

Birchanger Village Magazine

November 2022

Issue 238



Have The Travellers Finally Run Out of Road?

The answer to that question is that it may well be for the High Court to decide. Here is an update on the situation regarding the travellers caravan site at the A120 end of Birchanger Lane.

As most local residents will be aware, the Travellers moved on to the site in July 2018. The site forms part of the Green Belt and so, obviously, the Travellers did not have planning permission.

Shortly afterwards, Uttlesford District Council (UDC) began proceedings to remove the Travellers from the site and, following a series of delays, a government-appointed Planning Inspector carried out a review of the case in 2021. The Inspector described the Travellers' actions as "intentional unauthorised development". Nevertheless, on 9 October 2021, the Inspector gave permission for the Travellers to remain, but with a number of conditions.

At a Public Meeting in Birchanger on 5 November 2021, the UDC Chief Executive made clear that he disagreed with the Inspector's decision but said that it had been "handed down by the Government" and he was not prepared to expose the Council to the financial risk of a legal challenge. However, he gave a commitment for the future that UDC would "unequivocally protect the Green Belt".

Over a year has passed since the Inspector's decision and it is clear that the Travellers have not complied with a key condition imposed by the Inspector. The Travellers were required to produce and agree a Site Development Scheme (SDS) with UDC within 11 months – i.e., by 8 September 2022 – setting out their plans for the layout, lighting, drainage, and landscaping of the site.

The Inspector's condition allowed for the possibility that UDC might not approve the SDS and ruled that in

such circumstance, the Travellers had to appeal to the Secretary of State by 8 September 2022. Neither of these requirements took place prior to the 8 September deadline (and, at time of writing, have still not taken place). The Inspector was clear as to the consequences of the Travellers failing to meet this condition:

"The use hereby permitted shall cease and all caravans, structures, equipment and materials brought onto the land for the purposes of such use shall be removed and the land restored to its condition before the development took place within 28 days of the date of failure to meet any one of the requirements ..."

The 28 days allowed for the Travellers to clear the site expired on 6 October but, again, there is no sign of the Travellers complying with this requirement.

At the heart of this issue is protection of the Green Belt around the village. Birchanger has always welcomed newcomers without fear or favour but expects everyone to abide by the rules and it has always been of paramount importance to protect the Green Belt. This is fundamental to preserving the separate identity of Birchanger village and avoiding coalescence with Bishop's Stortford and/or Stansted Mountfitchet.

The onus is now upon UDC to enforce the Inspector's unambiguous condition.

Volunteers Wanted

Pam Lee is looking for some youngsters who will step forward to read at this year's Evening Carol Service on the 16th December. Colin is aiming to modernise the whole event so that it is more family friendly. It would be great to see some of our younger residents joining in. If you are interested, please let me know. Also, if anyone has any ideas for community projects that youngsters can get involved in, please let me know as I may be able to help you access some funding.

Pam Lee

Tel: 07702 171744



Changes at Birchanger Butterflies Pre-School

We have had several changes here at the pre-school since coming back from the summer break. I (Carly Richards) have now taken on the role of the Pre-School Manager. I grew up in Birchanger and lived there for 28 years before moving to Stansted. I now live in Elsenham. All three of my children have attended Birchanger pre-school and primary school (My youngest is still at the school).

I have been working at the pre-school for seven years and it holds a great place

in my heart. I have great support from my newly appointed Deputy, Emma Lawson, who has been working at the pre-school for five years. Emma's eldest attended the pre-school and her youngest is due to start very soon.

I am ready for the new challenge of running the pre-school to a high standard and making sure we keep up our wonderful reputation. We have welcomed many new families into the pre-school setting since the summer and the children have been finding their feet and settling beautifully.



This term our topic has been 'All about me' and we have been exploring our family roots and talking about ourselves. We have been looking at our reflections in the mirror and drawing what we see, which has been very interesting. The children were able to notice that everyone looks different to each other but can have some similarities too which we thought was very clever!

We are looking forward to taking part in some spooky Halloween/Fireworks activities and even have a little Halloween party planned for the last day of term. Please feel free to call us on 01279 810800 if you have a pre-school aged child and would like to come and have a look around, we take children from 2 years until they go to school. The picture shows an innovative collage made by one of our pre-school pupils.

Carly Richards - Pre-School Manager

Dangerous Pavement in Birchwood Essex Highways consider this to be cosmetic!



Despite reporting this issue months ago, Essex Highways have done nothing to make it safe!

If you know of any other pavement defects in the parish, please email: Councillor Geof Driscoll at geofDriscoll@aol.com



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



07817 904333



2 Harrisons, Birchanger

VILLAGE NEWS

By Elizabeth Godwin

With Christmas Comes 'The Big Light Up'!

Yes, with the dark evenings and colder weather drawing in, we can be certain that Christmas is not far away. For many it is the focal point of the year and many from outside the village are relishing the prospect of enjoying the Birchanger Christmas lights once again. For those who light up their own homes it is a great deal of hard work. Some of the designs are so involved it can take months of planning to get right, but whatever you do you light up the mood as well as the skies in Birchanger.



Switching on the lights will officially take place at the social club on Friday December 2nd at 7.00 pm where drinks, mince pies and carols can be enjoyed. Everyone, (including non-members) will be welcomed at the club to

help launch the Christmas 2022 Big Light Up. The cup winner for the best light display will be announced at the club on Friday December 16th at 9.00 pm.

Knife Crime - A Sign of the Times

A few years ago, we were given defibrillator kits to help revive victims of heart attacks and had one installed at the Birchanger Sports & Social Club. This has seen some use and perhaps a reminder that it is there on the front wall of the club might save more heart attack victims in the future. Now as knife crime is touching more and more families, Essex County Council is supplying knife trauma kits all over the county. The nearest one to us will be at The Kings Arms in Stansted but this is too far away to be of any use in an emergency in Birchanger. It is hoped that one in Birchanger will never be needed. However, like the defibrillator, you never know when one may be required. The kits cost only £104 each. Should we have one in Birchanger? The kits have been set up in memory of Liam Taylor after fund raising by his grandmother. The packs contain gloves, scissors, a foil blanket, a mouth guard for CPR, a trauma dressing, chest seal, pack bandage and a tourniquet. The kits can be used for any type of injury where there is heavy bleeding and like the kit for heart attacks it would be good to know it was there. Perhaps the parish council should give it some consideration?

Birchanger All Girls Society

The 'BAGS' welcome women to join them on the last Wednesday of every month at 8.00 pm in the village hall.

Next meeting:

Wednesday 30th November 7.45 for 8.00 pm

Craft evening making Christmas table decorations

bags@birchanger.com

Olivia: 07568 574703

Rosemary: 01279 814678



Have You Met Megan the Birchanger Dog Mother?

If you need to go away and unfortunately cannot take your dog, there is a lady here in Birchanger who will be happy to welcome your dog into her home to stay with her and her three very well-behaved dogs until you get back. Your dog

will become part of the family while you are away. Much friendlier and happier than lock up dog kennels. Your dog will be made to feel completely at home and you can relax in the knowledge that your dog is being given the best of care. Megan can be reached on 07543 642140

Christmas is Not Far Away

Perhaps you did not need to be told, but as invitations to parties or dining out start to arrive, this can be a tricky time of the year for those of us trying to watch our waistlines. If you haven't already given up on your waistline, there are things you can try to do to make it more difficult to pile on the kilos. Along with the invitation you are often asked to pre-order your food at the restaurant. Make healthier choices and stick to them. Don't be influenced by the choices your friends make. Go easy on the appetisers. Do you really need that buttered roll? It is very tempting especially if the food takes a long time to arrive. If you have to, grab the wholemeal one and hold the butter. Leave the crisps alone. Remember all you can eat does not mean you have to stuff yourself. Vegetables covered in sauces can be full of calories. Watch out for the dressings on the salads, they can be calorie loaded. If you want to be really good, you could ask for a dressing free salad on the side. Choose from the menu wisely. You could just go for two courses. Eat normally throughout the day. Starving yourself usually means you just grab everything to eat in the evening! Most of all enjoy the food. If you don't like it, you don't have to eat it.

Don't Let Careless Driving Spoil Your Christmas

Most years at Christmas time we hear horrible tales of road accidents. Most of these could have been avoided if people actually thought more about the people they are in risk of harming. The most vulnerable road users include pedestrians, riders on two wheels, and equestrians for a start. Everyone who drives a motor vehicle is using a very potent weapon. In any decision a driver makes, vulnerable people must come first. Sadly, the road casualties show only too clearly that it simply does not happen. Everyone needs to look at their driving. We see plenty of examples of poor driving standards here in Birchanger Lane! The rat runners speeding through the village. Parents rushing to take their children to school and lorry drivers who fail to read the signs that the lane is unsuitable for heavy goods vehicles forcing cars and pedestrians alike on to inadequate or unsafe places on the verge as they attempt to squeeze past. The police are only too well aware of motorways where speeding drivers crash into the rear of others when they fail to see the queue ahead. In 18 days this summer, 13 motorcyclists, 7 cyclists and 2 pedestrians were either killed or suffered serious injuries. With the festive season fast approaching with the long dark nights and adverse weather conditions please take care. We want everyone to have the best possible Christmas.

Is Your Chimney Ready for Winter

With fuel so expensive, many of us have been contemplating using open fires or wood burners and leaving the central heating alone for now. But is your chimney ready for safe use? Chimneys should be swept annually, whether they have been used or not. Most of us do not do that, but the fire service advises that you get the chimney swept before you use it and that you always use the appropriate fuel for your type of fire or wood burner. All logs should be dry before you attempt to burn them. The fire service has many call outs to chimney fires at this time of year simply because people forget to clean their chimney.

Children Should be Happy at Christmas

The Children's Society has published a report which shows that children's happiness has been in decline over the past few years. Worrying for parents and schools alike. Apparently, it is not their friends and families they dislike but their own appearance, their school and their schoolwork. The causes are not entirely clear, but most parents agree that Covid had a negative effect on their children's education. The next few months will not be easy. 85% of parents are very understandably worried about the cost-of-living crisis and what the next few months will bring.

One thing is certain, we need to talk to our children. Make them feel included and able to share everyone's concerns. Ignoring them will just add to everyone's problems.

Could You be a Call Handler for Essex Police?

When you call Essex Police, either through the 999 service or 101, you are usually worried or stressed in some way. You need calm reassurance. The first voice that you hear seems like a lifeline. That voice is very important indeed. Could you be that voice? Essex Police are looking for more staff to reinforce their call handling team. If you can remain calm and steady through another's crisis and can give confidence and reassurance to the caller, you will be helping someone to cope with a major incident in their lives. You will not be alone. You would be part of a team. Support and training will be given with colleagues on hand ready to help as well. Call Essex Police to find out more.

Have You Had Your Covid Jab Yet?

At the end of September, a great many Birchanger residents formed a cheerful and chatty queue outside the surgery in Stansted. Most people were there for a dose of the Covid vaccine and the annual flu jab. One in each arm! The atmosphere was cheerful despite the keen wind and most people were grateful to take advantage of this opportunity and feel safer. The event was well run and on this occasion the queue was long, but everyone felt that it was something they had to do. Most people will have only a mild reaction, many will not notice any reaction at all. If you do, don't push yourself, just spend a few hours with a good book or a favourite film and this will pass. Much better than catching either Covid or this season's flu.

Help Against Violence in a Relationship

Violence in relationships is mainly hidden, and often the victim feels shame and guilt in some way. But it is not usually the victims who are at fault. Violence will not stop unless the abuser is helped to stop perpetrating it. They need to understand why they do this, and they need to learn to take responsibility for what they are doing. In a new program the violent partner is asked to listen to how the other feels when faced with violent behaviour.



Help is now available, but the barrier is the abusers themselves! This behaviour seems to be the norm to them. The new project, known as 'The Change Project', is there to help these violent relationships.

The project aims to teach abusers how to control their emotions, and aims to help both victim and abuser. The project is available to either party on 0845 372 7701. You can also contact them on their website: <https://www.thechange-project.org/>. Both parties will be able to talk to someone who understands their situation and is able to discuss just what help could be available to both victim and abuser helping them to find a way forward and out of the cycle of abuse

Airport Fly parking in Birchanger

If you suspect a parked car outside your home is being used for airport parking, please make the effort to report it to Stansted Airport. Believe it or not, the airport is required to record all reports of 'vehicle fly parking' and the data is used to monitor problem areas. For example, Stansted South / Forest Hall recently reported to Stansted Airport that they had real issues with fly parking and asked the airport to supply official signs to deter these annoying drivers. When Stansted Airport checked their data, they confirmed that there was a real problem and they installed 'No parking for airport vehicles - residential parking only' signs.

Stansted Airport Limited operates a Freephone number for reporting suspected on-street airport related car parking. The Freephone number is: 0800 7312385. When you call, the automated system will ask you a number of questions to help Stansted Airport collect the information it needs to tackle any issues. Alternatively, you can report fly parking to Stansted Airport fly parking online on:

<https://www.stanstedatf.com/fly-parking-local-access/>

All calls/reports are reviewed on a quarterly basis by the Highways Working Group of the Stansted Area Transport Forum. If any clusters of parking are identified which are causing difficulties for local residents, funding is available for the investigation, drawing up, consultation and implementation of either no waiting restrictions or residents' parking schemes.

ENVIRO ELECTRICAL SERVICES

enviroelectricalservices@gmail.com



DANIEL ROSS
07703484090

City & Guilds Qualified
Part P Registered
DBS Checked

Friendly, Professional electrician with over 20 years experience based in Bishop's Stortford, offering all domestic electrical solutions in Herts & Essex



Taylor Landscapes
Landscapes For Living


07941357934


mark.taylor@taylorsvcs.net

 
@TaylorLandscapesLtd

Beware the Booze Thieves

Yes, the booze thieves could arrive at a supermarket near you. They have been running a highly successful series of organised raids on a growing number of supermarkets.

The gang consists of several members who bring their trolleys into the supermarket as normal and calmly begin filling them with the finest champagnes and spirits available. Then just as calmly, they simply walk out of the supermarket with their loot with fellow customers assuming they must have paid. They quickly load the goods into their very nondescript waiting vehicles and are away before anyone realises what has actually happened. No time for registration numbers to be taken just stares from utterly bemused staff and customers.



It takes a while for the enormity of what has happened to sink in. The crime is growing and there are instances of similar crimes in other areas as well. Possibly the gangs steal to order but until they are caught nobody has any idea of where they end up.

If you see something suspicious when you shop, report it to a member of staff immediately but do not approach the perpetrators. This is an instance when, as the jargon goes, every little helps! No wonder the price of fine booze is rising faster than usual.

FREE BUFFY BUS



BUFFY PLAYBUS VISITS BIRCHANGER

EVERY THURSDAY MORNING
FREE TICKET FOR CHILDREN UNDER 5
FROM 11.15AM – 12.30PM

WE WILL BE PARKING IN
BIRCHANGER LANE
CM23 5QT

COME ALONG AND JOIN IN THE FUN FOR FREE

To book a session visit
<https://bookwhen.com/buffybus>



Lots of celebrations have been taking place this year for the 40th Anniversary of the u3a. In Stansted, the u3a Singers held a concert in St. John's Church to celebrate the great gift of love.

Members were also treated to a tea party, with lots of home baked cakes served by members of the committee who made splendid waiters. We had a superb Quiz on 'How much do you know about Stansted'. Great questions, just wish we had known the answers.

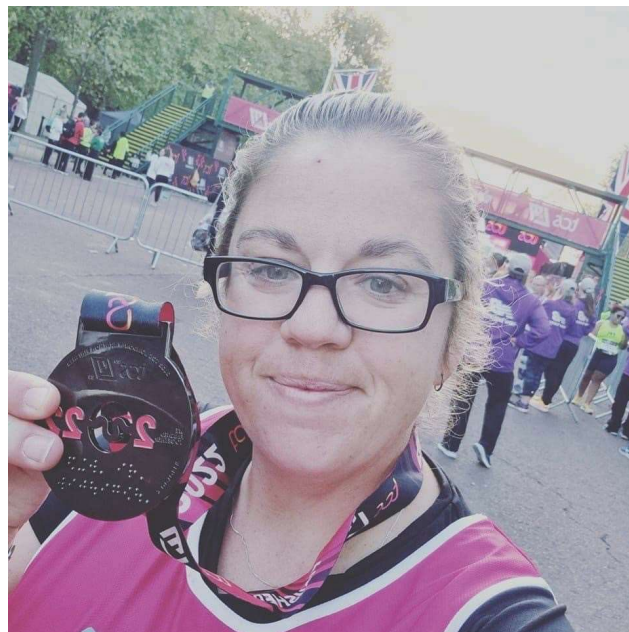
Our open day in St John's Church showcased many of the interest groups and activities that we offer including musical items by the Stansted u3a Singers and Strummers. There was also the 'Cutting of the Cake' iced in the colours of the u3a. We hope that we inspired you to come to one of our future meetings.

The Gardening Club, one of our most successful groups has been finding out about Langhorn's Plantery where they had a complete tour of the nursery. Ed Cannon, owner and head plantsman, was generous with his time and knowledge as he gave them a conducted tour of his 12-acre site. The nursery propagates from many rare plants each year, many acquired from modern day plant hunters. It was particularly fortuitous that our visit followed an open weekend when tea and cakes had been sold in support of 'British Humanitarian Aid for Ukraine'. We were particularly grateful to Ed because he was usually closed on a Monday but gave up his day off to host us, even giving us tea and cake in his own garden when he must have been exhausted.

Our next meeting will be held in St. John's Hall at 2.00 p.m. on 17th November. Peter Jones will be giving a talk on 'How I met Kylie Minogue'. His talks are always highly entertaining. Do come.

Eileen Quinn

Cat Roberson's Marathon Run Raises Over £2,000 for Charity



Cat joined the London Marathon as part of Team Tommy's and ran 26 miles to raise money for her favourite charity Tommy's. A charity that funds medical research into causes of miscarriage, stillbirth and premature birth. "My back went at mile 5, my knee at around mile 15 but I did it, I completed the London Marathon 2022 in 7 hrs 11 min's. Not what I wanted but in the face of injuries and more KT tape than I care to mention it wasn't so shabby" said Cat after the race.

What's on in the village...



November 2022



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 7.30 pm in the church hall - **Open to the public.**

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sun

Garden Waste skip:- Outside the social club on Saturday between 2.30 and 3.30 pm on November 12th

	1 Church hall: 12.00 Tap Dance 16.45 Ballet 18.00 - 21.15 Apton Dance 18.45 Teenage Street Dance	2 Church hall: 10.00 Tai Chi 12.45 Takeley Art 14.00 Tea Room 14.00 Fencing 18.00 - 22.00 Apton Dance	3 Black Bin Church hall: 11.00 Line dance BSSC: 20.00 Bingo	4 Church Hall: 09.00 - 12.00 Apton Dance - Private Lessons	5 Church Hall: 09.00 - 13.00 Apton Dance for kids BSSC: 19.00 Fireworks Extravaganza	6 St Mary's Church: 11.15 am Family Service BSSC: Sunday Roast
7 Church Hall: 19.00 - 20.30 Apton Dance Latin/Ballroom BSSC: Quiz Night	8 Church hall: 12.00 Tap Dance 16.45 Ballet 18.00 - 21.15 Apton Dance 18.45 Teenage Street Dance	9 Church hall: 10.00 Tai Chi 12.45 Takeley Art 14.00 Tea Room 14.00 Fencing 18.00 - 22.00 Apton Dance	10 Green Bin # Church hall: 11.00 Line dance BSSC: 20.00 Bingo	11 Church Hall: 09.00 - 12.00 Apton Dance - Private Lessons	12 Church Hall: 09.00 - 13.00 Apton Dance for kids BSSC: 13.00 Meat draw 20.30 Afterlife - LIVE	13 St Mary's Church: 11.15 Remembrance Sunday BSSC: Sunday Roast
14 Church Hall: 19.00 - 20.30 Apton Dance Latin/Ballroom BSSC: Quiz Night	15 Church hall: 12.00 Tap Dance 16.45 Ballet 18.00 - 21.15 Apton Dance 18.45 Teenage Street Dance	16 Church hall: 10.00 Tai Chi 12.45 Takeley Art 14.00 Tea Room 14.00 Fencing 18.00 - 22.00 Apton Dance	17 Black Bin Church hall: 11.00 Line dance BSSC: 20.00 Bingo	18 Church Hall: 09.00 - 12.00 Apton Dance - Private Lessons	19 Church Hall: 09.00 - 13.00 Apton Dance for kids BSSC: 13.00 Meat draw	20 St Mary's Church: 11.15 Matins Service BSSC: Sunday Roast
21 Church Hall: 19.00 - 20.30 Apton Dance Latin/Ballroom BSSC: Quiz Night	22 Church hall: 12.00 Tap Dance 16.45 Ballet 18.00 - 21.15 Apton Dance 18.45 Teenage Street Dance	23 Church hall: 10.00 Tai Chi 12.45 Takeley Art 14.00 Tea Room 14.00 Fencing 18.00 - 22.00 Apton Dance	24 Green Bin # Church hall: 11.00 Line Dance BSSC: 20.00 Bingo	25 Church Hall: 09.00 - 12.00 Apton Dance - Private Lessons	26 Church Hall: 09.00 - 13.00 Apton Dance Studio for kids BSSC: 13.00 Meat draw	27 St Mary's Church: 11.15 am Holy Communion Service BSSC: Sunday Roast
28 Church Hall: 19.00 - 20.30 Apton Dance Latin/Ballroom BSSC: Quiz Night	29 Church hall: 12.00 Tap Dance 16.45 Ballet 18.00 - 21.15 Apton Dance 18.45 Teenage Street Dance	30 Church hall: 10.00 Tai Chi 12.45 Takeley Art 14.00 Tea Room 14.00 Fencing 18.00 - 21.15 Apton Dance 20.00 BAGS				



BIRCHANGER SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

NEWS FROM THE CLUB



WHAT'S ON

Another busy month at the Club in November kicking off with our popular **FREE Fireworks Extravaganza**. We've also launched our exciting **NEW Winter Menu** so come along and sample some of Chef Rob's Winter Warmers, as well as our great range of cask ales, gins and wines. We'll also be showing the Qatar World Cup games on our big screen - we'll be adapting our opening times to suit Kick Offs.

We look forward to seeing you!



NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

Find out more on our website at www.birchangerclub.com or ask a member of staff.



Christmas Menu

December 1st - 24th ~ 3 Courses £25.95

Starters

Smoked Salmon with Honey Mustard Dressing
Melon and Parma Ham on a Bed of Pomegranate Salad
Smoked Paté Served with Onion Marmalade and Croûtes
Deep fried Brie Wedges & Gooseberry Compote

Main Course

Roast Turkey with all the Traditional Trimmings ~
Pigs in Blankets, Stuffing, Carrots, Sprouts, Roast Potatoes & Parsnips
Oven Roasted Salmon & Bernaise Sauce with Vegetables and New Potatoes
10oz Rump Steak and Grilled Accompaniment with Chips & Peas £3.00 surcharge
Cranberry & Nut Roast Puff with Traditional Trimmings ~
Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Sprouts and Parsnips

Desserts

Raspberry & White Chocolate Roulade
Christmas Pudding served with Brandy Custard
Profiterole Paradise
White Chocolate & Limoncello Cheesecake
Cheese & Biscuits £2.00 surcharge

Mince Pies, Tea & Coffee *£1.95

*Book before December to redeem FREE

LIVE SPORT



**FIFA WORLD CUP
Qatar 2022**

20th November - 18th December



OPENING HOURS

Monday:	5-11pm	Kitchen Closed
Tuesday:	5-11pm	Kitchen Closed
Wednesday:	5-11pm	Food: 5-9pm
Thursday:	12-3pm/5-11pm	Food: 12-2pm/5-9pm
Friday:	12-11pm	Food: 12-2pm/5-9pm
Saturday:	12-11pm	Food: 12-9pm
Sunday:	12-8.30pm	Food: 12-3pm

For all general enquiries

Telephone: 01279 813441 Email: club@birchanger.com
Website: www.birchangerclub.com

Follow us on Social Media
For all news and announcements





Birchanger Primary School

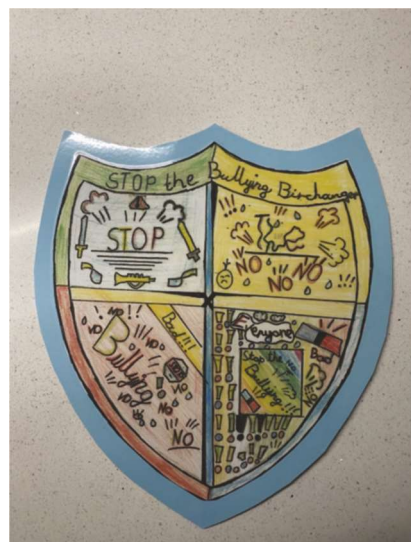
Hello from Birchanger C of E Primary School

This has been a busy month for us as the children have settled in well to their new classes, new friends and the learning for the new year.

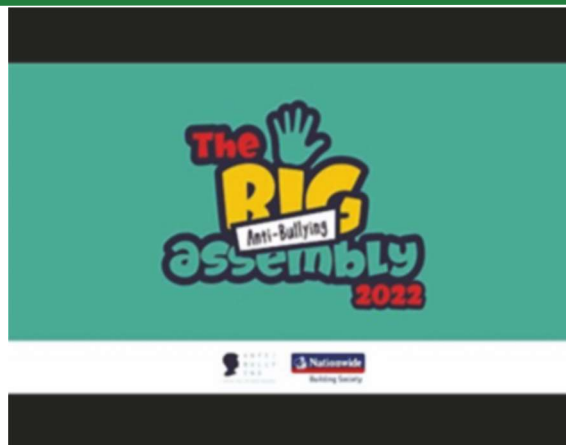
As well as teaching lessons across the curriculum our values and ethos run across lessons and into trips, break and lunchtime too. Our school approach is based on our Christian values of love, care, courage and truth. When Ofsted came to see us they commented that our children 'care for each other and enjoy learning together.'



This month the children have been focusing on antibullying with the children and their families. We understand that it can be confusing for families to access quality information to help support their children. Whilst there is much good information available it can be difficult to know where to start! To help our parents and families we dedicate a space on our weekly newsletter to keeping our children safe, which highlights useful websites. To add to this, recently the school has accessed the 'National Online Safety' app for our parents so that they can easily access information and training to keep all of our children safe. The training on the app is presented by Mylene Klass who you may know from classical music and the television.



As part of our focus, the children felt that it was time for us to renew the antibullying shield. We have one of these shields on every door in our school as our previous shield was designed three years ago. All of the children have made a personal design and some of our older children will choose a winner in November.



You may remember that our current Yr. 5 children worked their way through the Diana Awards which focuses on antibullying. The organisation was so impressed by the work that our school had done that one of our children, Laura, was featured in the charities 'Big Assembly' alongside celebrities from children's television and from the movies. You can watch the videos on YouTube by googling: 'The Big Anti-Bullying Assembly 2022 - YouTube'.

We had a special screening in our school hall, and everyone agreed that Laura had reflected the school's commitment to anti-bullying brilliantly.

Claire Berry - Headteacher



British Gas Fake Refund

This scam email offers you a refund of £315 for overpayment of energy in 2020-2021. Any official energy refund is managed through the British Gas website and your online account, not over emails like this.

The email uses the official British Gas logo and branding and is addressed to your email address. Although the email looks seemingly legitimate, addressing you by your email address and not your name is a potential giveaway that it's from a fraudster. The email includes a bogus reference number to give the impression that it's authentic.

The scam email reads: 'British Gas wants to inform you that you are eligible for a payment refund. Our records indicates [sic] that you have paid more than you should have for your British Gas service from 2020 - 2021. 'Because of this reason and that we value our clients we have decided to refund the total amount which you have overpaid.' It lists the refund amount as £315 and includes a dodgy link with the words 'Claim your refund now!'

Do not click on the link in the email. If you think the email you received could be genuine, you should contact British Gas using its official contact number from its website to verify the authenticity of the email.

Suspicious emails claiming to be from British Gas can be forwarded to phishing@centrica.com. You can also report scam emails by forwarding them to report@phishing.gov.uk and make sure to never click on any links within the email. Use Hotmail's 'Report phishing' button and Gmail's 'Report spam' button to report scam emails.



Road Traffic Problems Who's to Blame?

For the past year it seems as if every local road in close proximity to Stansted Airport has been subject to extensive roadworks, closures, and diversions, causing enormous inconvenience and frustration for local residents. To what extent is Stansted Airport to blame?

The truth is that the huge scale of local housebuilding is a major contributor to our traffic problems, but a significant part of the blame is directly due to the long-term growth of Stansted Airport. As well as increased noise and climate change impacts, one of the main adverse consequences of airport expansion is the additional road traffic generated by the growth in passenger numbers. Two thirds of Stansted's passengers travel to/from the airport by road, mainly by private car, but some also by coach, taxi and hire car.



Airport staff, contractors and cargo handlers add to airport-related daily traffic flows. Stansted is expected to handle about 23 million passengers this year. This is 63,000 passengers on an average day and 80,000 on a peak day. With most travelling by road, this has a significant impact on Junction 8 of the M11 as well as our local roads.

Following last year's Public Inquiry, Stansted now has permission for 43 million passengers a year. That would mean 150,000 airport passengers on a peak day. As they say, the worst is yet to come. It is often argued by Stansted Airport that the reason for its eye-watering £7.00 passenger drop-off charge (the highest for any UK airport) is to encourage a switch from car use to public transport. There is some truth in this. Stansted has high public transport use compared to other UK airports.

However, the most popular method for passengers travelling to/from the airport is by car, which is why it has parking spaces for over 30,000 cars. And there is a good reason to suspect that the airport might not be too keen to see a reduction in car use. Stansted's underlying earnings from car parking are more than £100 million a year, making this its principal source of profit.

Brian Ross

THE FORGOTTEN GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

NEWS FROM THE GARDENS OF EASTON LODGE

In November we will be continuing with our autumn jobs and the few remaining visitors attending our Open Thursdays will enjoy with us what warmth is left of the sun. Both the Italian Garden and the walled kitchen garden are good heat traps and away from the wind. We won't be providing catering in November, but there will be a warm welcome to any visitors wishing to enjoy the final autumn colour and the swishing of the fallen leaves in the Lime Wood.

In October we made a good start to our autumn jobs. In November, volunteers will be finishing the tidying and bulb planting. Snowdrops are of course our signature plant for the new year. We have naturalised the wild daffodils in the Lime Walk and Glade.



We have already added tulips to provide a hit of early colour in the Italian Garden and *Ixia* waft at the front of the kitchen cut flower border. This autumn we are planting more tulips, as well as narcissi, erythronium (dog's tooth violets) and aconites.

In October we planted shrubs very kindly donated to us and our plant and tree surgeons have undertaken major tree surgery on diseased and unstable trees, so we have lots of wood chipping's. Throughout the gardens, the shrubs, young trees and vegetable beds welcome as much mulch and manure as we can give them. So, in November we will have plenty of heavy work to keep us warm! We are always ready to take on new volunteers, so if this takes your fancy, please do look up our volunteering pages on the website and contact us!

Jill Goldsmith

<https://www.eastonlodge.co.uk/>



The Hundred Parishes Society

I live in Stansted Mountfitchet. The name is an interesting one: Stansted derives from Saxon language meaning stony place; Mountfitchet is a corruption of Montfiquet, a village in Normandy. A man from there fought with William the Conqueror and was rewarded with land in Stansted.



Several of the Hundred Parishes have names ending in the Saxon STED, STEAD or TED. THAXted refers to the thatch that could be obtained there; BROXted seems to come from BROCK, the old name for badger.



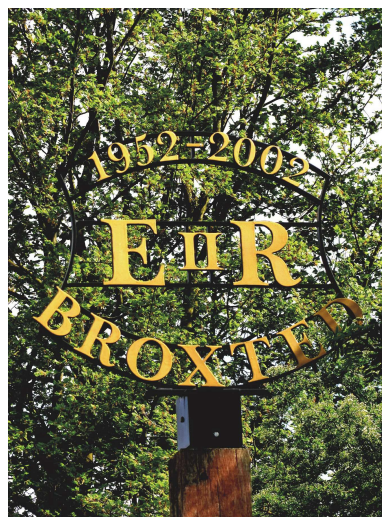
Many of our towns and villages were recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086. Duxford appears as Duchesuorde, or Duc's Enclosure. Duxford has a number of locations where ancient travellers could FORD the River Cam. There are several more FORDs.



Domesday includes the manor of Pelham, possibly the home or farm of a man called Peola. The Norman family De Furneux added its name to establish Furneux Pelham, while part of the manor was destroyed by fire in the twelfth century and became 'burnt' or Brent Pelham. Stocking Pelham seems to have adopted an Old English word meaning 'made of logs', perhaps referring to the parish church. HAM appears at the end of more parish names, suggesting that they also arose from someone's home or farm.



The parish of Quendon and Rickling was created in the 1940s, bringing together two settlements whose names related to an ancient queen. Quendon is recorded as Kuenadana in Domesday and may come from Old English words meaning a valley owned by the queen. Rickling was recorded as Richelinga and may be derived from Ricula who was the wife of Sledd, a 6th-century ruler of Essex.



Ten parish names end in ING, a Norse word for meadow or enclosure. More origins are discussed in the parish introductions on our website.

Ken McDonald, Secretary

www.hundredparishes.org.uk



The Three Horseshoes

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

Alzheimer	Marian	07803 115826
Art Studio & Gallery	Heather Brown	01279 815453
Ballroom Dance	Fred Winters	01763 271942
Ballet for kids	Philippa McMeechan	01763 271010
BAGS	Rosemary Wheatley	01279 814678
Beauty Therapist	Sarah Whiting	07887 638359
Birchanger Magazine	Peter Sampson	07817 904333
Butterflies Preschool	Carly Richards	01279 810800
BSSC Club	Terry Earnshaw	01279 813441
Car Service, MOT, Gas	D. Bonney	01279 813315
Car Service - Mobile	B. K. Autos	07786 461813
Chiropodist	Julie Golden	01279 873492
Dance - Apton Studio	Maxine Williams	07854 251528
Dementia	Debbie Baker	07927 011345
Garden Services	GWB Horticulture	01799 543483
Garden Services	Will Grange	07516 783138
Hairdresser Men/Boys	Emma Marks	07527 227943
Holistic therapy/Reflexology	Shelley Williams	07476 279262
Landscaping Services	Mark Taylor	07941 357934
Launderette	Ian Kennedy	01279 866183
Line Dancing	Shelley	01279 864781
Neighbourhood Watch	Peter Sampson	07817 904333
Painting & Décor	David Debnam	07973 861268
Parish Clerk	Keith Williams	01279 814773
Petals Children's Play	Hana Hainsby	07730 619522
Public Safety	Peter Sampson	07817 904333
Speed Watch	Peter Sampson	07817 904333
St. Mary's Church	Pam Lee	07702 171744
Tai Chi	Cait Goddard	07415 628935
The Three Horseshoes	Paul & Paula	01279 813429
The Three Willows	Mark Boden	01279 815913
Village Church Hall	Cat Roberson	07827 685741

St. Mary's Church



Church services - 11.15 am

6 th November	Family Service with Jo Pratt
13 th November at	11am Remembrance Sunday with Jo Pratt
20 th November	Matins with Pam Lee and Hugh Mascetti
27 th November	Holy Communion with Revd C. Fairweather

Over the past month I seem to have spent more and more of my time trying to manage financial matters for both the church and the hall, with little success thus far. I will be able to produce a realistic budget for the coming year, something I cannot do at the moment.

The main issue is the amount which this parish is required to contribute towards Diocesan costs and how this is calculated. St Mary's income is easy to predict. It comes from our small (usually 7 people) Sunday congregations, those people who generously make monthly donations via direct debits, ad hoc donations, fees, grants plus whatever we can fund raise.

Every church in the Diocese is assessed to pay a contribution (Share) towards central costs. Calculation of the share is a complicated one but essentially the amount to be paid relates to both the number of persons living in the parish and the number of persons included on the church electoral roll. This year the Diocese has stated that there are 1424 people living here. The Parish Council tells me there are approximately 750 people on the electoral roll. The Office of National Statistics estimate is 630. Just taking the Parish Council figure, I wondered where the 1424 figure come from. Forest Hall is still being regarded as being within the parochial parish of St Mary's, even though the parish boundary changed some years ago.

You may ask why this is a problem for St Mary's Birchanger. Well, if you take the figure of 1424 people here, our Share is calculated as £8,827 but with a population of 630, this reduces to £3,420. Some minor adjustments are made to consider the number of people on our church electoral roll. The more names we have on the roll, the higher the amount of Share requested so it is important that we keep an accurate record of those people who wish to remain on the roll, We will conduct an update, so if your name appears on the existing roll but you no longer attend our church services, you will receive a letter asking if you want to remain on the roll. Please consider very carefully what you decide, because if your name remains on the roll but you no longer support St Mary's, the other members of our congregation will be expected to cover the amount of Parish Share that is attributable to each name appearing on the roll. We need to manage church finances and secure the future of St Mary's, the hard part is estimating outgoings. Just like any other business we must try and reduce our outgoings. Any help that you can give is much appreciated.

Last year we hosted a Christmas Lunch in the hall. This was so successful that we are doing it again on the 3rd December. If you want to join us, please contact Pam Lee to reserve your place.

Sadly, last month we have lost two long term village residents - Dick Brown and Joan McHale. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Pam Lee (Church Warden)

Tel: 07702 171744

pam.mark2@btinternet.com



Village Church Hall

Available for hire

Tearoom open every Wednesday from 2.00 pm

For bookings or further information please contact:

Manager: Cat Roberson Telephone: 07827685741

Email: birchangerhall@gmail.com

St Mary's Church Future Events

13th November at 11am	Remembrance Service
3rd December	Christmas Lunch in the Hall*
6th December	Christmas coffee Morning Moorswood
16th December at 7pm	Evening Carol service

*Christmas lunch includes a full Turkey lunch with all the trimmings, dessert and wine all for £25 per person (children accompanied by an adult £5) and a visit from you know who!

Village Church Hall



For information and bookings contact:
Manager: Cat Roberson
Telephone: 07827685741
Email: birchangerhall@gmail.com

THE THREE WILLOWS



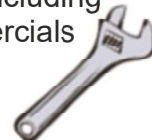
Fine dining & good beers. Children and dogs welcome. Bookings: 01279 815913
 Monday to Friday: 12 to 3pm & 5 to 11pm
 Saturday: 12 to 11pm Sunday: 12 to 6pm

B.K.AUTO'S

**Fully Qualified And Insured
 Mobile Mechanic**

Located within Birchanger,
 all makes and models serviced
 and repaired, including
 4x4 & commercials

**Contact: Ben
 07786461813**



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

Painting & Decorating



Bring new life to
 your home
 Interior - Exterior
 General
 Maintenance
 No job too small

David Debnam
 Tel: 01279 815214 Mob: 07973861268

GRANGE GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

Grass Cutting
 Hedge Cutting
 Weeding
 Planting
 Patio Cleaning
 Tree Works



Call Will on: 07516783138

SUDS Launderette

**WASH & IRON SERVICE
 CLOTHES - BEDDING - DUVETS**

Opening Times
 Mon - Fri 9.00 am - 6.00 pm
 Sat - Sun 9.00 am - 6.00 pm

Hockerill Lights, Bishop's Stortford
 Large car park at rear
Tel: 01279 866183

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 Peak Business Centre, Woodside Industrial Estate, Bishops Stortford CM23 5RG

Wireless Security Intruder alarms



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



Perfectly Pampered

Complementary & Holistic Therapies
 By Shelley Williams MGHT

07476 279262

Birchanger CM23 5QT

The natural approach to the wellbeing of
 women, focusing on relaxation, improving
 sleep, relieving stress, fatigue and anxiety
 through reflexology, facial and body massage
 therapies.

MGHT Accredited & Insured



**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.

Printers: Keeley & Lowe Tel: 020 7729 3350 - Email: info@keeleylowe.com

Editor: Peter Sampson Tel: 0781 7904333 Email: magazine@birchanger.com

Chairman: Elizabeth Godwin.

Treasurer: Ken Wheatley.