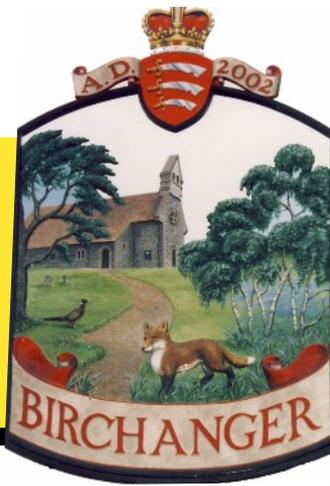


# Birchanger

August 2014



# Magazine

Issue 140

## THIRTY SEVEN CANDLES IN THE NIGHT

August 4th gave all the participants at the Act of Remembrance in the churchyard an evening they will never forget.

As usual Birchanger bucked the trend. Instead of extinguishing all the lights at 11pm, Birchanger began lighting candles, one for each man as his name was called. The resulting light just seemed to emphasise the fact that, if you died as a soldier and you came from Birchanger, you will truly never be forgotten. There they all were, their personal light placed carefully in position by a villager as their name was called, the not forgotten, in the centre of our village.

The light burned brightly through the night and those around were reluctant to leave. So many people came to watch and remember, that there was not a candle for everyone, as there are only 37 known soldiers from Birchanger who were killed in the 1914-18 war. One of the nephews of soldier Richard Phillips was also invited to participate and to personally place his light in memory of his uncle. Over 70 villagers attended the ceremony



A very special event, unique to Birchanger, which we hope will be repeated in 2039, although the lights will be dimmer as the numbers lost in World War 2 were far less.

Historical note Private Richard Phillips of the 6<sup>th</sup> Btn Northants regiment was killed in action on 7<sup>th</sup> August 1918 just prior to the battle of Amiens. Which is also known as the third battle of the Somme. He is buried in the Beacon Cemetery Sailly-Laurette, Somme. France. He was 18 years of age.



# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

*Elizabeth Godwin*

## Birchanger at its Brilliant Best!

Birchanger showed that it knew how to have a great party and raise money for village projects in the best possible way again last month. We have had revues, millennium parties and Burns Nights and much more in recent years, but on this special night in July Birchanger All Girls or the BAGS showed everyone that the traditional was more than just alive, it was flourishing and reaching new heights.

There is one person who is to blame for all this and it is the unique Liz McArthur, who had the original idea and who with husband John and the very dynamic duo known as the Tomatoes put together a gourmet delight which was just perfect for the summer evening. For once the weather on a big occasion, was kind and from the welcome Pimm's on arrival to the richest and most delicious chocolate dessert you have ever tasted onwards, the evening was fun and full of surprises.

Entertainment started with Birchanger's newly formed vocal Quintet, who had waited for this occasion for their first public performance. Then Birchanger girl Esther Richards performed with her own group and then it was up to everyone to dance if they wanted to or to simply chat with their friends until the auction began.

We are very lucky in Birchanger to have our own four resident artists who all donated pictures for the auction, the Tomatoes offered their own culinary and hosting talents to the highest bidder, while if you really needed it you could have bought a ton of manure for your garden, to be delivered free, naturally. The auction raised a staggering £1250.

It was an evening which will be remembered for years. So many people gave so much of their time and effort to make it the success it obviously was, from the glittering compere, Tom Granger, to all the girls who waited at table and who helped behind the scenes and in the preparation and decoration of the hall.

Well done to you all. You thought it might not work? That was the only thing you got wrong. It did!

## Tea and Cakes

The Wednesday Afternoon Tea in the Church Hall has become a regular feature in Birchanger life. The cakes remain delicious, and this is definitely a date to keep if

you happen to be in the village on a Wednesday afternoon.

Now in addition to coming and sitting down to tea and cakes, you can actually come and benefit from the take away service. This is particularly good if you happen to be picking children up from school. Not only can you buy the cakes to take home, the children can also buy sweets to take home as well. If as a parent you arrive early to pick up your child you could find that you have time to sit down and relax with a cup of tea and cake, in a welcome moment of peace and quiet.

Whoever you are, the tea room is a bonus, and if you just happen to be in Birchanger on a Wednesday afternoon, why not come and see the tea room in action for yourself.

## How was your holiday?

Good I hope, although at this peak time of the year it seems that everything is conspiring against the unfortunate holidaymaker.

Parents, if they try to obey the rules are trapped into a small 6 week holiday window, which makes their holidays very expensive and every part of the hotel trade puts up their charges as they know they have so many people to accommodate in that short space of time. Nice profits for them, but overcrowded airports, cramped flights and long queues for the rest of us.

Then if you do find yourself a bargain holiday, you find that the terrorists are also in on the act. They step up their activities so the airports are forced to step up their security, resulting in even longer queues for the hapless holiday maker. Shoes off, body searches, laptop scrutiny, bags turned out, all thanks to terrorism and the threat to everyday life.

If you had tried to get away earlier, you were faced with the ever considerate French Air Traffic controllers who managed to create 10 days chaos in their two day strike. They obligingly called it off early but the damage was done. Then Gatwick Airport managed to lose customers bags. They seem to do this fairly regularly but usually in the summer. Of course it was not actually their fault, the blame was as usual on a rogue computer.

There was the mildly humorous side. Two Ryanair planes managed to collide at Stansted Airport. I wonder who was the unlucky individual who had to tell the news to his boss? Not exactly an incident which will go unno-

ticed and not a job I would want. I am surprised that we did not hear the explosion from Birchanger. I understand Mr O'Leary was not amused.

We are also not amused by the delays caused by the requirement to switch on all our electrical items when going through security. (Only US bound flights are affected by this)

For those caught up in this at any of our airports the delays have not actually been a lot of fun. It just needed someone in the front of the queue to have something without the power to switch their device on and an argument about it, to hold everyone up to the point when tempers get somewhat frayed.

All this could make you feel that the late arrival of your new passport was not such a bad thing after all assuming it actually did arrive in the end, until you try to take to the road, that is. Getting down the M11 would prove to be an adventure in itself, with the spilt glue, wandering horses, fires and capsized lorries, even air travel looks like an easier option. Stuck on the M11 is possibly worse than being stuck at an airport? Well maybe, so you take a train. You will be lucky to find a seat which has not been booked already.

Staying in a hotel is not an option many can afford these days, and the best camp sites are all booked up early, despite the fact that good weather cannot be agreed. If you plan to travel across the channel you have to book early as well, but the weather is probably better. Then having made it across you have the overzealous French Speed Police who are now especially trained to catch the unsuspecting British Motorist with a hefty fine for exceeding the speed limit by two kilometres. Any more and the driver will be banned for three days. Rather a problem if you are the only driver. Camping by the motorway was not part of the plan.

Staying at home? Possibly the most expensive option. There are plenty of train deals, but getting into any attraction these days seems to cost an arm or a leg, unless you can find a special offer somewhere, although these tend to be available in January, not July. Food at all the tourist centres is very expensive, so you struggle to the train laden with packed lunches, drinks, coats and clothing changes. The children don't seem to be interested in the cheaper options. Visit the Tate Modern, no much rather a trip down the Thames.

Still it is summer, there are picnics and warm evenings and Summer is always a time to be savoured, whatever you do. It makes a good story in January when you ponder the holiday brochures all over again.

## Blink and you missed it.

It was not a Sunday, it was a Monday when the Tour de France flashed past our district. I say flash for although there was at the time the race went through Essex around a four minute gap between the peloton and the leaders, both groups were so fast that by the time the sight had been taken in, it was gone. In some cases the speed was faster than the speed limit but there were no tickets for anyone.

It seemed that despite the fact that the race was in Essex on a Monday, half the county had taken the day off. Some schools along the route had remained open, even bussing the children in, serving up a breakfast of croissants, decorating the grounds for the helicopter shots and enjoying a French Day, before lining the route to cheer the racers through. Most thoroughly enjoyed the once in a lifetime experience.

For those who chose to stay at home, the television coverage, highly annoying at times with the constant switching to unrelated shots, gave us a good view of our own countryside and despite how close we are to London, as the race proved, we are still a truly rural area and very attractive at that.

The commentary was clearly aimed at attracting others to visit us, even if it was strange to suddenly switch to a view of Hedingham Castle when the peloton was actually in Wethersfield or to the Shard when we were still in Morton, but that apart you could feel proud of the way that the race was organised, the impeccable behaviour of the spectators who managed, all bar one of them, not to jump out at the peloton as it swooped past. Our spectators needed little or no marshalling it seems.

The commentary was clearly aimed at boosting our own tourist industry as well as running an impeccably managed stage of the tour through our district. We clearly do have some beautiful scenery, attractive old villages and pubs. Only time will tell if the strategy was successful and it was not just the bike shops who benefited. It will be many years before the tour returns.

## How is Your Health?

If the statistics are to be believed, we are much healthier in Birchanger than most people in England, and although not the healthiest in Uttlesford, we are close. Deaths from all causes in both men and women have decreased. These include cancer, heart disease and stroke as well.

However, we are getting fatter, with one in five being classed as obese. Only one in seven is regularly physically active so the good news may not last! We are better at not smoking in pregnancy, we have fewer teenage pregnancies, children look after their teeth better, and there is less violent crime. The downside is that we have 70 people killed or injured on our roads, ok we do have the M11 and A 120, and our Carbon emissions are in the worst 25% in the country.

There are some indications for concern here, unless we sort out our roads, watch our weight, become more physically active and find ways of cutting back on our Carbon emissions, our good health may not last much longer.

## Would double yellow lines stop bad parking?

Bad parking seems to be creeping through the community like some insidious disease, First of all there is the problem of poor parking on the school run, with residents

inconsiderately finding themselves blocked in to suit the whim of a parent who cannot be bothered to park properly, now it seems, the problem has spread to Harrisons, where more people are finding it increasingly difficult to leave their homes or to find the individual whose lazy parking has trapped them in their drives in the first place.

There is now a call for yellow lining and enforcement in these side roads, but do we really want this? Not if we have any common sense whatsoever, but then it seems we are sadly lacking in that these days. At least some of us are!

## A very special party

The day was lovely, for a change, when the residents of Harrisons closed their road for a very special Street Party. The wine flowed, the children played their own special games and enjoyed the face painting and the barbeque, while their parents relaxed in the sunshine. Music played, the road was secluded and traffic free and the party was enjoyed until well into the evening when a thunderstorm threatened and everyone moved indoors.

It is not every road in Birchanger which can actually put on an event like this, Birchanger Lane would be off for a start, although it has been closed for a pram race on two occasions. As it was all residents in Harrisons had a chance to get to relax and to get to know each other better. At the same time, they raised money for Help For Heroes, through raffles and competitions, truly important in the year when we remember the outbreak of World War 1 and the heroes of our modern times, whose lives were put on hold as a result of the war.

Congratulations everyone on a really successful day only the thunder spoiled the outdoor fun, which continued indoors for the rest of the evening.

## Wine Tasting at the Club.

If you wanted to have a say in the wines on offer in the club, you should have come to the Wine Tasting Evening last month. There were 16 wines to try and if you had drunk all of every sample, you would have consumed nearly a bottle and a half that evening. Some of us made it maybe?

Anyway there was a chance to have your say as to what you liked and what you definitely did not.

Everyone completed a score sheet so that the sheets would inform the next order. Do not despair, if you do not like the wines chosen, there will be an opportunity to come to another wine tasting after Christmas.

The wine was accompanied by delicious French cheeses, a description of all the wines by a sommelier and the whole event was compered by Tom Granger, possibly the only one who knew what he was doing in the end. Don't miss the next one!

## New day for the library

For years it seems the library has been visiting Birchanger on Friday afternoons.

However lack of custom has meant that there will be a change to our timetable.

Friday August 29th will be the last Friday visit. From then on, starting on Tuesday September 9th, the library will be making visits fortnightly on Tuesdays at 3 pm, going on to Highview at 3.30.

Library visits are reviewed annually and this review has meant that 17 stops have been lost overall through lack of use.

If you want a library service, you really do have to use it or you will most certainly lose it.

Joining the library also means that you can not only take out books but DVDs as well. These are also available to order on line once you have joined. There is also much more available and you can pop into any Essex Library to return your books or to renew them, once you have that magic card! Use it or lose it! You have been warned.

## We are not recycling enough.

The amount in our black bins is getting bigger while the profits we make on our recycling dwindle as we are apparently recycling less.

Here in Uttlesford we recycle more different items than in other districts. We can recycle aerosol cans, cling film, clean foil, yoghurt pots, bubble wrap, CD's and their cases, clean crisp packets, Mars Bar packets, wrapping paper, all the usual plastic items, unwanted clothes in carrier bags, yellow pages, all paper and cardboard, as well as all glass.

Many other recycling authorities struggle to recycle some of these items. Here in Uttlesford we don't! So please, fill that green bin, not the black one which only ends up in landfill.

## Congratulations Ed!

It may come as a surprise to you, but our editor, Eddie Gilbey actually reached the illustrious age of 60 in June.

Eddie does not usually think of himself as particularly lucky, but for the night of his big Birthday Bash the evening was more like a summer evening in Greece, balmy and mild and no thunder storms to spoil the fun, as he celebrated at the Church Hall with family and friends.

Congratulations Eddie, with a big thank you for all you do. There would be no magazine without you.

Ed's Note

Actually I do consider myself to be extremely lucky I have wonderful friends and family I am married to the best wife in the world and live in Birchanger. Who could ask for more?

And thank you everyone who brought their good wishes and gifts to what turned out to be a special occasion for me. Thank you all!

# News from Birchanger Social Club

## SUMMER FETE – BACK 6<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER



For over a century, Birchanger Sports and Social Club has acted as the heart of the village, from hosting sporting fixtures, celebrating key events such as St Patrick's Day, to welcoming the people of Birchanger and the surrounding area to enjoy our great value food, drinks and entertainment. This year is no different with us playing host to the annual village summer fete. On this day not only do we host the stalls, games and dog ring, but also open our doors to non-members to come and take a look at what the club is all about. This year we are set to host the biggest and best fete the village has every seen with incredible events taking place. We will have something for everyone on this great family fun day including a very special falconry display. The falconry, a first for Birchanger, is being kindly sponsored by Another Level Construction and Hills Prospect. So come along we will have everything from A-Z – literally:

- A- Art Presentation including pictures for sale
- B – Bowls
- C – Cards and Crafts
- D – Dog Show
- E – Entertainer – just for children
- F – Fancy Dress competition for 2-6 and 6-12 year olds (Disney Themed)
- G – Gladiator Game
- H – Hog Roast
- I – Instant Win Lucky Dip
- J – Jewellery by our very own Lorraine
- K – Kestrels (maybe) in the falconry display
- L – Leaping children on the bouncy castle
- M – Motors from classic cars to gyrocopters
- N – New prizes in our very own raffle
- O – Open doors to all
- P – Painting of kids faces
- Q – Quaint old fashioned games such as the coconut shy and floating ducks
- R – Refreshment the British way – Pimms
- S – Sweet Stalls

- T – Tea and Cakes
  - U – (E)uphonium playing in the brass band
  - V – Villagers from miles around
  - W – Wicked treats such as ice cream and lemon drizzle cake
  - X – Xylan(one for the quiz team) in the trees that surround our beautiful grounds
  - Y – Y did I start this?
  - Z – Zola's entire works (at the book stall subject to availability)
- [Breathes in] So make sure you come along, bring family, friends, neighbours, strangers anyone (within reason) welcome J

## NO MORE WHINING FOR WINOS



In July we held a special wine and cheese evening in the club, where members were asked to come along, taste a selection of wines and cheeses and help us decide what they want to drink in the club moving forward (the wines not the cheeses, despite some of them being rather on the runny side). The evening was a huge success with people proffering their opinions and indeed all the wines being scored by members present on the night. Moving forward we hope to start bringing in the preferred wines to the club, as we aim to give our members what they want with great value high quality reds, whites, roses and sparkling. We plan to run the event regularly to ensure you can always try a good tippie with us. We must also thank those people not partaking in cheese on the evening and staff for putting up with the whiff that comes with a lovely ripe fromage!



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

**BUILDINGS THANKS!**



We want to say a very big thanks to all of our members for their understanding as we have embarked on the ambitious project of bringing BSSC into the 21st century. At the time of writing we are well underway with the building works and are getting ready to embark on the refurbishment and redecoration of the rest of the club. As always we have tried to minimise the impact on club members, but we have had to take steps to safely conduct the works. In particular big thanks for the understanding of our regular bingo players when we had to cancel as the Regency room was shut for structural work. As we progress further we will endeavour to keep you all informed of our progress.

**ENTERTAINMENT**

**Poker Night – 15th August**



Keep your cards close to your chest and you could be flush with success

**Arran Harding – 16th August**



Vocal talent and looks to suit all, this guy will make everybody's evening rock!

**Harvest Festival Auction – 24th August**



Come and get your bids in for the finest produce Birchanger has to offer – all for a good cause – St Mary's

**Treasure Chest Draw**

**29th August and 19th September**



The prize keeps growing, but you got to be in it to win it

**Hit and Run - 30th August**



Regular favourites at the club, these guys will make your evening!

**Fete – 6th September – Kelly Knight**



A local blond bombshell, Kellie cracks out classics from the 50s to modern day

**Sylvia Mason – 13th September**



This diva will take you on a journey from Motown to soul

**Weekly events At the Club:**

Weekly	Event	When
Saturdays	Meat Draw	1.00pm
Saturdays	Bingo Lottery	Ask bar staff
Mondays	Quiz night	9.00pm
Wednesdays	Steak night	Evenings
Thursdays	Bingo night	08.30pm
Fridays	Tote Draw	Evenings

Plus Weekly Bonus Ball, Bottle Draws, Cash Raffles & Prize Raffles throughout the year.

**Birchanger Sports & Social Club, 229 Birchanger Lane, Birchanger CM23 5QJ  
Tel: 01279 813441**

**Email: club@birchanger.com Follow us at:www.birchangerclub.com**

# Discovering South Africa

There must have been something lacking in my education because, as a young boy, I remember learning about exotic and interesting countries all over the world, many of which I have subsequently been lucky enough to visit. But I don't recall hearing anything about South Africa other than the appalling apartheid regime and its vile treatment of the black majority population. I knew something had changed since then but I wasn't sure how much! It was time to find out.

Landing in Cape Town after an overnight flight from London, we couldn't believe we had left the winter rain and floods behind as we made our way with our guide to pick up the hire car for the first part of the journey. Having been given maps, car and itinerary we were on our own and cautiously set off to find our first hotel.

The name of the hotel was " De Tafelberg ", which, if I had known any Afrikaans, I would have realised is so aptly named as it sits neatly at the base of Table Mountain.

The view from our room was awe inspiring. In the early afternoon the mountain is covered in a sheet of cloud which spills over the sides and down the crevasses like some dry ice pumping from the stage at a pop concert. This phenomenon is known by the locals as 'the tablecloth' and as our first sight of the landmark feature sunk in, we began to realise that there might be a few more surprises in store for us in this fascinating place.

Evening saw us dining at the Victoria & Albert waterfront, a buzzing lively area full of restaurants, street entertainers and tourists, lots of tourists. It reminded me somewhat of Covent Garden or the South Bank with the same relaxed atmosphere yet pulsing with life. African music filled the air as we searched for a table among the bustling throng all doing the same. Eventually we ate at a restaurant overlooking the water and Barbara opted for 'Springbok', which, though it sounds an unlikely choice, she said was delicious, whilst I was less adventurous and went for steak. The food was superb and washed down with a bottle of local wine, finished off our first day in fine style.

The next day we decided to drive around the cape peninsular, our first big drive. The morning was beautifully sunny as we set off and we were astounded at the scenery which is stunning. There are beaches so wide and sandy, yet almost deserted. In one place the sand was so white it looked just like snow! Unsurprisingly perhaps, the place was called 'Whitsand' which I'm guessing is Afrikaans for white sand! We then moved on to the boulders, a penguin colony and conservation area near Simonstown. It is an odd thing to see Penguins nesting on the beach and cavorting in the sea in temperatures of 30 degrees and more but this is just another example of this country's ability to surprise. By lunch time we had made it to Cape Point where we watched whales lazily making their way along the coast far out to sea.

In my ignorance I had always believed that The Cape of Good Hope was at the southernmost tip of South Africa. Not so, it is actually a rocky headland on the Atlantic coast of the cape peninsular, but nonetheless is still a spectacular sight, with another anomaly, Baboons and Ostriches existing right down to the coast itself.

After a leisurely drive around the rest of the Cape we ended up at Camps Bay just in time for sunset and supper. After another satisfying day we drove over the final headland and back into Cape Town for a good night's rest to prepare us for the coming days and no doubt, more surprises!



Tony Wilson

Table Mountain

# School News

## Mums Invited to Lunch.

The parents of the Year 6 pupils are always invited to a Farewell Lunch at the School in the last few weeks of term. The occasion has become a greatly looked forward to event, the food was delicious and the Bombay Potatoes were said to be out of this world. In other words, everyone enjoyed the lunch and it has certainly given Year 5 Parents something to look forward to next year.

## Sports day at last

The week did not start particularly well, but on the rescheduled date, Sports Day did actually happen. Somehow the support club of families and friends did manage to make it, despite the fact that the event had to be moved to a week day.

There was a chance for everyone to shine, with some very unconventional races and house races as well. Most of us have never even heard of the Up and Under or Dead Man's Races, let alone watched one. The youngest children had practised their egg and spoon and obstacle races and clearly knew what Sports Day was all about. Some very sporting Mums and Dads also took part in their own races, to the delight of their children who cheered them loudly for a change. School Secretary Mrs Field had put the whole occasion together and the whole event was very well coordinated by Mrs Field and the supporting staff.

Perhaps the weather will be kinder next year, but the bonus was that it all ended up with two events instead of the one, and an extra opportunity for the parents, who make delicious refreshments, to run their own stall once again. The fete which was held on the original sports day raised some £2,099.13 despite everything. Congratulations to the PTA.

## A proudly presented play

In fact this year's end of year production was one of the very best. Ok I may say this every year, but this year was very special as one of the authors was Olivia Ward, a past pupil, now a successful actress. Apparently it was the Birchanger School play which was responsible for getting her into the theatre in the first place. Together with music teacher Charlie Turner they wrote and produced this year's play, Little I.

Little I follows the story of how Zeus, chosen to rule the kingdom instead of his brothers, Hades and Poseidon, became a very hesitant ruler, who was blocked by his brothers as well as his own doubts. He struggled to come to terms with his new role as King. He was not helped by his unwilling wife Hera, and the

kidnapping of his childhood friend Little I by the brothers. As all good stories usually do, it all ends happily with the bad brothers sent back to their own kingdoms, Hera comes round and of course Little I is rescued in the end.

The thing that really struck me, was the ability and confidence shown by the large number of soloists. Singing is clearly enjoyed by everyone and all the soloists performed seemingly unphased, in front of packed audiences. It would be hard and perhaps unfair to single anyone out, as all the children performed really well and there were some really good cameo performances. The younger children watched the dress rehearsal and delighted in the novel idea of a bubble machine.

As always there are a hard working group of parents who helped to make the costumes and do a lot of the hard work behind the scenes. Without them the play simply could not happen. Hopefully this year's Year 6 will take away happy memories of this production. Who knows, there may even be more past pupil actors coming back to the school in another 10 year's time?

## A particularly poignant farewell

The farewells to Year 6 pupils at the end of the school year are always bitter sweet occasions. The children's achievements are all acknowledged but there is sadness as they have really made their own individual marks on the school and all that will be gone. They departed in style in a white Hummer stretch limo to enjoy an afternoon banana boating on Gosfield Lake, followed by a slap up tea.

This year there were members of staff to say farewell to. These included much loved and respected long term reception class or Ladybirds Teacher Mrs Boniface, who had welcomed so many children into their first days at school and brought them to be confident and at ease in school in a very short space of time. She was very supportive of their parents in the early days and throughout the year.

The children also said farewell to their music teacher Charlie Turner, who had been responsible for all the recent school plays, Miss Harvey who had been the class teacher for Owls this year, the school cook, and learning support assistants. The support which acting head Mr Bradford was acknowledged and he will be very much missed.

It will be all change in September when the school welcomes a new head, Mrs Coop, a very familiar face as cook, Mrs McArthur, and the new teachers. An exciting time is coming which will bring new ways. Thank you to all our leavers, we shall not forget you.

## Church Hall Hire

For rates, availability terms and conditions and a description of the available facilities

Please contact

Mrs Trudy Revell  
01279 812309

## "Musical Director wanted!"

Newly formed male singing group in the village is looking for a musician/ musical director to help with rehearsals. 2 hours per week. Anyone with the ability to read music who has a bit of time to spare as well as a sense of humour and wishes to join us in a relaxed and easy going music session would be most welcome. Please contact Tony: 01279 813007

## Painting Workshops.

Are you interested in learning to paint, sketch and try out your talents as an artist?

In Birchanger we have our own resident artist who is happy to help everyone to find their talents for art which they never knew they possessed.

All this in a comfortable studio, with people like you who never believed they could draw, paint or sketch either.

Heather Brown is running courses from her studio in Wood Lane again this Autumn.

Dates for The next few weeks are as follows.

Saturday August 23rd 10am to 12.30 coloured pencils on salt paper, wildlife. Materials included. £25 pp.

Thursday 28th 10 am to 4pm. Landscapes in pastel. Materials included. £40 pp.

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> 10 am to 4 pm September Flowers and backgrounds in Watercolour. Materials included £25

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September 10 am to 4 pm Bring your own subject and materials and individual advice will be given £30 pp.

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September 10 am to 4 pm Animals and backgrounds in pastel Materials included £40

Contact Heather Brown 01279 815453 or email [heather.highview@googlemail.com](mailto:heather.highview@googlemail.com)

## Harvest Auction 24th August 7pm at the Sports and Social Club

Please make a note in your diary for this fun event. Also, if you have a surplus of fruit, vegetables etc that you would like to donate please contact Pam Lee on 07702171744 as soon as possible. Cakes and other delicious items will be sold that night and everyone is welcome including non-members.

## Tea Room At the Church Hall



Every Wednesday

From March 5th  
2.00 till 4.00



Everyone welcome

In aid of Hall maintenance funds

*Paul Davall*  
**Carpentry & Joinery**  
 Traditional time served carpenter and Joiner

All Carpentry and Joinery  
 Traditional box and casement sash windows  
 Door Fitting Service  
 Kitchen cabinet fitting service  
 Fitted wardrobes and cabinets



11 Rainsford Road  
 Stansted Essex CM24 8DU  
 01279 814058 Mob 07962 963987  
[pauldavall@btinternet.com](mailto:pauldavall@btinternet.com)

THE THREE WILLOWS



**01279 815913**

More than just  
 your village Pub!

## Village Diary

### August/September

August

24<sup>th</sup> 11.00 am St Mary's  
 Matins

31<sup>st</sup> 11.00 am St Mary's  
 Holy Communion

September

7<sup>th</sup> 11.00 am St Mary's  
 Matins

14<sup>th</sup> 11.00 am St Mary's  
 Holy Communion

21<sup>st</sup> 11.00 am St Mary's  
 Family Service

28<sup>th</sup> 11.00 am St Mary's  
 Holy Communion

**D Bonney & Sons**



Motor Engineers

MOT TESTING, SERVICING  
 DIAGNOSTIC, MECHANICAL REPAIRS

SELECTION OF NEW AND USED CARS  
 Yew tree corner Manuden  
 Ring Malc or Neil on  
 01279 813315 or 815946

**ALL BUILDING AND LANDSCAPING  
 WORK UNDERTAKEN**

FENCING, PAVING, DECKING, DRIVEWAYS, DRAINAGE,  
 BRICKWORK, EXTENSIONS AND CONSERVATORIES

For a local service call Sean on  
 07944199962 or 01279 813818

**State Registered Chiropodist**

**Home Visiting Practice**

Mrs. Julie Golden S.R.Ch.

Est 1994  
 01279 873492  
 Dunmow Road  
 Takeley CM22 6SH

A professional service at a competitive rate



LAUNDERETTE

DO  
 DO  
 DUVETS  
 DIVINELY  
 AND CLOTHES TOO!

- \* Open 7 days a week
- \* By Hockerill lights, Bishop's Stortford
- \* large car park Tel 866183

**Painter and Decorator**

**Roe Smith**



9 Churchfields, Stansted  
 Essex CM24, 8RJ

Tel 01279 816459  
 Mob: 07798 936627



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

T. 01799 550032 M. 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](http://www.gwbhorticulture.co.uk)

Published on behalf of the people of Birchanger, and distributed free to each household in Birchanger. The views expressed herein do not automatically reflect those of the Editor or any of the organisations or institutions represented. Editorial team: Eddie Gilbey (816171), eddie.gilbey@btinternet.com Elizabeth Godwin, Ken Wheatley. Submissions are welcome but may be edited depending on available space.