



Birchanger Village Magazine

October 2018

Issue 189



Village Vote No to M11 Junction 8 'Improvement' Plan



Survey shows dissatisfaction with Highways plan

91 people, mostly Birchanger residents, completed the parish council questionnaire asking for views on the proposed M11 junction 8 works which will replace the roundabout with a traffic light controlled junction. The results are in, and you have made your views known in no uncertain manner.

- 86% of those who expressed an opinion thought the scheme as a whole was bad or very bad.
- 86% of those who use private vehicles to cross the roundabout say they'll use the other end of the lane rather than go around the J8 roundabout
- 72% oppose replacing the roundabout with traffic lights
- 88% oppose being forced to turn left at the end of the lane
- 40% support a new cycle/footpath along the lane
- 50% agree with the bus lane suggestion, but most want it to be available for other vehicles

The proposal to remove the roundabout at the top of Birchanger Lane will be at the cost of every resident in Birchanger village. The plan shows that we will have to turn left every time we want to leave the village whether we want to or not adding at least 3.4 to over 8 minutes to access Dunmow Road at peak times. In return we will be given a footpath and cycle way which nobody in Birchanger really wants and only a small minority will ever use.

Parish Council not consulted

The Parish Council was never consulted until the plan was discovered almost by accident.

Without the granting of planning permission by the District Council for a rear exit from the services, which will be controlled by traffic lights, the new scheme would probably never have happened. In any event, it made it only too easy to design the plan for Junction 8 on the back of the earlier decision. Birchanger Parish Council and several other neighbouring councils were against the proposed additional services exit and said so. It had already been turned down under the previous administration at UDC.

They have used the premise that not many cars exit the top end of the village to impact on Junction 8, and they have discounted the needs of those who go to work, the hospital, the station or school in Bishops Stortford. The bus company has also muted that the village could lose its bus service if the scheme goes ahead in its current form.

Birchanger Parish Council conducted their own informal survey in the period between 6.30 and 9.30 am, after the schools had returned. Using clickers they discovered just how many cars exited Birchanger during that period. Some 221 vehicles used the Junction of which 118 turned left while 103 went across or westbound down the A120. It is suspected that many of these vehicles did not begin their journey in Birchanger.

Surely it is not too much to ask that if this number of cars turn left, the lights could be set to accommodate the rest of the traffic using phased traffic light phasing with a modern on-demand system? Peak usage time, not surprisingly was between 8 am and 9 pm. There are no immediate plans to improve the B1383 access at the other end of the village by means of a roundabout or dedicated lanes which could cause serious congestion there at peak times.

Well attended public meeting

Birchanger turned out in force to meet with the team from Highways who had designed the scheme. The visitors were left in no doubt as to how the vast majority of Birchanger villagers viewed the proposals and that a rethink was urgently required.

The Parish Council met with the Highways team just before the public meeting to voice their concerns and Highways agreed to consider these and the villagers' opinions and make improvements where possible. The most positive thing arising from this discussion is that Highways are willing to listen and have agreed to refine their design before going to Planning. They are already considering adding a bus lane crossing into Bishops Stortford and will look at the possibility of extending this facility to allow vehicles from Birchanger Lane to either cross into Dunmow Road or turn right. However, this would be subject to a trial period whilst they assess the impact on traffic flow, particularly with the extra traffic expected from the extensive new housing estates currently being built in the area and would most likely be for a limited period.

Lengthy delays expected during construction

Even if they do reconsider the current scheme, construction will start in 2019 and last for a period of two years. At the same time, work will start on the rear exit from the services onto Dunmow Road which will also be controlled by traffic lights. Some say that it may be better to make Birchanger Lane 'access only' and stop the through traffic in and out of Birchanger at the roundabout end. But perhaps this would be a step too far?



Editors letter Box

Dear Readers,

I have recently become a coordinator for the Birchanger Neighbourhood Watch. This is an organisation that coordinates with and reports to the police, fire service and social services in order to improve our security, make our village safer, and reduce crime in the area. I would like to invite interested residents to be a part of the Neighbourhood Watch team. Your task, should you wish to participate, is only a matter of observation and being alert of what's happening around you in our village, reporting to me or the relevant service and perhaps delivering the occasional leaflets. I would ask current or previous members of the scheme to contact me as we do not have a record of their phone numbers or email address. Please call 01279 813193 or Email peter.sampson@talktalk.net. Thanks.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Ed,

To the idiot driving through the lane at the corner of High View in a Mercedes on Thursday 13th September, who clearly believes he is so important that he cannot possibly wait behind the dustbin lorry for one minute. Have you any idea how dangerous your behaviour was? Not only dangerous, since you could have hit one of the refuse collectors, but also inconsiderate in that you were actually arrogant enough to drive over someone's lawn in order to get your way. You behaved like a selfish, spoiled brat. I don't suppose for one moment that you'll get to read this as I doubt that you live in our lovely village well I hope you don't live in our lovely village!!

I am sick and tired of the people who use Birchanger Lane as a rat run to access the M11 roundabout, and of the people who drive into the village at speeds better suited to a race track. Some of these drivers, I am sad to say, are mothers dropping their children off at school, so you'd think they would know better wouldn't you? We have children, dog walkers and cyclists who all use the lane and who take their lives in their hands every day. It isn't much to ask for a bit of courtesy and consideration from drivers but, sadly, I think the only thing such thoughtless individuals take notice of comes in the form of a speed camera or calming measures such as speed bumps etc., that force drivers to slow down or risk damaging their cars.

Angry resident, Harrisons (Name & address supplied)

Dear Ed,

Uttlesford Time bank

Lately we've been hearing far too much about banking, but what on earth is a Time Bank? It is an idea that has been around for quite a few years, with the aim of making it possible for people to both *give* and *receive* help in their local community.

Uttlesford Time Bank is a register of people willing to help with a wide range of everyday tasks, for example DIY, gardening or going on-line. Not only that, if you give someone an hour of your time, then you earn an hour of credit. So, for example, feeding your neighbour's cats could earn you an hour's worth of help in your garden. Already this year, members have completed 705 exchanges which equals 6,384 hours of service.

Everyone's time is valued equally

One hour of companionship is equal to one hour of accountancy advice – one hour of dog walking is equal to one hour of putting up shelves. Apart from getting a job done, there are many additional benefits from being involved in Time Banking.

- Social Interaction – forming new friendships
- Reduced Isolation
- More Cohesive Community
- Increased Self Worth.

Would you like to 'bank' with us? Why not think about the benefits and then contact us by;

E-mail: volunteer@uttlesford.org.uk. Telephone: 01799 510525

Facebook: www.facebook.com/TimeBank-Uttlesford

Ann Holloway, Volunteer, Uttlesford

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

Homework starting to bite?

The honeymoon period, if indeed there ever was one, in the new school year is well and truly over. The homework at most secondary schools has started in earnest and can prove to be something of a challenge.

It is not easy for any student living in Birchanger to access a large public library and ordering a book to borrow takes time. There is a service which will allow instant access to any book in stock at Essex County Council Library Services. All you have to do is to log in to use the book on line. It might help the rest of us in the search for information as well.

Firework season is nearly here

From early October, all over the area, there will be the sounds of fireworks going off. People may not be having so many garden



displays, preferring to go to the big organized displays instead, but fireworks are available and there is a great deal of casual use.

There are more rules concerning fireworks these days. For example, It is illegal for under eighteens to possess them in a public area, or for retailers to sell them to those under 18.

No private individual is permitted to let off any fireworks between 11.00pm and 7.00am. Retailers without a special licence can only sell fireworks from 15th October until 10th November

It is an offence to cause suffering or harm to an animal through the use of fireworks.

General advice regarding animals is to bring pets indoors when displays are happening near you. Cover cages with duvets or blankets to deaden the noise. A frightened pet may seem scary to you, but try to stay calm and reassure however they are reacting. Shouting at them or tying them up outside only makes things worse. You may like fireworks displays but most pets don't! If you are going out, leave some loud music on to deaden the noise a bit. You could also try a so called 'Thunder Shirt'. This is a soft hugging shirt that helps keep pets calm.

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:

Crafty evening with the return of Viv, showing us how to make gift bags and boxes ready for the festive season
Wednesday 31st October 2018 7.30 for 8.00 pm

Telephone for details
Angie-817376 Rosemary-814678 Barbara-813007

Broadband scam

Now scammers are pretending to be from BT and the providers of your broadband connection. You get a call purporting to be from a BT engineer who tells you that your broadband connection will disappear in the next half hour unless you readjust your computer in the manner which they will explain to you. It has to be a PC or lap top, a tablet apparently will not do. I strung them along for a while but eventually accused them of scamming at which point they rang off. I left the phone off the hook for a long time in an attempt to stop them calling their next victim too quickly. I never actually pressed the keys they were asking me to use. The worrying thing is that they knew my provider and had an idea of the equipment I used. I found their number using 1471 but of course it was unobtainable.

Yet another scam

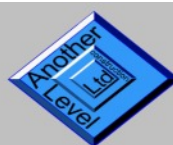
This one is difficult to resist and increasingly common as many of us have online accounts and make regular payments to many organizations or individuals. Sometimes these organizations have themselves been hacked into to obtain your details, or it could be through one of the bank's other customers. They will probably ask you to update your details or to make payment to a new account. Never do so, unless you have checked this request through a publicly available number such as one available on the bank's website or by a personal visit to your bank. Alternatively they will ask you to make your existing payments to a new account. Don't do this without confirming with your bank directly, but not by email.

Japanese Knotweed, an expensive disaster



Japanese Knotweed is something you never thought could happen to you. It is all around us and sooner or later it will make its disastrous appearance somewhere near you. If you don't spot it and get it professionally removed,

it can turn out to be a very expensive invasion. The only way to deal with this is to call in professional help immediately. That is bad enough, but a recent court case has shown that if this menace invades a neighbouring property and it can be shown that the Japanese Knotweed did come from your garden the bill is yours and it will not be a small one. If you are not sure what that new plant on the edge of your garden is, or how it even got there, get advice before it's too late.



ANOTHER LEVEL
CONSTRUCTION Ltd
Don't just buildcreate!

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



TELEPHONE 01279 814 273
MOBILE 07710 099 284



info@anotherlevelconstruction.co.uk

www.anotherlevelconstruction.co.uk

Birchanger Fair and Dog Show

Once again Birchanger Fair was a great success, attracting hundreds of visitors with plenty of stands, fun and entertainment for all ages and as usual the dog show was very well attended.



Dog show winner

Judge Lindsey Jones was rewarded by a fabulous entry attendance of 113 dogs raising £226 for the local animal rescue charity ARC. The classes included Best of Birchanger, Waggiest Tail, Best Puppy



and Best Veteran for dogs aged over 7 years, (little Benny aged 14 was certainly very sprightly for his age) and Best Rescue, including Nala, a stray all the way from Greece! Some of the stories were incredible and it was wonderful to see these dogs obviously adored and now in stable, happy homes.

Lindsey was faced with the very difficult task of picking the 1st, 2nd & 3rd from each class and there were many worthy winners.

Each of the winners from each class entered Best

in Show and Best in Show was awarded to the fabulous Mocha, an Italian Spinone. Mocha is a superb example of the breed and behaved impeccably. Lindsey Jones would like to thank Birchanger for allowing her to judge this great event which will surely get better each year! - More pictures from the Fair on page 9.

October Coffee Morning

Come and join us for coffee or tea and much more at Moorswood, 330 Birchanger Lane, on Tuesday October 9th between 10.30 am and noon. You will be very welcome.

Hypnotherapist Hilary Austin Opens New Clinic in Stansted

Hilary Austin qualified as a Hypnotherapist and Counsellor in 2012 after three intensive years of training. "My vision was to have my own therapy centre but I had no idea it would actually happen. All I knew was that it felt right to be helping people from all walks of life to overcome physical and emotional issues in order to live happier, healthier lives".

Hilary worked from home in Birchanger for a short while but realized that it wasn't ideal and therefore started looking for alternative space in the local area. She moved the clinic seven times over the next few years hoping to find the right place but each location seemed to have some negative points and turned out to be just stepping stones towards something better.

Dreams can come true

"In July of this year, I finally found my dream premises" said an exhilarated Hilary. "This is in a secluded courtyard in a semi-rural location in Forest Hall Road, Stansted. It has an inviting waiting area and two fully furnished therapy rooms. There is plenty of free parking and it is quiet and peaceful".



"I am very fortunate to have a wonderful team of people who work with me, offering hypnotherapy, counselling, reiki and many other complementary therapies. We also offer low cost counselling with students who are in their final year of training. We work with a range of issues, including stress, anxiety, panic attacks, self-esteem, bereavement, exam stress and workplace bullying etc."

Future projects will include working in schools (exam stress) and working alongside the medical profession to support cancer patients. If you want to find out more, please call Hilary Austin (Dip Hyp. CS, Adv. Dip CP) for a friendly chat on 0773 222 1383, email: hilary@hahypnotherapy.co.uk website: www.hahypnotherapy.co.uk



Emma Marks
Men and Boy's Haircuts

Tel: 01279 814273
Mob: 07527227943

99 Birchanger Lane,
Birchanger,
Herts.
CM23 5QF

TAYLOR PROPERTY SERVICES



FENCING
BOUNDARY HEDGE PLANTING
EXTERNAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE
GUTTERING
LANDSCAPING
PATIOS AND DRIVEWAYS
GARDEN CLEARANCE
FLINT WALL REPAIRS

mark.taylor@taylorsvcs.net
taylorpropertysvcs.com
07941 357934

Health Matters

Beating panic attacks

The stressful lives we live today means that we are more likely to suffer panic attacks. These attacks are very frightening when they are experienced for the first time. They are often brought on when people are very stressed or very worried. In this situation Adrenaline is produced which makes the victim sweat more and experience stomach and breathing problems. These symptoms can resemble a heart or severe asthma attack and is always very scary the first time it happens. Sometimes sedatives such as Valium are prescribed, but you can't stay on these for ever! Remember your breathing, focus on this. Is it too fast and too shallow? Time out! Sit down and sort out your breathing before the attack really takes hold. What brought this on? The situation you were in or the stress you were under, whatever the cause, your body got worried, reacted inappropriately and scared you in the process. Counselling can help you if this keeps happening.

Security for post stroke patients

A simple brain scan following a stroke which looks for blood clots and blood leaks into the brain could be a potential life saver. Many people think that if they survive their stroke and start to improve then the chances of full recovery are a mere formality. Sadly sometimes this is not always the case, unbeknown to them, blood may be weeping from damaged small blood vessels and the trauma starts to build with possibly cataclysmic results.

These can all easily be prevented by a simple scan in the recovery period to check for potential leaks. Not only can this simple process reassure the sufferer but it could also save their life. If you have recently suffered a stroke and this test has not been offered to you, insist on havingone as soon as possible.

Is day-care surgery all it's cracked up to be?

The idea sounds great. In, out and back home from a minor op in one day, but for some the experience is less than happy. Any surgery is potentially worrying for a family. But when a patient is discharged too early, as the afternoon session is about to start, or at the end of the day and staff understandably want to go home, problems can start. The patient is probably not functioning well. The person supposed to be taking care of the patient and taking them home is often not there or even called for the aftercare briefing. Still under the influence of the anaesthetic the patient promptly forgets everything they are told. The piece of paper they were given does not explain post-surgical concerns properly and things may happen which next day the patient does not know how to deal with. There is no obvious help line, and the GP is either not available or unable to help. Day surgery is fine, but for most patients, immediate aftercare is either non-existent or not properly explained.

Are you feeling grumpy?

A lot of us are just plain grumpy, and everyone else notices except themselves. Other people know they are feeling grumpy and just do not realize there are ways to help themselves out of an unexplained black mood.

You could simply take yourself out for a brisk walk. The exercise will release endorphins which contain chemicals that help to promote a feel good factor. However, if it is pouring with rain, bad moods often feel even worse and you really don't fancy a walk, so what else? Time to reach for a bar of chocolate, the brain's natural pick-me-up. Forget the diet for today, you need gentle therapy. Next play your favourite positive songs and music. Sombre sad things are not what you need right now. Turn up the lights, another proven resource which is known to promote wellbeing in the darker months. Some people who are noticeably miserable in winter do this on medical advice. Try to relax with a long warm bath and treat

yourself to a glass of wine (not more). If you want company, invite a lively and positive thinking friend to join you at the pub or the club. Have you thought about getting a pet? Just stroking soft fur is known to be calming, as long it is the right sort of pet and not one of those who reward you with a scratch or a nip. It can be a depressing time of year after a long bright summer, but like the summer, this time will pass too. Remember the happy times, get out the photo albums, stop worrying about the things you cannot change. Start working on the ones you can.

World Mental Health Day October 10th

Many of us have experienced mental health issues either in our own family or amongst neighbours and friends. It can be a relatively common illness caused by stress or there may be complex issues which require prolonged treatment or even spells in hospital. At last mental health issues are being recognized and talked about far more these days. It's about time, as they have been swept aside and kept under the carpet for far too long now. To prepare for World Mental Health Day, organizations were asked to look at just how they could improve mental health issues for the people to whom they provide services. Uttlesford District Council decided that they would invite all employers in the district to prioritise mental wellbeing amongst their staff. The focus is how to spot or to prevent stress in the work place, to promote a work culture whereby it is ok to talk about your stress and for coping strategies to be put in place for employees when it all becomes too much. The aim is to stop stress before it becomes too much, to encourage employees to talk about how they are feeling and to stop health problems before they start. They are asking for employers to sign up for this and to commit themselves to promoting health and wellbeing both for mental illnesses as well as physical ones.

Free condoms for 16 to 24 year olds

This is a new service which has been launched throughout Essex which will enable young people to obtain free condoms at participating pharmacies or community centres on production of a card. These cards will only be issued to those within the age group. To find out how to obtain your card call: 0300 003 1212 or register at www.eshs.org.uk.



What's on in the village...



October 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 Church hall: 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Night	2 Church hall: 9.40 Ballet for adults 10.00 Dementia 15.45 Ballet for Juniors	3 Church hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 14.00 Tea Room 15.45 Fencing 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	4 Green Bin # Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimer's 12.30 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance	5 Church hall: 9.30 Baby Glows for toddlers BSSC:	6 BSSC: 13.00 Meat Draw	7 St Mary's Church: 11.15 am Matins
8 Church hall: 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Night	9 Church hall: 9.40 Ballet for adults 10.00 Dementia 15.45 Ballet for Juniors // 10.30 Moorswood Coffee Morning	10 Church hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 14.00 Tea Room 15.45 Fencing 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	11 Black Bin Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimer's 12.30 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance	12 Church hall: 9.30 Baby Glows for toddlers BSSC: Treasure Chest	13 BSSC: 13.00 Meat draw Car Treasure Hunt Francisco Sommers Live 21.00	14 St Mary's Church: 11.15 am Holy Communion Easton Lodge Open Day 11.30
15 Church hall: 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Night	16 Church hall: 9.40 Ballet for adults 10.00 Dementia 15.45 Ballet for Juniors.	17 Church hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 1 14.00 Tea Room 15.45 Fencing 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	18 Green Bin # Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimer's 12.30 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance	19 Church hall: 9.30 Baby Glows for toddlers BSSC: Gin & Lager Fest Big Cheese - Live 21.00	20 BSSC: 13.00 Meat draw Gin & Lager Fest Cadence - Live 21.00	21 St Mary's Church: 11.15 am Family BSSC: Gin & Lager Fest Winnie - Live (daytime)
22 Church hall: 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Night	23 Church hall: 9.40 Ballet for adults 10.00 Dementia 15.45 Ballet for Juniors	24 Church hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 14.00 Tea Room 15.45 Fencing 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	25 Black Bin Church hall: 10.00 Alzheimer's 12.30 Line dance for beginners 13.45 Line dance	26 Church hall: 9.30 Baby Glows for toddlers BSSC: Treasure Chest	27 BSSC: 13.00 Meat draw 13.00 Bowls Club Jumble Sale 15.00 Kids Halloween Party Evening - Disco	28 St Mary's Church: 11.15 am Holy Communion
29 Church hall: 19.30 Ballroom and Latin for adults BSSC: Quiz Night	30 Church hall: 9.40 Ballet for adults 10.00 Dementia 15.45 Ballet for Juniors 19.00 Fashion Show	31 Church Hall: 09.30 Tai Chi 14.00 Tea Room 15.45 Fencing 18.30 Apton Dance Studio	ST MARY'S CHURCH BIRCHANGER PRESENTS A Fashion show with Travelling Trends High Street Clothes 30th October at 7:00pm in the Church Hall			

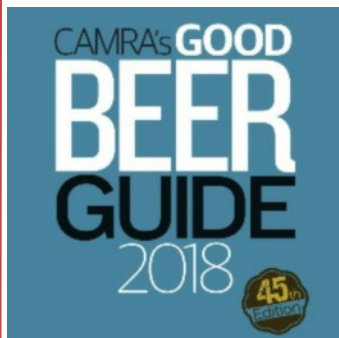


BIRCHANGER
Sports & Social Club

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,
you could win £ thousands!
Friday 12th & 26th Oct.



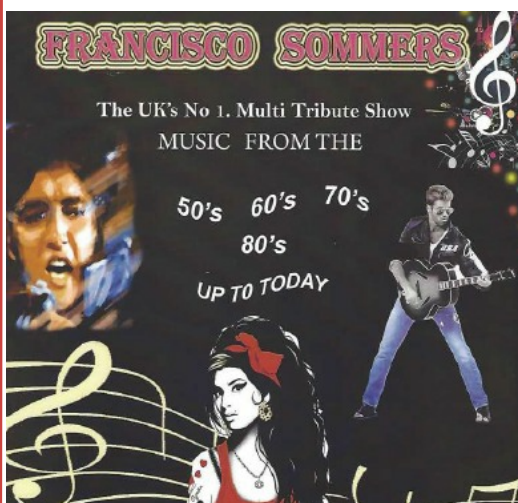
**Annual Car
Treasure
Hunt
13th October**

Just £10 per
car to enter -
Ask at the Bar
to sign up!



**20th & 21st
October
Gin & Lager
Festival
Cadence Playing
20th October 9.00pm**

**Winnie Playing
21st October Daytime**



**Francisco
Sommers
Playing
Live
13th
October
9.00pm**



We are celebrating Halloween with fancy dress on the
27th October for the kids from 3.00pm to 6.00pm
And adults from 7.00pm to midnight.

Club Calendar at a Glance

Fri 12 th Oct	Treasure Chest
Sat 13 th Oct	Car Treasure Hunt
Sat 13 th Oct	Francisco Sommers Live 9.00pm
Fri 19 th Oct	Gin & Lager Festival + Big Cheeses Live 9.00
Sat 20 th Oct	Gin & Lager Festival + Cadence Live 9.00
Sun 21 st Oct	Gin & Lager Festival + Winnie Live in Daytime
Fri 26 th Oct	Treasure Chest
Sat 27 th Oct	Kids Halloween Party 3.00pm
Sat 27 th Oct	Bowls Club Jumble Sale 1.00 to 4.00pm
Sat 27 th Oct	Halloween Disco Party 7.00pm



**19th
October
Gin &
Lager
Festival
with Big
Cheese
Live
9.00pm**

Weekly Events

Day	Event	When
Mondays	Quiz Night	9.00pm
Wednesdays	Food	Lunchtime
Thursdays	Bingo Night	8.30pm
Fridays	Bottle Draw (Food Lunch/Dinner)	Evening
Saturdays	Meat Draw (Food Lunch/Dinner)	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



Hello from Birchanger C of E Primary School.

Well, the New Year term has started at Birchanger C of E Primary School, our new children have settled in very well and have become valued members of the school community. The children look wonderfully refreshed and smart in their uniform. It is always marvellous to welcome our new children in and it is wonderful to see others return and ready for the New Year.



There will be lots of learning across the curriculum and much of it will be focused around the end of World War 1 and it will bring in learning in history, geography, music, science and philosophy. To get the topic started the children created a clay poppy which they painted with bright red and black. Every child will then display them at the Birchanger art show in the church hall.

Of course, at the time of writing this, I can't tell you which poppy will be chosen as favourite by the visitors at the exhibition. However, I can tell you that it will be a very difficult choice.



In October the children will have the opportunity to 'meet a soldier' as we shall have a visitor at the school who will transport the children back in time to the First World War.

The children will be able to ask our soldier questions so that they get to understand some of the history and politics behind the war. We shall also be welcoming a visit by members of the Royal British Legion who will be bringing some of their own memorabilia to show us.

As we approach November we shall be marking the 11th with a special day of Remembrance and the children will have opportunities throughout the day to work with others on a number of activities designed to help them reflect on themes such as remembering and thankfulness.

Our term will end with an open classroom afternoon. We shall open our doors to our families who will be treated to an afternoon of entertainment from the children as they share their written work, sing war time songs and display their art. The children are really enjoying learning about this important time in our history which we will be marking to show our respect for all those who gave their lives for us so that we can be free.

Claire Berry, Headteacher



Birchanger Rocks!

You may have by now seen lots of brightly coloured stones dotted around the village. There's a new trend hiding around every corner of the world, and it ROCKS - literally! People are taking the classic activity of rock painting a step further by hiding these inspiring works of art in public places for others to find. Lots of the local villages and towns have been taking part in this for a few months now. My children kept asking about it and over the summer we started to paint and decorate stones for their friends to find.

The stones don't just have to stay in the village there are some that have travelled over to Great Dunmow, Stansted, Bishops Stortford and Saffron Walden to name a few. The aim is to decorate a stone however you choose, it can have a message, a picture or anything you can imagine. You take the stone and hide it in the village for the next person to find. It's basically hide and seek for stones. We do ask people not to keep the stones but re-hide them in the village. There have been some 100 plus stones hidden now but not many have been found and re-hidden, which as you can imagine is very upsetting for the children involved.

The children in the village really have enjoyed this activity and its lovely to see them so happy to be outside and the excitement when they find their stones or their friends stones. If I suggest a rock hunting adventure my two children jump at the chance.

There is a Facebook page to post your findings and pictures if you wish, just search Birchanger Rocks on Facebook and request to join the group. Happy hunting. *Cat Roberson*

Travellers subjected to nasty graffiti

During the early hours of the 19th September some idiotic person or persons decided it was a clever idea to paint derogatory and provocative graffiti on the traveller's fence. Although residents are unhappy about the travellers parking in the village, most would agree that such action is counterproductive and not condoned by the average Birchanger resident. Actions of this kind will not help the current situation and can only lead to retaliation. The crime has been reported to Essex Police under incident number WEB-Y2J-WSN-BZ2.

All the fun of the fair



Birchanger Butterflies Pre-school welcomed in September fifteen new children and their families. We have been busy this half term getting to know the new children through our theme 'All about Me'. All the children have drawn self portraits, talked about likes and dislikes and explored who lives in 'my house'.

The pre-school children have embraced the new routine, with some children now staying for a full day. They have also experienced some great hot meals catered for by Ashlyns from the primary schools kitchen. We have been busy showing prospective parents around and consequently spaces are filling up fast, so if you are interested in registering your child, please contact us as soon as possible.

Our qualified, experienced team are pleased to be able to take children from 2 years old and offer up to 30 hours per week. The sessions we offer are; 9am-12noon, 12noon-3pm, 9am-3pm. If you are interested in a place at our pre-school please contact us via our website or give us a call on 01279 810 800. We currently have only a few spaces available for the academic year 2018/2019.

Karen Reilly, Pre-school Manager



I am so looking forward to the natural wonders of Birchanger Wood in October. The wood should be experiencing its closure as the weather cools down and wet days become more frequent. The tree leaves will have started dropping and fungi will be appearing on the woodland floor and on any fallen or dead trees. What a display this can be! I do not have a crystal ball, and the BBC weather forecasting is not perfect, so I would love you to tell me of your experience and send me photographs of your visit to the woodland in September.

By the time you are reading this, the new trust and fledgling trustees will have met for the first time together. If you have missed out applying for a trustee position, there is always time for you to volunteer and you can discuss what this means with Pat, myself or Roger Wilmot. You can be a secretary, fund raiser, work physically in the Wood, be treasurer, or run an event, whatever. There is room for most opportunities and certainly for your suggestions, so enjoy October, Halloween, and fungi.



I have this month included a photograph of fungi, courtesy of Peter Sherlock. Also, I see from the Stortford Independent, that there was a litter pick in Birchanger Woods by TUBS in September. I have to say I was very sorry that I was unable to join you but this does not stop me saying a BIG BIG THANK YOU to those that helped, this is so much appreciated.

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



Jumble Sale

Saturday 27th October 1.00 to 4.00pm

Birchanger Bowls Club will be holding a Jumble Sale in the sports pavilion to raise funds for new equipment.

All are welcome, and refreshments will be available. Any donations of unwanted items would be gratefully received. **Please contact Evan for details on 07751 628678**



The Hundred Parishes Society

The Domesday Book of 1086 lists just 50 markets across England. During the Middle Ages the number increased dramatically and two thousand new markets were established between 1200 and 1350 AD. From the 12th century, monarchs granted charters to towns and villages allowing them to hold markets on specific days.

A charter was a formal document and gave protection from rival markets which were prohibited from trading on the same day or within a certain distance. The term market town originated in the Middle Ages and the Hundred Parishes has no fewer than four former market towns that still hold a regular market, albeit very different to the occasions when cattle and sheep were traded.

Newport had a flourishing market until 1141 when Geoffrey de Mandeville was granted the right to move the market to Saffron Walden. This was about the time the church and the castle were built and nearby Walden Abbey was founded. Chipping was an old name for market and the town was then known as Chipping Walden. Today Saffron Walden holds a wonderful market on Tuesdays and Saturdays.



Market day in Thaxted is Friday. Its charter was granted in 1205. Thaxted's guildhall has an open ground floor where part of the market could be held under cover.

In 1253 King Henry III granted Great Dunmow the right to hold a market. Today, it is held on Tuesday mornings.

Buntingford was allowed a market in the 14th century by Edward III. It still holds a market on Mondays.

Barkway, Hatfield Broad Oak, Linton, Puckeridge and Standon were also once classed as market towns. The wide high streets of Barkway, Linton and Standon suggest that these were the market locations. An exploratory visit to any of the parishes mentioned is thoroughly recommended.

Ken McDonald, Secretary www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Get ready to light up the skies

The date for the 'Birchanger Big Light Up' to start the Christmas season has now been decided. The club will start the festivities by lighting up their Christmas tree and switching on their lights at 7.30pm on Friday 30th November. Come and join the start of Christmas in Birchanger. More details next month.

The Gardens of Easton Lodge

And so the season comes to an end, with our last open day on Sunday October 14th.

Bizarrely, the summer months have been the most disruptive for gardening that I can remember. Even so, in the winter we keep going, through the cold, warmed by wintry sun and many layers of clothes. This summer though, volunteers couldn't work on a few occasions because of the heat or the August rains. However, the rains have actually brought the gardens back to life, allowing visitors to enjoy the hylotelephium (that's sedum in old speak!), penstemon, perovskia and michaelmas daisies in the Italian garden. This also benefited the new and very much refreshed dahlia border and the spectacular triffid pumpkins in the walled kitchen garden.



So, why not join us on Sunday 14th October for an autumnal stroll? The trees in the glade will be beginning to show their autumnal hues and the view from the bottom over the fishing lakes is always rewarding in late season sunshine. For children, the open day is 'Halloweeny' and there will be a trail and craft activities. Local folk duo, Karen and Tony, will also help us all unwind and enjoy the day.

Gates will open from 11.30, with last entry 4.00pm, and there will be warming soup (should that be needed!), locally sourced bacon and cheese rolls and homemade cakes. For more information please go to our website at; www.eastonlodge.co.uk or visit our facebook page, where you can see from our blog what our volunteers have managed to achieve recently.

Jill Goldsmith



P. D. Tucker & P. Stapleton

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

Tel: 01279 813429

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

Village Services and Activities

Alzheimers	Marian	07803 115826
Art Studio & Gallery	Heather Brown	01279 815453
Art Studio & Gallery	Brian Gough	01279 815012
Ballroom Dance	Fred Winters	01763 271942
Ballet	Wendy Mitchell	01992 812781
Birchanger Magazine	Peter Sampson	01279 813193
BAGS	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
Neighbourhood Watch	Peter Sampson	01279 813193
Over 60's club	Jean Camp	07843 707249
Painting & Décor	David Debnam	07973 861268
Parish Clerk	Keith Williams	01279 814773
Property Services	Mark Taylor	07941 357934
Public Safety	Peter Sampson	07817 904333
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

Tearoom: Every Wednesday from 2.00pm to 4.00pm

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

St. Mary's Church



Services

7th October	11:15am Mattins service
14th October	11:15am Holy Communion
21st October	11:15 am Family service
28th October	11:15am Holy Communion
4th November	11:15am All saints day Mattins

News

Sunday 16th September was the date we all welcomed a new member of the clergy team to the United Benefices of Stansted Mountfitchet, Birchanger and Farnham. A special service of welcome was held for Helen Flack at St John's church following her recent ordination as a Deacon. Helen will be working with Paul Wilkin our Rector in providing services and support across the benefice. The service ended with a splendid lunch that was enjoyed by all who attended, we look forward to worshipping and working with Helen at St Mary's.

Dates for your Diary

Coffee morning at Moorswood 9th October 10:30am to 12:00md, with a lovely raffle and lots of prizes. If you need assistance getting to the coffee morning give us a call and we will arrange a pick up for you.

A Prayer for October

This day, Father, may my eyes be opened
to see the beauty in all that is ordinary - yet special - around me.
May the glory of all that you have made remind me of your
presence and lead me closer to you.
Amen

If you would like to know more about St Mary's Church and the services we hold, or want to get more involved, then email us at stmaryschurch.birchanger@googlemail.com or look us up on our Facebook page.

Thanks, Elaine

ST MARY'S CHURCH BIRCHANGER PRESENTS

A Fashion show with Travelling Trends High Street Clothes

30. October at 7:00pm in the Church Hall

Prices slashed, bargains galore, including a raffle!

Help to raise funds for St Mary's Church
and a chosen local charity

Tickets £6.00 Includes a glass of wine or soft drink

FOR TICKETS PLEASE CONTACT:

Elaine 01279-813474 or Sue 01279-815427

Email; stmaryschurch.birchanger@googlemail.com

No ordering, buy on the night, pay by cash or card

To book a show call 01737 217220 or visit our website

www.travellingtrends.co.uk



Luxury Dog Grooming Salon & Designer Dog Boutique

Heathview, Pound Lane, Hatfield Heath
CM22 7AB

www.caninesassoon.co.uk

Tel: 01279799337

Mobile: 07890267512

www.facebook.com/caninesassoonsex

THE THREE WILLOWS



Fine dining & good beers. Children and dogs welcome. Bookings: 01279 815913

Monday to Friday: 12 to 3pm & 5 to 11pm

Saturday: 12 to 11pm Sunday: 12 to 6pm

Quality Wild Bird Food

Premium Wild Bird Table Mix

Peanuts

Sunflower Hearts

Niger Seeds

Fat Balls

Suet Pellets

Meal worms

Feeders etc.

Email: villagebirdfood@gmail.com

Tel: 01279812248 Mob: 07752672187

Free Delivery in Birchanger & Stansted

D. Bonney & Sons



**Motor
Engineers**

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

Yew Tree Corner, Manuden

Ring Malc or Niel on

01279 813315 or 01279 815946

State Registered Chiropodist

Mrs. Julie Golden S.R.Ch.

Home Visiting Practice

Est 1994

Tel: 01279 873492

Mob: 07916075451

Dunmow Road

Takeley CM22 6SH

A professional service at a competitive rate

Buffy Playbus Visits Birchanger Wednesday Afternoons

Near Harrison's CM23 5QT

From 1.30 - 3.0pm during term time and at
half term breaks.



The Big Bus for Little People

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

Cost £2.50 per child (voluntary donation)

Come and join us!

Painting & Decorating

Bring new life to your home



Interior - Exterior
General
Maintenance
No job too small

David Debnam

Tel: 01279 815214 Mob: 07973861268



LAUNDERETTE

WE

DO

DUVETS

DIVINELY

AND CLOTHES TOO!

Open 7 days a week

Hockerill lights, Bishop's Stortford

Large car park

Tel: 01279 866183



St Elizabeth's Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 24th November

12 noon - 4pm

Family Fun & Live Music,
Craft Stalls & Great Food,
and a visit from Father Christmas
and his reindeer!

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

For more information, contact 01279 844355/
fundraising@stelizabeths.org.uk

**Positive Living and Learning for People
with Epilepsy and other Complex Needs**

Friday Nights are Latino Nights!

Birchanger Village Church Hall

Dancing to great rhythms

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

6th April - 6th July: 7.30-11pm

7th Sept. - 9th Nov: 7.30-11pm

For more details

Tel: 07887 877675 or

grahamemizen7@gmail.com



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

Tel: 01799 543483 Mob: 07866 752713

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

Free No Obligation Quotes

www.gwbhorticulture.co.uk

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.