



Birchanger Village Magazine

November 2017

Issue 178



Birchanger Art Show - better than ever

The Art Show was back in September after a year's absence when flooding seriously damaged the village hall. Despite the enforced absence it was good to see that all our favourite artists managed to come back, including a few new exhibitors that were very welcome. There were exhibits from several village artists, one of whom created a portrait of the well-known actor 'Shayne' from Coronation Street which was personally signed by the actor.



School children go Potty

The children from Birchanger School contributed with a multitude of decorated flower pots which made an eye catching display.



All the pots had been decorated by the pupils at the school and visitors were given the opportunity to vote for their favourite flower pot. The winning flower pot was decorated by Ellen from Owls Class. Second was Sianna, currently in Hedgehogs Class and in third place was Lucas from Squirrels Class.

The tea room, stocked with homemade cakes, sausage rolls and other homemade treats, quite surprisingly took an amazing £226. Artists were rewarded for their exhibits with higher than previous year's sales of their work. 19 framed pictures and 10 unframed pictures were sold over the weekend and the raffle proved very popular with above average prizes for the winners.



The advertising proved to be very effective this year thanks to the hard work of the team who made a special effort with a big advertising campaign. This included posters and Facebook coverage which attracted most of the visitors. The art show team all put in a great deal of hard work but it was really worthwhile and proved to be very successful.



As in previous years, village groups will be invited to bid for a share of the funds raised for their own

special project. Details of this will appear in future editions of the magazine. The hope is that all being well, the Birchanger Art Show will be back again next year.



A letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

I hope you enjoyed last month's edition in colour, now it's back to reality and black and white. Unfortunately we do not earn sufficient income to produce the magazine in colour every month, but we will print a special Christmas edition in colour to give you a little brightness in the dull months ahead. Winter is fast approaching and I guess, like me, you have put away the garden furniture, tidied up the leaves and prepared the garden for next year. It all seems a bit dreary doesn't it? But, in a way, I quite like winter because you really appreciate spring when it comes around and before you know it you are outside, in your shirtsleeves, mowing the lawn at the first opportunity. I just love the fresh earthy smell of the first cut knowing that summer is once again on its way. Happy reading.

Letters to the Editor

The trial of an A&E visit

Dear Ed,

I've watched Casualty and Holby City so I was well prepared for my visit to A&E Well actually no I wasn't! We arrived at 6.45pm, couldn't find the door because of the building works, but no matter, a friendly porter showed us where to go. I presented myself at the reception with my GP referral and the pleasant receptionist booked me in, gave me a sheet of labels with my name and address on it (presumably so I didn't get lost!) and said, "take a seat, you'll be called shortly."

The trouble was her "shortly" and mine didn't exactly match. The board did say that there was a wait of 4 1/2 hours, so we settled down to wait. And we waited and waited and waited and waited some more. Finally I was called in to see a lovely nurse, some 5 hours later, who took all the details and assured me that all this important information would be passed to the medical team and that I would need a blood test and an ECG which he would sort out. It all went downhill from there. A slovenly, unprofessional health care assistant called me for my blood test, barely made eye contact with me, berated her senior colleague for not writing what he should have on her form then proceeded to very clumsily (and roughly) to take blood from me. She didn't explain what she was doing, didn't communicate with me and seemed somewhat impatient during the whole encounter. In fact I was looking at her wondering why on earth she was employed there. Then we were sent back to the freezing cold waiting area to wait for another hour for the blood results.

Finally I got to see the medical registrar who asked questions and said the bloods were fine and the ECG was normal BUT they needed to repeat the blood test. So there was me thinking my ordeal was over and I could go home and eat food and have a hot cup of tea. Wrong!! A repeat blood test took another two hours and FINALLY after a marathon 8 hours we were allowed to go home. Exhausted!! The good news? All the tests were clear. I came to the conclusion that you need to be either half dead, or have one of your limbs hanging by a thread to be gathered in and treated as they treat patients on the TV.

We have a wonderful national health service and by and large I think we generally receive an excellent service from overworked, over stretched, underpaid, demoralised staff. But just because things are difficult doesn't mean we should accept things as they are. I plan to write to the chief executive and tell him of my experience in the hope that things might be better for the next person. Bad service is bad service, whatever the industry! And actually, the thing that impacted most on me was our slovenly health care assistant. Get rid of her!! Everyone else was doing a difficult job with a smile, to the best of their ability and with limited resources. Rant over!

Cheryl Sampson, Senior Sister (RN, Bsc.) 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 space and content. Please contact me by E-mail, phone, or letter as shown below. Thank you and Kind Regards,

Join us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/birchanger/

Peter Sampson



magazine@birchanger.com



01279 813193



2 Harrisons, Birchanger

VILLAGE NEWS

By Elizabeth Godwin

Fly tippers can literally dump it on you!

It seems fly tippers can get away scot-free these days. Councils find it so hard to catch up with the culprits that they put the onus on the landowners to clear the rubbish up. Under existing laws it is the person who owns the land which has been dumped on who is responsible for the clean-up or the fine if they fail to do so. This means that Saint Mary's Church would have been responsible for the removal of the tacky builder's rubble which appeared overnight at the lych gate one weekend some years ago and no council would remove it unless they were paid for it. It hardly seems fair.



If anyone has rubbish or litter of any sort dumped outside their homes, they are the ones responsible for the clean-up, a real cop out for the council. It does not stop there either. If you employ a man with a van to take away your rubbish, do you really know where it is going? Most of the time it will just be fly tipped in which case you (and the man with the van) will be held liable for fly tipping and fined accordingly. Dealing with rubbish is a very costly business all round it seems.

Taking the bus is better for you

Apparently it has been said recently that if you are over 60 taking the bus is better for your health. So all that waiting in the rain is a health benefit? Even more so when the bus fails to arrive, a double benefit. Or maybe it is the fact that you had to run for it on the rare occasion it was actually on time? What happens if you slip on the ice as you try to

get on the bus with all that shopping? Or perhaps it is the long walk home when you miss the last bus? Can these be health benefits? It seems more likely to crowd out the already overcrowded casualty departments. I will try to remember that next time when I miss the bus and have to wait another hour that all this is doing me good. Somehow, I don't quite get it.

Time to warm up the house

This is a time which many people dread. As the weather gets colder the prospect of huge heating bills looms large again. Can we afford to put on that switch? There are some things which might help.

Uttlesford District Council is working with an insulation company known

as Aran Services, who can access grant funding for insulating lofts, cavity walls, rooms in the roof and attic rooms. You can arrange a free no obligation survey on 0800 5877795 or email info@aranservices.co.uk.



You might consider trying the Uttlesford Essex Energy Switch. This group negotiates the best prices for those who would like to pay a lower price for their fuel through their regular energy auctions. They can be accessed through 01376 552525 or on line www.uttlesford.gov.uk/essexenergyswitch. You can also get a free home hot water efficiency check. This is aimed at reducing leakages which help to save water as well as your cash. You can find out more by calling 0345 357 2403 or on line at hello@affinityware.co.uk. Those with oil central heating can benefit from joining or setting up an oil club with other oil users. You can contact the 'Oil Lady' on 01371 238080 or at www.theoil lady.co.uk, and the Oil Club at www.oil-club.com

Birchanger All Girls Society

A warm welcome to all new comers on the last Wednesday of every month in the meeting room at the village church hall

Forthcoming Meeting:

A social evening with mulled wine & mince pies
Wednesday 29th November 7.30 for 8.00

Liza-815444 Telephone for details
Rosemary-814678
Barbara-813007



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The latest way to avoid parking charges

When the area had a traffic count last month, the people doing the count, who were all there for the day, noticed cars arriving to park on the grassy area beside the end of Birchanger Lane. The driver got out, stuck a 'For Sale' sign on the windscreen



and disappeared. They also noticed other people being dropped off by cab or car, going to other vehicles, removing the 'For Sale' sign and driving off. That way huge parking charges were avoided, and the council seemed to leave the vehicles alone.

However, those free parking days may well be numbered, well hopefully anyway. These cars do not exactly enhance the approach to Birchanger. Watch this space.

Do you need a library to come to you?

For those who are housebound, life can be a little tedious on occasions. For whatever reason, you find yourself confined to the house, time can drag, and daytime television can be repetitive or simply just plain boring. Many of us do not realize that Essex County Council have a group of volunteers who can visit people in their homes, find out what they like and offer books, DVDs and Talking Books. They can also provide other services delivered directly to the home. With winter coming, a book might help to while away the hours and of course it would be of your choosing. To find out more, call 0345 6037628 and ask for the Home Library Service.

Are you struggling with your homework? There may also be help available for you on line from 'Essex Libraries Issues' on line service. There is a great deal more to Essex Libraries than just borrowing a book these days.

New art studio opening in Birchanger

Local artist Lin Watson has recently opened a working art studio in Birchanger. She paints quirky watercolours and also makes papier mache sculptures amongst other things. In fact Lin was commissioned by Sir Elton John to make two papier mache sculptures of the singer's dogs! After some months looking for a suitable studio in the area, Michael Barrett, a resident of Birchanger for some 30 years, came to the rescue. He decided to build her a working studio in his back garden and now she is ready to show and sell her work from the new studio. Asked what gave her the idea for her unusual art, she replied "I lived in Bishops Stortford for 17 years looking

after people's pets and one day realised they all had their own special personalities so I decided to sculpture them in papier mache and paint them in watercolours. I already sell my cards at 'Canine Sassoon' groomers in Hatfield Heath and the 'Something Lovely Tearooms' in Puckeridge and accept commissions to paint or sculpt owner's pets".

The studio, named 'Charlee Cards and Art', is open to the public on the 18th and 19th November between 10am and 2pm at 30 Birchanger Lane, Birchanger, CM23 5QA. She has a range of fun, quirky and naïve style gifts, cushions, enamelled mugs, prints, original paintings, cards, papier mache sculptures and a little piece of Australia! If you decide to buy something Lin asks that you bring cash as she hasn't set up a card machine yet.

Time to light up the sky

It may just be November but the Birchanger 'Big Christmas Light Up' is not far away. In fact it is on Friday December 1st at the club. The lights are something which is part of the annual Christmas scene in the village and people have come to anticipate our very special displays. This year Birchanger Club has arranged for an annual trophy to be presented to the winner, and a prize for the runner up. December 1st will be a very special evening at the club, with lots of treats and fun available when the Big Christmas Light Up starts at 6 pm on the dot.



In the middle of all the cold and gloom our decorations have brought cheer and hope to people who see it and has become a Christmas feature of which Birchanger can be justifiably proud. It does not matter how small the display, the fact that you participate and join in the fun is the most important thing.

Please don't forget to choose and vote for your favourite light display, as it will mean a lot to the winner who will hold the trophy until next Christmas. There are no judges, the choice is entirely yours. The votes will be counted at 9 pm on Friday December 22nd at the club. You will be able to post your vote into a ballot box at the club, or drop it into 330 Birchanger Lane as in previous years. Remember last year, it was a wonderful sight, let's see if we can make this year even better!



Emma Marks
Men and Boy's Haircuts

Tel: 01279 814273
Mob: 07527227943

99 Birchanger Lane,
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Herts.
CM23 5QF

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Herts.
CM23 5RG

Tel: 07809879868
ChrisPhysiotherapist@gmail.com

Health Matters

'Mind' in West Essex

Many of us are battling various degrees of mental health issues, or are trying to help somebody who is experiencing them. Chronic ill health, bereavement, trauma, relationship difficulties, stress and anxiety, feelings of isolation and inability to cope are just some of the things which can lead to mental health issues. These are all common ordinary things which unfortunately can happen to most of us at some time in our lives. Maybe we have good friends who can support us through our bad times, or perhaps we just don't want to bother these friends but still need support and advice.



In all of this we may have forgotten that there is an organization out there that can help. 'Mind' has been established for many years and is staffed by people who have real experience in mental health problems. They can be contacted on line

at ispartes@mindwestessex.org.uk or by calling 07854 732475. Apparently there are also great benefits to the mind by taking a brisk walk for 10 minutes every day. It counts as part of a daily exercise routine, but apparently also relieves stress and anxiety, boosts confidence, and can improve sleep patterns.

Can you beat your own cancer?

For those with cancer, trying to beat cancer is a daily and sometimes a very uphill battle. Any help in addition to prescribed treatment can be very welcome, as long as it is not going to make life even more difficult than it already is. It is emerging that an ordinary everyday mineral can help with some types of cancers. Zinc can sometimes slow down the growth of cancer. Zinc tablets can be obtained



over the counter at most chemists, and some health food shops but it is also present in many ordinary foods including beef, oysters, and spinach, pumpkin and watermelon seeds.

which have been shown to be rich in the mineral and although beef and oysters may break the budget, watermelons and spinach should not. Always discuss with your Doctor before supplementing your medication.

Is a cure for Parkinson's on the horizon?

Scientists believe that they are on the brink of discovering a cure for Parkinson's disease which affects so many people as they get older. A group of scientists who are examining the inner workings of a key enzyme which they now know is one of the causes of Parkinson's disease. Having discovered this, the group are now working on a way of effectively and safely stopping this enzyme in its tracks, and thus at

least alleviating the symptoms of the disease, if not actually curing it outright.



*Photo inset:
Dr Miratul Muquit and
Professor Daan van
Aalten.
Founders of the
breakthrough that could
lead to new treatments
for Parkinson's.*

Cold sore nightmare

As winter approaches so the risk of getting the common cold sore increases. Cold sores are often known as fever blisters given their appearance. Most cold sores are caused by HSV-1, also known as Herpes Simplex Virus. There is a large range of remedies that may reduce cold sore symptoms. Not every treatment works for every individual, but below are some of the natural products that may help reduce symptoms and prevent future flare-ups.

Natural Remedies:

Lip balms with at least 1 percent lemon balm
Drinking lemon tea and using lemon tea compresses
Peppermint, mint, and witch hazel oil
Aloe vera gel can soothe inflamed sores while providing crucial moisture
Liquorice root contains glycyrrhizic acid, considered to be an antiviral
Liquorice powder can be mixed with water or petroleum jelly and applied directly to sores
Echinacea is an immune booster, best consumed in tea or supplement form
Lysine cream or l-lysine supplements - l-lysine may boost the immune system and aid cell repair
Milk contains antibodies and l-lysine
Corn starch paste, made of equal parts starch and water
Rhubarb and sage mixtures
Hopefully you may find something that works.

What's on in the village...



November 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 #						
	BSSC Wednesday 1st November Annual General Meeting	1 Church hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 14.00 Tea Room 18.30 Apton Dance Studio 19.00 Ballroom & Latin for Beginners	2 Green Bin # Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimers 12.45 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance 18.30 Apton Dance studio	3 Church hall: 9.00 Baby Glows for toddlers BSSC Treasure Chest	4 BSSC: 13.00 Meat draw ReMark Live	5 St Mary's Church 11.15 am Matins All Saints Day BSSC Fireworks & Family Race Night
6 Church hall: 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Night	7 Church hall: 9.30 Ballet for adults 11.00 Zumba for Kids 15.45 Ballet for Juniors	8 Church hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 14.00 Tea Room 18.30 Apton Dance Studio 19.00 Ballroom & Latin for Beginners	9 Black Bin Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimers 12.45 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance 18.30 Apton Dance studio	10 Church hall: 9.00 Baby Glows for toddlers BSSC Bottle Draw	11 BSSC: 13.00 Meat draw	12 St Mary's Church: 10.45 am Remembrance Day at the War Memorial BSSC Lunch Carvery
13 Church hall: 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Night St Mary's 10.30 am. Tea & Coffee	14 Church hall: 9.30 Ballet for adults 11.00 Zumba for Kids. 15.45 Ballet for Juniors.	15 Church hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 1 14.00 Tea Room 18.30 Apton Dance 19.00 Ballroom & Latin for Beginners BSSC Wine & Cheese Tasting	16 Green Bin # Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimers 12.45 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	17 Church hall: 9.00 Baby Glows for toddlers BSSC Treasure Chest	18 BSSC: 13.00 Meat draw NobleOx Live	19 St Mary's Church: 11.15 am Family Service BSSC Lunch Carvery
20 Church hall: 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Night	21 Church hall: 9.30 Ballet for adults 11.00 Zumba for Kids 15.45 Ballet for Juniors	22 Church hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 14.00 Tea Room 18.30 Apton Dance 19.00 Ballroom & Latin for Beginners	23 Black Bin Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimers 12.45 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	24 Church hall: 9.00 Baby Glows for toddlers BSSC Wheel of Fortune	25 BSSC: 13.00 Meat draw	26 St Mary's Church: 11.15 am Holy Communion BSSC Lunch Carvery
27 Church hall: 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Night	28 Church hall: 9.30 Ballet for adults 11.00 Zumba for Kids 15.45 Ballet for Juniors	29 Church Hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 14.00 Tea Room 18.30 Apton Dance Studio 19.00 Ballroom & Latin For Beginners 19.30 BAGS	30 Green Bin # Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimers 12.45 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	<div> Fashion Show 30th November In aid of St. Mary's Church Tickets £6 can be obtained by contacting Elaine on 01279813474 or Sue on 01279815427 Email stmaryschurch.birchanger@gmail.com </div>		



BIRCHANGER
Sports & Social Club

Sports & Social Club News



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

BSSC Annual General Meeting Wednesday 1st November 8.00 pm

Wine & Cheese Tasting



Wed. 15th Nov. 7.00 pm
Members £10
Non-Members £15
Sign up & pay at the Bar

ReMark

Saturday 4th November



**SIMPLY GREAT
MUSIC WITH**

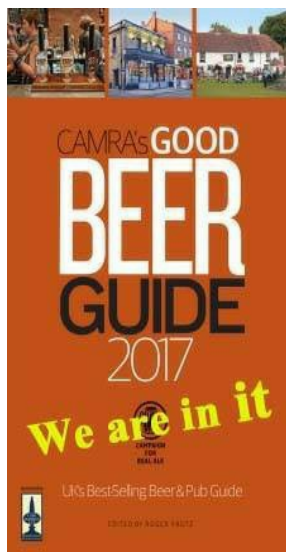
**Sat. 18th
November**



8.00pm



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



**Fireworks
&
Family
Race
Night
5th
November**



Treasure Chest

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

3rd & 17th November

**Wheel of Fortune
Friday
24th
November**



Club Calendar at a Glance

Wednesday	1 st Nov.	Annual General Meeting
Friday	3 rd Nov.	Treasure Chest
Saturday	4 th Nov.	ReMark Live
Sunday	5 th Nov.	Fireworks & Family Race Night
Friday	10 th Nov.	Bottle Draw
Wednesday	15 th Nov.	Wine & Cheese Tasting
Friday	17 th Nov.	Treasure Chest
Saturday	18 th Nov.	NobleOx Live
Friday	24 th Nov.	Wheel of Fortune

Weekly Events

Day	Event	When
Mondays	Quiz Night	9.00pm
Wednesdays	World Food Menu	Evening
Thursdays	Bingo Night	8.30pm
Fridays	Bottle Draw	Evening
Saturdays	Meat Draw	1.00pm
Sundays	Fresh Carvery	Lunch

Birchanger Sports & Social Club,
Tel: 01279 813441

229 Birchanger Lane, Birchanger, CM23 5QJ
Email: club@birchanger.com

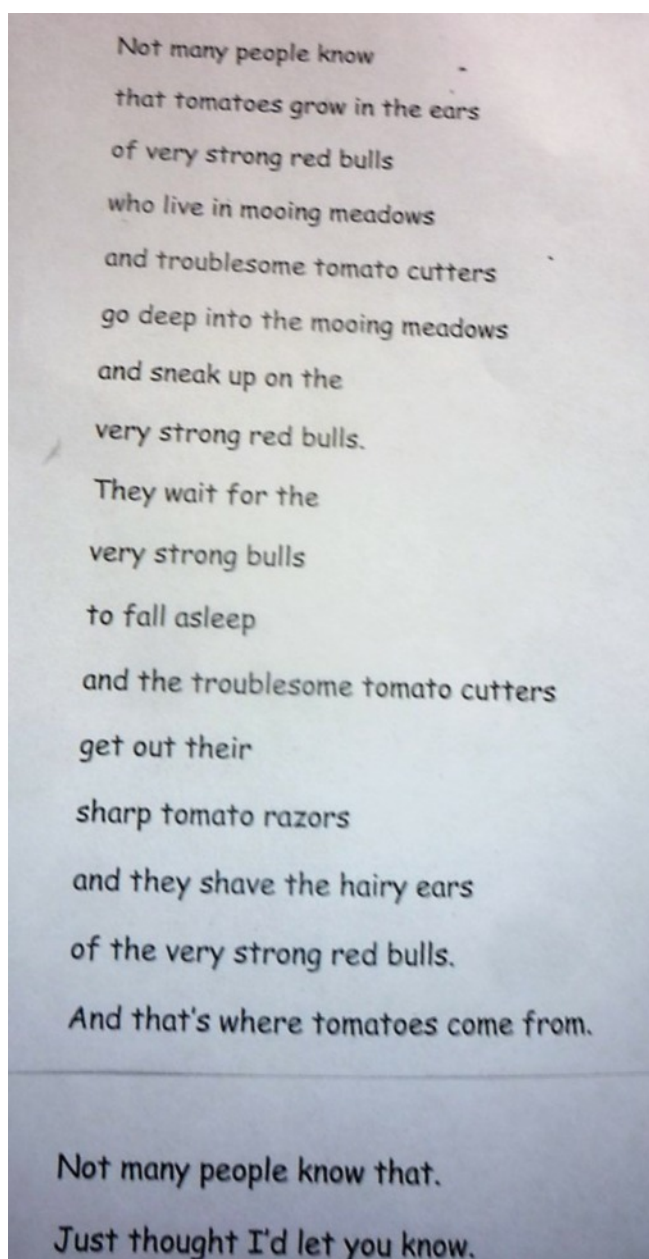
www.birchangerclub.com

Birchanger Primary School



Hello from Birchanger C of E Primary School

Well it's been a fun and busy start in Badger Class! The children have been throwing themselves into their learning based around the topic of 'Food Glorious Food'. They have been studying poems by Michael Rosen and had fun adapting his poem 'Where Broccoli Comes From'. We had a myriad of ideas ranging from chillies growing in dragons' ears to tomatoes growing on the legs of red bulls!



In maths, the class have been working hard on learning about place value in three and four-digit numbers, and learning how to compare them and round them to the nearest ten, hundred

or thousand. The children have also produced some beautiful still life artwork, using harvest as a focus and proudly showed them to parents during the Harvest Assembly at Birchanger Church earlier this week.

The children have also been learning about where food comes from, in terms of the source of the food, and also about which food is grown and produced in the United Kingdom. We have been thinking about seasonality and why it is good to buy food which is produced locally rather than food which has been imported.



As part of Religious Education we have been studying Islam and learnt the importance of the Prophet Muhammad to the Muslim people.

The children have role-played the revelation of the Qur'an to Muhammad and sourced some quotes from the Qur'an to write on pre-fabricated palm leaves.



Finally we have had some noisy and fun-filled sessions learning how to play the glockenspiel – the children have learnt how to perform a song together and, most importantly, how to stop when our ears have had enough!

Headteacher: *Claire Berry*, contact: 01279 812362.



Gordon Blue Restaurant Review

Linden House Hotel Stansted ****

This hotel has recently come under new management. We had eaten there in the past and had never felt that the food presented had matched the price tag, so we had not been there for several years.



Last month, on a friend's recommendation, we returned for Sunday Lunch. This time we were not disappointed. Although it was at the higher end of local Sunday Lunch prices, the roasts served were worth that little bit extra. The roast beef was served up exactly as ordered and was very tender, the chicken and the pork were excellent too. Starters which included scallops, soup and other favourites were equally delicious, as was dessert for those who could manage to eat it at the end of the meal.



The wine list is moderately extensive and more expensive than other establishments, but the white French Sauvignon Blanc we ordered was very good. A good place for a special family celebration perhaps?

Pet Service at St. Mary's

On Sunday 8th October a unique service was held at St Mary's Church. Based on the theme of St. Francis of Assisi, renowned for his love of animals, the Church welcomed owners and their pets to this special gathering.

It was a surreal yet wonderful sight to see so many animals (mainly dogs!) in the Church. Everyone behaved impeccably throughout the service, with one vocal pet even joining in with the prayers.

In giving his blessing to the Pets, our Rector Paul Wilkin, thanked everyone for bringing them and commented that their presence had not only doubled the



usual attendance but had also tripled the number of legs within the Church! A very happy occasion and one that I hope will be an annual event. *Tony Wilson*

News from the Gardens of Easton Lodge

The season has now ended as it began, with the sun shining and the bees busily out and about. What a year it has been! The colour that can still be found in the gardens is testimony to the plentiful rain and sunshine we have had of late. In the autumn, the michaelmas daisies have been particularly good, alongside vivid dahlias and the soft pink sedum, while the brilliant blue monkshood has been as tall and vibrant as we can remember. The weather has been good enough for us to welcome a record number of visitors on our open days and required us to bake a bigger than ever range of cakes! Visitors have loved our new treehouse and seeing the second half of the walled kitchen garden become established. In wet weather the restored rill has flowed over its new flint lining.

Badgers, bats and bees have been on display at the open days, with experts on hand to answer questions. We have found there are seven bat species in the gardens. Large numbers of butterflies and dragonflies have also feasted in the gardens and we have had regular sightings of hummingbird hawk moths. New information boards are now in place to tell visitors about the bats, birds and butterflies in the Gardens.



So it has been a great year and the challenge is on for next season! Contact us to get a copy of our calendar for 2018 which is full of lovely pictures of the gardens. Call 01371 876979 or email us at enquiries@eastonlodge.co.uk. Watch this space and log into our new website over the closed season to get hints of what's coming up for 2018. www.eastonlodge.co.uk *Jill Goldsmith*



At Forest School the children have been learning about the 'Fire Circle' rules. They were given the opportunity to use flint to make sparks to light a fire which gave them an understanding of



fire and fire safety. They looked at the ploughed fields and talked about Harvesting. The children also talked about opposites and were asked to find something small and big and they ended up hugging the big trees!! A big hit and a favourite of the children is to tie a rope on a log and drag the log along the floor to collect leaves, great fun

had by all. We also celebrated Diwali; making 'Rangoli' patterns from coloured rice and looking at the story with Rama and Sita. This coming December we would like to invite and welcome all local families to our Christmas Fair organised by the Birchanger Nursery Committee.

The fair takes place at the nursery on Friday 1st December from 3.30pm until 5.30pm. We will have cakes, games and a fantastic raffle, great fun for all the family. All of the money raised will go towards much needed items for the children at the nursery. If you are interested to attend, please contact us via our website www.birchangernursery.org or give us a call on 01279 810 800. Please note, there is limited space available at the nursery for children from two and a half years. *Karen & Clair*



The Hundred Parishes Society

The society held its annual general meeting in September, kindly hosted by Duxford Parish Council which is one of eighteen parish councils who are members of the society. Before the meeting, we were guided by local historian Jim Longstaff on a short walk around the centre of Duxford, visiting its two interesting grade 1 churches.

If you would like to explore this attractive village, please consider following Hundred Parishes Walk number 14 which can be downloaded from the 'Walks' section of our website. The 5-mile route starts at Great Chesterford Station and passes through Ickleton, Hinxton and Duxford before finishing at Whittlesford Station. Until last month, I was under the impression that Whittlesford Station was in the parish of Duxford but our guide informed us that the parish boundary was changed in 2010. Whittlesford parish, which lies outside the Hundred Parishes, also acquired the ancient Duxford Chapel.

Duxford parish has retained most of its treasures including Imperial War Museum Duxford.



On Sunday 12 November, there will be a screening of "Littlebury" at Saffron Screen in Saffron Walden. This is a compilation by Lizzie Sanders who was a major player in the publication of the excellent Littlebury parish history.



More information at <http://saffronscreen.com/littlebury/>.

Photo bottom left; 942 control tower at IWM Duxford

Photo top right; St John's Church, Duxford

Ken McDonald, Secretary. www.hundredparishes.org.uk

A meeting of minds in Birchanger Wood

The Chairman of Uttlesford District Council, Geoffrey Sell, and the Mayor Of Bishop's Stortford Town Council, Colin Woodward, met together recently in the compound of Birchanger Wood in order to understand the development, and progress of this local public asset which comprises 69 acres of ancient woodland, sitting 75% in Essex and 25% in Hertfordshire.



Birchanger Wood is a 'grown-up' local community asset, maintained, and managed by local volunteers under the leadership of our super voluntary warden and is open 365 days of the year. It has almost 6km of 2metre wide, all weather winding woodland paths which are suitable for all ages and abilities, including wheelchairs. The Wood is owned by the Birchanger Wood Trust, which is a charity whereby the cost of upkeep is financed from gifts, donations, grants and sale of fire-wood. The 'compound' is open on most Saturdays for a few hours for the sale of wood and is the work-hub of the trust. We have a small pond, bring on young trees and look after recuperating rescue hedgehogs from Herts Hogline. It is woodland in which to walk, run, contemplate, take the family.

Daphne Wallace-Jarvis

secretary@birchangerwoodtrust.org

www.birchangerwoodtrust.org



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

Village Services and Activities

Alzheimers	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	Tony Wilson	01279 813007
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	Lucy Creask	01279 799377
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
St. Mary's Church	Elaine wright	01279 813474
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

Village Church Hall



Since the hall reopened last September, regular bookings have gone from strength to strength. Sadly we lost the Dementia Group due to a lack of numbers attending but on the positive side there is a new toddler group that has very quickly established itself and despite taking additional hours, is now fully booked.

The 'Tea Room' on Wednesday afternoons continues to be a success but we could do with some more volunteers. If you are interested, call Pam on 07702171744.

Please do not forget that there will be a fashion show in the hall on Thursday 30th November. For more information please contact Elaine Wright on 01279-813474, or Sue on 01279-815427

There are a few dates left in December when the hall is available at the weekend and I am already taking bookings for next year. I look forward to seeing you in the hall or for bookings just call me on 07702171744. *Pam Lee*

St Mary's Church News



Church services

5 th November	11:15 am	Matins traditional service
12 th November	11:15 am	Remembrance day service
19 th November	11:15 am	Family Service
26 th November	11:15 am	Holy Communion

Dates to remember

On the 8th October something special happened at St Mary's church. If you attended you would know that it was an Animal service in aid of St Francis of Assisi who is the patron saint of animals. The service was attended by 5 dogs and their owners and was completed without incident! All who attended felt it was a lovely service giving thanks to our special companions. Next year we hope to see many more animals attending.

12th November Remembrance service

Please note the service starts at 10:45 am at the war memorial in readiness for the minute silence, the service then continues inside the church.

A prayer for Remembrance

O God of truth and justice,
we hold before you those men and women
who have died in active service:
those in the first and second world wars,
in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere.
As we honour their courage and cherish their memory,
may we put our faith in your future;
for you are the source of life, hope, and peace.
Amen.

13th November - Tea and coffee get together

10:30 am – 12:00 noon. Open Church for tea, coffee and a bit of a natter. Refreshments will be provided, items on sale to buy as well as a bric-a-brac stall, all are welcome.

26th November 11:15 am Holy Communion service

Christ the King. This is the last Sunday of the Christian year and the Sunday before the new year begins with Advent. Traditionally Christ the King is set aside as a celebration of the coming reign of Jesus Christ and the completion of creation.

30th November - Fund raising fashion show

Instead of the usual Christmas Bazaar this year, St Mary's fund raising team have come up with the idea of a fashion show! 'Travelling Trends' delivers locally leading brands in fashion for all to access. You will be able to try on the clothes and take them away easily as they accept cash and card payments on the night. Tickets cost only £6.00 which includes a glass of wine, or a soft drink. There will be a bumper raffle with prizes such as beauty vouchers and restaurant vouchers, as well as a magnum of champagne! This is in aid of raising funds for St Mary's Church as well as a chosen charity on the night. For tickets please contact Elaine on 01279-813474 or Sue on 01279-815427 or email stmaryschurch.birchanger@gmail.com

If you would like to know more about our services, or would like a special prayer said for someone who is ill or in need, please contact us on stmaryschurch.birchanger@gmail.com
Elaine Wright, Church Warden

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Birchanger Christmas Light Up



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Buffy Playbus Visits Birchanger Wednesday Afternoons

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18th and 19th November. 10am- 2pm
 30 Birchanger Lane, CM23 5QA
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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.

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