



Birchanger Village Magazine

July 2018

Issue 186



Anxious Year is Over for Birchanger Family

It is worrying to say the least to be told that you will be homeless within a year through no fault of your own. This is what happened to Birchanger family, the Martins, last year when they were told that following the death of their father they had a year to vacate the home in which they had lived since birth.

Apparently current council rules stipulate that a council property lease can only be reassigned to other occupants of a property twice. In this case, the lease had already been reassigned twice to family members and therefore the council refused to let them stay in the house. The family was given a year to find alternative accommodation after which time they would have to vacate the home.



Fortunately, this family has a very large support group both within and outside Birchanger so when Katie Martin submitted a petition on-line, hundreds signed the petition. Even so, there was no certainty that the council would take any notice of this. However, something must have occurred to reverse the

council's decision, because in early June, Katie, Annalise and Jordon received the amazing news that the council had made an exception to the rule allowing them to remain in the family home. It is not hard to imagine the happiness and the overwhelming sense of relief this news brought to the family. Common sense, it seems, prevailed after all.

Katie Martin said, "I am delighted by the news and would like to sincerely thank everyone who supported us and helped us to keep our home, I just cant thank them enough".

Birchanger Man Receives MBE

George Taylor has spent some 52 years working with RAF cadets. His long and distinguished service has finally been rewarded and recognised when he was recently awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

He is the region and wing treasurer of the Air Cadets London and Eastern Region, a role he took up after retiring from the Ministry of Defence. It is about time that George's hard work over so many years is recognised and finally rewarded.

£1,800 Raised In Aid of Prostate Cancer

The restaurant and homeware store, Home & Eat, was the venue for the charity event 'Raising our Standards' in aid of Prostate Cancer at the end of May. Singing artists from Birchanger and surrounding areas under the name of 'Café of the Angels' performed to an appreciative audience of over one hundred and thirty guests raising an amazing £1,800 for the well-deserved and important charity.



The emotion was palpable

Local singer Esther Richards, her sister Sophie Austin and their father, Austin James, dished up a wide variety of wonderful songs from West End shows, jazz classics and popular songs of the day. This was truly a professional show underlined by the lilting, angelic voices of Esther and Sophie and the rich deep baritone voice of dad Austin. The trio was accompanied by pianist Philip Leader and drummer Peter Sampson who also played a number of jazz classics during the interlude. There was something for everyone during the evening but one wonderful spine chilling song that really stood out was the duet from Chess, 'I Know Him So Well', sung beautifully by Sophie and Esther. There is no doubt that something special happens when this family sing together; the emotion between them was palpable.

Shane Ward surprise visit

As if that wasn't enough, in the closing moments of the concert, a surprise visit by singer and actor, Shane Ward, brought the house down. He only had time for two numbers but delighted the audience by finishing with the beautiful haunting melody and lyrics of the late George Michael's song 'A Different Corner'.

For those of you who missed this show you will be glad to know that Café of the Angels will be back again next year.



A letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

Whoops Sorry!

Firstly I must apologise for an error in last month's magazine edition. Unfortunately, due to a software error, the dates for refuse bin collections stated on page six, 'What's on in the village', were incorrect. I am very sorry for any missed bins and inconvenience this caused to our readers.



Dog bins overflowing again!

Now its time again for a rant. We have a lovely village, beautiful woods with some wonderful walks. However, it seems that a few lazy disrespectful dog walkers couldn't care a less about our nature or countryside. Once again, at the end of May, the dog bin sited at the end of Harrisons was full and overflowing, leaving an untidy mess and a foul smell. Who are these dog walkers that have no consideration for our countryside or for other walkers? It is immaterial whether the bins are full or perhaps the waste collection is late. The rule is quite simple; if the bin is full take your dog-poo bags home with you and put them in your house black bin. Apart from the unsightly mess and smell it is illegal to leave your rubbish outside of the bin.



Letters to the Editor

Dear Ed,

Flight time error

There is a serious mistake in the village news stated by Elizabeth Godwin in the June magazine. She writes that in Heathrow the night time period does not let airplanes land before 6.30 in the morning. Actually, I am regularly flying into Heathrow on BA's 5.05 am flight from Singapore and I know that this flight is not the first one to land in the morning.

Regards, Peter Odrich (Church Warden) Birchanger.

Elizabeth Godwin's response:

Heathrow has permission for only 5,800 night flights per annum. In actuality there are only up to 16 flights per night, taking place mainly between 4.30am and 6 pm. Something of a courtesy to the community. Stansted traffic is random and heavy cargo leaves at all hours of the night.

St Elizabeth thanks Birchanger Village magazine

Thank you so much for including our Summer Fayre poster in your June publication. We really appreciate the support of the local community when it comes to our events. Remember our summer fayre is on Saturday 30th of June, in case you are thinking about visiting us.

The next St Elizabeth's event is our 'Apple Day' at our centre in Much Hadham on the 29th September where the public can enjoy live music and great food. They can also check out our orchard and even pick some of our our apples. Please come along and support a good cause. To find out more please visit our website at www.stelizabeths.org.uk/

Sam Prow, Fundraising Administrator, Saint Elizabeth Centre Much Hadham.

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

A disruptive summer in the lane

Not something you will want to hear but if you do not already know, there are two long awaited projects that will benefit many people, which after many years of fighting for by the Parish Council are finally going to materialize this summer.

One which is due to start in July will involve the long awaited installation of the footpath at Churton bend. This was in the original plans for the development but it seemed to be forgotten by everyone except the Parish Council who had to work for years to get the work reinstated.

Work will start on the footpath between 9am and 5pm on weekdays from July 2nd and is scheduled to last until August 18th. You can expect the Lane to be closed during this period.

Work will also begin this summer on the installation of a few, much requested, additional lampposts along the Lane, one of which will be outside the village hall. Inevitably it will cause some traffic disruption but hopefully most people will appreciate the benefit from these new lights during the long winter evenings.

Local plan ready for consultation at last

The local plan has just been approved to go out for consultation. The plan will shortly be available on line or at local consultation sites throughout the district. Details of these will be placed on the notice boards as and when they become available.

It is not expected to affect us too much. The main focus areas are Easton Park, Stebbing and Great Chesterford where it is proposed that Garden Villages will provide most of the housing in these locations and which the inspectorate requires. The rest of the required houses will be spread around the towns and villages.

Not much is expected to effect Birchanger, as long as the Green Belt Policy remains in place. Churton is already included in the numbers and there have been several applications for new homes in single developments which will more than make up the rest. As ever, the devil is in the detail and that we have yet to see.

Going to college at the airport?

That is what 250 people are going to be doing in September and there is still room for more students. With exams over and the results some way off it is time to think ahead if you have nothing concrete planned for your next move. The college opens for the first time in September 2018 and offers career opportunities in aviation, engineering, hospitality, business and retail. Being right on our doorstep means it could be worth thinking about.

Access free courses with your library card

Libraries have changed a lot in the past few years and although we still have our mobile library visiting us every third Saturday, there are several other services which might be of interest which you can obtain on line through your library card. A free course on a wide variety of subjects is one of them. They even run taster courses, so you can discover if the full course is for you or not before committing yourself in September. These courses include further learning hobbies, arts, music and all the usual academic courses as well. It can be just for fun or the way to gain another qualification. A lot of the full courses may be free and July is a great month to find out if there is anything there for you. If you have mental health issues there is a lot of material you can access through the library services by simply going on line. The information can be downloaded by logging on to the Essex Libraries Website. For learning and health information Essex Libraries is a good place to start.

Can I recycle it?

With packaging becoming ever more complicated these days and our seas being polluted with micro-plastics and polystyrene to the detriment of sea life all over the world, more people are becoming concerned about recycling than ever before. Remember the dead baby whale choked by polythene wrapping! The problem is that with the advent of more sophisticated packaging right across the board it is harder than ever to know which bin to put it in.

Uttlesford District Council now has a new service on its website, known quite simply as 'Can I Recycle It?'. Log onto the councils website and go to 'Refuse Recycling'. All you have to do then is enter in the box provided a brief description of the packaging you are querying e.g. 'tinned peaches', and your answer should speedily appear.

Restaurant review

Fancy a Curry? There are several Indian restaurants within easy reach of Birchanger and we are perhaps spoilt for choice but for a curry with a difference, the Queen Victoria on the edge of Dunmow could be worth a visit.

The Queen Victoria pub is as the name suggests a long standing pub. The difference is that while you can get the usual pints, wines and pub grub, you can also have a very delicious curry, whether you choose to eat in the restaurant, at the bar, or outside. There are curries to try whose names and tastes may be new to you. All are different and delicious. Those who want a mild curry are well catered for and the staff will explain just how hot the various curries are. Service is quick and friendly.

Birchanger All Girls Society

The 'BAGS' invite woman of all ages to join them on the last Wednesday of every month in the village church hall

Forthcoming Meetings:

Pimms and Prosecco Evening

In the garden of Moorswood from 8.15pm

Meet at the village hall at 7.45pm or join us at Moorswood.

Wednesday 25th July 2018

Angie-817376

Rosemary-814678

Barbara-813007



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Living with a troublesome neighbour

It is bad enough having noisy neighbours living next door but when you are dealing with a neighbour like Stansted Airport it is positively impossible for many of us these days. The airport wants to expand and the company has ambitions, which even the prospect of a third runway at Heathrow seems unlikely to deter.



They have made it quite clear that they do not care whether they get on with the local community or not. Drop off and collect charges are now £3.50 for 10 minutes which is the highest charge in the country. Local taxi firms which serve the surrounding community cannot return to the drop off point before 30 minutes have elapsed. If they make a short journey with an earlier fare, they have to drive around with their next passengers until the 30 minutes are up, or else face a substantial charge. Some could argue that it was a restraint of trade. Airport related fly-parking in Birchanger and surrounding villages has also reached extraordinary heights due to the high parking costs at the airport. In addition, the airport wants more night flights, including the noisy cargo flights which already plague us in the early hours.

If you have problems with airport related fly-parking you should report them to Stansted Airport Limited 'Fly-Parking Complaints Department, by using their freephone number; 0800 7312385. Alternatively, you can report it to Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE). There's little point in calling the police, as they only seem to act if the vehicle is causing an obstruction or if the road tax is out of date, and since the demise of the tax disc, we have precious little means of discovering this ourselves.

Work at the airport is not suited to the local community as a whole, so workers come in from outside. Our green belt areas have already been lost for so called 'airport related housing', which conversely the average airport worker cannot afford.

There is not much we can do as 'airport neighbours' but thankfully SSE continues to give their tenacious support together with a fount of knowledge regarding all airport matters. We are lucky to have them.

Things have definitely gone downhill since BAA was ordered to sell an airport and it was not good news for this local community when they chose to sell Stansted. Our current relationship with Stansted airport, which is now owned by the Manchester Airports Group, is frustrating and very poor to say the least. Still one important victory has been gained, you can read about it on page 9 under the heading 'Stop Stansted Expansion' by Brian Ross.

Always feeling hungry?

Instead of reaching for that sugary snack, you might find some of these alternatives help prevent hunger pangs. Porridge is not just all stodgy. Plain porridge first thing in the morning is a slow energy release food. Eaten with cinnamon or peanut butter, it can stop hunger pangs for hours. If you are hungry between meals, apples, oranges and pears will keep you going until the next meal. In fact eating an apple twenty minutes before a meal reduces the amount you feel you need to eat at that meal. Fibre takes longer to digest so you feel fuller longer, which is also why vegetable soup is good for you. Eggs are higher in calories but maintain your blood sugar levels for longer as well as being good for you. Popping popcorn in the cinema is not so bad after all; it is mostly air but has a high volume which makes you feel full.

Your church needs you!



We all moan and groan about how everyday things are changing, not always for the better and more often than not we make comparisons with how things were when we were young. Well, things were different! Everything moved at a much slower pace and

we were not so 'connected' with the rest of the world. We did not expect immediate responses to our every whim and life just trundled on. I grew up in a village much the same as this and every Sunday, without fail, we all went to church. Sunday school first and then on to the little church of St Michael. Life has changed in many ways but as much as I can, I still go to church on Sundays, mainly to recharge my batteries and also for some quiet time of contemplation. I know for some people religion is not important but as I see it, pulling away from something that has always been somewhat of a moral compass and then complaining about how things are deteriorating is self-defeating. We all need a code to live by and whilst the church still teaches respect and compassion, I see it as a good thing.

Our little church has for years struggled financially due to falling attendance and ever increasing costs. The only way it has managed to survive thus far is through generous donations from parishioners, both those who come to church services and others who make regular contributions through direct debits. Sadly, over time this sort of income has decreased due to people moving away and a drop in the numbers coming into church. Unless something is done to reverse this trend then our church, like so many others, will not be able to pay its way.

Our little building stores the history of this place. It is important because it holds the heart of Birchanger and is a refuge for all. If you feel the same as I do then do come to our Sunday services where I am sure you will find something that interests you. You do not have to come every week, perhaps only once a month, but you will always find a warm welcome and probably some debate on a subject that you can get involved in. *Pam Lee*



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Health Matters

A different kind of weight loss program

Ace Lifestyle is operating a new 12 week weight loss program and it is completely free. It is particularly designed for those who would like to lose weight and improve their physical fitness overall. The program lasts for 12 weeks in which time you will work your way through a series of weight management and self-help programs. The course is held in Dunmow at the Uttlesford Community Hub at 45 Stortford Rd Dunmow. Telephone number 01371 878400.

Better peanut allergy testing

Many children are diagnosed as suffering from a peanut allergy on less than accurate finger prick testing. A lot of these tests have been proved to be wrong over the years and the patient has either stopped eating peanuts unnecessarily or has suffered with ill health. Now a new and more accurate method of testing gives far more reliable results especially when the results of the existing tests prove to be inconclusive.

Do you want to improve your sleep?

Most of us feel we could do with sleeping better but are resigned to the feeling that we probably never will. Before you give up on a good night's sleep completely, why not try a bit of sleep hygiene first. You might not find much improvement at first as it can take a while to banish years of bad sleeping habits. First of all look at your bed: is the mattress the right type for you? One size never fits all and we are told that anything over 8 years old should be binned anyway. De-cluttering your bedroom is supposed to help as well. Don't fall asleep in front of the television, the blue light it emits fools the body into thinking it is daytime and it can be very hard to get back to sleep again. Put the phone and the iPad away, they are blocking your chances of a good night's sleep as they prevent the release of melatonin which is needed by the brain to reprogram itself through the night hours. Those 2am texts and calls are absolutely out. Other steps to take are to try and work somewhere where there are windows and get out in the sun when you can. Eliminate all caffeine after 5pm. Sweet things are best kept to tea time and that nightcap is not helpful either. Instead, try eating a kiwi, some crisp bread and a drink of camomile tea or an almond snack and read a good book before bedtime. Be patient, it can take years to break a lifetime of bad sleeping habits and to start to enjoy quality sleep again.

Could Alzheimer disease be condemned to history?

Anyone with a relative suffering this horrible disease would say the sooner the better. For years it was feared that any signs of a cure might be a long way away but recent advances in gene research all over the world into relatives and patients with the disease have discovered some thirty genes which are linked to Alzheimer's disease. Finding the cause is a major part of finding a cure. It may not help the present generation, but genetic engineering should help to eliminate the gene for generations to come and also may be in time to be of some use to the younger generation around today.

Resistance to anti-fungal drugs threatens plant and animal life

This little known group of illnesses is prevalent throughout the plant and animal world and that includes us. We are all perhaps familiar with the sight of fields blighted with black rust as well as plants and vegetables affected by mould but all animal life suffers its own specific fungal infections. In the past we have used various anti fungal creams and a wide range of tablets, but the various fungi involved have become immune to these and the race is on for scientists to stay ahead of all fungal infections which currently kill more people than diseases such as breast cancer or malaria worldwide. New research is being set up worldwide to solve this problem but as with the increasing inefficacy of antibiotics, it may take time to find a solution to the problems.

THE Harmonaires CHOIR

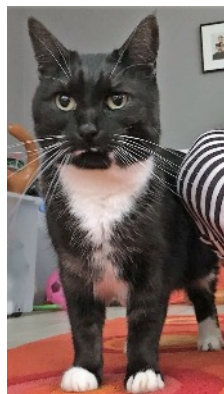
Summer Evening - Saturday 14th July at 7.00 pm

Why not spend a summer evening in the beautiful St Andrew's Church, Much Hadham, with one of the region's most engaging choirs led by Musical Director, Josie Cowley.



Following the success of 'Voices for Hospices' fundraising for Isabel Hospice, the Harmonaires Choir is delighted to continue its partnership with the hospice for this unmissable choral concert celebrating the Great American Songbook. Enjoy Rat Pack standards, country/folk classics, musical theatre anthems, glorious gospel and uplifting works by living American composers. Tickets: Adults £10, Students £6 are available by calling 07916 153 898 or from www.theharmonaireschoir.com

Missing cat – Bella



Last seen on Wednesday 13th June. It's very out of character for her to disappear for this long. She likes the fields and we fear she has gone a bit too far this time. She has no collar but is microchipped. She is timid and may not like to be handled.

She is black with a white triangle on her chest and white socks. Any sightings please call or text me on 077877 98751. Thank you.
Jessica Easley, Forrest Hall Park.



what's on in the village...



July 2018



Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sun

Bin Collections: Bradley Common collected on Fridays. Rest of Birchanger on Thursdays. Garden bin collections marked with #

30

Church hall:
19.30 Ballroom
and Latin for
adults
BSSC:
Quiz Night

31

Church hall:
9.40 Ballet for
adults
10.00 Dementia
15.45 Ballet for
Juniors

1

**St Mary's
Church:**
11.15 am Mattins

2

Church hall:
19.30 Ballroom
and Latin for
adults
BSSC:
Quiz Night

3

Church hall:
9.40 Ballet for
adults
10.00 Dementia
15.45 Ballet for
Juniors

4

Church hall:
09.30 Tai Chi
14.00 Tea Room
15.45 Fencing
18.30 Apton Dance
Studio **BSSC:**
Lunch specials
Evening Buffet

5

Black Bin

Church hall:
10.00 Alzheimer's
12.30 Line dance
for beginners
13.45 Line dance
BSSC: 20.30
Bingo Evening

6

Church hall:
9.30 Baby Glows
for toddlers
BSSC: Treasure
Chest

7

BSSC:
13.00 Meat draw
Charity Quiz
night
20.00 Quiz Night
In aid of
Birchanger Scol

8

**St Mary's
Church:**
11.15 am Mattins

9

Church hall:
19.30 Ballroom
and Latin for
adults
BSSC:
Quiz Night

10

Church hall:
9.40 Ballet for
adults
10.00 Dementia
15.45 Ballet for
Juniors.

11

Church hall:
09.30 Tai Chi 1
14.00 Tea Room
15.45 Fencing
18.30 Apton Dance
Studio **BSSC:**
Lunch specials
Evening Buffet

12

Green Bin #

Church hall:
10.00 Alzheimer's
12.30 Line dance
for beginners
13.45 Line dance
BSSC: 20.30
Bingo Evening

13

Church hall:
9.30 Baby Glows
for toddlers
BSSC:
Bottle Draw

14

BSSC:
13.00 Meat draw

21.00 **Main
Offender - Live**

15

**St Mary's
Church:**
11.15 am Family
Service

16

Church hall:
19.30 Ballroom
and Latin for
adults
BSSC:
Quiz Night

17

Church hall:
9.40 Ballet for
adults
10.00 Dementia
15.45 Ballet for
Juniors

18

Church hall:
09.30 Tai Chi
14.00 Tea Room
15.45 Fencing
18.30 Apton Dance
Studio **BSSC:**
Lunch specials
Evening Buffet

19

Black Bin

Church hall:
10.00 Alzheimer's
12.30 Line dance
for beginners
13.45 Line dance
BSSC: 20.30
Bingo Evening

20

Church hall:
9.30 Baby Glows
for toddlers
BSSC:
Treasure Chest

21

BSSC:
13.00 Meat draw

22

**St Mary's
Church:**
11.15 am Holy
Communion

23

Church hall:
19.30 Ballroom
and Latin for
adults **BSSC:**
Quiz Night

24

Church hall:
9.40 Ballet for
adults
10.00 Dementia
15.45 Ballet for
Juniors

25

Church Hall:
09.30 Tai Chi
14.00 Tea Room
15.45 Fencing
18.30 Apton Dance
Studio
19.30 BAGS
Meeting

26

Green Bin #

Church hall:
10.00 Alzheimer's
12.30 Line dance
for beginners
13.45 Line dance
BSSC: 20.30
Bingo Evening

27

Church hall:
9.30 Baby Glows
for toddlers
BSSC:
Wheel of Fortune

28

BSSC:
13.00 Meat draw
21.00 **NobleOx -
Live**

29

**St Mary's
Church:**
11.15 am Mattins

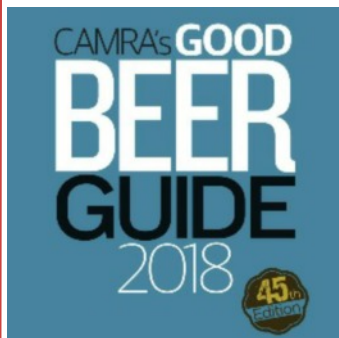


BIRCHANGER
Sports & Social Club

Sports & Social Club News



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



Wheel of Fortune
Friday 27th July

Treasure Chest

Try your luck and pick the right key,
you could win £ thousands!

Friday 6th & 20th July



Quiz Night

7th July 8pm Start

At Birchanger Sports and Social
Club



In aid of Birchanger Primary School

£10 a ticket to include a Sausage and Chip
Supper *

Teams of up to 8 people. For details and Tickets please contact

Cat 07475 092 658

*Veggie Option available.



PERFORMING HERE ON:-

9.00pm

Saturday 28th July



VISIT OUR WEBSITE: NOBLEOX.NET

or to make a booking Contact Dave on - 07940 436 063.

Email: contact@nobleox.net

July Club Calendar at a Glance

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Friday 6 th | Treasure Chest |
| Saturday 7 th | Charity Quiz Night in aid of Birchanger School |
| Friday 13 th | Bottle Draw |
| Saturday 14 th | Main Offender - 5 piece covers band |
| Friday 20 th | Treasure Chest |
| Friday 27 th | Wheel of Fortune |
| Saturday 28 th | NobleOx Duo - Live |

Birchanger Sports & Social Club
Saturday 14th July @ 9pm

MAIN
OFFENDER
CLASSIC ROCK & POP COVERS

Weekly Events

| Day | Event | When |
|------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Mondays | Quiz Night | 9.00pm |
| Wednesdays | Specials Menu | Lunchtime |
| Wednesdays | International buffet | 6 to 9.00pm |
| Thursdays | Bingo Night | 8.30pm |
| Fridays | Bottle Draw | Evening |
| Saturdays | Meat Raffle | 1.00pm |

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

Birchanger Primary School



Art Solutions visits Birchanger Primary School

During the last week of half-term, we had some exciting visitors to our school, the Arts Solutions Team (a group of extremely talented artists!) They were here to work with individual classes to create some art masterpieces for our displays.

The day started with an assembly where Liz explained to the children the different resources and techniques they would be using. I think the children (as well as the staff) were in disbelief to find out that we could make art work from only PVA glue, newspaper and tissue paper. But we were soon proven wrong.



The children were presented with cut out cardboard templates which then had to be covered with newspaper, glue and finally tissue paper to bring them to life! During the creative process, children used twists and pebbles to recreate 3D scenes from The Bible. This involved scrunching and twisting newspaper very carefully and specifically to create such shapes.



The children had important decisions to make, such as: how many sheets of newspaper to use, which

direction to twist or scrunch in and finally where to place it on cardboard template.



The children in all classes took part phenomenally well and were able to have the opportunity to take part in art pieces to wow our visitors! They learned a lot throughout the day, including: new art skills, some construction skills, decision making, team work and how to layer newspaper and tissue paper to give the structures more depth to appear more realistic. They thoroughly enjoyed the experience and can feel proud to see their final art work hanging in the school hall. It truly is a delightful sight!



If you have the opportunity to visit Birchanger C of E Primary School, we urge you to take some time to look at the displays in our hall! We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Art Solutions Team!

Claire Berry - Headteacher



Democracy In Action 'SSE Victory'

Uttlesford District Council (UDC) is in the final stages of agreeing a new Local Plan which has been several years in the making and subject to considerable argument and debate. The new Local Plan is about 400 pages long and it sets down the planning policies which will shape the development of Uttlesford District over the next 15 years. For obvious reasons Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE) has been taking a close interest in the Local Plan policy with regard to the future development of Stansted Airport and SSE was horrified to find that, at the last minute, the Airports Policy (Policy SP11) had been almost completely re-written. The proposed new wording opened the door to almost unlimited airport expansion. SSE then discovered that the new wording had been almost entirely written by Manchester Airports Group, the owners of Stansted Airport. MAG submitted its proposed new wording to UDC and the Council's planning officers had accepted it almost verbatim. Birchanger resident Brian Ross, who is Deputy Chairman of SSE, immediately asked for, and was granted, permission to speak to a crucial Council meeting on 12th June. He was given just three minutes! The main purpose of this Council meeting was to approve the final version of the Local Plan. The text of Brian Ross's three-minute address is shown below. The outcome was that the UDC Cabinet agreed to re-instate all the key wording from the 2017 draft Local Plan, including the safeguards and protections against unfettered airport expansion. An important victory, albeit only a part of a much wider battle. *The three minute address:*

"My name is Brian Ross. I am the Deputy Chairman of Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE) and it is in that capacity that I am speaking to you this evening. SSE has more than 7,000 members and registered supporters. Our membership includes almost every local parish & town council in Uttlesford, and many others from further afield. For many years SSE has enjoyed a cordial but business-like relationship with Uttlesford District Council. I very much regret the fact that our relationship with the Council has become strained in recent months as a result of our profound concerns about the Council's handling of the current airport planning application. The latest issue to cause a divide was the publication two weeks ago of the radically revised Airports Policy in the most recent draft of the Local Plan. The new policy removes almost all the longstanding safeguards for the local community in relation to unfettered expansion of Stansted Airport. It not only opens the door to the current airport planning application, it lays out the red carpet. And it provides an open invitation for unfettered expansion of Stansted Airport in the future. I believe this may have happened by accident rather than by design.

Policy SP11 – as agreed unanimously by this Council last year in the last draft of the Local Plan – was not controversial. I've reviewed all of the 126 consultation comments. Almost all of these asked for stronger safeguards with regard to airport expansion. Only 2 out of the 126 argued for the relaxation or removal of the existing safeguards. Unsurprisingly one of these was from MAG. Policy SP11 has been revised almost exactly in line with the changes proposed by MAG. If anyone doubts this, I have the list of MAG's proposed changes here and I'm happy to make copies available. Also – whether by accident or design – just this afternoon I received from this Council, following a FOI request, the notes of a meeting between MAG and Officers on 11 December last year. These also show that the key changes to Policy SP11 mirror the changes proposed by MAG. I urge you to reject the proposed re-writing of Policy SP11 and leave the wording as previously unanimously agreed by this Council in the 2017 draft of the Local Plan. I very much hope this will allow us to begin to have, once again, a cordial and business-like relationship."



Change for the Wood Trust! Who wants to be a trustee?

The new Birchanger Wood Trust 2018 has arrived.

It is a charitable incorporated organisation with a new charity number. It will now be managed

by trustees who will have the protection of limited liability. In order to comply with charity law the original 'The Birchanger Wood Trust – 1090131' will be retained but only to hold ownership of the land - Birchanger Wood. The land will remain 'Vested' with the Charity Commission in trust as per the original trust deed.

Due to these changes, Birchanger Wood Trust 2018 is looking for local people to become trustees. Would you like to be a trustee? Are you over 18 years old? Are you a local person? Are you interested in steering the lovely Birchanger Wood into the future, conserving and maintaining its assets for the benefit of local residents? Please contact me, Daphne Wallace-Jarvis (details below), or Pat Forrest, or Roger Wilmot, who are usually available in the compound most Saturday mornings. Come on, it is our local woodland. Let this wonderful green lung be a benefit to all, whatever your age or ability.



Birchanger Wood had a visitor in May. Jono Forgham, (Jono) came and spent some time in Birchanger Wood and many of you will have read his super article in the Stortford Independent on the 16th May. He is brilliant and so knowledgeable in nature and the environment. Did you know we have chaff-nesting and also black-caps and at least one nuthatch in Birchanger Wood? One of our super woodland guys pointed out the fungi, 'King Alfred Cakes' - used by travellers in the past as fuel for their campfires, and 'Herb Robert', which can be used in herbal medicines and not forgetting our Golden Saxifrage. Even Terry, our three legged hedgehog was coaxed out to meet and greet Jono.



I have a message for some dog walkers in the wood. "Please take your dog deposits home with you, it does not belong in a tree or bush and it is not right that our volunteers have to remove your dogs mess. It is unhygienic, inconsiderate and it stinks. Please use the bins provided or take it home with you".

Daphne Wallace-Jarvis
www.birchangerwoodtrust.org
(Photos by Peter Sherlock)
secretary@birchangerwoodtrust.org



The Hundred Parishes Society

Traffic pollution harming plant life

Insect pollinated plants produce a variety of volatile chemicals which attract passing bees, wasps or flies. Gardeners select scented flowers such as roses, lavender, sweet peas, stocks and honeysuckle so we can enjoy their fragrances too. But have you noticed that in built up areas you need to get really close to smell such perfumes? If we can't smell the flowers, then what is the impact on insects?

An article published in the New Scientist in February this year described how recent research had found that the various chemicals present in traffic fumes quickly disrupt the chemical signatures of these plant fragrances, making them unreadable by insects. Thus, if the vital pollinating insects cannot sense the flowers they need for their essential supplies of nectar and pollen, pollination may not occur, and seed production could be compromised.

Much of the area within the Hundred Parishes is largely rural with low levels of traffic pollution, but there are higher levels of traffic fumes close to major roads, motorways or larger towns, especially those with narrow streets. On sunny days the pollutants in these fumes will be interacting destructively with the volatile chemicals from the flowers leaving the insects confused and hungry.

The Essex Air Quality Consortium was formed in 1995 and now oversees the monitoring of air quality across the county as this has implications for human health. It is more important than ever to have an abundance of flowers in every garden, high street, side road, lane and verge to combat this pollution. Many local gardens welcome visitors during the summer. These are included in the 'What's On' page of www.hundredparishes.org.uk. If you need ideas for an interesting outing, perhaps with visitors, do please check this website for Attractions and What's On.

Tricia Moxey - Trustee. Tel: 01277 364522.



Birchanger Butterflies are changing their sessions from September 2018. The new sessions are: 9am to 12 noon, 12 noon to 3pm or 9am to 3pm. This will allow us to

offer up to 30 hours. We will also be taking children from 2 years old. The changes have proved very popular and spaces are filling up fast.

Our Forest School session has focused recently on our changing environment, where we have looked at the buds, blossom and leaves that appear around us in the woods. The children have also enjoyed being creative by making pictures from the natural things they collect from around the Forest. They made clay animals, like hedgehogs or snails and some children chose to press blossom or leaves into the clay which was very effective.



Sadly, in July, we will say goodbye to all our children that are moving on to school, so during the last half term, we have focused on preparing the children for their transition by encouraging increased independence and by working closely with all the local primary schools.

There are limited spaces available at the moment for children over 2 years. If you are interested in placing your child at our pre-school, please call us on 01279 810800, or contact us via our website at: <https://birchangerbutterflies.org.uk/>.

Karen Reilly, Pre-school Manager

The Gardens of Easton Lodge

In July we always use our open day as a time to remember the gardens as a haven and place of respite for the airmen operating from the neighbouring Dunmow airfield in World War II. This year, we will also share with visitors the World War I history of the Easton Lodge estate and its people.

This special open day is on Sunday 22nd July and gates are open from 11.30am until 5.00pm. Last entry is at 4.00pm.

Entry price is £4.50 for adults and free for children under 16 years old.

We will have our own history stalls, as well as military vehicles and classic cars. We will be joined by the duo called Perfect Vintage, singing wartime songs and there will be themed children's activities. Dogs on leads are welcome to explore the Gardens too, so there will be lots of interest for every member of the family.



The Gardens are looking fabulous this year already. We have done a lot of planting. The Italian garden is looking very colourful and the stumpery and rill area in the glade are maturing. The walled kitchen garden will have a magnificent dahlia border which is well stocked.

By July, we hope there will be lots of our produce for sale and of course our band of happy volunteers in Daisy's will also be providing locally sourced bacon rolls, cheese rolls, hot and cold drinks and our usual wide selection of homemade cakes.

For more information & news, please go to our website:

www.eastonlodge.co.uk or find us on Facebook.

Jill Goldsmith



P. D. Tucker & P. Stapleton

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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 | Rosemary Wheatley | 01279 814678 |
| Birchanger Voices | Tony Wilson | 01279 813007 |
| Birchanger Nursery | Karen Reilly | 01279 810 800 |
| Bird Food | Lesley Robins | 01279 812248 |
| Builders - Another Level | Matt Marks | 01279 814273 |
| BSSC Club | Kenny Gould | 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 799337 |
| Garden Services | GWB Horticulture | 01799 543483 |
| Hairdresser Men/Boys | Emma Marks | 01279 814273 |
| Line Dancing | Shelley | 01279 428994 |
| Launderette | Ian Kennedy | 01279 866183 |
| Lab Tots | Sophie Mitchell | 01763 274405 |
| Nail & Pedicure | Hien's Nails | 01279 507019 |
| Over 60's club | Jean Camp | 07843 707249 |
| Painting & Décor | David Debnam | 07973 861268 |
| Parish Clerk | Keith Williams | 01279 814773 |
| Property Services | Mark Taylor | 07941 357934 |
| Public Safety | Alex Stewart | 07846 467575 |
| St. Mary's Church | Elaine Wright | 01279 813474 |
| Tai Chi | Mary Dann | 07771 656063 |
| The Three Horseshoes | Paul & Paula | 01279 813429 |
| The Three Willows | Mark Boden | 01279 815913 |
| Village/Church Hall | Pam Lee | 07702 171744 |
| Zumba Gold | Tam Coxall | 07783 421311 |

St. Mary's Church News



Church Services

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 1st July | 11:15 am Mattins service |
| 8th July | 11:15 am Mattins service |
| 15th July | 11:15 am Family service |
| 22nd July | 11:15 am Holy Communion with Revd Paul Wilkin |

Church News

We welcome back our Rector Paul Wilkin this month after his sabbatical leave. I'm sure he has lots to tell us.

Having been in the role of Church Warden for a year now I certainly feel I'm still settling in to what is a privilege to undertake. The church has been a place of worship for 1000 years and is overflowing with history from the 11th to the 19th century. It has its own special beauty from its east stained glass window to its ornate carved door arch and its magnificent Auguste Gern Organ, and if you look closely it is dressed with iconography depicting Mary. It would be lovely to see you at one of our fundraising events or on a Sunday at our morning service at 11:15am. Just pop along and see what it's all about.

Can you help? We are looking for a volunteer to support the Parochial Church Council in the role of Treasurer. At least one-two days per month are required to add items to our finance and gift aid programme, therefore IT and on line banking skills are essential. If you would like a role description and to talk about the role, please send your details to the email address below or telephone Elaine Wright, Churchwarden on 01279 813474. Anyone can apply for this role and it is not essential that you attend church regularly.

Did you know?

The Church has been in the village for 1000 years and is historically interesting in that the building you see today is more 19th century than 11th century. In the past, links to the New College Oxford were strong due to William Wykenham and his connections with St Marys College Oxford. He built the New College Oxford where the majority of the early clergy were trained. If you would like to know more about the history of our church and would like to join me one evening, please email at the address below.

Dates for your diary

Unfortunately the afternoon tea dance had to be postponed due to inadequate numbers of tickets sold. For those who were disappointed we will make a date late September.

Sunday 29th July 12:30/13:00 – 16:00 summer lunch at Moors Wood Birchanger. Tickets are now on sale for £12 including a three course lunch and wine. To order tickets, please telephone Pam Lee on 07702171744, or Elaine Wright on 01279-813474.

Prayer for the summer

Dear Lord, thank you for summer!

Thank you for the warmth of the sun and the increased daylight.
Thank you for the beauty I see all around me and for the opportunity to be outside and enjoy your creation.

Thank you for the increased time I have to be with my friends and family,

and for the more casual pace of the summer season.

Draw me closer to you this summer. Teach me how I can pray no matter where I am or what I am doing.

Warm my soul with the awareness of your presence and light my path with your word and counsel.

As I enjoy your creation, create in me a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for you. Amen.

Look us up on our facebook page or contact us by email at stmaryschurch.birchanger@goolemail.com.

Elaine Wright, Church Warden

Village Church Hall



Modern hall, superb kitchen and additional meeting room available for hire



Forthcoming Fundraising Events

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Tearoom: | Every Wednesday from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm |
| Family Bingo: | 18 th August 7.00 pm |
| Fashion Show: | 30 th October |

For further information and bookings please contact;
Pam Lee on 07702171744.



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**St Elizabeth's
Apple Day**
Saturday 29th
September 2018

From 11am - 4pm

**Apple Picking - Live Music - Craft
Stalls - Organic Food**

**St Elizabeth's Centre, Much
Hadham, SG10 6EW**

For more information, please contact
the Fundraising Team at
fundraising@stelizabeths.org.uk
or 01279 844355

Friday Nights are Latino Nights!

**Birchanger Village Church Hall
Dancing to great rhythms**

Join in the fun, whether you dance or just love listening to Latin Rhythm's. A lesson earlier in the evening will be given aimed at beginners.

**6th April - 6th July: 7.30-11pm
7th Sept. - 9th Nov: 7.30-11pm**

For more details

Tel: 07887 877675 or

grahamemizen7@gmail.com



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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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Treasurer: Ken Wheatley.