



# Birchanger Village Magazine

August 2018

Issue 187



## My Amazing Experience in Ghana - by Chloe Monk



Children, teachers and helpers at  
The Young shall GroW International

and was in the middle of a very poor village. Upon our arrival, the children and teachers put on a welcome ceremony for us all which included lots of dancing and singing. The children got us all up and taught us a Ghanaian dance called the 'chicken dance'. I certainly didn't look as good as them doing it but the atmosphere in the classroom with all of us dancing together was something I will never forget. The second school, where I spent the most time, was called The Lords Academy. I visited this school every day for a week and made some very strong bonds with everyone in the school. One of the children from the school I grew especially fond of was a girl called Reneta who would literally fight anyone off who came near me because she was so jealous. Another favourite of mine was a little boy from the shelter called Richard (pronounced 'Rishar') who is the same age as my brother aged 4 and he was very cute. We taught them English nursery rhymes, some science, and origami. The children and teachers in this school are amazing and welcomed us so warmly into their school.

**So I'm back!** After two amazing weeks in Africa I'm home safe and sound! I can't quite describe how wonderful my experience in Ghana was. I flew from London Heathrow to Dubai airport which took 6 and half hours. I then had an hour stopover before another 7 hour flight from Dubai to Accra airport. At Accra airport we were met by one of the workers from 'The Young Shall Grow International'. His name was Noah and worked at the shelter where I stayed. I was welcomed with open arms and felt right at home from the moment I landed. That night, we slept in bunk beds in the guesthouse and I had to sleep inside a big blue mosquito net which surprisingly turned out to be really comforting. On the first night I was so scared and really wanted to speak to my mum but in the morning my anxiety was replaced by sheer excitement at the start of my adventure.

**On our first day** we were taken to the local church and were able to see how passionate they all are about their religion which is basically Christian. It was so heartwarming to see how important their religion was to each and every one of them. During my stay, I visited two schools. The first one was called Lolita school



Reneta



**My team leader**, Jide, was also really amazing and so, so lovely. He went above and beyond to make sure we had a brilliant experience and looked after us better than I could have ever expected. In the evenings, we played football, volleyball, rugby and many other sports and games with the street children and children from all over the village. The food was all very traditional. My favourite meal was 'red-red' with fried plantain. Red-red is a very traditional Ghanaian dish which is tomato based and has beans in. It was absolutely delicious!

**On our last weekend** we were taken on a trip to a monkey sanctuary and we visited a waterfall. When I held a monkey in the middle of a jungle I didn't think anything could top it. However, the next day, I swam in a waterfall and that turned out to be the highlight of the whole weekend. On our last day we were taken on a boat trip across the lagoon and walked across an island on the other side of the lagoon. It was so picturesque and beautiful. After that we had a drumming lesson and then a party around the campfire. There is so much more I could talk about but these were the most memorable parts of my trip. I have learnt so much in just two weeks that I will keep with me forever.

**One of the most amazing things** about the people in Ghana is that they may not have a lot but they are so grateful and so hospitable it really is amazing to see. Someone said to me while I was there that if the Ghanaian currency was in hospitality, it would be the richest country in the world and how very true that is. I am forever grateful to have met such decent human beings whilst out there and Ghana holds a very big place in my heart. I would like to take this opportunity to thank every single person that donated money to help



Richard

me experience this wonderful place. No matter how big or small your contribution, I am very grateful for your sponsorship, without which I would not have been able to see the things I have seen. In Ghana they don't say goodbye, they say see you soon and I will be definitely be seeing my Ghanaian friends again soon....



# A letter from the Editor

*Dear Readers,*

## **DO YOU WANT TO LOSE YOUR ROUNDABOUT!**

As reported by this magazine in May, the Highways Agency have submitted plans to remove our roundabout at the end of Birchanger Lane, nearest the M11, and replace it with traffic lights. If the plan is passed, it will mean that all traffic out of Birchanger Lane will be compelled to turn left and navigate all the way over the M11 at the junction 8 roundabout to access Bishop's Stortford. If you do not want to lose our roundabout you need to register your objections before it is too late. Find out more from the Uttlesford District Council website using the Access Planning Application number: UTT/18/1823/CLP. Birchanger Parish Council have already decided to object to the plan but your objections also need to be heard.

## Letters to the Editor

*Dear Ed,*

### **Danger of Rhodes Art Complex losing Council's funding**

Following East Herts Council's proposal to build a new Arts Venue on the Old River Lane in Bishop's Stortford an independent group has been formed to support the retention of the Rhodes Arts Complex and Bishop's Stortford Museum in South Road.



The Town Council has agreed in principle to contribute to the on-going costs of East Herts Council's proposed new Arts venue in Old River Lane. If it does so, there is a danger it could withdraw, or substantially reduce its current financial support for the Rhodes Arts Complex in South Road. This would make it very difficult for the Rhodes Trustees to maintain a viable business.

The town would be deprived of its museum and of a thriving facility which currently provides a wide variety of activities - meeting the needs of the local community. The many donors, staff, museum volunteers, ushers and the general public, have, by their combined efforts and support, contributed to Rhodes' success. Their contribution must not be ignored.

Whatever the outcome of the East Herts Council's proposals, the members of the Rhodes Support Group do not wish to see a building which is popular, fit-for-purpose, works well for the local community and has seen significant improvements over the years, go to waste.

As part of our campaign we launched a petition at the town's carnival on 16<sup>th</sup> June to 'Call upon Bishop's Stortford's Town Council to

continue to support the Rhodes Arts Complex and Museum on its current site in South Road by means of an annual grant sufficient to maintain it as a viable venue.' We obtained over 550 signatures on that afternoon. If you wish to sign the petition please go on line and use the following link

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/retain-rhodes-arts-complex-bishop-s-stortford>

The Rhodes support group is independent of the Rhodes Birthplace Trust and the Rhodes Arts Complex management. For further information please contact Jill Daniels at [jill.daniels@ntlworld.com](mailto:jill.daniels@ntlworld.com) or Jan Richardson at [jan@richardson-family.me.uk](mailto:jan@richardson-family.me.uk). *Jan Richardson, Rhodes Support Group*

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 16<sup>th</sup> 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/](http://www.facebook.com/birchanger/)

*Peter Sampson*



[magazine@birchanger.com](mailto:magazine@birchanger.com)



01279 813193



2 Harrisons, Birchanger



# VILLAGE NEWS

*By Elizabeth Godwin*

Save  
Our  
Village

## A Plan to Decimate Birchanger?

The new Local Plan proposals could have completely changed Birchanger if Uttlesford District Council had not voted to support all the remaining Green Belt areas in the District. We lost a great deal of it over twenty years ago when the Four Parishes, which included Birchanger and who were worst affected by the loss of a great deal

of Green Belt took the District Council to the High Court over the Forest Hall development and others in the Green Belt. The Parishes lost but the effect of these developments has not yet been forgotten. Despite the loss of a great deal of land to Stansted, Birchanger has remained surrounded by fields and it is every single square inch of this area, all Green Belt, which various developers had their eyes on. In summary they were:

Land behind 266 to 238 Birchanger Lane, garden land behind 328 Birchanger Lane, land at the rear of 285-287 Birchanger Lane, three different Applications from Sion Park, which would cover the land they own. An application covering all around the Stansted boundary to the M11, some 216 hectares, land behind Homebase and Plot 'B' in Birchanger Lane.

A further submission to develop all the fields around Birchanger including a new school, which would be necessary as this would make Birchanger into a town. All the above sites have been rated as unsuitable development in the Green Belt, contributing to the Green Belt, or being of strong value to it.

Nothing about this plan can be certain until the inspector gives his approval. The last proposal was rejected. However, it is really important that you have your say. If this plan is wrong, the inspectorate is likely to make their own decision. Whatever your views are you need to contribute.

## Could You Be a Parish Councillor?

There is a vacancy on the Parish Council following the resignation of long serving member Alex Stewart, who gave excellent service to the Council. We would like to thank him for all the additional contribution he gave to the post. Could this position be something which might interest you? Would you like to be more involved with what goes on in Birchanger? If you are interested to become a parish councillor for Birchanger please call me on 812793.

## 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 Meeting**  
**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> August 7.30 for 8.00 pm**

We shall have an art demonstration by Heather Brown and an opportunity for members to have a go and show their hidden talents!

Angie-817376

Telephone for details  
Rosemary-814678

Barbara-813007

## Motorbike Menace Targets Equestrians

It is bad enough when bicycles come speedily up behind horses and pedestrians, but when motorbikes deliberately target horses and pedestrians, injury is almost inevitable. Sadly some idiots managed to achieve this just last month, causing panic to a horse and distress to its rider on the bridgeway. Despite her pleas for them to stop, they continued with glee to follow and harass the scared horse and rider as they crossed the bridge. They were later seen driving towards the centre of Birchanger.

What kind of people these are beggar's belief but they caused intimidation and distress in a dangerous manner to both horse and rider so are open to prosecution. Surely they do not live in Birchanger? They have been caught on camera and the police have been informed. The bridgeway is what its name implies, a path for horses so why can't these idiots understand this? A motorbike is not a bicycle and is prohibited from riding on footpaths and bridgeways.

## Allotments Available

Don't be put off by the overgrown spare plots in the allotments. If you are interested in having an allotment this would all be cleared. An allotment can be a very good way to save on vegetable bills, as well as giving you the satisfaction of having your own special place. If you would like to know more call me on 01279 812793.

## Who Says You Don't Get Parking Tickets in Birchanger?

One motorist at least recently has found a nasty little packet on the windscreen on returning to their car recently. This must have come as a nasty shock as motorists have been getting away with inconsiderate parking for far too long. There have been particularly bad problems at the school and the narrow parts of Birchanger Lane. You have been warned. The parking attendant does come to Birchanger.

## More Parking Issues!

This time it is at the village hall. School parents parking at the village hall is tolerated but it has now reached the point where parents are dallying before returning to their cars. This is impacting users and potential customers of the hall which depends on bookings to survive. Some would-be hirers have declined to use the hall as sufficient parking could not be guaranteed. This results in the loss of badly needed income for the hall. So parents please do the right thing and vacate the car park by 9am. It shouldn't be too difficult to leave the car park as soon as you have seen your children safely into school because one day you might drive up to the hall car park and find closed gates.



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### Don't Forget the Day Centres

We have five day centres in Uttlesford: Saffron Walden, Thaxted, Dunmow, Takeley and Stansted. They offer hot meals or just a cup of tea in pleasant relaxed surroundings. They are there for all the over 55's to use whenever they want and prices are very good indeed. For more information or to find out opening times, log on to [uttlesford.gov.uk/daycentres](http://uttlesford.gov.uk/daycentres) to find out more.

### Dining Out in the Village

Fancy a relaxing after work drink or supper after a tiring day? So many of us do in what has shaped up to be a good summer so far. In any event, there is no need to leave Birchanger to indulge. There are two establishments within walking distance for most of us. The club is open daily and times are displayed on the board. Food is available Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday at lunch and dinner times. On Sunday you can treat yourself from midday until late afternoon to a Sunday lunch with a difference.

The Three Willows pub is open seven days a week at normal pub times with all day opening on Saturdays and between noon and 5pm on Sundays. In both venues you can eat outside weather permitting. Food is home cooked to order and prices are kept at a reasonable level. Birchanger is a small village to support two such enterprises, both need our patronage to survive, so we need to support them as much as we can.



### Planning Ahead

You may be just going on, or coming back from your summer holidays, but as ever, winter is inevitably going to come round again and with memories of the last one only too clear, we could be in for more cold weather again. How is your home going to cope? Maybe you have state of the art insulation, but for most of us

it could perhaps do with some improvement.

The District Council has gone into partnership with a local insulation firm, Aran Services, who can research possible grants for you, access the funding and insulate your home in whatever way is needed and even sort out a replacement boiler at the same time. Contact them on 0800 58777 or find them on line at [www.aranservices.co.uk](http://www.aranservices.co.uk). You never know just what you may be entitled to until you try and find out.

### Make the Most of Essex Libraries

You don't have to wait for every third Saturday to use Essex Libraries. You can download e-books at any time, read the papers and much more just by accessing Essex Libraries site: <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/>



## SSE Fires Starting Gun on High Court Action

SSE has served legal papers on the Secretary of State for Transport providing formal notice of a Judicial Review application to the High Court unless – by no later than 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2018 – he designates the current Stansted Airport planning application as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) thereby requiring it to be dealt with nationally rather than locally by Uttlesford District Council (UDC).

The planning application was submitted by Stansted's owners, the Manchester Airports Group (MAG) on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. If approved it would mean a 44% increase in flights and a 66% increase in passengers compared to last year's levels. From the outset, SSE has fiercely opposed the attempt to rush through the application and has argued that it needed to be determined nationally rather than by UDC. National determination of a planning application is a lengthier and far more thorough process than local determination, involving detailed scrutiny by an expert team. By contrast, despite having no expertise in the field of major airport infrastructure projects, UDC had reached an agreement with MAG to 'fast track' its planning application in return for staged payments. SSE branded this a 'cash for favours' agreement.

For almost four months SSE has been corresponding on this matter with both the Secretary of State for Transport and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government ('HCLG'). Neither of them is at this stage prepared to 'call in' the airport planning application for national determination, although the latter (who has overall responsibility for the planning process) has indicated that he will consider this when the process is further advanced.

Meanwhile the clock is ticking, although thankfully the attempt by MAG and UDC to rush through the planning application and have it decided by July 18<sup>th</sup> has come spectacularly unstuck. Under pressure from Essex and Herts County Councils, as well as from SSE, Uttlesford has finally now realised that it needs a great deal more information before the planning application can even be sensibly considered. No new target date has yet been set for determining the application but it is unlikely to be before October.

Despite the current delay, SSE has decided that it cannot afford to wait any longer to ask for a legal ruling as to whether the application should be dealt with nationally rather than locally. That is why SSE has now served formal notice of an application to the High Court for Judicial Review proceedings.

At this stage SSE's action is targeted solely at the Secretary of State for Transport but SSE has reserved its position with regard to potential future action against the Secretary of State for HCLG and UDC. All these parties have been served with copies of SSE's legal documents, as has Stansted Airport Limited.

SSE will ask the High Court for an expedited hearing but even so the hearing may not take place until next year. Accordingly, SSE has made representations to the interested parties seeking their agreement that it would be inappropriate for the current airport planning application to be decided until the outcome of the Judicial Review is known, pointing out that there is no urgent need to determine this planning application because Stansted Airport is still nowhere near its present cap of 35 million passengers per annum (mppa).



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# Health Matters

## An Aspirin a Day Keeps Bowel Cancer Away?

Apparently it can help, although it is not advised for long term use. This was discovered by looking at patients who had been advised to take an aspirin a day following a stroke. It was found that most did not have the disease, or if they had experienced it, the symptoms were either reduced or had gone altogether. In its current form, aspirin should not be taken long term but the discovery has led to a spate of new research whereby the active ingredient against bowel cancer is being isolated and engineered into a safer form. Taking aspirin is something many of us have done for years and if you are concerned about the disease, intermittent use of the drug could help in the short term. However, always discuss any changes in medication with your doctor first.

## Don't Like the Way You Look in a Swimsuit?

Most of us don't, even if we do have perfect figures compared to everyone else. Last minute diets may seem tempting but are they really worth it long term? Would simply cutting out the crisps and eating in front of the TV be any better? Probably not! And that new fashion fad diet, promising that you will lose a stone in a week simply won't work with holiday food and drink. The pounds will be back quicker than they were lost and by the end of the holiday you could look worse than when you left home, except of course you will be much more relaxed and won't care anyway.

## Could We Repair the Spinal Cord?

For anyone whose life has been totally overturned by an injury to the spinal cord and as a result has found themselves trapped in a body which cannot move, a new treatment involving gene therapy could bring hope that their situation might be improved despite the odds.

This seemingly impossible prospect may not be so far away, thanks to gene therapy trials on rats which seem to indicate that using this therapy they have learnt to move and control their limbs again.



It is hoped that the treatment, which involves injections to treat sections of the spinal cord, will soon be used to procure the same results for humans.

More work needs to be done but for the first time in medical history there is hope for these sufferers at last.

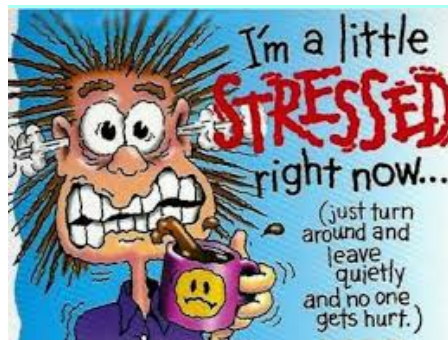
## How to Lose Weight Without Trying



automatically smaller portion. Good luck.

Eat more slowly. It seems to take a long time for the brain to actually get the message that it is full.

Cut out all the junk food and buy chopped fruit and vegetables to save time instead. Use a smaller plate for an



## Stress Busting

We are surrounded by stress even though we are sometimes told that a little stress is good for us. However, there are times when stress seems to be with us all the time and we find it increasingly

difficult to cope. It can be beaten and one of the best places to start is with time management. You find sometimes that you cannot possibly get all the things you planned to do in your job in a day but can't some of your tasks wait until tomorrow? Does your boss really expect that a project must be completed immediately? Is all that you have planned really necessary? Would flexible hours and if possible home working be better for you? Is your lifestyle just too hectic? Is everything you try to do in a day really necessary? If it is not benefiting you or anyone else, then why are you doing it? Do all the usual things, try to sleep more, check your diet, there's probably too much food on the hoof and of the wrong sort. Realise your own limitations and stop taking too much on both at home and at work.

Conflicts are stressful so avoid them if you can. Vent your anger on a punch ball, a short sharp walk or go to the gym. It is not just children who need time out. We all do and it works best if we take it in short bursts throughout the day. Some events will always be very stressful, such as moving house, changing your job, or the death of someone close to you. Recognise the stress of the circumstances you are in and schedule more personal time until the stressful period is over. You will deal with things much better if you understand what is happening or see it coming.

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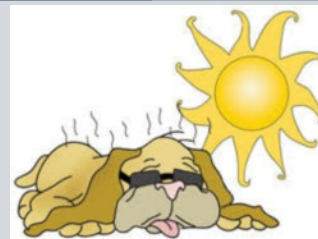
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# What's on in the village...



August 2018



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
<b>Bin Collections:</b> Bradley Common collected on Fridays. Rest of Birchanger on Thursdays. Garden bin collections marked with #						
		1 <b>Church hall:</b> 09.30 Tai Chi 14.00 Tea Room 15.45 Fencing 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	2 <b>Black Bin</b> <b>Church hall:</b> 10.00 Alzheimer's 12.30 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance	3 <b>Church hall:</b> 9.30 Baby Glows for toddlers <b>BSSC:</b> Treasure Chest	4 <b>BSSC:</b> 13.00 Meat draw 20.00 Toby Draper (Magician) - Live	5 <b>St Mary's Church:</b> 11.15 am Matins
6 <b>Church hall:</b> 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults <b>BSSC:</b> Quiz Night	7 <b>Church hall:</b> 9.40 Ballet for adults 10.00 Dementia 15.45 Ballet for Juniors	8 <b>Church hall:</b> 09.30 Tai Chi 14.00 Tea Room 15.45 Fencing 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	9 <b>Green Bin #</b> <b>Church hall:</b> 10.00 Alzheimer's 12.30 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance	10 <b>Church hall:</b> 9.30 Baby Glows for toddlers <b>BSSC:</b> Bottle Draw	11 <b>BSSC:</b> 13.00 Meat draw	12 <b>St Mary's Church:</b> 11.15 am Holy Communion
13 <b>Church hall:</b> 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults <b>BSSC:</b> Quiz Night	14 <b>Church hall:</b> 9.40 Ballet for adults 10.00 Dementia 15.45 Ballet for Juniors.	15 <b>Church hall:</b> 09.30 Tai Chi 1 14.00 Tea Room 15.45 Fencing 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	16 <b>Black Bin</b> <b>Church hall:</b> 10.00 Alzheimer's 12.30 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance	17 <b>Church hall:</b> 9.30 Baby Glows for toddlers <b>BSSC:</b> Treasure Chest	18 <b>BSSC:</b> 13.00 Meat draw Car Treasure Hunt 21.00 Pizaaz <b>Church Hall</b> 19.00 Prize Bingo	19 <b>St Mary's Church:</b> 11.15 am Matins  <b>Gardens of Easton Lodge</b> 11.30 Open Day
20 <b>Church hall:</b> 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults <b>BSSC:</b> Quiz Night	21 <b>Church hall:</b> 9.40 Ballet for adults 10.00 Dementia 15.45 Ballet for Juniors	22 <b>Church hall:</b> 09.30 Tai Chi 14.00 Tea Room 15.45 Fencing 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	23 <b>Green Bin #</b> <b>Church hall:</b> 10.00 Alzheimer's 12.30 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance	24 <b>Church hall:</b> 9.30 Baby Glows for toddlers <b>BSSC:</b> Bottle Draw	25 <b>BSSC:</b> 13.00 Meat draw 21.00 The Jars - Live	26 <b>St Mary's Church:</b> 11.15 am Holy Communion & Holy Baptism
27 <b>Church hall:</b> 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults <b>BSSC:</b> Quiz Night	28 <b>Church hall:</b> 9.40 Ballet for adults 10.00 Dementia 15.45 Ballet for Juniors	29 <b>Church Hall:</b> 09.30 Tai Chi 14.00 Tea Room 15.45 Fencing 18.30 Apton Dance Studio BAGS Meeting	30 <b>Black Bin</b> <b>Church hall:</b> 10.00 Alzheimer's 12.30 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance	31 <b>Church hall:</b> 9.30 Baby Glows for toddlers <b>BSSC:</b> Poker Night	<div>The Art Show is coming</div> <div>Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September &amp; Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> September At the Village Church Hall</div>	



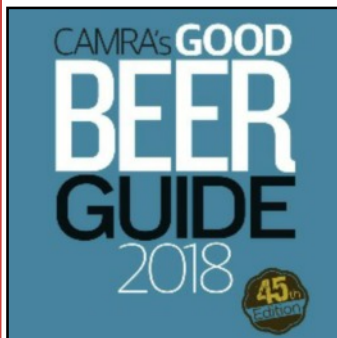


**BIRCHANGER**  
Sports & Social Club

## Sports & Social Club News



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



### BSSC ANNUAL CAR TREASURE HUNT

**August 18<sup>th</sup>  
2018**

£10 to enter - Pay at the bar

### BSSC Win CAMRA Award

It was recently announced that Birchanger Sports & Social Club won the CAMRA award for North West Essex 'Club of the Year' 2018! Members will know this is not the first award received in the recent past and the club continues to pride itself on the quality and value offered to the village and surrounding area.



Pictured above, receiving the award from the local CAMRA representative is Kenny Gould, Club Front of House Manager.

### Treasure Chest

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

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> Aug.**



**The Jarrs - LIVE on the 25<sup>th</sup> August**

### Club Calendar at a Glance - August

Friday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Treasure Chest
Saturday	4 <sup>th</sup>	Toby Draper - LIVE (Magician)
Friday	10 <sup>th</sup>	Bottle Draw
Friday	17 <sup>th</sup>	Treasure Chest
Saturday	18 <sup>th</sup>	Car Treasure Hunt!
Saturday	18 <sup>th</sup>	Pizzaaz - LIVE
Friday	24 <sup>th</sup>	Bottle Draw
Saturday	25 <sup>th</sup>	The Jarrs - LIVE
Friday	31 <sup>st</sup>	Poker Night



Evening of Magic with

**Toby Draper**

**4th August 9pm**

### Pizzaaz Saturday 18th August



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The Who, The Stones, Beatles, T-Rex,  
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Chuck Berry, Jerry Lee Lewis, The Kinks,  
Elton John, The Monkees, Pharrell Williams,  
Ceele Green, Status Quo, Stevie Wonder  
and MORE

### 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

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



# Birchanger Primary School



**As we come to the end of July** we also come to the end of our school year. For our youngest children in Dragonfly class it marks the close of their first year with us and for our oldest children in Owl's class we have wished them good luck for their futures as we wished them farewell.

**The children have represented our motto** 'Learn to Love and Love to Learn' as well as our school Christian values of Love, Care, Courage and Truth in many different ways this year. One of these ways has been the Friendship Squad which we have developed this year. The children in this Squad volunteer to support younger children at lunch times so that everyone has a positive experience. Many Year 4 and 5 children have wanted to help others and they have shown how much we value kindness to others by giving up their time to do so.

**Our children have pushed themselves** this year. This has been seen in the classroom where they have done their best to improve through practising new skills and working to embed and extend existing skills. They have also shown courage by taking on new experiences such as taking part in activities



## Birchanger All Girls Society

### BAGS visit a vineyard

On July 12<sup>th</sup> the BAGS ladies went on their annual trip, this time visiting a local vineyard near Great Bardfield.

We had a lovely afternoon and were made most welcome by Rebecca, the owner of the estate, and Claire, the Vineyard's manager. We began with an interesting tour and talk about the history of the beautiful estate visiting their small herd of alpacas and walking by their lovely lake and gardens before arriving at the vineyard itself. Apparently the vineyard was first planted in 1989 and they now grow mainly Bacchus and Pinot Noir vines.



It sounded quite a complicated job to manage these vines and obviously takes a lot of hard work throughout the seasons to produce an excellent wine. After the tour we returned to their stunning Anne of Cleves barn for our wine tasting where we tried several white wines and a rosé. The afternoon finished with a delicious afternoon tea and a visit to their wine shop. *Rosemary Wheatley*



away from home. This has included spending a week in Norfolk for our older children and having a sleep over night at school for our Year 2 children earlier this month.

**The children have been very busy** with a wide range of different sports. There have been activities in golf, tennis, football, netball, boccia, curling, cricket, rounders, cross country, athletics, swimming, dodgeball and the list goes on! The skills built up in sport over the last few years have led to a number of notable successes such as winning the boys' football league (without losing a match) and winning the small schools athletics trophy. Our participation in sport has meant that we have been awarded the Gold Mark in sport once more and our thanks go to all of the children, parents, coaches and staff who have made this possible.

*Claire Berry - Headteacher*





**Hello All,**

We have been experiencing a super heatwave in the latter part of June and now into July and this will affect the weaker trees and the shallow-rooted as they have less access to water than the deeper rooted primary trees in the Wood. Below are some notes I made when walking during one of the hotter days and when there was also a strong wind blowing.

***An Adolescent Summer in Birchanger Wood***

The sunlight is harsh today  
Eating into the canopy  
Shrivelling the leaves into brown ashes  
The wind is too strong  
Veering the branches up and around  
Criss-crossing, bending, a few snap  
The birds are batted along  
And insects miss their footing

A young summer day playing with his friend the wind  
In Birchanger Wood



In July, the Wood has been a cool place to walk and exercise. It is a pleasant welcome area of reprieve away from the direct heat of the sun. Dogs too are particularly happy. As August approaches, do not forget that the East Herts Woodturning Association will be in Birchanger Wood Compound on the 11th August. Their work is fascinating, they are well worth a visit and of course they usually have a number of their hand-made items for sale.

*Daphne Wallace-Jarvis. [www.birchangerwoodtrust.org](http://www.birchangerwoodtrust.org)  
secretary@birchangerwoodtrust.org*

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**Cleaner/Ironing Lady**

**3 hours per week for a house in  
Birchwood, Birchanger**

**Please contact Kate on 07834910630**



The children took part in an active, hot and sunny sports day with parents and carers cheering them on. They all proudly received a medal they had made congratulating them on taking part. We all took a trip to Daisy Mays Farm where the children saw different farm animals and small pets. Most children had the opportunity to bottle feed the lambs and the goats enjoyed being fed as well. Barnaby Bear (The pre-school teddy bear) enjoyed the trip with some of the children taking good care of him!

Near the end of this past term we finished with our Leavers Concert in the school hall. All the children moving on to school performed some action rhymes and songs which were enjoyed by the parents, grandparents and other guests. The final day ended with a party where children enjoyed party food and games. We wish all the children moving on to school lots of luck in the future.

We are very excited about the new term in September and all the changes this will bring as we accept children from 2 years old. We will be offering the full day option and up to 30 hours a week.

If you are interested in a place at our pre-school please contact us via our website <https://birchangerbutterflies.org.uk/> or give us a call on 01279 810800. We currently have spaces available now and for September 2018 for children from 2 ½ years.  
*Karen Reilly, Pre-School Manager*

**Calling All Cake Makers**

There are many great cake bakers in Birchanger and the Birchanger Art Show needs your help. Throughout the two days of the Art Show, there will be a tea room which has proved very popular with the many visitors to the show. To make this a successful venture we need cakes to sell with teas or other soft drinks over the weekend. If you are a cake maker and could make just one for the Art Show, that would be a great help.

The Art Show is taking place over the weekend of September 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. So if you would like to help, please call Elizabeth on 01279 812793, or email [stickgo@outlook.com](mailto:stickgo@outlook.com).

Over the years, the Art Show has raised money for many village projects. Please help to make this year's show just as successful.

**Summer Lunch at Moorswood**

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> July at 1.00pm**

**In aid of St. Mary's Church**

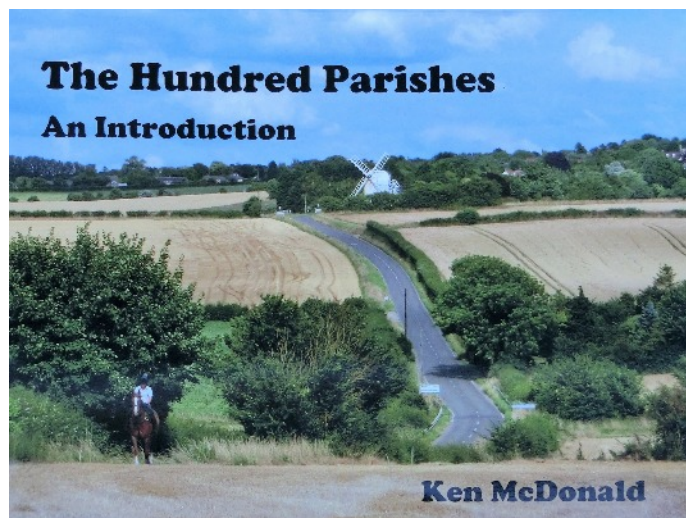
This has become an annual event thanks to the generosity of Liz and Pim Godwin who open their beautiful garden as the venue for our guests.

Lunch including salmon, chicken and or gammon followed by dessert. Choices includes gluten free food and wine, all for £12 per person. If you would like to join us please call Pam Lee on 07702171744 for further information.

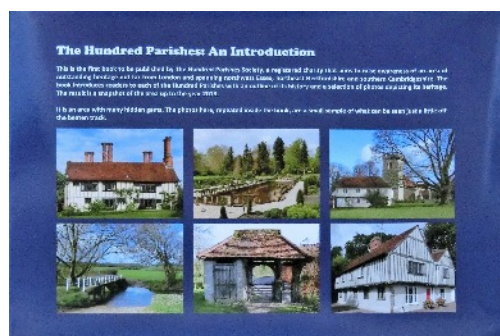


## The Hundred Parishes Society

The Society is really pleased to confirm the publication of its first book - *The Hundred Parishes: An Introduction*. It was printed by Lavenham Press of Suffolk who have done a fine job in producing a quality hardback book with excellent reproduction of photos. The book introduces the reader to the rich history of each village and town within the area and paints a picture of life in the Hundred Parishes up to the start of the 21st century. The book is A4 size with more than 400 pages. It includes almost a thousand photos and an extensive index. It is priced at £25 per copy.



The publication marks a significant step in the Society's mission to raise awareness and appreciation of the Hundred Parishes, an area of 450 square miles of northwest Essex, northeast Hertfordshire and southern Cambridgeshire that is characterised by its rich and diverse heritage. It expands on the parish information already available on the Society's website, where visitors can also download walk routes and find sources of further information and activities associated with the area's culture, history, heritage, countryside, wildlife and conservation.



see. We are confident that you will enjoy the book now and then refer to it regularly over the coming years.

The book can be purchased at the Tourist Information Centres in Saffron Walden, Thaxted and Bishop's Stortford, as well as Great Bardfield's independent bookshop, Between the Lines. It is also available in Stansted Mountfitchet from me, Ken McDonald. I can be contacted on 01279 813226 or via the website, [www.hundredparishes.org.uk](http://www.hundredparishes.org.uk).

*Ken McDonald, Secretary.*

The Society's trustees hope the book will inspire residents and visitors to further explore and appreciate the Hundred Parishes. There is so much to

## The Gardens of Easton Lodge

The drought and heatwave are taking their toll on the Gardens, but our volunteers have been working hard to water them and keep them looking as colourful as possible for the visitors. The roses, salvia, helenium and phlox in the Italian Garden are coping with the heat, while the squashes, pumpkins and sweetcorn in the walled kitchen garden have quite enjoyed the conditions. The lavender is also thriving and very much appreciated by huge numbers of small whites (butterflies) and our now resident honey bees. At least the weather has meant that, unlike last year, we have not yet had to cancel any group visits due to rain or wind and we have had visitors from a whole range of groups including Uttlesford Wild Flower Group, Garden Clubs, WIs and U3As and visitors from the USA wishing to see where their relatives were stationed in the second world war.

**Our Open Day on 19<sup>th</sup> August** is an opportunity for visitors to dress up – as pirates! We know that we cannot boast connections with the coast or smuggling, but we do like to have fun! There will be a pirate trail for children, craft activities and prizes for the best dressed pirates. Gates open 11.30am – 5.00pm, last entry 4.00pm – entry price £4.50 and free for children under 16 years old. There will be hot and cold refreshments: locally sourced bacon rolls and cheese rolls, hot and cold drinks and our usual wide selection of homemade cakes. For more information & news, see our website: [www.eastonlodge.co.uk](http://www.eastonlodge.co.uk) or find us on Facebook. *Jill Goldsmith*

## Art Show 2018

Birchanger Art Show will be back again for another year. This is a show which not only raises money for special Birchanger Village projects, but which showcases the talents of local artists, both up and coming and well established regular exhibitors.

This year's show will be on Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd of September between 10am and 5pm.

The school will be having its own exhibition of artwork which will feature the end the First World War, 100 years ago on November 11th. Every child in the school will be exhibiting and visitors will once again be invited to vote for the one they like the best. Last year's favourites were in Years 1 and 6 and each of them received a prize. Refreshments will feature as usual, with lunch time snacks and tea time treats. So put the date in your diary, you will not be disappointed.



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## 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
Laundrette	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
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

## Village Church Hall



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

## Forthcoming Fundraising Events

### Family Prize Bingo Evening

Saturday 18th August at 7pm - Great prizes for all ages! Come along and have some fun with the children. £10 per adult, £5 for under 18's including bingo tickets and ploughman's supper. Bring your own drinks.

**Tearoom** Every Wednesday from 2.00pm to 4.00pm

**Fashion Show** 30<sup>th</sup> October

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

## St. Mary's Church News



### Church Services

5th August 11:15am Mattins service

12th August 11:15am Holy Communion service

19th August 11:15am Mattins

26th August 11:15am Holy Communion and Holy Baptism

### Church News

#### Year six leavers' service at the church

The church was nearly full on Friday 13th July with children from the school and year six parents as the leavers' service took place. This was a joyous occasion with the children and teachers singing, with the accompaniment of Mrs. Brooks, Musical Director, with prayers and personal certificates being handed out by Mrs. Berry, Head Teacher of St Mary's School and a small palm cross by Mrs. Wright, Church Warden. We send our love and best wishes to all the children as they move school.

#### Did you know?

August 6th is known as the Transfiguration of our Lord. The transfiguration of Jesus is an event reported in the New Testament when Jesus is transfigured and becomes radiant in glory upon a mountain. ... On the mountain, Jesus begins to shine with bright rays of light. Then the prophets Moses and Elijah appear next to him and he speaks with them. August 15th is known as the Assumption day of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Assumption of Mary into Heaven is, according to the beliefs of the Catholic Church, Eastern Orthodoxy, Oriental Orthodoxy, and parts of Anglicanism, the bodily taking up of the Virgin Mary into Heaven at the end of her earthly life.

#### The Giving Machine

Would you like to donate to St Mary's at no cost to you? Do you shop on line? If yes, all you have to do is order your shopping through the charity 'The Giving Machine' by logging onto <https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/> Pick St Marys Church, Birchanger as your chosen charity and make your on-line purchases. When you register use our unique sign up code 265987. They will donate commission to us! You can buy from lots of major stores such as John Lewis, Amazon and eBay! As long as you buy through The Giving Machine website we get the donation. . It costs nothing and earns money for our Church. For more details, contact Elaine Wright, Church Warden at the email below.

#### Dates for your Diary

Sunday 29th July 12:30/13:00 – 16:00 Summer Lunch at Moorswood, Birchanger. Tickets are on sale at £12 per person covering a three course lunch plus wine. Please contact Pam 07702171744 or Elaine 01279-813474 for tickets

#### Future events

Fashion show in aid of St Mary's Church Tuesday 30th October.  
Pet service October date to be confirmed

#### A Prayer for August

Dear Lord, My prayer is simple.

Let the water and the soil, the air, and the fruit of

My country and the world be sweet, my Lord.

Let the homeless find sanctuary not only for their body

But also their soul, my Lord

Let the ignorant find their ways to enlightenment

And be content with humility, my Lord.

Let promises be fulfilled and prayers be answered, my Lord.

Let compassion become the garment of the people

And love become their only way of life, my Lord.

Amen

For more information go to our Facebook page or email us at [stmaryschurch.birchanger@googlegmail.com](mailto:stmaryschurch.birchanger@googlegmail.com)

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

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[grahamemizen7@gmail.com](mailto:grahamemizen7@gmail.com)

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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](mailto:fundraising@stelizabeths.org.uk)  
 or 01279 844355

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.