



Birchanger Village Magazine

September 2018

Issue 188



Concerned Residents Swamp Village Hall At Meeting Over Travellers Site



On Tuesday 7th August, around 200 villagers attended the meeting concerning the unauthorised development by travellers at the M11 end of Birchanger Lane.

The meeting was introduced by Parish Council Chairman Angie Driscoll and addressed by Dawn French, CE of Uttlesford District Council (UDC). Accompanying her from UDC were Nigel Brown, Head of Planning & Enforcement, and Sarah Marshall, Enforcement Team Leader. The police were represented by PC Paul Brady of the Gypsy & Traveller Rural Engagement Team. Ray Gooding, County Councillor and Cabinet Member for Education, Essex County Council, was also in attendance.

Dawn French, who previously held a senior role at Basildon District Council and was involved in the council's handling of the Dale Farm site, explained that the travellers purchased the greenbelt land site quite legally and applied for planning permission for an equestrian area including stables and an office. Despite 'misleading' objections from Birchanger Parish Council, planning permission was granted. The travellers then proceeded to move onto the land as residents with 12 caravans and have since built a perimeter fence, over 2 metres high, set down hard core and built an earthen bank.

Using a green belt site in this manner clearly contravenes the current planning permission. However, as the travellers own the land the usual means of eviction cannot be pursued. This would normally require the landowner to obtain a court order for eviction which would be enforced by the council and the police. However, as the travellers have purchased the land themselves, it is only a question of whether planning permission is granted or not for a residential site.

UDC has served a 14 day injunction on the occupants of the site prohibiting them from allowing more caravans onto the land or developing it outside the terms of the existing planning permission, which is for limited equestrian use. Since then, on the 13th August, at the court hearing return date, the court granted the injunction until further notice and a copy of the court order has been served to each of the site occupants.

It is understood that the owner has applied for planning permission for residential use of 12 caravans on the site. The council are still awaiting the additional information required to make the application valid and external parties have been engaged to provide this information. The council will continue to monitor the site and take any necessary enforcement action as advised at the Parish Meeting.

There will be a period of consultation at which time residents and Birchanger Parish Council can make their objections known. Unfortunately, the parish council will only be consulted on the planning application and will have no say in the actual decision making process itself.



The Parish Council has promised to pass on further information to Birchanger residents when it is received from UDC. However, UDC must tread carefully as any wrong move or statement they make could delay the process and subject themselves to a judicial review.

It is understood that UDC have engaged experts and are taking legal advice every step of the way. Further information and a full recording of the meeting can be heard on the Birchanger Parish Council website at www.birchanger.com/content/audio-village-meeting.



A letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

Having been blessed with 3 new grandchildren recently, I find it difficult to understand why some people find it embarrassing to see a mother feeding her baby in public. All new mothers are encouraged to breast feed their babies if they possibly can. Some 80% of all new mothers declare their intention to do so, but a few weeks later many have found it impossible to continue. Part of the problem is society's attitude to breastfeeding mothers in public places and the poor or non-existing facilities provided. The sight of a breastfeeding mother all too often attracts shocked looks and sometimes even an angry exchange. Hardly encouraging for mothers already suffering sleepless nights, with days full of anxiety, particularly if it is their first baby. Uttlesford District Council is promoting breastfeeding throughout the district by inviting businesses and retailers to participate in a scheme which will see them provide a small quiet area where babies can be fed and which the council hopes will soon become the norm everywhere. Many would say, it's about time, as mothers in many other countries seem to have fewer issues with breastfeeding in public. So come on Britain, stop being so prudish and let mother and baby feed in peace, after all it's the most natural thing in the world.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Ed,

Unwanted visitors

There has been an increase in petty crime and some harassing behaviour to residents reported in and around Birchanger of late. Any threats, suspicious, or criminal behaviour should be reported immediately to the police with proof or photographic evidence wherever possible. Beware also of accepting door-to-door services from unknown companies or individuals. Their offers may sound reasonable and cheap but often turn out to be a false claim in order to gain access to your property or can be a scam of some kind. Our elderly villagers are particularly vulnerable, so please be careful and remain vigilant.

Birchanger resident, Name and address supplied.

Dear Ed,

Birchanger Lane / A120 Roundabout Controversy

In last month's newsletter, you had a paragraph about getting rid of the roundabout at the A120 end of the village. You suggested that we should register our objections. My wife and I have just spent a fruitless hour trying to register an objection on the Uttlesford website. Do you have any idea of how to do this or should I contact the Council? Thanks for your help.

Barry and Gill Poulten, Birchanger

Editor's response

Dear Barry and Jill,

It was recently discovered that this is not an application for planning permission but an application for a Certificate of Lawful Development (CLD). There are certain works that are permitted development, which means that they do not require planning permission. An application for a CLD is to establish if the proposals require planning permission and can only be assessed on planning legislation. If the proposals are permitted developments then the applicant is issued with a CLD. On the other hand, if they require planning permission, the certificate would be refused and a planning permission request would need to be submitted. Consultations would then be carried out in the normal way.

Note! Although the Birchanger Lane / A120 new junction proposal is not a formal planning application, UDC will still need to take account of public objections. Send an email or letter to: planning@uttlesford.gov.uk stating why you object to planning application; UTT/18/1823/CLP ensuring you include your full names and address.

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

We didn't see that coming!

When a seemingly innocent planning application was made through Uttlesford District Council (UDC) for a small equestrian stable and an office to be sited opposite the ambulance station at the top of Birchanger Lane, nobody suspected for a moment it was the starting gun for a full scale traveller invasion. After all there were already solid stables in place on the field opposite.

The Parish Council was however concerned about the need for an office and objected to the proposal. The land was also believed to be in the Highways Agency ownership and leased to the applicant. However, this was not the case. The applicant is the owner! Despite the Council's reservations, planning permission was passed by the UDC and work began on what was assumed to be the entrance to the site. Bushes were cleared, presumably to enable access for horses, and then shortly after this on a Sunday evening the travellers started rolling in. Two more days of noise and dust followed as space was cleared for an increasingly large number of caravans, all purporting to be members of the same family. This family are quite smart and they know all the tricks of planning application. We know now that they have done this before in Waltham Forest. They knew the district was vulnerable with a deficiency of gypsy sites, the failure of the previous plan and a leader who knew all the ropes having pulled this stunt before.

So if these travellers are to be moved on, it will be a long haul. This was confirmed at the meeting held in the village hall on the 7th August. Chief Executive of the district council, Dawn French, explained to the village what the situation was and what the next steps would be. A planning application has since been submitted for 12 caravans on the site. The process will be long, as there will be deliberate delays and omissions by the applicant at every stage. However, the land is in the Green Belt, and UDC has voted to uphold this.

New roundabout proposal M11 end of Birchanger Lane

The Highways Agency through Essex County Council is planning to remove the roundabout at the end of Birchanger Lane where it joins the A120 near the M11 at Junction 8. If the plan goes ahead, Birchanger residents will not be allowed to turn right on to the A120 or to go straight over into Bishop's Stortford. Everyone will be compelled to turn left and go all the way round Junction 8 before finally coming back to turn left at the new traffic light controlled junction. What kind of complete idiocy is this? They are supposed to be making Junction 8 easier for all the motorists. The option to get to Bishops Stortford would be to go down the lane to Stansted Road and contribute to the existing congestion there and the road into Bishops Stortford. What kind of madness is this?

It seems we do not even have the chance to have our say. This horrendous scheme comes under the Permitted Development umbrella. Certain works do not require planning permission, all they need is a Certificate of Lawful Development (CLD). This can only be assessed on planning legislation. If the proposal is accepted, the applicants will be issued with a CLD. If the application for a CLD fails on strict planning law, then the certificate will be refused and a planning application would have to be submitted. Sadly, this is highly unlikely in our case.

The Parish Council is making representations to a great many agencies. From our point of view the scheme is crazy, but it is highly unlikely that the regulatory bodies involved in this will even listen. But that will not stop us from trying.

There are also plans for cyclist and pedestrian access and a sign at the end of the lane pointing out the route to Bishop's Stortford. Residents who object to these plans should email or write to Uttlesford District Council with their full name and address to: planning@uttlesford.gov.uk stating your objections regarding planning application: UTT/18/1823/CLP. Although it is not a formal planning application, UDC will still need to take account of public objections. *Continued on page 4....*

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:

Our next meeting on Wednesday September 26th will be an interesting talk by Herts Hogline. They are a local charity who care for injured and sick hedgehogs and help to conserve the local hedgehog population.

7.30 for 8.00 pm in the village hall meeting room

Angie-817376

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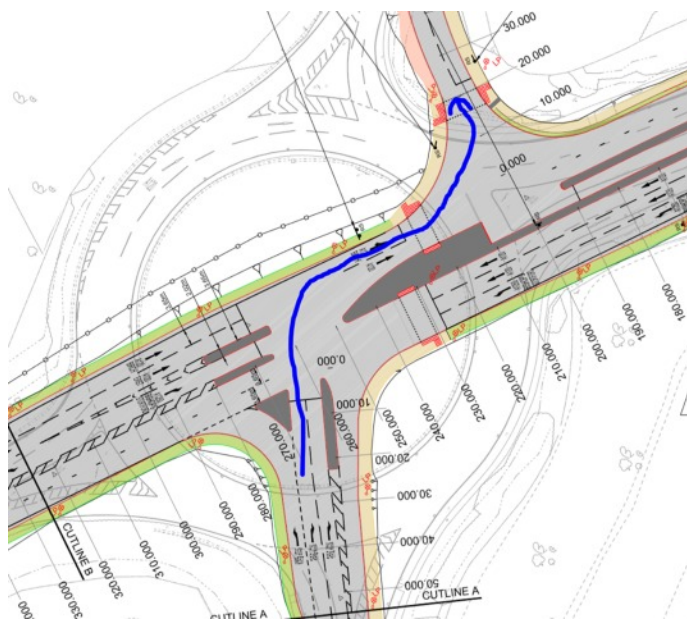
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This is a screen shot from the planning documents for the new road junction. The blue arrow shows how you would drive from Dunmow Road to Birchanger Lane. Note there would be no right hand turn from Birchanger Lane on to the A120 or Bishops Stortford. To see it in full scale go to the application on the Uttlesford District Council Website reference UTT/18/1823/CLP then select the first document that's called: General arrangement A120 signalised staggered junction (location 2).



Art Show set to be better than ever

The weekend of September 22nd & 23rd promises to be very special. The Art Show is not only showing work by well-known local artists, but Birchanger School will have its own special art work section created by every child currently at the School. Each exhibit will be numbered for you to choose the one you like best. You can take a rest with a cup of tea and enjoy one of the specially created homemade refreshments and enjoy a really relaxing Birchanger occasion. See you there.

Door to door salesmen may have hidden motives!

It is the run up to Christmas and everyone will soon be attempting to lure you into buying all sorts of impossible things, on-line, through Christmas catalogues and on your own door step.

You have time to reflect on your choices when on-line or from a catalogue but doorstep buying is quite a different arena. It may be cold, but don't invite anyone in that you don't know. They may be persistent, but you must resist expensive items you have no need for. They may just have a mate who is checking out your home or going through your handbag as you try to deal with the man at the door.

This has happened many times in Birchanger. The person, often elderly, is engaged at the door while their accomplice has calmly got in through the back door or window and is going through your belongings before running off while you are still talking.

The thieves have often parked a car round the corner and are off to the next job before their victim finds out that anything is missing. You have been warned, so please take care.

Saffron Walden Museum rated 'Excellent' on TripAdvisor

The long school holidays may be coming to an end, but with colder days on the horizon it is good to know that there is a highly rated museum at hand to take the children to in half terms, holidays and weekends to come. Saffron Walden Museum owns a vast store of artefacts and interesting items which are frequently rotated as events come and go and seasons change. They also stage many special exhibitions when exhibits change or are loaned from other museums to match topical events. There are also a large number of special themed Saturdays and half term events which involve children's participation, as well as some evening occasions and lectures for the older generation.

Saffron Walden is a town which many people like to visit. There are markets on Tuesdays and Saturdays and a great many events both in the town and at Audley End House. The railway through the woods at Audley End, with its special events, is a great place to visit for younger children.

Summer may be over but ticks are still about.

Every year in the fields around Birchanger a human or pet has an encounter with a tick. This can be very alarming when it happens, however, you can buy a tick remover from some chemists or order on-line for around £5.00. If you are unsure what to do, contact your GP or vet as ticks can cause nasty infections such as Lyme disease if they are not properly removed. You can make yourself less alluring to a tick by wearing insect repellent, long trousers with socks over them and try to keep your pets away from long grassy areas. You should check your pets for ticks when they return home. Some dogs have become seriously ill through tick bites.

Time to nominate someone for a 'Community Service Award'

Through the years Birchanger has made many successful nominations from all groups for an award to someone who has served their community for no personal gain for at least more than five years. There have been no awards on offer for the past two years, when on the last occasion some 23 people from all walks of life throughout Uttlesford were recognised for a great many services of all different sorts, which they had provided freely to the community throughout the past five years and in some cases, very much longer. There are also special awards for young people for special achievements or community work in the past three years. Those who attended the award ceremony, are amazed at just how much people of all ages have achieved and every award is well deserved.

If you know someone who you believe should be nominated for an award, please call me to discuss this and I can help you with the forms and let you know the likelihood of the success of the proposal. There are five different categories of awards: services to children and young people, service to the elderly, service to those with assisted living needs, service to the local community and youth initiatives

What you write on the proposal form becomes the citation. You as a proposer will be invited to attend the awards ceremony with your nominee and their relatives, which is followed by a reception and a chance to meet other award winners.



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Health Matters

Finding new antibiotics & anti-viral drugs

There are so many strange viruses and superbugs affecting our lives these days, with seemingly little prospect of a cure, that it is good to know that researchers have been allocated extra funds to try and find remedies for these bugs which take lives randomly from birth onwards. This winter we will still be at risk so it is important to get the flu vaccine. Remember, prevention is better than the cure, so wash your hands regularly, avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth and keep away from crowded areas if possible when an outbreak strikes. Funding may be available for research but these cunning viruses always seem to be ahead of the game!

Too unfit to exercise?

With autumn approaching any exercise you may have been taking outside may well be shelved as the nights lengthen. Maybe you have a long running condition which you feel prohibits you from taking exercise anyway. Under a new scheme you can use the gym for unsupervised sessions, where you are free to use the equipment at your own pace. It might be an idea to call the Leisure Centre at Stansted on 648580 and discover just what it is they can offer to suit you.

Now they rubbish some favourite treats

Some of the things I like as a little treat have been rubbished in the latest diktat from the food police. These include cheesy chips. Apparently one portion of chips is 420 calories but add the cheese and it becomes a whacking 820 calories. They don't seem to like fried potatoes or banana fritters either. We all know about sweetened cereals, but processed meats such as sausages, luncheon meat, chicken nuggets and other processed meat products are all made from the nastier bits of the animals which are apparently loaded with calories. Frozen meals are very unhealthy as they are full of additives to preserve the flavour and don't reach for the canned soup or meals as they all have too much salt.

Fed up with all of this? Perhaps I will try a consoling doughnut. No! Bad idea apparently as there is nothing whatsoever in a doughnut which is good for me and is classified as empty calories by those who are increasingly ruling our lives. Perhaps it would be more helpful if they actually researched something which was quick, tasty, easy to prepare after a hard day's work than peddling all this negativity.

But there are some surprising treats which are good for you

Not in large quantities maybe, but apparently a teaspoon of peanut butter on your toast lowers the so called bad cholesterol we hear so much about these days. Pizzas can also be healthy if they are made using tomatoes, vegetables, protein with a light covering of cheese on a plain base. Stuffed crust is definitely out. A pint of beer or stout is good for you after all, but one pint only per day. Remember the old slogan, 'Guinness is good for you'. Well, it turns out to be right after all. Milk chocolate may be out, but dark chocolate is good for you. Shame, I was never keen on the dark variety, but an ice cream is fine. It contains fewer calories than cakes!

Is there an end to Dementia?

Finding the cause of Dementia is possibly halfway to finding a cure. Scientists have discovered that one of the causes of dementia is the narrowing of the small blood vessels in the brain. At the early stages this condition is easy to treat and has been tested on rats. When the rats' blood vessels returned to normal size, the symptoms of dementia disappeared. The sooner this treatment can be used on humans the better.

Cumin has possibilities

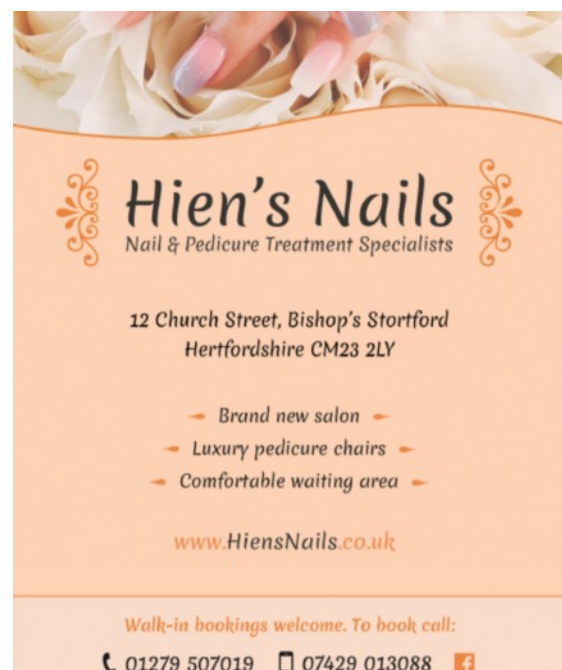
Glaucoma along with dementia is, in many cases, caused by the breakdown of cells in the brain as we age. A new trial has discovered that Cumin administered by simple eye drops can slow down and even stop this process. Researchers are moving on and discovering that these simple drops can show signs of slowing down dementia. Perhaps when our grandchildren reach ninety, dementia and glaucoma will both be consigned to history books and in nuclear medicine, new discoveries are found almost every day.

Stress busting

Did you know that stress can also make you more prone to panic attacks, infections and digestive upsets to name a few? Many of the symptoms we experience daily are entirely due to stress. One of the most obvious is sleeplessness. Stressful days often lead to stressful nights as we run through all the disasters of the day. All this leads to an increase in the production of adrenaline at the expense of our mood. It is tempting to try and think things through at night but it really is a bad idea. Make sure you avoid heavy meals before bedtime, try not to smoke or drink alcohol and to take some down time. If you find you have great ideas rushing around in your head at night, keep a note pad by your bed and write them down and then forget them. There are not enough hours in the day for most of us so try not to accomplish too much. Write a list of the most important things which you need to do, tick them off as you complete them and fit in anything else if it is really necessary.

Have you shopped in Chelmsford lately?

In the past three years the shopping centre has expanded. There is now a brand new John Lewis and a host of other shops normally only seen in the likes of Cambridge and Blue Water. The original shops are mainly still around but there are also a host of new small restaurants, several of which are situated around or near an open plaza. Parking is available in an underground car park close to John Lewis, or for a much cheaper option, use the Park & Ride service which is well signposted from the A120 and is situated just off Essex Regiment Way. If you have a bus pass, this service is free.



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what's on in the village...

		September 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 #						
					1 BSSC: 13.00 Meat Draw	2 St Mary's Church: 11.15 am Matins
3 Church hall: 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Night	4 Church hall: 9.40 Ballet for adults 10.00 Dementia 15.45 Ballet for Juniors	5 Church hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 14.00 Tea Room 15.45 Fencing 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	6 Green Bin # Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimer's 12.30 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance	7 Church hall: 9.30 Baby Glows for toddlers BSSC: Treasure Chest	8 BSSC: 13.00 Meat draw 13.00 Summer Fete 21.00 Soul Definition - Live	9 St Mary's Church: 11.15 am Holy Communion
10 Church hall: 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Night	11 Church hall: 9.40 Ballet for adults 10.00 Dementia 15.45 Ballet for Juniors.	12 Church hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 1 14.00 Tea Room 15.45 Fencing 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	13 Black Bin Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimer's 12.30 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance BSSC: 10.15 Petals - child fun	14 Church hall: 9.30 Baby Glows for toddlers BSSC: Treasure chest	15 BSSC: 13.00 Meat draw	16 St Mary's Church: 11.15 am Family Service Easton Lodge 11.30-17.00 Open Day
17 Church hall: 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Night	18 Church hall: 9.40 Ballet for adults 10.00 Dementia 15.45 Ballet for Juniors	19 Church hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 14.00 Tea Room 15.45 Fencing 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	20 Green Bin # Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimer's 12.30 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance	21 Church hall: 9.30 Baby Glows for toddlers BSSC:	22 BSSC: 13.00 Meat draw 21.00 Repertoire Dogs - Live Church Hall: 10.30-17.30 Art Show	23 St Mary's Church: 11.15 am Holy Communion Church Hall: 10.30-17.30 Art Show
24 Church hall: 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Night	25 Church hall: 9.40 Ballet for adults 10.00 Dementia 15.45 Ballet for Juniors	26 Church Hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 14.00 Tea Room 15.45 Fencing 18.30 Apton Dance Studio 19.30 BAGS Meet	27 Black Bin Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimer's 12.30 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance	28 Church hall: 9.30 Baby Glows for toddlers BSSC: Treasure Chest	29 BSSC: 13.00 Meat draw 21.00 ReMark - Live	30 St Mary's Church: 11.15 am Harvest Service Matins

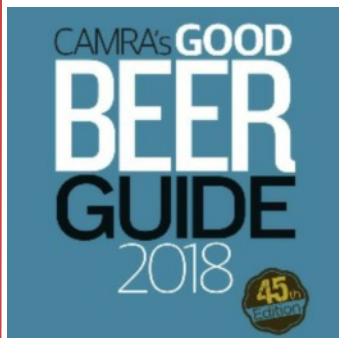


BIRCHANGER
Sports & Social Club

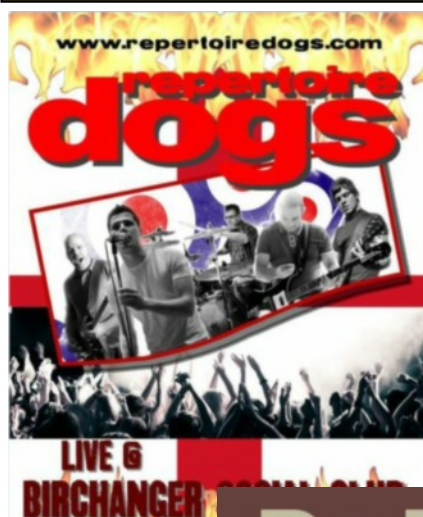
Sports & Social Club News



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



Treasure Chest
Try your luck and pick the right key,
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Friday 7/14/28th Sept.



**Repertoire
Dogs
LIVE**

**22nd September
9.00-12.00pm**



Dave Woods retires as treasurer of BSSC

After over a decade of fulfilling the role as club treasurer, Dave Woods has decided to step down from club duties in August. You will no doubt wish to join the committee and officers in thanking Dave for his huge

contribution made throughout his tenure. He will be greatly missed by all!

Becky Williams, currently a seconded committee member has, subject to AGM approval, agreed to take on the challenge. Becky has started to work in tandem with Dave to gain an understanding and insight of the role. The committee fully acknowledges that ultimately the members will decide the next Treasurer, however, given the significance of the role the committee believes it prudent to prepare as much as possible prior to Dave's departure.



Becky has worked in IT support for some years and in January 2017 Becky and her husband set up a limited construction company, where she became responsible for keeping all accounting records having achieved AAT Level 2 in January 2018. She is currently studying AAT Level 3 and hopes to move forward to Level 4 in the future.

**ReMark
LIVE**
**29th September
9.00-12.00pm**



Club Calendar at a Glance

Friday	7 th Sept	Treasure Chest
Saturday	8 th Sept	Summer Fete from 1.00pm
Saturday	8 th Sept	Soul Definition - Live 2.00pm
Saturday	8 th Sept	Soul Definition - Live 9.00pm
Friday	14 th Sept	Treasure Chest
Saturday	22 nd Sept	Repertoire Dogs - Live 9.00pm
Friday	28 th Sept	Treasure Chest
Saturday	29 th Sept	ReMark - Live 9.00pm



8th September from 1.00pm on the cricket field

Live music from 2.00pm with Soul Definition

Face painting* Tombola *Trampolines* Kids Rides

Dog Show* Hog Roast *Bouncy Castle

Weekly Events

Day	Event	When
Mondays	Quiz Night	9.00pm
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 I write this it seems as though we are still well within the heart of summer; however even now at the school we are planning for autumn and the new school year ahead. For most of our children the new school year will mean a new year group and possibly a new teacher and classroom. Returning to school will reunite friends across the school and we are being joined by some new children who will bring their own talents to our school community.

For some children, the start of September will bring with it the start of their time at Birchanger C of E Primary and 'big school'. We are very excited to welcome the fifteen new children who will comprise Dragonfly class. These children have spent several sessions with us already and we are all looking forward to getting to know them better.

In September we shall have five classes. Dragonfly (Reception class), Sparrow (Year 1 and 2), Otter (Year 3 and 4), Butterfly (Year 5) and Owl class (Year 6) and we have no major staff changes from last year.



The staff and governors are looking at ways of further developing our school. Instead of concentrating on just the classroom we want to include the whole school environment. This will include looking at how we can use all of our school site to enhance learning.

We are very fortunate to be able to deliver Forest Schools and we shall look at other ways of delivering high quality outdoor learning. This year we used our nature reserve for learning and we shall be looking at ways to develop this further. As we move through the school year we are hoping use this space for more wildlife areas and to begin to grow some of our own ingredients which will go into our school lunches. We shall be working with new caterers Ashlyns, an Essex based service, who are ready to support us to encourage a greater understanding and appreciation of the food that goes on to our plate.



We would like to set up a gardening patch at our school.

If you have any gardening or wildlife expertise the school would be very grateful for your help. If you could give us advice on how to do this or spare some time occasionally to create a school garden for us then please contact the school either by email

admin@birchanger.essex.sch.uk

or by phone 01279 812362.

Claire Berry, Headteacher

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Generous donation for St. Mary's Church

Last month newlyweds Mr. and Mrs. Hay Thorpe of High View generously donated £500 to help support our church. Neither of them is particularly religious but they said that they wanted to help maintain this historic place as they felt it was important for the village. We are very grateful for their support and wish them a long and happy life together.



STOP STANSTED EXPANSION

HIGH COURT ACTION

On 8th August Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE) filed an Application for Judicial Review with the High Court to challenge the decision of the Secretary of State for Transport to continue to allow the current Stansted Airport planning application to be determined by Uttlesford District Council (UDC).

From the outset, SSE has fiercely opposed UDC's attempts to rush through the planning application and has argued that the scale of the proposed expansion means that, in accordance with the Planning Act 2008, the application should be determined nationally rather than by the local Council. National determination is a lengthier and far more thorough process. SSE will ask the High Court for an expedited hearing but, even if this is granted, the hearing may still not take place until next year. In the meantime, if UDC proceeds to determine the planning application, the decision would be overturned if the High Court rules in SSE's favour.

Although SSE is contesting the validity of UDC determining the current airport planning application, SSE has submitted extensive evidence to UDC setting out substantial grounds for refusing the application and it will be submitting further evidence to UDC over the coming weeks and months. The planning application was submitted by Stansted Airport last February. If approved it would mean a 44 per cent increase in flights and a 66 per cent increase in passengers compared to 2017 levels. *Brian Ross*

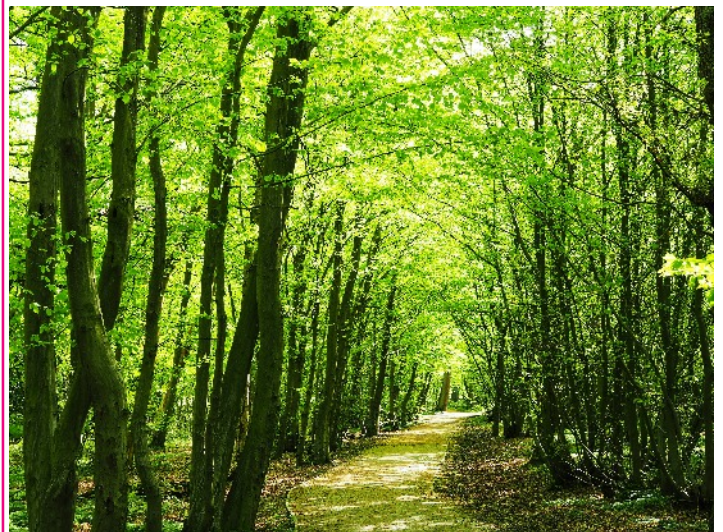


Hi there - So we have experienced a hot summer! Brilliant!

Those of you who have used Birchanger Wood in July and August know how to keep cool.

Under our canopy of ancient deciduous trees the air temperature is comfortable.... simply enjoy the cool sun's rays as they filter through the leaves of these tall trees and whilst you are in the wood just think, these trees are eradicating CO2! The green leaves of our woodlands absorb these nasty emissions which are converted into green leaves, tree growth and protection and food for birds, animals, insects and other wild life. Birchanger Wood is an environmental dream.

Our woodlands are worth saving especially when you consider just



how much CO2 Birchanger Wood's 69 acres (and other local woodlands) absorb. The consequence for our health in this area is so much improved by the resultant clean air, particularly necessary as so many of us are sitting close to the traffic on the M11 and under the flight lines to and from Stansted Airport. Enjoy summer.

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

Art Show

Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd September

10.30am-5.30pm

At Birchanger Village Hall

Water colours, acrylics and oil paintings
Framed and unframed by professional artists
Art demonstration throughout the day

Birchanger Primary School Competition
(Come along and vote for your favourite)

Tea room with homemade cakes and favourites
Entrance by catalogue £1 (Children under 14 free)
All profits to support village good causes



'PETALS Together'

Are running a fun filled music sessions for children from birth upwards in the Birchanger Sports & Social Club every Thursday during term time at 10.15am from the 13th September.

Explore musical instruments, parachutes, bubbles and lots of singing.

Contact Vicki Fisher on 07734904076,
or message us on our Facebook page
'Petals Together'



The Hundred Parishes Society

The index to the Society's new book refers to no fewer than eleven castles. All are shadows of their former selves, but many can still be seen and just a few may be visited. Many were built soon after the Norman Conquest of 1066. These Norman castles are described as motte and bailey, consisting of a large mound of earth or rubble (motte) surmounted by a wooden or stone tower. Alongside would be an embanked enclosure with additional buildings (the bailey). A fine example of what a typical Norman castle may have been like exists at Stansted Mountfitchet. Although little survives other than the mound on which the original castle once stood, a wooden stockade and village have been recreated.



The mottes are still visible from Norman castles at Anstey, Great Canfield and Stebbing. The parish of Castle Camps takes its name from the castle which dated back to Saxon times. Clavering castle's buildings were surrounded by a large ditch which can still be seen, adjacent to the churchyard.

Civil war raged in England between Stephen and his cousin Matilda from 1135 to 1153, a time known as The Anarchy, which saw considerable castle building. Geoffrey de Mandeville, the Earl of Essex, swapped sides more than once. He built the castle at Saffron Walden. Some ruined walls still remain and they are Grade I listed, the finest surviving stone castle within the Hundred Parishes. De Mandeville also built the castle at Pleshey during the Anarchy.



The large motte still remains. The present village of Pleshey lies mostly inside the outer bailey earthwork which is clearly visible along much of its length.

Our area is rich in heritage so, as ever, I encourage you to go explore and see what you can discover! Photos: Saffron Walden Castle & Stansted Mountfitchet Castle

Ken McDonald, Secretary www.hundredparishes.org.uk

The Gardens of Easton Lodge

I wonder if, by the time you read this, the long, hot, dry summer will have ended and we will be looking out at leaden skies and wishing for the sun to shine. September is normally a lovely tranquil time of year at the Gardens. After the summer's rush of visitors, it's a time for picking blackberries and autumn raspberries and using the first windfalls to make jellies and jams. This year the fruit may well be small – but should certainly be sweet!



In August, our beekeepers, Michelle and Trevor, have also been keeping a close eye on our hive to make sure that the Queen bee is happy, still laying eggs, that there is no sign of disease and to take off the honey that the bees will not need for winter.

On Open Day on 16th September we are aiming to share with visitors our fruit and our first honey from the Gardens, as well as a range of vegetables! The East of England Apple and Orchard Project and our beekeepers will be with us to help celebrate everything appley & honeyed. Bishop's Stortford Ukelele Society will be strumming out their toons, always good for a sing-along! And we will have

some Austin 7's on display – with sincere apologies for the mix-up which meant they were not at our July Open Day, as promised.

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 or find us on Facebook.

Jill Goldsmith

-Stop Press-

Tot Lane is due to be closed from 3rd September for 33 days. This is so they can lay yet another cable system.

Essex County Highways is to present their new scheme to replace the roundabout at the end of Birchanger Lane / A120 at meeting on Friday 14th September at the village hall from 2.00pm to 8.00pm. The proposed improvements are said to address current congestion and capacity issues experienced in the vicinity at peak times, while maintaining traffic movements for local residents and businesses, to support local plan delivery and future investment.



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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 864781
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
Petals fun for children	Vicki Fisher	07734904076
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

Village Church Hall



Modern hall, superb kitchen and additional meeting room for hire

Lead flashing was stolen from the hall roof Sometime between Sunday 22nd July and Monday 23rd July. The lead flashing was removed from the roof of the porch outside the meeting room door. It also appears that an attempt was made to prise off more lead but the perpetrators were unsuccessful. This incident has been reported to the police but without any evidence little can be done. If you know who did this or saw anyone hanging around the hall on either of the dates stated please let me know and I will pass the information on to the police for investigation.

This is our hall and I do my best to keep it in good order but all repairs cost money. You can help me by keeping a sharp eye out for anyone damaging the building, taking photos if possible and informing me immediately.

Forthcoming Fundraising Events

Tearoom: Every Wednesday from 2.00pm to 4.00pm
Fashion Show: 30th October

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

St. Mary's Church News



Church services

September 2nd	11:15am Matins service
September 9th	11:15am Holy Communion
September 16th	11:15 am Family service
September 23rd	11:15am Holy Communion
September 30th	11:15am Harvest service Matins

Summer lunch at the church

On the 29th July the summer lunch was relocated to the church hall due to the wet weather. This didn't dampen (excuse the pun) the festivities instead it enhanced them by bringing us closer together with lots of fabulous food, flowing wine and a good variety of conversations. All those present enjoyed the company and raised together £251 in aid of St Mary's church fund. A big thank you to Elizabeth and Pim Godwin and Pam Lee and her helpers to make it all happen.

Did you know?

The birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary has a traditionally fixed date of September 8, nine months after the December 8 celebration of her Immaculate Conception as the child of Saints Joachim and Anne.

The circumstances of the Virgin Mary's infancy and early life are not directly recorded in the Bible, but other documents and traditions describing the circumstances of her birth are cited by some of the earliest Christian writers from the first centuries of the Church. These accounts, although not considered authoritative in the same manner as the Bible, outline some of the Church's traditional beliefs about the birth of Mary. These accounts describe Mary's father Joachim as a wealthy member of one of the Twelve Tribes of Israel. Joachim was deeply grieved, along with his wife Anne, by their childlessness. "He called to mind Abraham," the early Christian writing says, "that in the last day God gave him a son Isaac." Joachim and Anne began to devote themselves extensively and rigorously to prayer and fasting, initially wondering whether their inability to conceive a child might signify God's displeasure with them. As it turned out, however, the couple were to be blessed even more abundantly than Abraham and Sarah, as an angel revealed to Anne when he appeared to her and prophesied that all generations would honour their future child: "The Lord has heard your prayer, and you shall conceive, and shall bring forth, and your seed shall be spoken of in all the world."

Holy Cross Day is celebrated on the 14th September

Holy Cross Day has been associated with the dedication of a group of buildings that were built by Emperor Constantine in Jerusalem on the sites of Christ's crucifixion and his tomb. This dedication occurred on September 14, 335. During the excavation, a relic that was believed to be the cross was discovered by Constantine's mother, Helena. From the fourth century on, the Church of Jerusalem claimed to have this relic in their possession and had a feast to celebrate its discovery.

Dates for your Diary

Our animal service, although popular last year, will not be held this year at St. Mary's. Instead, it will take place in 2019. However, if you want to attend a service for your pet, please make a date to attend the service at St. John's Church on the 30th September at 4.00pm.

The Fashion Show is back by popular demand and will be held on Tuesday 30th October at the church hall. We will be looking for models for the show, so if you're keen, please contact us on the email below. Tickets will be on sale at the end of September.

Prayer for September

O Lord of wisdom, kindle me with a love for true knowledge,
That I may strive, in the moments I have now,
To culture my life not by might, not by power, but by thy spirit,
O Lord, may I learn and teach thy children. Amen.

If you would like to know more about St Mary's church and the services email us at stmaryschurch.birchanger@googlemail.com or go to our facebook page. *Thanks, Elaine*

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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

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

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

Chairman: Elizabeth Godwin.

Treasurer: Ken Wheatley.