



Birchanger Village Magazine

May 2019

Issue 196



Stand-off at Uttlesford Council



SSE's battle against Uttlesford District Council (UDC) over the Stansted Airport Planning Application has spilled over from the High Court to the world of local politics. Last November, UDC approved the airport's expansion to an annual throughput of 43 million passengers which would make Stansted almost as big as today's Gatwick. However legal challenges from SSE have so far dissuaded the Council from issuing the final planning permission.

At the beginning of April UDC finally signalled its intention to issue the permission but pressure from SSE has again forced the Council to back-track. SSE's position has been supported by opposition councillors who are also pressing the present Conservative administration to delay issuing the planning permission until after the local elections on 2nd May so as to allow the new Council an opportunity to review the situation.

A petition co-sponsored by Liberal Democrats and Residents for Uttlesford councillors has forced UDC to schedule an Extraordinary Meeting for 25th April. Planning permission cannot be issued before that meeting and, since it will then be just one week before the local elections, it is considered unlikely – but not impossible – that the present administration would rush to issue its final approval for Stansted Airport expansion during what could be its final week in office.

SSE Chairman Peter Sanders commented: "It's hard to believe that our own local council wants to rush through final approval of the Stansted Airport Planning Application prior to the local elections on 2nd May. SSE is keen to explore every avenue to avoid the need to take legal proceedings against UDC. The meeting on 25th April provides a glimmer of hope that it may yet be possible to avoid such legal proceedings."

By the time this edition of Birchanger Magazine reaches you the outcome of the meeting on 25th April will be known and the outcome of the 2nd May local elections may also be known.

Brian Ross

Birchanger May Get Its' Own Community Special Constable

Birchanger Parish Council has been looking at the possibility of sponsoring a Community Special Constable (CSC) for Birchanger whereby uniformed police would patrol Birchanger for a minimum of 16 hours per month, or more depending on the officer's availability. Visibility of a police officer walking the beat is often a major factor in deterring crime.

What is a Community Special Constable and what do they do?

- Special Constables are volunteer police officers, holding the same office and the same powers as regular officers. They wear the same uniform, carry the same equipment and are deployed to the same incidents. They are not paid, but can claim mileage and duty allowances.
- A Special Constable agrees to volunteer at least 16 hours per calendar month, plus time for training.
- Special Constables are bound by the policing Code of Ethics and the Standards of Professional Behaviour. These apply whether the officer is on or off duty.
- CSC's for our area are tasked from Saffron Walden and on average patrol around 26 hours per month.

A Community Special Constable will:

- Be integrated into a Community Policing Team
- Start and end their duty as close to their community as possible, potentially from another agency's premises
- Spend the majority of their time within the village.
- Be visible and accessible in local communities on uniformed, foot or cycle patrol.
- Help address local issues and priorities as informed by the local council and police intelligence-led tasking.
- Patrol hot spots identified through intelligence or which have been deemed to be priority areas.
- Respond to police-related incidents within the council area.
- Engage with local communities and support further recruitment of Specials.
- Attend suitable local council meetings where available to do so.
- Have regard to the Council's aims and objectives in their voluntary service.

Essex Police will equip, train and deploy Community Special Constables into the 'sponsoring' area. If the council agrees to go ahead, an advertising campaign will be launched in the Herts and Essex area as well as on the Essex Police website www.essex.police.uk/join-the-police/special-constabulary/

If you or someone you know are interested in becoming a Special Constable for Birchanger you can apply by following this link:

<https://www.essex.police.uk/join-the-police/special-constabulary/birchanger-community-special-constables/>



Editors Letter Box

Dear Readers,

Considering there are some 800 residents living in Birchanger I was surprised and also disappointed at the poor turnout at the Annual Parish Meeting that took place in the evening on the 20th March. Less than 20 people attended! This is the venue when you get to hear the parish council's future aims and what they have achieved over the past year. You get updates from Essex Council, information on the proposed airport expansion and the latest situation with the travellers. It also gives an opportunity for you, the villagers, to have your say or put your questions to the council.

The parish council meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 8.00 pm in the village church hall annexe and is open to the public. So why not come along have your say or simply listen to what's going on in your village. You may be pleasantly surprised at what your council does for you and it beats watching East Enders! Only my opinion of course.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Ed,

Ernest Henry 1st World War Medals Found

During a recent family house clearance we found some war medals that were awarded to Ernest Henry who was in the Essex Regiment from 1914 and demobbed in 1919. We would love to reunite the medals with his family descendants who may still live in or around the village. Can you please share this information in order to find his family?



*Extract from Birchanger Parish register midsummer to Michaelmas 1895.
Baptisms, Aug 4th, Ernest Henry, son of Henry and Harriet Turner*

We believe he worked for GT Nunn, on the site currently known as the Cottage Guest House and Birchanger and Hawthorns, Grove Hill, Stanstead.

If you have any information, or are a family member, please contact Mrs. Bex Williams by email at: rcwilliams945@googlemail.com.

Thank you, Becky Williams

Dear Ed,

To the residents of High View who kindly donated to this year's Marie Curie collection and between them raised £72. Thank you so much. *Ann Smith, High View, Birchanger*

Dear Ed,

In a recent edition of the Birchanger News I read that the Mobile Library that calls in Birchanger every third Saturday is under threat. It is not and I assume that the item was actually pointed toward the fixed library service in Essex where a consultation regarding the future of some of the lesser used libraries has proposed potential closure. However, I reiterate that this consultation, the results of which are now awaited, does not include the Mobile Library service but as one of the two or three users who visit the library every time it calls I would urge other to take advantage of it. If insufficient numbers of people use the library then we really won't have any justification in complaining when it doesn't come to Birchanger anymore. *Cathy Gooding*

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

New Faces Needed for Birchanger Parish Council

Two long serving members of Birchanger Parish Council called it a day at the end of the last council term which formally ends when the new council takes over on May 6th. Maria Davy and Ken Wheatley will both be very much missed. Maria is a former council chairman and was chair of the planning committee. She also represented the council for Birchanger Wood Trust and only recently stepped down from chair of the employment committee. She was also instrumental in producing Birchanger's Parish Plan.

Ken's recent claim to fame is the work he did on the travellers and roundabout campaigns, deciding strategy with the planning committee and writing the website posts. He was also heavily involved in the planning and conducting of the traffic survey and the online/paper survey about resident's use of the roundabout and their intentions if the plans went ahead. For many years he has written the council's responses to airport-related planning applications and consultations and has helped to keep the buses running through Birchanger. Thank you Maria and Ken, you will be very much missed.

There are now a few vacancies on the parish council. If you are interested in being a councillor, you can contact Keith Williams, our Parish Clerk, by email at clerk@birchanger.com, or talk to any of the parish councillors which includes myself, Elizabeth Godwin and this magazines editor, Peter Sampson.

Fed Up With the Buses? Try Uttlesford Community Travel



We had little or no bus service whilst the cables for broadband were being installed and this was followed by a service that ran with many unscheduled cancellations causing chaos to bus users in Birchanger. There

is another service that is far more reliable and which can be

booked at times to suit you. Some of us use it already and it is known as 'Uttlesford Community Travel'. The good thing about this service is that it is wheel chair friendly, and can be arranged for a time to suit you. There are also larger vehicles for groups. Membership for individuals costs £10 and thereafter charges depend on which service you are using. Booking a ride for routine trips costs just £3.40 for up to two miles, then £1.02 per mile for up to 15 miles. Costs for Journeys beyond this are arranged with the office.

For hospital journeys £5 is the minimum charge then 45 pence per mile for all miles over 11 miles which must be paid to the driver on the day. You can book your journey in advance, make return arrangements and discuss your individual needs. Group trips for elderly, disabled and accompanied children are available with a group membership of £20. To find out more, or to book a ride call 01371 875787, or 01799 519008. You can also search the website www.uttlesfordcommunitytravel.org or email: info@uttlesfordcommunitytravel.org.

Help Children Enjoy Reading This Summer

Essex County Council Library Service is looking for volunteers to talk to children at the library about the books they like and want to read as they take or return books throughout the school summer holidays. Training will be given and adults or teenagers are welcome to apply. To find out more, login to: <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/>

Advice for Budding Business Entrepreneurs

Thinking of setting up your own small business? A new advice service can be reached by logging into COBRA at <http://essex.cobwebinfo.com/> this will offer free advice to all who are thinking of starting up their own business, including funding, training, opportunities, legislation, marketing and business plans.

Another Scam

According to a recorded message I have received, I am about to be arrested! The message, from a lady with an American accent told me that a warrant had been issued for my arrest. On what charge was not in the message, but I could discuss the matter if I pressed number 1 on my telephone. Needless to say that was an invitation I declined to accept, neither am I awaiting for the knock on the door with trepidation. This kind of scam is despicable as it is particularly upsetting especially if you are alone and in a vulnerable group. Whatever you do, never respond to these kinds of calls. If the police really want you for something, they will find you soon enough.

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

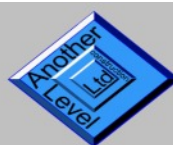
Forthcoming Meetings:

Wednesday 29th May 2019 7.30 for 8.00 pm

Line dancing demonstration, come and watch the expert and maybe have a go yourself!

Telephone for details

Olivia: 07568 574703 Rosemary: 01279 814678



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



Help Required for Art Show 2019

The highly successful Art Show plans to return again this September, but needs to source a new supplier for the stands needed to display the paintings as our previous supplier is no longer able to provide them for us.

We are searching for stands, but this is a specialist area, and the stands are not proving easy to find. Perhaps you know someone who might be able to help, if you do, please contact me (Elizabeth Godwin) on 01279 812793.

Thank You Birchanger Pickers

A big thank you to the Litter Picking Team, known as the 'Birchanger Pickers' who pick up rubbish throughout Birchanger on Sundays. What you are doing for us all is just great, The sad thing is that it is necessary at all, it seems there are too many lazy and inconsiderate individuals around to make the team redundant at the moment and the litter just keeps coming.

Fancy Sunday Lunch

Many people love the idea of a Sunday roast, but are too busy, tired or just stressed to go to the bother of actually cooking it at home. For most of us the solution is within walking distance as the club is now providing lunch on Sundays for a very reasonable cost. There are usually two roasts and a short menu of other dishes to choose from, and it is cooked the way you like it as well. Really worth a try sometime

May Coffee Morning

The Spring Coffee Morning will take place at Moorswood, 330 Birchanger Lane on Tuesday May 14th between 10.30 and noon. Everyone is very welcome.

Coping With the Digital Age

Some of us are coping very well with iPads, iPhones and all manner of new technology, while for some of us it is a constant struggle with strange terminology, endless password changes, dodgy emails and things that appear to vanish into the ether, never to be found again. If that applies to you there are people out there who are ready to help. Bishop's Stortford library has volunteer IT champions who'll help people to use computers or you can contact the Community Voluntary Services in Dunmow on 01371 404674.

On the other hand, you may be a computer expert with a little time to spare. If you would like to share your knowledge and help other people to understand their computers, the Dunmow CVSU would like to hear from you on the same number.

Have You Got a Beer Belly or Paunch or Are You Just Bloated?

A beer belly or paunch does not necessarily mean you are fat. It could be that you are just bloated and is probably due to your eating or drinking habits. If you keep off foods such as cabbage, sprouts and sweeteners such as sorbitol or maltitol and cut back on all refined sugars and fermented products such as beer, cheese and all foods with yeast, you may just get rid of that paunch! Sorry guys, it looks like you have to change your weekend binges!



PETALS stands for Play, Explore, Touch, Amaze, Learn and Sing. All elements that we believe to be essential in a child's development. With this in mind PETALS has created an exciting early year's programme of classes/courses for you and your child and we are very excited to bring two of our sessions to Birchanger!

From Tuesday 23rd April we will be running PETALS Baby Yoga each week at 1.00 pm in the Village Hall. This course is suitable for babies from around 8 weeks. Energetic and

stimulating, baby yoga has many benefits both physically and emotionally including strengthening and improving muscle tone, strengthening and regulating the digestive system, helping to relax babies and improve sleep patterns to name but a few. The course is a fun way for you and your baby to share precious time together whilst reaping the benefits. The course will also explore some gentle yoga exercises for the carers, to help strengthen tummy and pelvic floor muscles.



From Monday 29th April at 11.00 am each week, we will be running PETALS Senses, our fantastic messy and sensory session, where you and your child can play and explore together and leave the mess there for us to clear away! This class is suitable for babies from 6 months up to children of 4 years old.

Each of our classes are aimed at promoting opportunities to play, to explore, to touch, to amaze, to learn and to sing together with your child in an informal, friendly and fun environment.

For further details please email us at: info@petalstogether.co.uk or telephone us on: 07730619522 / 07734904076. You can also log onto www.petalstogether.co.uk or you can book your space directly through www.hoop.co.uk/petals-together where you can claim your half price taster session! We look forward to seeing you.

Hana Hainsby



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



Police seize more than 700 cannabis plants in Elsenham

Officers executed a drugs warrant in Elsenham over a weekend in April and seized more than 700 cannabis plants. Acting on concerns from the public, officers from Braintree and Uttlesford executed a warrant at an address on New Road, Elsenham.

The team found sophisticated cannabis cultivation and seized the cannabis plants along with equipment used as part of the cannabis cultivation. The cannabis plants and equipment will be destroyed.



Inspector Colin Cox from the Braintree and Uttlesford Community Policing Team said: "We are listening to and acting on concerns raised from local residents about drug dealing and other crimes in the area".

"Drug dealing is often linked to organised and violent crime and we are working hard to keep the district safe." Anyone with concerns about drug dealing is asked to report it on our website (www.essex.police.uk/doitonline). Alternatively, you can make an anonymous report through Crimestoppers on 0800 555111 or www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Virgin Media Email Scam

Action Fraud has received over 100 reports about fake emails that purport to be from Virgin Media. The emails threaten the recipient with "automatic disconnection" due to "invalid billing information". The links in the emails lead to genuine-looking phishing websites that are designed to steal your Virgin Media account login details.

Don't click on the links or attachments in suspicious emails, and never respond to messages that ask for your personal or financial details.

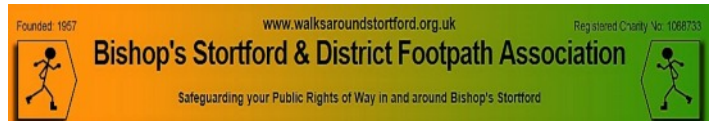
For more information on how to stay secure online, visit www.cyberaware.gov.uk

More local, visible & accessible policing for Essex

Today, there are more police officers serving the county than this time last year. Essex Police has grown and further investment in local policing is continuing with the establishment of 23 dedicated Town Centre Teams.

There are now 218 more officers in varying stages of their training journey bringing the number of police officers in the county to 3,046. This time last year there were 2,950 officers in the force. The latest uplift in officer numbers was made possible by an increase in the policing precept part of council tax last year and the focus for the new officers will be to provide visible local policing in all of our communities.

Peter Sampson - Uttlesford NhW Coordinator



Sunday Walks - Departing at 10.00am - 5/6 miles

12th May Clavering Village Hall GR: TL480323. Post code: CB114QS

2nd June Manuden Community Centre GR: TL486272. Post code: CM231EH

16th June BStortfd, Corner Barrellsdown Rd+Cricketfield Ln (On the Green) TL 485220 Post code: CM23 2SP

'Time is like an ever-rolling stone'. Sorry to say I have had no time to pursue the Stansted/Stortford public linked pathway. Indeed I have not even had time to look at the south-side of the Aubrey Buxton Nature Reserve Issue. By the time you read this, you may have discovered how to negotiate around Stansted village. I understand that Hall Road, Elsenham will be closed for some time commencing in May to repair the bridge. I have lived here for over 40 years and didn't know it was there! It runs over Stansted Brook. Manuden is now clear. We really need help, so if anyone can spare some time to assist in any of these tasks please get in touch - Many Thanks.

Daphne Wallace-Jarvis, Publicity Officer:

dwjjwj.444@gmail.com www.walksaroundstortford.org.uk



A great way to begin this month of May could be to join Tony Wellings on one of his informative nature rambles.

Hopefully the bluebells will be blooming. Check for details on our website.

Our AGM will be held on 16th May in St John's Hall. Doors open at 1.30 pm as usual. All members should have received a notice of AGM and nomination form. If not, please request one by emailing: stanstedu3a@gmail.com or phone 07874 385541. We have some vacancies on the committee and would love to see some new (or old) faces stepping forward or being nominated.

The next Saturday Seminar is on May 25th when Dr Neil Faulkner FSA is coming along to talk to us about Lawrence of Arabia under the heading 'Excavating a Legend'. Neil is an archaeologist, historian and writer who lectures widely. Neil and his close colleague Professor Nick Saunders have run a ten year project of field research on the archaeological remains of the Arab Revolt of 1916 to 1918, so this promises to be a particularly interesting seminar. See the Events page for May on our website for how to order your ticket. If you missed the last Seminar on George and Robert Stephenson, brought alive by the incredible presentation skills of Dr Michael Bailey, please click on Stephenson Seminar Full Story on our website. You won't regret it!

There are still some spaces left on the September holiday to West Sussex and Brighton.



A private visit by coach to Copped Hall, Epping is coming up on Wednesday May 8th. There may be places left. For full details of both these events please see the Trips & Hols section on our website

www.u3asites.org.uk/stansted/home or pick up an activity leaflet, and you could soon be enjoying a class as much as our new French Group pictured above. *Eileen Quinn*

What's on in the village...



May 2019



Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sun

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

Birchanger Parish Council Meetings: Meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 8.00 pm in the church hall - **Open to the public.**

**BSSC
Gin &
Vodka
Weekend
Festival
3rd - 5th
May**



1 Church Hall:
09.30 Tai Chi
14.00 Tea Room
15.45 Fencing
17.30 Apton
Dance Studio -
19.00 for
beginners

2 Black Bin #
Church hall:
10.00 Alzheimer's
12.30 Line dance
for beginners
13.45 Line dance
18.00 Apton dance
- private lessons

3 Church hall:
9.30 Baby Glows
for toddlers
BSSC:
Treasure Chest
20.00 Family
Disco - DJ Martin

4 BSSC:
13.00 Meat Draw
21.00 Hit Parade -
Live - new to the
club

**5 St Mary's
Church:**
11.15 am Matins
Church Hall:
12.00 Birchanger
Litter Pickers
BSSC:
12.00 Winnie

6 Church hall:
11.00 Petals
Senses Kids Play
19.30 Ballroom
and Latin for
adults
BSSC:
Quiz Night

7 Church hall:
9.40 Adult Ballet
13.00 Petals Baby
Yoga
15.45 Ballet for
Juniors
20.00 Parish
Council Meeting

8 Church hall:
09.30 Tai Chi
14.00 Tea Room
15.45 Fencing
17.30 Apton Dance
Studio
19.00 Apton dance
for Beginners

9 Green Bin
Church hall:
10.00 Alzheimer's
12.30 Line dance
for beginners
13.45 Line dance
18.00 Apton dance
- private lessons

10 Church hall:
9.30 Baby Glows
for toddlers
BSSC:

11 BSSC:
13.00 Meat draw
21.00 The Jjars -
Live

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

13 Church hall:
11.00 Petals
Senses Kids Play
19.30 Ballroom
and Latin for
adults
BSSC:
Quiz Night

14 Church hall:
9.40 Adult Ballet
13.00 Petals Baby
Yoga
15.45 Ballet for
Juniors.
Moorswood:
10.30 am Coffee

15 Church hall:
09.30 Tai Chi 1
14.00 Tea Room
15.45 Fencing
17.30 Apton Dance
Studio
19.00 Apton dance
for Beginners

16 Black Bin #
Church hall:
10.00 Alzheimer's
12.30 Line dance
for beginners
13.45 Line dance
18.00 Apton dance
- private lessons

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

18 BSSC:
13.00 Meat draw

**19 St Mary's
Church:**
11.15 Family
service
Easton Lodge:
11.30 Open day
& events

20 Church hall:
11.00 Petals
Senses Kids Play
19.30 Ballroom
and Latin for
adults
BSSC:
Quiz Night

21 Church hall:
9.40 Adult Ballet
13.00 Petals Baby
Yoga
15.45 Ballet for
Juniors

22 Church hall:
09.30 Tai Chi
14.00 Tea Room
15.45 Fencing
17.30 Apton Dance
Studio. 19.00 for
beginners
19.30 BAGS

23 Green Bin
Church hall:
10.00 Alzheimer's
12.30 Line dance
for beginners
13.45 Line dance
18.00 Apton dance
- private lessons

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

25 BSSC:
13.00 Meat draw
21.00 Pizazz -
Live

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

27 Church hall:
11.00 Petal
Senses Kids Play
19.30 Ballroom
and Latin for
adults
BSSC:
Quiz Night

28 Church hall:
9.40 Adult Ballet
13.00 Petals Baby
Yoga
15.45 Ballet for
Juniors

29 Church hall:
09.30 Tai Chi
14.00 Tea Room
15.45 Fencing
17.30 Apton Dance
Studio. 19.00 for
beginners
19.30 BAGS

30 Black Bin #
Church hall:
10.00 Alzheimer's
12.30 Line dance
for beginners
13.45 Line dance
18.00 Apton dance
- private lessons

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

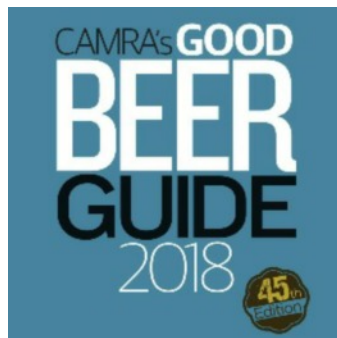


BIRCHANGER
Sports & Social Club


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!
Fri. 3rd, 17th & 31st May




Saturday 4th May
New to the club
'Hit Parade Band'
From 9.00 pm

Club Calendar at a Glance

Friday 3rd - 5th May Gin & Vodka Festival
Friday 3rd May Family Disco from 8.00 pm with DJ Martin
Friday 3rd May Treasure Chest
Saturday 4th May Hit Parade LIVE new to the club from 9.00 pm
Sunday 5th May Winnie LIVE from 2.00 pm
Saturday 11th May The Jjars LIVE from 9.00 pm
Friday 17th May Treasure Chest
Saturday 25th May Pizazz LIVE from 9.00 pm
Friday 31st May Treasure Chest

Weekly Events

Day	Event	When
Mondays	Quiz Night	9.00 pm
Thursdays	Bingo Night	8.30 pm
Fridays	Bottle Draw	Evening
Saturdays	Meat Draw	1.00 pm
Sundays	Roast Dinners	12.00 md
Restaurant open-Lunch: Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday.		
Restaurant open-Evening: Friday, Saturday.		

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

Birchanger Primary School



Our school has a church school status which is very important to us and it underpins our ethos and vision statement:

'We are committed to the pursuit of excellence in everything we do in our work play and relationships with each other. Everything that we do is built on the Christian values of love, care, courage and truth.'

Last term we were visited by an inspector from SIAMs (School Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) who spent the day with us in order to assess us as a church school. We were one of the first schools in the country to be inspected under the new inspection criteria which judged us against 7 criteria which are:

1. Vision and leadership
2. Wisdom, Knowledge and skills
3. Character development: Hope, aspiration and courageous advocacy.
4. Community and living well together.
5. Dignity and respect
6. Impact of collective worship
7. Effectiveness of RE.

During the time that the inspector spent with us she looked at learning in children's books, she watched the teaching of RE and she looked at national and school based data about progress and attainment.

The inspector also talked to the children about their learning and what is important to them. She awarded the school a 'Good Rating' (improving our previous 'Satisfactory Rating') to reflect the way that the children behave towards each other and their attitude to their work. This is the result of the work the school has done to support the children and how we have been supported by our local church, St Mary's.



Here are some of the quotes from the report which is available online and on the school's website.:

'The pursuit of excellence is based on a belief in the uniqueness of each individual and a desire to serve each family according to their particular needs.'

'Progress from the last inspection has been significant, especially for collective worship which now engages pupils well and securely underpins the school's ethos'.

'A focus on excellence is well expressed by pupils and school leaders in relation to all areas of school life'.

'Pastoral systems are strong and effective'.



Claire Berry - Headteacher



The Essex Field Club is the oldest naturalist group in Essex. Our members contribute to much important research on Essex wildlife and its geology. We visit areas across the county to record wildlife, habitats and geology. We will be visiting Birchanger Woods on 27th July 2019.

The Club holds nationally and regionally important collections and an extensive natural history library. This is housed in the Green Centre, Wat Tyler Country Park, Basildon. The Green Centre is normally open every Saturday, Sunday and bank holiday between 11am - 4pm and Wednesdays between 10am - 4pm. Every summer the Club hosts the largest free natural history show in the county. This hopes to inspire an interest in natural history and is aimed at youngsters and families. This year's event is on Sunday 11th August, 11am-5pm at the Green Centre, Wat Tyler Country Park, Basildon SS16 4UH.

The Essex Field Club is run solely by volunteers; from organising field meetings to editing the newsletters, updating the website and running the visitors centre. To join the Essex Field Club please go to our website for a downloadable membership form www.essexfieldclub.org.uk You can also find us on Facebook - we have a page and a closed group where members share their photos, news and stories. For more information about any aspect of the Essex Field Club's work please email Fiona Hutchings on efcsecretary2018@gmail.com or telephone 07581 178 707.

Birchanger Pickers Collect 16 Bags of rubbish

Despite the rain, fifteen Birchanger residents and helpers turned out on Sunday 7th April to take part in the monthly litter pick around the village. Special thanks need to go to Laura Chapman for organising the group and encouraging people to take part. Two groups set out at midday from the Church Hall, one heading around the church and towards the Three Willows. The other group headed down the hill towards the main Stansted road and along Tot Lane.



"In just over one hour, we managed to collect 16 bags of rubbish and a discarded tyre" said Gary Davey, one of the helpers. "We also found a pile of tyres dumped on the corner of Forest Hall road and Tot Lane as well as a pile of what looks like garden

waste dumped in the hedge along the Lane. Both have been reported to Uttlesford DC and will be cleared by the Highway Rangers. More frustratingly the following day after the litter pick a lorry tyre was dumped on the path of Birchanger Lane opposite the entrance to Tot Lane. This has also been reported to the council. I have spoken to the leader of the Uttlesford DC and suggested Tot Lane as a good location to get some cameras positioned to catch people fly tipping/littering. Watch this space".

"If you can spare an hour or two once a month and enjoy a walk around the village whilst chatting to other residents and picking a bit of litter up along the way, please join us. The next litter pick is planned for noon on Sunday 5th May. We have a small collection of pickers and hi-vis vests to use and bags will be provided". Gary Davey



The coppicing season came to an end at Birchanger Wood in March. Volunteers laboured hard over the winter to cut back trees to allow light onto the woodland floor, boosting the flora and helping to support biodiversity. While it may seem counter-intuitive to cut down trees for the sake of woodland conservation, coppicing is an age-old practice of harvesting trees for wood products – baskets, beanpoles, walking sticks, arbours, thatching, fences, charcoal and firewood. The practice of coppicing goes back to a time when society was heavily dependent on wood and woodlands were cared for due to their economic importance.



Many bird species rely on insects as a source of food and insects benefit from the flowers that flourish

when the woodland floor gets more sunlight, unimpeded by the dense canopy of mature trees. The trees themselves are not harmed and if they are protected from browsing animals such as rabbits and deer, they will grow back healthy – often with a longer lifespan than if they were left to grow as standards. However, the trees and flora can only thrive if walkers, cyclists and dogs keep to the paths.

In line with a management plan devised by conservation experts and overseen by our warden Pat Forrest, Birchanger Wood Trust is pursuing this time-honoured method of woodland management with sales of firewood from coppicing helping to sustain our work.

We have a packed series of events led by local science educator and conservationist Jono Forgham. The first is our moth trapping night on 31st May when we will be attracting moths to a moth trap to study which species are living in the wood and noting the biodiversity - no moths are harmed and they are freed afterwards! The result of this survey will be forwarded to the County Recorder and will help build up a list of all the moths that may be found within the wood. Please bring a torch and meet at the compound, at the Heath Row entrance in Bishops Stortford from 9pm.

Other future educational events will include a family bio blitz day, bug hunts, a butterfly identification survey and leaf mining study. Please visit our events page for further details:

www.birchangerwoodtrust.org/events

Daniel Brett - Secretary, Birchanger Wood Trust

m mediacomms

Aerial Satellite AV Security

- Aerial Installations
- Sky Installations & Subscriptions
- CCTV & Security Alarms
- Freesat Installations & Receivers
- Audio Visual Installations
- Multiroom Music & TV Distribution
- Wireless & Wired Networks
- TV Wall Mounting Services
- Family Run Business



01279 656 983 - 0800 587 2556

Unit 1, Suite 1 Peek Business Centre, Woodside Industrial Estate, Bishops Stortford CM23 5RG

Wireless Security



Intruder alarms have never been so simple to install, operate, maintain and clean.

Mediacoms uses the latest technology to keep you & your property secure.

YOUR HOME AND COMMERCIAL SECURITY INSTALLER
ALARMS CCTV DOOR ENTRY GATE AUTOMATION

www.mediacomms.co.uk

info@mediacomms.co.uk



The Hundred Parishes Society

Fields across the Hundred Parishes are turning yellow from the oil-seed rape flowers and farmers will be hoping for a bountiful harvest.



Fortunately for them, research by the Centre for Ecology & Hydrology found a positive but unexpected increase in key bee species responsible for pollinating flowering crops

such as these. Between 1980 and 2013, the scientists had measured the presence of 353 wild bee and hoverfly species across the country. Overall, they noted that one-third of species had declined, one tenth increased, while evidence for the status of other species was inconclusive. Pollinating insects are vital for adequate seed production in crop plants as well as other species including rarer native plants which often support more specialist insects.

The UK hosts about 20,000 species of insects, many of which get eaten by other creatures. We enjoy seeing brightly coloured butterflies or dragonflies, but species like skylarks, swifts, blue tits, hedgehogs, shrews, bats and many fish require a cornucopia of moths, flies and beetles in order to survive. Assorted flies, beetles and wasps are also predators or decomposers helping to control pests and recycle dead material.

The statistics in the 2016 State of Nature Report show an alarming decline in the abundance of many insect species. The causes of this decline are complex, but intensification of farming, loss of wildflower meadows, hedgerow removal and changes in climate play a part. Widespread use of herbicides and pesticides is also implicated. Herbicides have reduced the variety of wildflowers: with limited foraging opportunities many insects have become scarce or extinct. The impact of pesticides on all insect populations has far reaching consequences and is now subject to intense scrutiny to find answers.

Planting suitable flowers in our own gardens benefits insects and other forms of wildlife, especially if we garden organically!

Tricia Moxey Trustee. www.hundredparishes.org.uk

New Domestic Abuse Line

A new helpline has been launched to help people in Southend, Essex and Thurrock who are victims of or who have experienced domestic abuse. COMPASS went live on 1st April 2019 and is the new point of access for victims of domestic abuse across Southend, Essex and Thurrock; providing information, advice and guidance and, where appropriate assessment and access to specialist services. Its function is to increase accessibility to ensure victims of domestic abuse get the right support at the right time. COMPASS is funded by Essex County Council in partnership with the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex to support victims of domestic abuse across Southend, Essex and Thurrock.

It will help women, men and young people aged over 16 to access specialist support including community-based services and specialist accommodation to help them recover and move on from

domestic abuse. COMPASS is accessible 24hrs a day. Callers can speak with a trained member of staff and there will also be an online form for both public and professionals wishing to make a referral via the website. COMPASS is delivered by Southend on Sea Domestic Abuse Projects. The telephone number is 0330 333 7 444. The website is <https://www.essexcompass.org.uk/>

THE FORGOTTEN GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

May is a lovely month at the Gardens. The leaves are still looking fresh, the handkerchief tree flowers are wafting in the breeze and fruit and vegetables are becoming established in the walled kitchen garden.

This year though it will be doubly special as the Italian garden lily pond will be bouncing back from its clean-up and restoration. We will also hopefully be seeing the restoration of the stone steps into the Italian Garden.



Our 19th May Open Day will focus on the nature that we have in the Gardens. We will have bug hunting and other nature activities and we will be joined by our beekeepers, Uttlesford Badger Group, Essex Bat Group, Essex Wildlife Trust and the RSPB as well as plant and craft stalls. We are also very pleased that Thaxted Morris Dancers will be with us at 12.30pm.

The gate will open at 11.30 am and we will have our usual refreshments – hot and cold drinks and of course our famous bacon and cheese rolls and homemade cakes. Please come along and support us and have a nice day out at the same time. Children and well behaved dogs on a lead (not the children) are welcome. For further details, please go to our website: www.eastonlodge.co.uk
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

Aerial, Satellite Installation & Security		01279 656983
Alzheimer	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 810800
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
Launderette	Ian Kennedy	01279 866183
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
Petals Play for kids	Hana Hainsby	07730 619522
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	Elaine Wright	01279 813474

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

Moorswood 14th May 10.30 am to 12 noon Coffee Morning

All are welcome

For hall bookings please contact: Elaine Wright 01279 813474.
stmaryschurch.birchanger@gmail.com

St. Mary's Church News



Church services

May 5th 11:15am Mattins service
May 12th 11:15am Holy Communion
May 19th 11:15 am Family service
May 26th 11:15am Holy Communion

Church news

Hot off the press, Prize Bingo was a great success, raising over £500 for church funds. More fundraising events coming soon

Ascension Day each year is held on a Thursday 39 days after Easter Sunday. This day commemorates Jesus Christ's ascension into heaven. This year it is observed on Thursday, May 30th.

Pentecost is a Christian observance commemorating the descent of the Holy Spirit on Jesus Christ's disciples, according to the Christian Bible. Many Christians celebrate Pentecost, which is also known as Pentecost Sunday, Whitsunday, or Whit Sunday, this year it will be on June 10th. The word Pentecost means "the 50th day" because the Pentecost celebration occurs seven weeks, or fifty days, after Easter Sunday. According to the ancient Israel calendar, Pentecost is the Greek name given for the Feast of Weeks, a major feast celebrating the giving of the 10 Commandments from God to Moses on top of Mount Sinai. Some Christians refer to Pentecost as the "Birthday of the Church." We may have tea and cake on this day so come along and celebrate with us!

Did you know?

That The Holy spirit is represented within the church as a white dove? The dove signifies the purity and peace the Holy Spirit brings. Can you find the dove in St Mary's church? Here's a clue its high up on the east wall.

Trinity Sunday, which will be celebrated this year on June 17th, celebrates the Christian doctrine of the Trinity, the three Persons of God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Sir Arthur Blomfield was an eminent Architect who designed St Mary's Church along with many other churches and great buildings in the UK. In 1882 Blomfield designed the Royal College of Music in London. He also worked with Henry Woodyer who was the architect for the Rectory and also other church buildings. Thomas Willement called "the Father of Victorian Stained Glass", was active from 1811 to 1865 and designed and made the east window at St Marys.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 14th May Coffee morning at Moorswood from 10:30 am to 12.00 noon, all are welcome. There will be a raffle, bric-a-brac and good company. (If you need transport please let us know).

A prayer for May

Lord, inspire me to live in such a way that my choices each day and my commitment to live in a positive way may transform the negative into something positive, and the ordinariness of daily life into something extraordinary.
Amen.

If you would like to know more about St Mary's church and the services we hold or want to get more involved look us up on our Facebook page or contact us by email:
stmaryschurch.birchanger@gmail.com Elaine Wright

Village Church Hal



For further information and bookings contact;
Elaine Wright on 01279 813474
 stmaryschurch.birchanger@gmail.com

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



The Big Bus for Little People

Now visits
 Walson Way,
 Forest Hall,
 Stansted
 CM24 8EU

Wednesday Afternoons

From 1.45 - 3.0pm during term time and at half term breaks. We have lots of pre-school activities on-board Buffy, including regular cooking sessions. Cost £2.50 per child (voluntary donation)

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



Hien's Nails
 Nail & Pedicure Treatment Specialists

New salon now open

12 Church Street, Bishop's Stortford
 Hertfordshire CM23 2LY

- Brand new salon ➤
- Luxury pedicure chairs ➤
- Comfortable waiting area ➤

www.HiensNails.co.uk

Walk-in bookings welcome. To book call:

☎ 01279 507019 ☎ 07429 013088

Nights ADULT DANCE CLASSES

Birchanger on Wednesday Nights

Birchanger Village Hall
 209 Birchanger Lane
 Bishop's Stortford
 Herts. CM23 5QJ
 Starting on Wednesday 10th October
 7.00 - 7.45pm

**All classes £6 pp per night
 pay on the door**



**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.