 Ballet for Juniors	23 Church hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 14.00 Tea Room 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	24 Green Bin # Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimers 12.45 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	25 BSSC Wheel of Fortune	26 BSSC 13.00 Meat draw	27 St Mary's Church 11.00am Holy Communion BSSC BBQ
28 Church hall: 10.00 to 15.00 Living with Dementia 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Nt	29 Church hall: 9.30 Ballet for adults 11.00 Zumba for Kids 15.45 Ballet for Juniors	30 Church Hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 14.00 Tea Room 18.30 Apton Dance Studio 19.30 BAGS meeting at the Bowls Club 19.00	31 Black Bin Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimers 12.45 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance 18.30 Apton Dance Studio		Adult Zumba is suspended for the moment. Childrens Zumba is on throughout the holidays. Tam Coxall 07783 421311	BSSC <i>BBQ & Music every Sunday - Weather permitting</i>



BIRCHANGER
Sports & Social Club

Sports & Social Club News



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

The Club would like to thank its members and guests for their support over the past few weeks. Beginning with the Family Fun Day, the Beer Festival, Del's leaving 'Bash' and now the summer BBQ's with live music, the summer has got off to a flying start. We have had some fantastic weekends, although we have been very lucky with the weather. However, we can only be successful with the support we get from our members.

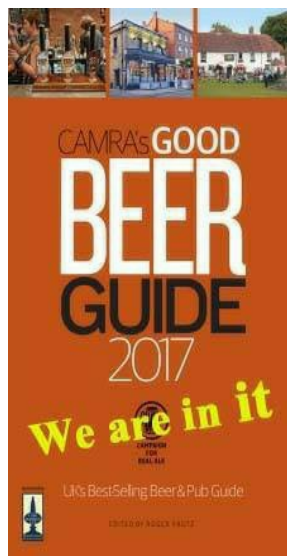
Please continue to watch the Webpage and Facebook site, and of course the in house promotions for upcoming events throughout the summer.

The committee would like to thank Steve Dean for spending his Saturday morning in the rain assembling the new Children's play equipment.

As a foot note, some of you may have noticed that there is a new bench outside the club with a plaque in memory of Scott Taylor. This is a nice touching tribute to Scott who was often at the club and is missed by many. We would like to thank all those involved for helping to make this possible. *Evan Hill*



Del at his leaving bash & who will be sadly missed



Treasure Chest

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

Friday 4th & 18th August

Wheel of Fortune

Don't forget to come along and spin the wheel

Friday 25th Aug



Club Calendar at a Glance

Friday	August 4 th	Treasure Chest
Saturday	August 5 th	ReMark - Live
Friday	August 11 th	Bottle draw
Saturday	August 12 th	Main Offender 5 piece band
Friday	August 18 th	Treasure Chest
Friday	August 25 th	Wheel of Fortune
Saturday	August 26 th	Francisco Sommers - Live

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
Sundays	BBQ & Music	(subject to weather)

Birchanger Sports & Social Club
Saturday 12th August @ 9pm

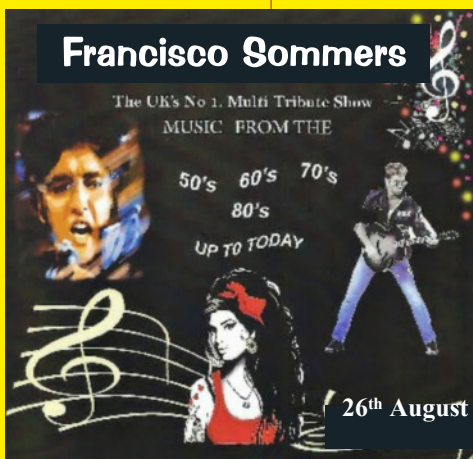
MAIN OFFENDER CLASSIC ROCK COVERS

AC/DC | Thin Lizzy | Beatles | Free
Cream | Deep Purple | ZZ Top
Dr Feelgood | Queen | Herix
The Who | T-Rex | Black Sabbath
Cockney Rebel | Santana | Lynyrd Skynyrd

Francisco Sommers

The UK's No 1. Multi Tribute Show
MUSIC FROM THE

50's 60's 70's
80's
UP TO TODAY



26th August

ReMark

5th August



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

Birchanger Primary School



The end of the school year has been as busy as ever with all our school summer events.

Sports Day

Our Sports Day was enjoyed by the whole school with children running races in the morning – sprints, longer races and a relay for the older children and an obstacle course race for the younger children. There was lots of cheering from children and parents with everyone's effort applauded and points awarded to each house for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. Children enjoyed a picnic with their parents before getting ready for Fun Sports after lunch.

In the afternoon children worked in mixed age house groups and moved round a circuit of activities; balancing beanbags, football skittles, target throw.... On a lovely hot day the water race and 'wet washing' were popular activities! Thanks to all the parents who supported this and to Mrs Miles and all the staff for making sure the day ran so smoothly.

Key Stage 2 Production

This year our children in Key Stage 2 put on their performance of 'The Wizard of Oz'. The rest of school watched the final rehearsal and then the children played to a packed hall for two shows. All the children in key stage 2 were involved. As well as singing, dancing and acting the



children took on the roles of music technicians and stage managers, ensuring all the props were always in the right place at the right time.

Their version of the story used pop music rather than the traditional songs and the children really rose to the challenge singing 'I would walk 500 miles' and Take That's 'Never Forget.' There were some amazing performances and lots of great reviews from the audience. Well done Key Stage 2 children!

Leavers

It is at this time of year that children are thinking about moving up to their next year group. For our Year 6 children it is time for them to leave Birchanger Primary School and move on to the excitement, opportunities, uncertainties and challenges of Secondary School. We are very proud of all the children in Year 6 and wish them well in the next step they are taking.



This year I will also be saying goodbye to Birchanger Primary School as I leave the school to move back to the North of England and take on new opportunities and challenges of my own. Leading the school over the last three years has presented many challenges, not least due to the ever changing educational climate and pressures

put on schools, and I feel fortunate to have worked with a fantastic team of staff and governors. I am proud that the school has seen success in many terms – children of all abilities developing resilient learning skills and making good progress, classrooms filled with enthusiasm and enjoyment and pupils demonstrating on a day-to-day basis the care and compassion that we nurture and value. The good OFSTED rating 'rubber stamped' these successes and I am so proud that we have achieved that recognition while maintaining the warmth and care that makes Birchanger School so special.



I wish everyone in the Birchanger School Community; pupils, parents, staff and governors, every success in the future.

Helen Coop, Headteacher

Village Church Hall Future Events



Summer Storytime for Kids

Storytime will be held at the Hall every Friday at 10.30am starting Friday 28th July. Bring your children and listen to age appropriate stories every Friday morning during the school summer break. It is free for all and you can bring your friends. Refreshments are provided. Please note! Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Zumba for kids

Also during the summer holidays 'Zumba for Children' is held every Tuesday at 11.00am. For more information, call Tamara on 07783 421311

Tea Room

The 'Tearoom' is open every Wednesday offering lovely home-made cakes including gluten free choices, takeaway teas and coffees. Open from 2.0pm to 4.0pm.

For bookings or enquiries please contact Pam on 07702171744

St Mary's Church News



Church services & events:

6 th august	11.00 am	Matins
13 th August	11.00 am	Holy Communion
20 th August	11.00 pm	Family Service
27 th August	11.00 am	Holy Communion

Summer Concert

A concert in aid of the Organ Restoration Fund will be held on the 19th August at 7.00 for 7:30 pm start. The Courtyard Quartet is an acappella vocal group who perform a wide range of music. They first came together at the end of 2011 as an ad hoc group for a Christmas celebration at the Courtyard Arts Centre in Hertford. That concert was so well received and the quartet so enjoyed working together they decided to continue to perform by invitation at other functions. Tickets priced £10 include wine or a soft drink. For tickets please contact Sue Warr on 01279 815427 or Elaine Wright on 01279 813474. Don't miss out on this splendid concert

Date for your Diaries:

On the 11th September and monthly thereafter, the Church will be open and welcomes you to come along for a 'tattle & twaddle' or some time spent having a tea or coffee with friends between 10:30 and 12.00 am. Come along and see what it's all about! Who knows this could be a regular slot in your diary!



The Three Horseshoes - Hazel End ****



About THE THREE HORSESHOES

I recently went with my better half and some company to visit our old friends Paul and Paula, erstwhile of 'The Three Willows' and now owners, landlord and landlady of the 'Three Horseshoes' at Hazel End. The ambience was great with good seating areas and a well-stocked bar. We ate in the pleasant garden choosing our meal from a fairly extensive menu with the emphasis on fish dishes. The service was quick and the staff friendly and helpful. The food was excellent and we had a choice of wines from a decent cellar. Two diners can eat and drink well for about £35. If there is a downside it was the starters because starters are not offered! However, the desserts were varied and delicious. I highly recommend a visit.

Bats in the Belfry

Did you know that St Mary's Church is home to both the 'common' and the 'soprano' pipistrelle bats? The Bat Society used recording equipment in the Church to detect our bats from the 2nd June until the 9th June. 154 recordings were taken with over half of them being picked up on the evening of the 8th June. pipistrelles are the commonest and most widespread of all British bat species. They appear fast and jerky in flight as they dodge about pursuing small insects which the bats catch and eat on the wing. A single pipistrelle can consume up to 3,000 insects in one night! The two species look very similar and often the easiest way to tell them apart is from the frequency of their echolocation calls. As bats are a protected species they can live in the church as long as they wish.



The Three Horseshoes

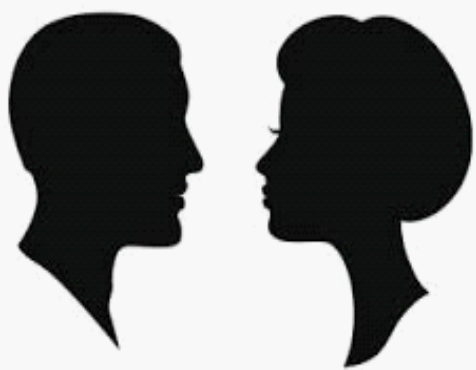


P. D. Tucker & P. Stapleton

Hazel End Road, Hazel End, Bps Stortford, Herts CM23 1HB

Tel: 01279 813429

Mon-Sat: 12noon - 3pm & 6 - 11pm Sunday: 12noon - 3pm



The Village People

Who's Who In Birchanger!

Can you guess who this Birchanger resident is from the interview below?

Where were you born?

Paddington in West London

The upper branches of your Family Tree?

Father was born in Northern Ireland, he left due to the poverty and he wanted the opportunity to do better. He was a foundry worker who joined the Home Guard during the war. In later life he worked at the prestigious Hornsey College of Art growing the plants for still life studies. Mother was a caring good neighbour, always making cakes for her neighbours; she also sent money to relatives back in Ireland.

The lower branches of your Family Tree?

I have 1 son, 1 daughter and 3 grandchildren.

Where and when did you meet your significant other?

At college, we were at the Catholic University Twickenham. We were allowed to marry at Horace Walpole House (The Gothic Castle) where we studied and which is now run by the National Trust.

Can you name one person throughout history you would most like to meet?

Emmeline Pankhurst, because as a women's libber myself, I fully appreciate her struggle to get us the vote! At each election, despite the temptation, I would never not vote out of respect for my heroine!

Your favourite Book, Film or Game (so that we all might enjoy it)?

The Shawshank Redemption although grim, it is ultimately uplifting, as it shows how the human spirit can overcome anything. Also Angela's Ashes the book by Frank McCourt, his memoir reminds me so much of my beloved father and the desperate poverty he and his relatives endured.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner. Where would you have them?

At the Musee D'Orsay in Paris I would have a typical breakfast of croissant & fantastic coffee. Lunch would be in Padua in Italy, pasta, local fish, Prosecco & copious amounts of Italian ice cream, which I love. Evening would find me enjoying the street food of Budapest, which is extensive

How do you think people see you, or how would you like to be seen?

I have a wide circle of friends, but because many of them were made through work or charity activities they are largely from outside the village. I'd like to be seen as kind, tolerant and honest, politically aware and sensitive to the needs of others, an all-round good egg!

What's the best advice you've been given or would give?

Luckily I've had very good financial advice over the years and I am very thankful for that.

The advice I would pass on; be yourself and with any decision making, try and choose the instinct to do good.

If you could go back to an era which one would it be?

I'm fascinated by the French Revolution, so it would be the latter part of the 18th century. Though I would definitely be manning, or should I say, 'womanning' the barricades, so probably would not survive.

How long have you lived here and can you see yourself ever leaving Birchanger?

As a young married couple we soon realised that house prices in London were forever out of our reach, a friend told us prices were significantly cheaper in Hertfordshire, so we moved to Birchanger, a random choice that has paid off handsomely. So 45 years later here we are.

If you haven't guessed yet, the answer can be found on the back page.

Health Matters

Getting a takeaway?

If you fancy a takeaway it would be nice to know that it is safe to eat. You also might like to know that it is not laden with salt, sugar or high in saturated fat and that you are getting a fair size portion for your money. Well, a new scheme in Uttlesford called 'TuckIN' is trying to do just that and is attracting restaurants who want to ensure their customers are getting value for money and food prepared in the right way in clean conditions to join the scheme. To qualify for this new scheme, which is in addition to the normal hygiene ratings, restaurants and takeaways are regularly inspected by environmental health officers from the Council. They check the hygiene in the kitchen, cleanliness of the premises, portion size and content. If the restaurant passes these tests, they are awarded the green TuckIN sticker. If you see this sticker in the window you can expect to get healthy food of the right size and content and at a fair price.

Improve your food catering safety

Anyone involved in cooking for other people needs to know about food safety. Each year Uttlesford District Council runs courses in food safety. The next course in food hygiene will be run at the council offices on the 12th and 19th September, 16th and 23rd November and 20th and 27th February. Apply to the council to book your place.

Eczema and the Sun

Many children and adults suffer the agonies of eczema. It can be particularly bad in the summer months and can mean long cotton socks, cotton shirts and trousers covering the affected areas, while everyone else peels off their clothes and enjoys the sunshine. New research however suggests that sunlight can actually reduce the inflammation in affected areas by releasing a compound which dampens down the inflammation. Wish it worked for the other inflammatory conditions. People often complain that sunshine makes their condition worse. Strange but for eczema it could be worth a try.

Please offer me a seat

I have just been sent a little packet from Transport for London which contained a badge and a card in blue with the Transport logo and a printed sign saying "Please offer me a seat". The intention is good for the many of us with chronic conditions which make standing very difficult. The card has additional text stating; 'Remember not all conditions are visible'. A good idea but will I have the courage to use it? There are many people with invisible conditions and they are all entitled to apply for the card and badge where their condition makes standing difficult. You can apply for yours on line at Transport for London, or enquire at any tube station, it could really help.

Its official, we are different

To date, nearly all scientific testing has been performed on males. However, a recent study where tests were duplicated on females threw up a lot of conflicting results. While tests may have provided an accurate picture for the male of our species, they were totally unreliable where females were concerned. So it seems one size does not fit all and it is back to the drawing board for the ladies.

Nuts claimed to help against cancer

Apparently, according to some sources, we can cure our own cancer by simply eating at least two ounces of nuts every week? However, by nuts they mean nuts which grow on proper trees, not Ground Nuts such as peanuts, which are actually not nuts but legumes. The nuts which are supposed to help us are hazel nuts, walnuts, cashew nuts and chestnuts. Peanuts are everyone's favourite nut, but they simply will not



do evidently. However, for those who are eating the right nuts, the results are said to be promising. It is said that most cancers can be reduced by eating nuts and possibly disappear altogether! It's perhaps worth a try but you must persist to get the right result. For those of us lucky enough to be free from cancer, eating nuts is reported to help make sure that we stay that way. It is a shame that this so called cure cannot be used by those with nut allergies. No way around that problem as yet. (Always consult your doctor for advice).

Are We Being Over Prescribed?

How often do you visit the doctor or specialist and find yourself with yet another box of pills. How do we know that these pills will actually work with the load of drugs you have been prescribed already? Most times we never ask, we just take the pills and get on with our lives. In reality we should ask more questions. The doctor may not have the time to do this, but if you use a regular pharmacist they should be able to help. Sometimes they will offer advice straight away and even go as far as to query the prescription with the doctor but with a hospital prescription they usually have no record of anything else prescribed for you. There is a move to try and stop this, but most of those involved with prescribing medicines are already under intense pressure and simply haven't the time. We may well be busy but we just have to face it, we are the ones who must ask the questions when something new is prescribed and even take our prescription list with us to the doctors. It just might prevent some very nasty reactions.

Can you touch your toes?

A lot of us have a problem with that and it can be difficult to know where to get affordable help with this. There is a Travelling Nail Cutter available for those who are experiencing difficulty actually simply cutting their toe nails. If you would like to find out more about this service and if it could actually benefit you, call 02245 423333.

THE FORGOTTEN GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

Alongside tending the gardens and enabling more visitors than ever to enjoy a lovely day out with us, we have been working to chart the biodiversity we have in the gardens. Many of our volunteers are keen naturalists, so like to spot and identify birds, wild flowers, fungi and insects. We have a long list of birds seen in the gardens. We also have a historic record of a sighting of a golden eagle there in 1877, at a time before the Countess of Warwick built up her aviaries, which at her death contained 330 species of birds. Recently we identified a chicken of the woods, which is a fungus not a bird!. We have also seen a grass vetchling alongside our bank of common spotted orchids. We had visits from a hummingbird hawkmoth and a kite and found a lovely contorted skeleton of a grass snake. But what we have needed help with were bats. So we invited Essex Bat Group to set up some



detectors in the garden and they identified seven species in four days. At our Open Day on 20th August the Group will be at the gardens to tell visitors more about these species. The gardens will open at 11.30 and we will be welcoming for the first time Woodwind from Bishops Stortford. As usual we will provide our

locally sourced bacon rolls and seasonal homemade cakes. Our Website can be found at 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	Lesley Robins	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

In June, Society members visited Thaxted, one of the jewels amongst the Hundred Parishes. Local historian Bruce Munro showed us around the guildhall and the church, whilst Len Farren guided us through the windmill, which also houses a museum of local artefacts. It was a most enjoyable and informative morning. Even those who thought they knew Thaxted learned much more. We encourage you to visit this small historic Essex town, even without a personal guide. They welcome all visitors with a free car park close to the centre and there are several places to eat close by.



Bruce encouraged us to view a short pre-war film that is now available online from the East Anglian Film Archive at <http://www.eafa.org.uk/catalogue/957>. I commend this as a wonderful look back at life in a rural community before most of us were born. The film shows the labour-intensive harvesting process, with a brief look at a harvest festival service conducted by Thaxted's famous vicar, Conrad Noel. You can, of course, read about Thaxted and Conrad Noel on our website www.hundredparishes.org.uk. Through your magazine, we are pleased to promote a fund-raising appeal to assist the restoration of another windmill, the post mill at Great Chishill. Great Chishill Windmill Trust is seeking full or part sponsorship for 150 new boards to be used for external cladding. Each board costs approximately £120. If you would like to help, please visit www.greatchishillwindmill.com/sponsor-a-board.html. Ken McDonald, Secretary

Birchanger musicians perform on Phoenix Community Radio

'Live music', ah yes, I remember it well but it has been a while! When one gets to a certain age it is harder to get up, go out and listen to a band as we did in our youth but sometimes it's worth the effort! The PCR 'Live Lounge' is a small comfortable venue inside the Phoenix Community Radio complex in Harlow where performers play to a live audience which is broadcast live on streaming radio. 'Main Offender' expertly performed two half hour sets of classic rock music to an appreciative and packed stage audience. The Band consists of five members including local musicians; Bernard Hainsby on keyboards & harmonica and Peter Sampson on drums both also singing backing vocals.

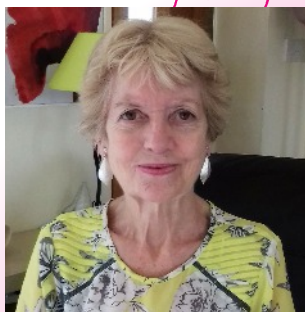
The sound was tight and the repertoire varied and exciting. They will be playing at the Birchanger Sports and Social Club on the 12th of August, so if you want a great evening of classic 60's rock music delivered by a group of experienced and entertaining young/old musicians go and see 'Main Offender'. You won't be disappointed. Tony & Barbara Wilson, Birchanger

THE DOG SHED Takeley

For all your dog grooming and
bathing needs
One-to-one personal attention for
your dog in a calm, relaxed
environment

Contact Fiona on 07484 673179
thedogshedtakeley.co.uk

The Village People



Diane Dean-Bowers resident of Birchwood

Quality Wild Bird Food

Premium Wild Bird Table Mix
Peanuts

Sunflower Hearts

Niger Seeds

Fat Balls

Suet Pellets

Meal worms

Feeders etc.

Email: villagebirdfood@gmail.com
Tel: 01279812248 Mob: 07752672187
Free Delivery in Birchanger & Stansted

D. Bonney & Sons



**Motor
Engineers**

MOT Testing - Servicing - Diagnostic
Mechanical Repairs
Selection of New and Used Cars

Yew Tree Corner, Manuden
Ring Malc or Niel on
01279 813315 or 01279 815946

State Registered Chiropodist

Mrs. Julie Golden S.R.Ch.

Home Visiting Practice

Est 1994
Tel: 01279 873492
Mob: 07916075451
Dunmow Road
Takeley CM22 6SH

A professional service at a competitive rate

Buffy Playbus Visits Birchanger Wednesday Afternoons

Near Harrison's CM23 5QT
From 1.30 - 3.0pm during term time and at
half term breaks.



The Big Bus for Little People

We have lots of
pre-school
activities on-
board Buffy,
including regular
cooking sessions.

Cost £2.50 per child (voluntary donation)
Come and join us!

Painting & Decorating

Bring new life to your home



Interior - Exterior
General
Maintenance
No job too small

David Debnam

Tel: 01279 815214 Mob: 07973861268



LAUNDERETTE

WE
DO
DUVETS
DIVINELY
AND CLOTHES TOO!

Open 7 days a week

Hockerill lights, Bishop's Stortford

Large car park Tel: 01279 866183



Birchanger Village Magazine

Advertising Accounts Manager

We need an outgoing person that is willing to
contact local companies e.g. food takeaways,
taxi companies, pubs and restaurants etc.
for advertising in the village magazine.

This is purely a voluntary job and would only
take one or two hours per week of your time.

Anyone interested please contact Peter on
01279 813193

Email: magazine@birchanger.com

Summer Concert

In aid of the St Mary's Church organ
restoration

Saturday 19th August at 7.00pm

The concert will be held at St Mary's
Church featuring the 'Courtyard Quartet'
Please come along and support us and
maintain this important local icon
Tickets are £10 including a drink and can
be obtained from:
Sue Warr 01279 815427
Elaine Wright 01279 813474



Friendly, Professional & Reliable
Sustainable Garden Services Provider
Gardening, Landscapes & Tree Works

Tel: 01799 543483 Mob: 07866 752713

One off Garden Tidies	Regular Garden Maintenance
Hard & Soft Landscaping	Tree Pruning, Felling & Reductions
Hedge Cutting & Trimming	Fencing & Timber Structures
Advice & Planning	Traditional Countryside Crafts
Planting and Plant Sourcing	Leaf & Snow Clearance
Log Splitter & Operator Hire	Soil, Log & Aggregate Delivery
Chipper & Operator Hire	

Free No Obligation Quotes
www.gwbhorticulture.co.uk

Birchanger Village Church Hall



If you are looking for a modern, well equipped
venue for your next function please call Pam Lee
on 07702171744 between 9am and 4pm

The Birchanger Village Magazine is published on behalf of the people of Birchanger and distributed free to 450 households in Birchanger. The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of the editor, the magazine or any organisations or institutions represented. Material sent to the editor will generally be printed as received providing it is considered suitable by the magazine team. The editor reserves the right to edit content if considered unsuitable or where insufficient space is available. All material should be submitted by the 16th of the month to be published the following month.

Editor: Peter Sampson Tel: 01279 813193, Email: magazine@birchanger.com.

Chairman: Elizabeth Godwin.

Treasurer: Ken Wheatley.