

Birdbrook Parish News



Stambourne Charity Tractor Run

After the excitement of the Morris Dancing on Saturday 1st June, (see page 9), late on Sunday morning 2nd June, Birdbrook enjoyed the spectacle of tractors passing through the village and Moynes Park on their hour and a half circular route starting and finishing at Stambourne. The wide selection of tractors from Field Marshall and grey Fergies to very modern John Deere and Masseys, with their 30 drivers, passed through Birdbrook .

The parade highlighted just how much these agricultural workhorses have changed over the years. The original owner of the little grey Fergie could surely never have imagined tractors with air conditioned cabs, satnav systems and power steering.

This Stambourne craft fair and classic car/tractor show was held to raise money for money for Breast Cancer UK.

New Waste Strategy for Essex

The Waste Strategy for Essex is an ambitious plan for managing recycling and waste in the county for the next 30 years. It sets out how the Essex Waste Partnership (EWP) will work together to reduce the impact on our environment from dealing with the things we throw away.

“The vision of the strategy is to rethink waste – by everyone working together, we will reduce waste and reuse and recycle more. This will protect the environment and save resources.”

To find out more visit the new and improved ‘Love Essex’ website:

www.loveessex.org/waste-strategy-essex

Cllr Peter Schwier AIEMA , Climate Czar
Cabinet Member for Environment, Waste Reduction
& Recycling

September 2024

Recycling

Helpful Information from Braintree for your Recycling

What can I do with Bubble Wrap? -

Bubble wrap can be collected along with other soft plastics i.e. bread bags, clingfilm, crisp packets and taken to a collection point. These can generally be found at local Supermarkets, but residents are urged to check first.

Can I recycling blister packs? - Blister packs unfortunately cannot currently be recycled as they are made up of 2 different components and therefore need to go into your refuse bin. However, some chemists take them back but only if they have pharmacies e.g Superdrug.

How do I recycle glass? Glass is not currently collected kerbside and needs to be taken to a local Bring Back Bank eg at Birdbrook Community House. Lids can now remain on the bottles/jars rather than being removed and will also be recycled.

What about cardboard with packing tape on it? - Where possible packing tape should be removed from cardboard as this is not able to be recycled and can cause problems with machinery at the sorting facility.

Can Tin foil be recycled? - Tin foil can be placed in the recycling sacks, as long as it is not small pieces and doesn't have food residue on it..

What is Tetrapak? - Tetrapak is packaging made up of multiple components, e.g. Juice cartons and Pringle tubes. These items need to be taken to a specific bring back bank (locations below).

Textiles can be recycled at bring back banks

Can I put shredded paper into the recycling sacks - Unfortunately this is not accepted in recycling sacks as the pieces are too small for the machines to process, instead you could compost it, or see if anyone with small animals would like it for bedding.

Where does it all happen? - Clear sacks are taken to a facility near Ipswich where the material is sorted, baled and sold on as a raw material to make new products. <https://youtu.be/hbFfbSnuGlo?si=V1rBSEHTW3cqQWOG>

How are sacks rejected and what happens to them? - The collection crews check the sacks and reject them if they see that they contain the wrong items - so those not on the list of accepted items. They will leave the bags at the premises and label it to let the resident know why it has been left. Residents are also written to and advised that they need re-present the sack again next collection after removing the incorrect items.

If you have any questions, you can ask - Residents are welcome to visit the Braintree District Council website for helpful information at www.braintree.gov.uk or alternatively via the below methods.

By phone / email

You can call our main number, which is 01376 552525. This will take you to Customer Services, who will be able to direct you to the service that you need or alternatively email them on csc@braintree.gov.uk or alternatively our Recycling team on recycling@braintree.cob.uk



Other Helpful websites include:

[Love Essex - Together we can make Essex a better place | Love Essex Microsite](#)

Bring Bank Locaters - www.recyclenow.com or [Everything you need to know to Recycle More \(recycle-more.co.uk\)](http://Everything you need to know to Recycle More (recycle-more.co.uk))

While Birdbrook is in Essex, and our weekly rubbish collection is arranged by Braintree District Council, our nearest Recycling centre is in Haverhill, Suffolk. The new site in Homefield Road is now open and visits can be booked via their website:

<https://suffolkrecycling.org.uk/recycling-centres/booking-a-recycling-centre-time-slot>

St Augustine, Birdbrook

Just a Jalopy

Henry Ford's vision of the future was one in which no-one earning a good salary would be unable to afford one of his Model T cars. Most famously, his description of the choice he would make available to customers is one of his best-known quotes: 'Any customer can have a car painted any colour that he wants, so long as it's black.' Ford's belief was that it was only 5% of customers who wanted something different. The ninety five percent would purchase a car without making a fuss or requesting an alternative colour. This, says Ford, is why you should concentrate on the 95% rather than the five.

Visit any car showroom from any model from any manufacturer, even his own, and you'll see how much Ford's legacy still exists when it comes to customer choice. It doesn't.

It's not just the colour of the vehicle that it's now possible to choose, but engine size, interior trim, diesel or petrol, sunroof or not, wheel diameter, sat-nav, dog guard, tow bar and more. The potential combination of variations is endless.

The primary reason for buying a car is usually that it can successfully take you from A to B. The speed comfort and cost may change, but if the vehicle looks and feels great and just sits on a driveway, then choosing to invest in a bus pass might be a better decision.

When it comes to making the choice of how to spend our money, what is our primary motivation? Is it practicality or beauty? Function or design? Or is it just about the price?

Although in the commercial world there's often a distinction made between cost and looks - some companies actually stress one over the other, or that their product straddles both - there doesn't have to be dividing line made between the two. God would suggest that there's another way.

Christians understand that God sees value differently. For him, it's determined neither by usefulness of attractiveness. It's a belief that all living things have worth by virtue of that life itself.

And from the one who created it in the first place, who'd expect anything else?

Blessings,
Jonathan

vicar@2rivers.faith 01440 731687

St Augustine, Birdbrook Services:

Sunday 8th September: 10.30am Harvest Festival

Sunday 22nd September 10.30am Benefice Holy Communion


Sunday 13th October: 10:30am Morning Worship

Sunday 27th October: 10:30am Benefice Holy Communion

Sunday 10th November: 10:50am Remembrance Service

Sunday 24th November: 10:30am Benefice Holy Communion

Church Warden: Judi Price 01440 730506



Stambourne Chapel Care

Do you have a few hours to spare?
Would you like to make a difference to your community?

We have vacancies for:

Befriending, both in person and telephone
Transport to appointments or social events,
Help and Support with outings, lunch club and more.

We also need **Administrative Support** and a **Treasurer** and support for **fund raising** and **writing grant proposals**.

If you feel this is for you please get in touch:
stambournechapelcare@gmail.com
or Tel: 07883 423528

Part 5 from our Bird Ringing Expert in Birdbrook Barry Williams

Hopefully a few of you will have been following my series of articles about my bird ringing escapades around the world and will remember that my pal Malcolm Wilson had moved down to South Africa from Uganda. He effectively started a new life with a lady he had met in Kampala and had two lovely daughters. He had set up an avi-tourism business in Johannesburg which specialised in catching birds of prey and attracted in bird-ringers from all over the world. On one such trip Malc met a very like minded Canadian divorcee (Charlotte England) and unfortunately Malcolm's marriage didn't last too long after that chance meeting!

Before I knew it he was on his way to Toronto to live with Charlotte. She was a ringer (or bander as they are called on the other side of the Atlantic) and she was an avid bird of prey bander, as was Malc. It was not long before the pair of them were driving around the country roads to the north and west of Toronto catching hawks and owls. I had always dreamed of ringing in the USA or Canada so in April 2016, literally 5 months after I had moved into Birdbrook, I was on my way to Toronto with Dr Richard "The Doc" Charles another member of the



American Kestrel, Canada, 2022

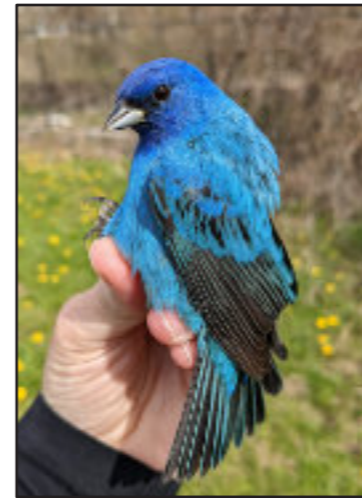
"Chilundi Ringing Group". The CRG is an informal bunch of bird ringers (and football fans and beer drinkers) who had travelled with Malcolm in Africa. As well as having about a dozen members in the UK, our foreign membership includes members in South Africa, Perth, Western Australia and of course Charlotte and Malc in Toronto.

On our 2016 trip to Toronto we spent most of our time ringing at Tommy Thompson's Bird Observatory on the shores of Lake Ontario, ringing a varied selection of the birds that migrate up through North America on the way to their breeding grounds in Canada. American warblers unlike our rather drab European warblers are spectacular creatures and as I had never ringed that side of the Atlantic everything we caught was new to me. As I may have mentioned in previous articles the experience of going to a net to find a bird that you couldn't identify is so exciting and this happened several times on this trip! Unfortunately we were unable to ring any birds of prey on this first trip, as Malcolm had not yet acquired his Canada banding licence, and Charlotte was recovering from a near fatal car crash which had occurred some months earlier while she was out on a banding trip hunting for owls. The numerous multi coloured American warblers and various other birds, all totally foreign to the Doc and I, more than made up for it.

Soon after our return from that trip I began to hear stories from Malc about the hawks and owls that he and Charlotte were ringing once she had fully recovered and they had obtained their banding permits. A particular bird of interest to both of them is the Broad-winged hawk (aka "Broadies"), a close relative of the Buzzard which breeds in Canada but migrates through the southern states of the US and spends the winter as far south as northern Argentina. Another bird that Charlotte and Malc are also heavily involved with is the Snowy owl. Now famous for appearing in Harry Potter films the Snowy owl breeds in the arctic north of Canada but winters southwards throughout Canada and into the northern states of USA. The trapping and fitting of satellite trackers to these birds enables us to find out where these majestic birds go during the long winter months. The Doc and I agreed that we had to go back but it was not until April 2022 that we were off to Toronto again and this time road-trapping was very much on the menu. As well as nearly 40 Broadies banded in 10 days, we also trapped and ringed Barred and Eastern Screech owls, America Kestrels and nearly 50 other species of birds; and I caught covid!!! I really enjoyed my trips to Canada and people ask me would I



Broad-winged Hawk, Canada, 2022



Indigo Bunting, Canada, 2022

Dunlop, told us of his bird ringing adventures in Mexico. I always had a particular desire to bird ring in Mexico having visited there several times on business in the 1990's and so after some difficult negotiations with Mrs Williams I found myself in February 2023 sitting in the departure lounge at Heathrow with Graham and another CRG member, Keith Dean waiting for a flight to Mexico City. To say I was excited is a huge understatement. I knew that it was likely that I would again experience that feeling I had first felt in Uganda in 1996 when I first went to a mist net to find a bird I could not identify or even put in a Genus or a Family. An onward flight to Cancun followed by a 3 hour drive took us to the first of 3 sites on the Yucatan Peninsula. Fortunately we had a local guide who had arranged accommodation and obtained permission for us to ring at various sites. When we arrived at the first ringing site near Dzilam De Bravo I was disappointed to find it was an area of old gardens and run down buildings next to a wind-farm! My fears were quickly allayed with my first visit

go back?...I'd gladly live there! It's a wonderful place, the people are friendly, the beers good, the birds are stunning and there are Snowy owls there in the winter!! Perhaps next year!!

And finally in mid 2022 at one of the CRG's annual get-togethers one of the members, Graham

to our nets to find several birds I could not identify plus north american warblers that I knew from my two Canadian trips. These birds were obviously wintering in Mexico. The second site was a fantastic research centre at Komchen, full of exotic species and we also visited a wonderful area of salt-pans and lagoons packed with Flamingos near Merida. We also ringed at two other sites outside Mexico City, again providing us with a stunning array of new birds including several opportunities to ring hummingbirds; a quite scary but thrilling experience! The last site was approximately 12,000 feet above sea level, it got so cold at night I slept fully clothed and in the morning we had to clear the ice off our nets! In all we ringed over one hundred species of birds many of which I had never even heard of, let alone seen or ringed! The first bird I ringed was a Smooth-billed Ani and one of the last species we ringed was a Curved-bill Thrasher.....what great names!



Hooded Oriole, Mexico

It's over a year since I returned from Mexico and my feet have been itching for months!! Dont tell the wife but Komchen certainly needs a second visit, I have to experience the thrill of ringing Snowy owls in Canada and of course there's those Martial Eagles in Africa . There's also an open invite to visit a CRG member in Western Australia but I think I'll need to win the lottery before I do that one. My pal who used to live in Hong Kong has married a

Latvian lady and is building a house in Latvia and he's already invited me there once it's finished. In the meantime I guess I'll have to make do ringing the brood of young Barn owls at Cornish Hall End, some Kestrels and Tawny owls at Shalford and in the last month thanks to another CRG member I've been scrambling about in church bell towers in Ely and Bury St Edmunds ringing nestling swifts These amazing birds will be well on their way to the wintering grounds in Africa by the time you read this! Just think these young swifts will not land again till next year

Continued over page

Zanna Newton PILATES



Zanna has been leading her 'highly recommended' Pilates classes since 2004.

Classes are available live on Zoom and also in Ridgewell, Stotfold and Melbourn (near Royston).

Please check the website where you can see class availability and book your place online.

www.zannanewton.co.uk

From Birdbrook Parish Council

Next Meeting Dates
7pm in Birdbrook Community House

10th September 2024
12th November 2024

The Local Plan

Local plans are a government requirement produced by District Councils following local consultation. For more information from Braintree see p8.

Concerns?

If Parishioners have comments or concerns they should address them to appointed Cllr's or to Debbie, our Parish Clerk. Alternatively you have the opportunity to address the Cllr's at their meetings (dates above) which are open to the public.

Cllr Steve Rhenius: chair@birdbrook.org.uk

Debbie, Parish Clerk:
parishclerk@birdbrook.org.uk

The Birdbrook Parish News welcomes pieces on general topics of interest to readers: please send to Val / Katie: birdbrook2021@gmail.com



Red Warbler, Mexico, 2023

when they come back to the same tower prospecting for suitable nesting sites. Yes, you did read that right; those birds will be flying non-stop for almost a year!!

And before we know where we are, the swallows and other summer visitors will be gone, the Brent geese will be turning up on the Essex marshes and hopefully we will finally get permission to ring gulls on that land-fill site near Colchester!!!.....it's never dull being a bird ringer!

You can catch up with Barry's earlier exploits in previous editions of the Birdbrook Parish News:

<https://e-voice.org.uk/birdbrookparishcouncil/birdbrook-parish-news/>

Baythorne End Playground Improvement & Birdbrook & Baythorne End Community Orchard

It has been a while since the Parish questionnaires went out.

Baythorne End Playground Improvement

We have only applied to the ASDA Foundation currently for playground improvement, for 4 new pieces of equipment. Each piece of equipment is aimed at different age ranges from toddlers to teenagers. We have also put funding in for a picnic bench in this area.



Gemma's Footcare

Foot Health Practitioner
SAC Dip RFHP

- Toe Nail Cutting
- Callus/Corn Removal
- Diabetic Foot Care
- Ingrown Toe Nail Removal
- Fungal Nail Treatment

Telephone/Text: 07498 386648
Email: gemmafootcare@gmail.com

Foot Care in the comfort of your own home

Or you can come to my home in Steeple Bumpstead

I look forward to hearing from you soon

Fact: In an average lifetime we walk around the world 3 times



Above: Lift off! Red Kite early morning. Photo taken in the Asturias region of Spain

Below: Fishing ! Red Kite picking up an injured trout at the River Gwash trout farm, Rutland

2 Welsh birds and 11 Spanish birds (from the Navarra region). This was followed over the next 4 years with further Spanish birds being released in that area. Due to the success of this population – birds from Southern Britain were used to reintroduce to the Midlands & North of England between 1995 and 2010. There were also successful reintroduction programs in Scotland.

It was about 12 years ago I first saw whilst out cycling the distinctive Red kite (Milvus milvus) with its characteristic V shaped tail, shining tawney red feathers and mewing call. It was flying low over a field near Stambourne, I was so excited ! Now I often see more Red Kites in our locality than Buzzards but they still thrill me. It's been a remarkable tale of conservation success with 4400 breeding pairs recorded in 2016 (BTO).

They weigh between 1-1.3kg, have a wingspan of 175-195cm and nest in tall trees, the nest is made with large sticks, lined with wool, bits of plastic or even your washing! Generally feeding on carrion but eat chicks, small mammals and even earthworms ! I have seen and photographed these magnificent birds "fishing" for dead and injured trout at a trout farm in Rutland. There are many tales of them actually catching very much alive fish – but it's more likely to be them taking advantage of the near misses of the Ospreys fishing there.

Community Orchard

We have applied for two streams of funding for the Community Orchard: to the Asda Foundation and The Community Gardens and Open Spaces Fund through Essex County Council. We should hear news by mid-September.

The funding bid for the Orchard covers the physical costs of the trees and also consultation with a specialist Orchard Advisor to look at the site & advise on tree varieties, planning, irrigation, disease and formulating a plan for the site.

If successful we are looking at setting up a small committee to help manage the site, if you are interested please email Anita at: anitachadney@btinternet.com

The Remarkable Rise of the Red Kite

This beautiful bird of prey was once common throughout the UK, indeed it was so common in Shakespearean London that in his play the Winters Tale he referred to their habit of stealing washing for nest building material – he wrote "When the Kite builds, look to lesser linen" ! However it was in the last 2 centuries persecuted to the point of extinction with fewer than 10 breeding pairs found in a small area of mid Wales in the 1930 and 1940s. The RSPB paid local farmers there for successful nests between 1920 and 1990 and the Welsh population rose to about 100 pairs by 1993. Although most birds were descended from a single female, showing how close to extinction the UK population had become!

To try to restore the breeding range and improve the genetic pool, birds were reintroduced in 1990 to the Chilterns. These comprised

Jane Garnham



Hello from your District Councillor



Anglian Water & Road Closures

The closure of the B1057 has undoubtedly caused chaos through our villages and country lanes. AW are on track to reopen this on 13th September. However, they plan to start Phase 2; 16th September-8th November (Claywall Bridge/Haverhill Rd). AW says:



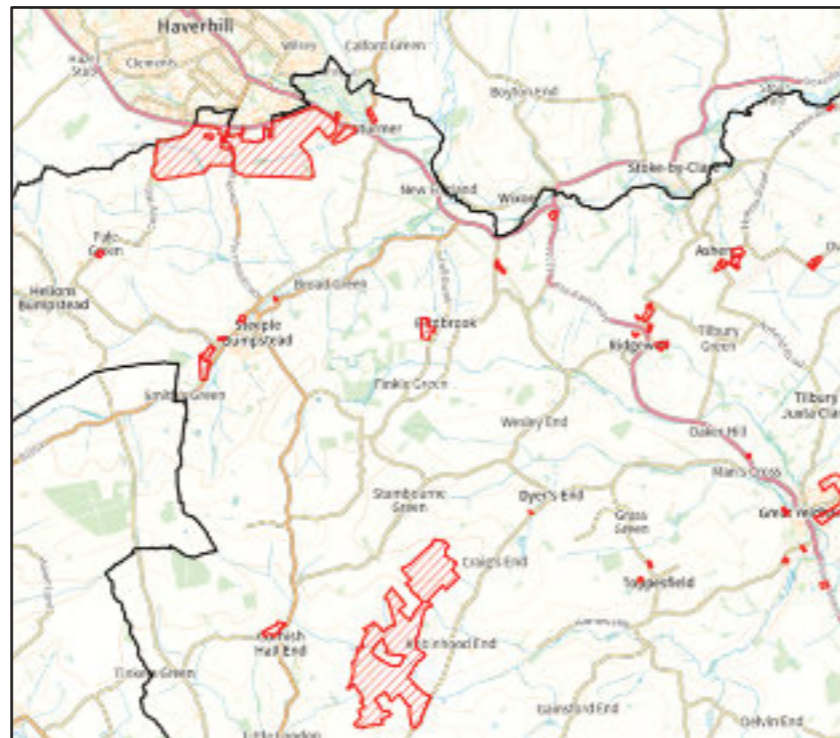
"We're installing around 3.3km of band new water pipes to link Steeple Bumpstead to Haverhill. The new water main is slightly wider than the usual pipes we install so that it can meet the demand of the growing population in both areas for decades to come. This work will make the two areas more resilient and allow us to balance the supply and demand of water making sure you have enough water in times of peak demand like summer". Should the need arise, you can contact AW; Tel: 03457 145 145 or email: steeple@anglianwater.co.uk quoting reference number **61886011**.

The Braintree District – Local Plan

Following a Written Ministerial Statement made by the new Deputy Prime Minister on 30/07/24, a consultation on a revised version of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was announced. This runs until 24/09/24. The possible implications of the proposals for BDC means there is a clear focus on increasing the supply of land for housing. Any previous oversupply of housing would now not be taken into account and the 4 year supply requirement is proposed to be removed. Rather, the requirement for a 5 year land supply is retained with the 5% buffer proposed to be restored.

Mandatory housing targets are proposed to return which would be calculated using a new standard methodology. The proposed housing target for BDC currently represents an increase of around 35% (on the current method used to calculate housing need) to 1098 homes per year.

Braintree District Council originally had a deadline of submitting a refreshed Local Plan to the Planning Inspectorate by 30/06/25. The recent central government announcements mean they are giving local planning authorities an extended period for submitting local plans under the current system until December 2026. BDC undertook a Call for Sites between 10/04/24 and 24/05/24. Developers, landowners, residents, businesses, parish councils and other stakeholders were invited to put forward suggested sites which might be suitable for many uses including housing, commercial, retail,



health care, business, leisure, community facilities, open spaces, wildlife sites, biodiversity net gain or education in the District.

Around 300 sites were received during this exercise and it is important to be clear that these are not automatically marked for development, nor do they gain any special status. Every site is being assessed to determine whether it is suitable, available and achievable for development or designation within the updated Local Plan against the Strategic Land Availability Assessment Methodology.

The map is a snapshot of the site submissions in and near the Bumpstead Ward. A clearer map of the whole district can be viewed on BDC's website.

The sites submitted at Birdbrook and Baythorne End are shown on the map below left.

Early engagement on the council's Local Plan refresh to 2041 closed 16/08/24. Comments received will be considered by the council as part of the plan's review process. The council now works to understand the recent planning changes from government and their impact on the production of the refreshed Local Plan.

The council's current Local Plan (adopted 2021) is designed to run until 2033 but has to be reviewed and updated, if necessary, at least every five years. The review of Braintree's Local Plan will extend its time frame from 2033 to 2041, looking at growth options post 2033 to meet evolving longer-term needs of communities.

The document determines which parts of the district are allocated for housing, employment and community facilities, as well as identifying where no development can take place to protect important open spaces and the environment.

As a result of the recent government announcements around the proposed planning reforms, the council has the opportunity to review its Local Plan timetable. A revision to this timetable will ensure that the council can consider the implications of potential changes to the NPPF. The central government announcement may also mean that the council is required to review its proposed housing provisions to take on an increased number of homes in the district.

A revised local development scheme, formally setting out the council's timetable towards a submission of an updated local plan in compliance with the proposed NPPF, will be discussed at a Local Plan Sub-Committee on 16/09/24 which can be viewed on the council's YouTube channel.

Residents can keep updated on the review by following the council on social media, visiting their website at www.braintree.gov.uk/localplanreview and signing up to its dedicated planning email newsletter at www.braintree.gov.uk/tellmemore.

With best wishes to all,
Cllr. Diana Garrod

Braintree District Councillor for the Bumpstead Ward

Morris Dancers visit Birdbrook, 1st June

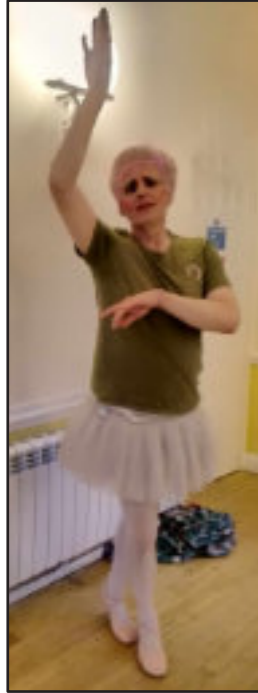


I was having a leisurely start that Saturday morning when I heard the tinkling of bells. The rhythm sounded like someone walking, someone with bells on their legs. That's when the penny finally dropped: the Thaxted Morris Men with their guests from Devils Dyke, St Albans, Sutton Masque and Whitchurch arriving at The Plough.

For the next half-hour or so the gathered crowd were treated to a spectacular display of traditional dance and folk music. One of the highlights being the colourful Sutton Masque side from the Isle of Ely, who were making their first visit to Birdbrook.

Albert Baxter

Birdbrook Ladies Group



Iestyn Edwards as Madame Galina, Prima Ballerina

He has appeared on a number of Radio 4 programmes, appeared on stage and in Youth Opera. Iestyn is also a published poet and journalist. Now he spends much of his time speaking at groups such as ours. Iestyn joined the Combined Service Entertainment and did four tours in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Dressed as one of his best known characters, Madame Galina, Prima Ballerina he regaled us with many hilarious stories of his time entertaining the troops, including his frock of too many doilies, running from camel spiders and describing it all as "drag on a shoestring". Iestyn was a most amusing and interesting speaker, narrating with humour the difficulties and challenges he faced whilst performing to the troops. Many of his stories concerned "Stacks" who was a Royal Marine, and after a rocky start, became Iestyn's closest friend. He even taught him to drive whilst on tour - in a Saracen armoured car! He finished the evening by singing a very moving song. We were all very surprised at his incredible bass baritone voice. Iestyn sang at the Trafalgar bicentenary in the presence of Queen Elizabeth II so we were very impressed. Iestyn stayed after his talk and was very happy to chat and answer questions. This was undoubtedly one of our best talks.

In July we welcomed Bryan Thurlow, whose background was professional theatre and drama lecturing, along with partners and guests. He has a Bryan has worked in theatre,

TV and taking education theatre to schools across East Anglia. He was a great storyteller using props and voices to bring alive the history regarding Borley Rectory, reputed to be the most haunted house. The Rectory was built in 1862 but ghostly activity had been reported on the site as early as 1819. Reverend Henry Bull was the first to live in the rectory and was then succeeded by his son, also Henry. Over the years there were many recorded incidents, including reports of sounds of rushing water, bells, and disembodied sounds. Harry Price, a psychic and researcher spent time at the rectory in 1937 and logged a number of poltergeist phenomena. Many people dismissed the hauntings as fake and believe they were orchestrated. The rectory was damaged by fire in 1939 and was finally demolished in 1944. The site still remains of interest to many. Were all the sightings just imagined or was Borley Rectory truly haunted???? Bryan kept us all enthralled with the history and story of this building and it's occupants.

In August, as a change from our usual annual barbecue, we opted to have a meal at the Three Horseshoes. Just as well, as the weather was rather wet. Partners were invited along to join us and there were 15 of us in total. We were made most welcome, with attentive waiting staff and delicious food.



Birdbrook Ladies Group at the Three Horseshoes

The conversation around the table was nonstop, apart from when eating. Another great evening, so good we've already pencilled in our Christmas meal!

June saw us inviting guests and partners to our meeting. We were entertained by Iestyn Edwards, with his talk entitled "My Tutu's gone AWOL" he was a sight to behold.

Programme of Events 2024

12th September - Green Floristry Demonstration at Stoke by Clare

10th - October - Vicki Scrase, Medical Professional

14th November - Christmas Crafts, Laura Walker

5th December - Xmas Meal, Three Horseshoes, HB

Annual Membership: £25.00

We're a very friendly group, new members and visitors are always welcome.

It's time for a Macmillan Coffee Morning and you're invited

Let's do whatever it takes to support people living with cancer.

Place:
Date:
Time:
Contact:

Simply scan this QR code with your phone to donate to your host's Coffee Morning. It's easy, quick and secure. Thank you.



Birdbrook Bowls Club



Future Stars

During their visit to the Community House on 13th July for a sleepover, Kedington Beavers (pictured above), aged 6 to 8 tried both indoor and outdoor bowls. They managed the indoor game very well, but found bowling on the green a little more taxing.

The club offered a cash prize for whoever got their wood closest to a bollard set at 25 metres. One young lad managed to hit the target and, needless to say was delighted with his achievement.

As a club we wish to encourage younger people to take up the game and, with this in mind have obtained, thanks to the District Councillors' Grant Scheme, the funds to purchase two sets of junior bowls.

If you would like to have a go with the woods, come along any Wednesday evening at 6:00 pm. It's a great game for all ages and you can be sure of a warm welcome.

Alan Cook



President's day Event 2024

President's Day Winners

We are pleased to report that the competition winners were a combined team from the Birdbrook and Haverhill Town clubs. On the day Birdbrook's own Andy King joined forces with two players from near neighbours, Haverhill to form a scratch team to make up the numbers and keep the draw intact.

Turns out the team had other ideas and went on to win the competition. Congratulations to all three players for a well deserved and decisive victory.

To sum up, in the words of Birdbrook Club Treasurer, Alan Cook, "We were blessed with some great bowling weather, which helped make the day a roaring success."

Once again a huge thank you to everyone who helped organise the event.

To find out more Ben Allen on: 07778 225272 or email: birdbrookbowlsclub2024@gmail.com

1st Kedington Beavers visit Birdbrook

The Beavers' summer sleepover at Birdbrook Community House, with support from local businesses and residents, was a hive of fun and laughter for the 20+ children and parents who visited over the weekend.

A big thank you to the volunteers who supported the fantastic introduction to bowls and shared some of the history of Birdbrook Bowls Club. The Beavers completed two hikes, totalling over 5 miles, while learning all about the countryside. They completed various tasks towards their badge work and had an evening visit up to Moynes Park with its intriguing history. After re-energising with Big Ben's fish and chips and then Haverhill Ice Cream & Desserts, the reading room became a cinema for the night as they settled in with their, 'Beavers Go Wild' sleepover theme to watch their film of choice.

The group is open for new beavers 6-8 years old, held at Kedington Community Association Hall in Kedington on Wednesday evenings 5 - 6.15pm. For more information kedingtonbeavers@btinternet.com

1st Kedington Beavers Scout Leader & Birdbrook Community House Vice Chair

Katie Gentry,



Formed in 1975, the Charity is an Educational Trust that administers funds from investments, in the form of grants to local young people.

Are you studying for a degree or about to start a degree course?

The Earls Colne and Halstead Educational Charity offers Resource Grants to young people studying undergraduate and postgraduate degree courses (excluding one or two year Foundation courses and including recognised level 4 courses).

To qualify, applicants must:

- be aged between 18 and 25
- have attended school or have lived, for at least one year, within the Charity's area of benefit (catchment area).

Note: Grants are not means-tested and anyone can apply as long as you meet the above criteria.

Find out more:

More information about the Charity and application forms can be found on our website - www.echec.org.uk. Alternatively email - earlscolnehalstead.edcharity@yahoo.co.uk



Birdbrook Community House

For Community House events & information visit:
<https://e-voice.org.uk/birdbrookcommunityhouse/>

Events this September

Mondays 6pm Yoga and Pilates with Coco

Wednesdays 6pm Birdbrook Bowls Club

Fridays 10am - 12pm Community Hub, coffee and chat

Thursday 14th Ladies Group

Friday 27th 10am - 12pm Macmillan coffee morning

Contacts:

Stephen Filbey steve.filbey@gmail.com

Matt Unwin matt@unwinstates.co.uk

Katie Gentry katie_owner@hotmail.com

Coco 07377 380845

Ladies Group: Sue 07784 261945



Birdbrook Pamper Evening

Birdbrook Community House
Friday 25th October 2024 6pm onwards

Prebooking for treatments advised
Coco: headtotoeholistic@yahoo.com

Various massages available on the night, nails, hair, self-care and fitness traders plus light refreshments and mobile bar.

Now open for trader bookings for this event, just £10 per spot, email katie_owner@hotmail.com to book. All funds going into the running and maintenance of Birdbrook Community House.

Look forward to seeing you there.
Katie, BCH Vice Chair



*Barn Swallows, The Street, Birdbrook
26th August 2024*

Christmas Craft Fair and Grotto

Sunday December 15th
10am – 3pm

Bookings now open for our annual craft fair at

Birdbrook Community House
(CO9 4BN)

Just £10 per table

! Grotto Bookings opening soon, keep those eyes peeled !

katie_owner@hotmail.com

Birdbrook Parish News

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Next edition:

News and adverts by 15 November for the December BPN

Editors Val and Katie: birdbrook2021@gmail.com