



What's On?



The Newsletter of Bulmer - December 2012

(Including Bulmer St., Bulmer Tye, Finch Hill, Batt Hall, Upper & Lower Houses, Church Rd & Hedingham Road).

View in colour at www.bulmersex.co.uk

Coe's Meadow wins another prestigious award

I am delighted to tell you all that Coe's Meadow Management Committee won a ROSPA award in September. It is the RoSPA Play Quality, Site Quality award. We were awarded 4 stars (the highest award is 5 stars). The only reason we were not awarded 5 stars was that



we do not have a disabled child's piece of play equipment. The purchase of a suitable piece will be a consideration for the future. Many thanks to everyone who has been involved in the very hard work in maintaining and presenting Coe's Meadow to such a high standard.

We now have a Disabled Parking Space in the Meadow car park. In early spring a beautiful new seesaw will be installed on the meadow.

May I take this opportunity to remind everyone about our Fun Day in June (final date to be decided). We hope to have lots of new attractions for all age groups (not just for families & small children) and look forward to welcoming older members of our community. Please join us for an enjoyable afternoon.

Finally I would like to wish all Bulmer residents a very happy Christmas from CMMC.

Chris Leigh (CMMC Chairman)

Bulmer Parish Council

Coes Meadow Recreation Ground



BULMER SKYLARKS

Our last meeting for this year was held on a very cold, wet November afternoon but our members once again turned out in force and all agreed it was worth the effort as we were entertained by Gestingthorpe hand bell ringers. The tone of the bells was beautiful and brought a little bit of sunshine to a dull afternoon. We now look forward to our Christmas lunch, which will again be held at St. Andrew's school. Our members always look forward to this event as we have a wonderful meal served by the children followed by the whole school entertaining us with carols, music and Christmas stories.

Skylark members were very busy throughout the year knitting hats, scarves, mittens, bags and puppets for the Samaritan's purse shoebox appeal. These were all brought to our October meeting along with other "goodies" for the boxes. It really took our breath away to see so much laid out on the tables. Well done every one.

If you are interested in joining Skylarks or want to know more about it please either come along to a meeting (we meet the fourth Tuesday of the month at 2pm in the Village Hall) or ring Barbara on 370845 or Maggie on 374758. The club is open to all, young or young at heart and we would love more men members.

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## VILLAGE HALL NEWS

We ended this year with two very successful events. A very good crowd many whom have never been to one before but eager that the event should be repeated enjoyed the Barn Dance. We therefore booked another for next year so watch out for the dates in future editions of "What's On". The Quiz Night was, as usual well-attended and good fun thanks to our quizmasters Dave and Becky. The proceeds of the raffle were sent to Macmillan Cancer support so we thank all who gave so generously to this. We will be planning several events for next year and we hope we can count on your support. Through our fundraising we have managed to keep our hiring prices very competitive and have not implemented an increase in charges for many years.

We do have 30 stacking chairs for sale at £1 each. If you are interested please ring 376676. Finally may we, as a committee, wish you all a very happy Christmas and a bright and peaceful New Year.

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BULMER NATURE DIARIES

The season's greetings to all! The first snow of the winter provided this sparkling vision in a corner of the garden.



We seem to have been plagued by field mice this autumn. The first signs were when we took up our beetroot crop, the top of each one had been nibbled, some hollowed right out. Later on, Wendy wasn't at all amused to find a row of holes where she had planted some crocus bulbs, only a couple of days before, every one had disappeared, except for the husks. This plague of mice probably explained why we have twice spotted a weasel in the last few days; I hope it gets fat on our tormentors!

You may recall a couple of years ago the otter,



which raided a fishpond in Bulmer Street. I'm very sad to have to report that a large dog otter was killed on the road, close to the end of the Goldingham Hall drive. I wonder if it could have been the same one. Nick Oliver came and picked up the carcass, which will be sent to an Environment Agency lab in Cardiff for analysis. Apparently, amongst other things, they test the DNA, to see if it was descended from an animal released in one of the re-introduction schemes, or whether it came from a wild population from further afield which has spread back into the area

Dates of the comings and goings of migrant birds in and around Bulmer. Last year's dates in brackets.

Summer migrants, last dates recorded by me: -
Swift 5th Aug. (11th Aug)
Whitethroat 15th Sept. (11th Sept.) House Martin 29th Sept. (11th Oct.)
Swallow 5th Oct. (15th Sept.) Chiffchaff 14th Oct. (24th Sept.) Blackcap 14th Oct.
Autumn migrants, first dates: - Fieldfare 27th Oct (23rd Oct) Redwing 20th Nov. (10th Oct.) Both

Fieldfares and Redwings were later turning up this year, and initially, both in smaller numbers than usual.

In late September we had a couple of chiffchaffs that seemed intent on terrorising each other and all the other small birds in the garden, despite the fact that they were the smaller birds. A great tit, chaffinch and a greenfinch were all chased in flight, as they ventured out to get to the bird feeder, somewhat puzzling behaviour. Equally odd behaviour from a rook feeding in a flock on the backfield. It picked up a stick, about 18 inches long and an inch in diameter flew up about ten feet and then dropped it. It then repeated the performance. Whatever the object of the exercise was, it was clearly intentional. It brought to mind some seabirds, which have been seen to drop shellfish from a height on to rocks to break open the shell, but a stick? At least it must have known what it was doing! Mentioning seabirds, we occasionally get a lone cormorant fly over, seemingly as much at home up our river valleys as they are on the coast. But I really couldn't believe my eyes when, on 16th October, no less than eleven winged their way across, heading out towards Belchamp Otten. Then they veered off to the left, disappearing towards Little Yeldham.

The last week of November saw a marvellous late flush of fungi appearing. Like this funnel cap.

One species in particular, the wood blewit, were abnormally plentiful. This is one of our favourite



edible mushrooms. Their lilac coloration, though, is off-putting to some people. We think the flavour is superior to cultivated mushrooms. The strange thing about them is that they seem resistant to frost, whereas most other species go to mush, they withstand being frozen solid and still remain perfect.

As usual for early December, the remaining apples on our Darcy Spice tree are being targeted by a small army of blackbirds, at least twenty of them, plus a couple of Fieldfares. There were continual skirmishes between the blackbirds; two were having a real battle. One, looking to escape its rival, flew straight into the

open garage and with an almighty crash broke its neck against the garage window, right beside where I was working, poor thing!

A couple of days after the blackbird met its



untimely end, we were hosts to some very colourful birds. Three waxwings, which tucked into the apples with great abandon for the half hour that they stayed. Long enough for me to get some good pictures. These exotic looking birds have arrived in large numbers from the continent this winter, worth looking out for especially on berry bearing shrubs.

Sorry to end on a gloomy note, but as most people are now aware, our native ash trees are facing a serious threat. The ash die-back disease, *Chalara fraxinea*, seems to have broken out in pockets spread widely across the country. Caused by a fungal disease, it can spread rapidly, as the spores of the fungi are airborne. One of the first places the disease was confirmed in this area was at Hullbacks, a 40-acre field that joined up the Arger Fen and Spouses Vale Nature reserves at Assington. Now, this field was left to revert to woodland naturally, from the seeds that blew on to it from the surrounding hedges. Unbelievably, seedling ashes sprouted up like cress, all over the field. Now 4 or 5 years old, there must be a quarter of a million or more, without exaggeration. As the site is over three quarters of a mile from the nearest road, it was obvious the disease had arrived through the air. It kills the tree in more or less the same manner as the Dutch elm disease kills the elms, by blocking the sap channels and thereby starving the tree of its life-giving nutrients. It is likely to spread faster than Dutch elm disease, as the latter depended on the fungal spores being carried by a beetle, whereas airborne spores can be blown scores of miles in no time at all. Whereas most fungal diseases tend to attack damaged trees, the ash disease appears to attack young trees or new

growth, which made the new woodland on Hullbacks particularly vulnerable. One of the hopes is that some strains of ash may be resistant to the disease and on a site like Hullbacks, with its countless young trees, any that survive could be the start of a new generation of disease resistant trees. As yet we have no disease recorded in Bulmer, we can only hope that things won't turn out as badly as many of us are predicting.

Peter Rowe

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### VILLAGE LOTTERY WINNERS

The Lottery still provides 3 lucky winners each month. It is a vital fundraiser for your village hall. Are you a member? The more members the more funds for the village Hall and the bigger the prize!

| Month | First              | Second       | Third             |
|-------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Sep.  | Mr D Neil          | Mrs L Burns  | Mr & Mrs Smiles   |
| Oct.  | Mr & Mrs D Willock | Mr P Wenborn | Mr & Mrs C Barton |
| Nov.  | Mr & Mrs Armstrong | Mr A Skipper | Mr L Raymond      |

Please support your village hall and contact Dawn at the Post Office (376676) if you would like to join.

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BULMER FIELDWALK REPORT

This report is by [Paul Blinkhorn](#), (Anglo-Saxon and Medieval specialist), from the field walking held on Ashley Coopers land at Goldingham Hall, which took place in November.



Initial analysis of the results show that there were several sherds of Roman pottery scattered across the field, indicating presence at this date but no defined area of activity. One sherd of late Saxon pottery (Thetford ware AD 925-1100) was found close to the current buildings, on the western half of the field, consistent with where Ashley believes Goldingham manor was sited in the early medieval period. A quantity of locally manufactured high medieval pottery (Essex grey ware & Heddingham ware from the 12th-14th centuries) was also found in the western half of

the field but more post-medieval pottery in the eastern half.

You can download the full pottery report from our excavation reports webpage at - <http://www.arch.cam.ac.uk/aca/bulmerfw.html>.

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### PARISH COUNCIL NEWS YOUR COUNCILLORS

|                               |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Mike Crome (Chairman)         | - 01787 378155 |
| Peter Fulcher (Vice Chairman) | - 01787 269935 |
| Stephen Morgan                | - 07973 341048 |
| Chris. Leigh                  | - 01787 378133 |
| Bethan Cook                   | - 01787 370435 |
| Rose Raymond                  | - 07813 205743 |
| VACANCY                       |                |

Hannah Fraser (Parish Clerk) - 01787 374310

### DATES OF FUTURE PARISH MEETINGS

All meetings are bi-monthly, normally held on the second Friday of the month in the Village Hall at 7:45pm

|                                  |                          |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 11 <sup>th</sup> January 2013    | 8 <sup>th</sup> March    |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> May (Incl. AGM) | 12 <sup>th</sup> July    |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> September       | 8 <sup>th</sup> November |

All parishioners are welcome to attend and there is a 15 minute slot for questions from the floor.

### Bulmer Parish Council Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at the Village Hall, at 7.45pm

*These draft minutes are unapproved until the next meeting on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2013*

#### Present

Cllrs. Cook, Crome, Fulcher, Leigh, Morgan, Raymond; Mr L. Felton (County Broadband); Mrs H. Fraser (Clerk); 6 members of the public.

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr. Finch.

#### 2. Declarations of Interest

Cllrs. Raymond and Morgan declared an interest in Bulmer Grazing (item 8iii) and Cllr. Fulcher in the Churchyard donation (item 11iv).

#### 3. Public Question Time

- A parishioner asked whether there had been any progress on the Blacksmiths Lane potholes. The parish council's last request has not had a response; the clerk is to follow up.
- A parishioner had submitted four questions about the survey on water bills at the allotments to illustrate that the allotments and grazing land could not be compared.

These were answered by the chairman. This matter was more fully discussed under item 8i.

- A parishioner reported a bad drainage smell at Swain's Croft. The clerk is to report the matter.

**i. Tribute to John Dixey:** The chairman noted that Mr. John Dixey had sadly passed away last month. He had dedicated much of his time to Bulmer village, including as a councillor for over 40 years and as a chairman for 26 years; a member of the Bulmer History Group and first holder of Freedom of the Parish. As a mark of respect for Mr. Dixey and Remembrance Sunday, a short silence of one minute was observed. Cllr. Leigh proposed and Cllr. Fulcher seconded that a donation of £50 was made to the Alzheimer's Society in memory of Mr. Dixey. The vote was unanimously in favour.

#### **4. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2012**

Item 15 concerning the telephone box was reworded to replace "the phone box should be removed" with "was it worth keeping the phone box". Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Cllr. Leigh and seconded by Cllr. Raymond; the vote was unanimously in favour. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

#### **5. Matters Arising**

- i.** Greenfields pavement/parking update: unfortunately the two Bulmer schemes came 6<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> in the recent voting; they will remain on the list but no progress will be seen for some time.
- ii.** EALC training date: this was confirmed as Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November.
- iii.** Lime Avenue to Vicars Orchard path: the Tree Warden had surveyed the path and reported that no action was necessary.
- iv.** Co-option of new councillor: there had been one expression of interest, and the matter was therefore deferred to the next meeting.

#### **6. County Council Update**

CCllr. Finch had sent a short update to be circulated after the meeting.

#### **County Broadband update (item 12)**

(The Chairman brought this item forward due to time and travel constraints). This was a late amendment to the agenda, no proposal was made to Cllrs. Mr. L. Felton of County Broadband reported that he had been in negotiations with the diocese of Chelmsford and ECC, and had received approval to use Bulmer St Andrew's tower for a transmitter base. A village meeting is planned for Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30-8.30pm in the village hall for parishioners to find out more about their service. He had brought leaflets to be distributed to each household, advertising the meeting and showing how to test current broadband speeds. There were no questions, so Mr. Felton left the meeting at this point.

#### **7. Coe's Meadow Report**

Cllr. Leigh had circulated a written report (appendix A). She noted that there was a work party the next day, although this would be cancelled if the weather was excessively wet. General garden equipment would be useful, and the parish strimmer also. Two parishioners have come forward to help with gate duty, and Mrs T. Bowler has joined the CMMC, both are greatly appreciated.

**i. Special motion - retain standpipe:** The clerk had received 3 written requests to revisit this decision (meeting 29th June) and therefore under Standing Order 11a, the matter was discussed. The CMMC wished to retain the standpipe for use when power-washing equipment, and would be responsible for the water bill. Cllr. Fulcher proposed and Cllr. Crome seconded that the Coe's Meadow standpipe be retained, and the vote was unanimously in favour

#### **8. Allotments report**

Cllr. Morgan had circulated a written report (appendix B). One unused plot is to be reallocated, one holder has recently moved without a forwarding address, and rent is currently unpaid and being chased. It was agreed that the interpretation of 'cultivation' in the tenancy agreement could include activity such as digging over and leaving for the winter. Strimmer quotes were underway, advice is being sought from R&R Lawnmowers.

**i. Water bills survey:** The majority (89%) of responders wished to keep the current key system. The chairman noted there was a considerable cost difference between the current system (£10 key deposit for life) and the new idea of a split bill (£10 per year). The reason for the survey was stated as: that there was concern that a small body of tenants were utilising water and not paying. There had also been a question from a grazing tenant on the matter, as grazing tenants pay for their water usage. There was also concern that in this time of austerity, the income of the tap keys was not covering the cost of water. The clerk is to provide figures to show the cost to tenants if just the usage was split between them. Cllr. Morgan is to take advice from the Allotments Association on best practice in this matter and with regard to dip tanks/butts.

**ii. Hedge height survey:** The majority (91%) of responders wished to keep the hedge at 6ft. The reason for the survey was stated as: that the hedge height affects 10 households, there are 290 households in the parish, and in this time of austerity there are cost implications of maintaining the hedge at a higher height. The possibility of hedge-side plot owners maintaining the hedge was discussed. This would necessitate a change to the current tenancy agreement. At present there is not an urgent need to create more hedge-side plots, but there may be in the future, at which time this issue would be revisited. It was proposed by Cllr. Fulcher and seconded by Cllr. Raymond that the hedge be maintained at 6ft. The vote was unanimously in favour. The clerk is to instruct John Doe to cut at this height and to write to residents affected to let them know of this decision.

**iii. Bulmer Tye Grazing:** Cllrs. Raymond and Morgan left the meeting at this point. There is currently a discussion between Bulmer Tye Grazing and a resident of the Tye who has an adult son (also resident) with a severe allergy to horses. The Chairman has been kept informed, and has had several conversations with the resident. After discussion, it was agreed that Bulmer Grazing had produced a sensible proposal of a fence creating a distance of 16.5 feet from the residents' home. Cllr. Fulcher proposed and Cllr. Leigh seconded that Bulmer Grazing should proceed with their proposal. The vote was unanimously in favour. Cllrs. Raymond and Morgan then returned to the meeting. 3 members of the public left the meeting at this point.

### 9. Clerk's report

The clerk circulated a report (appendix C), including task progress and timesheet.

**i. Electricity usage:** this is negligible, so there will be no claim for usage.

**ii. Schedule of next year's meetings:** the draft schedule was circulated and will be confirmed in due course.

### 10. Planning

The chairman noted that on two recent applications, the District Council planning officers report had recorded no response from the parish council, which is incorrect. The clerk is following up the matter.

- **Goldingham Hall Bungalow – refused:** the owner has decided not to pursue this further.
- **The Bungalow, The Street** – this is still under consideration. The district council preferred the garages at the rear of the properties, even if outside the village envelope.
- **Langley Cottage** – approved.
- **Chapel Cottage** – Cllr. Leigh has resolved the issues with the neighbour.

### 11. Receipts and Payments

A balance in hand sheet had been circulated (appendix D). The cheques were signed.

|                     |             |       |                 |  |  |
|---------------------|-------------|-------|-----------------|--|--|
| Balance in hand (£) |             |       | 107,222.39      |  |  |
|                     |             | Sept. | 106,059.40      |  |  |
| <b>Debtors</b>      |             |       |                 |  |  |
| VAT reimbursement   |             |       | 1314.73         |  |  |
| <b>Receipts</b>     | Invoice no. |       |                 |  |  |
| BDC: Precept part 2 | Ref. 577    |       | 2,250.00        |  |  |
| Allotment rents     | BR          |       | 493.76          |  |  |
| Grazing rents       | BR          |       | 1,630.00        |  |  |
| Interest HSBC       |             |       | 5.31            |  |  |
| <b>TOTAL (£)</b>    |             |       | <b>4,379.07</b> |  |  |

| Payments                |                                   | chq. |                 |         | in budget ? |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|------|-----------------|---------|-------------|
| Barclays                | Storage charge                    | -    | 1.00            |         | Under       |
| Suffolk Wildlife Trust  | Mowing Dean Spinney               | 106  | 20.00           |         | Near        |
| Mortimers               | Weedkilling at Coe's Meadow       | 107  | 36.00           | inc VAT |             |
| Mortimers               | Grass cutting Aug & Sep           | 107  | 1060.80         | Inc VAT |             |
| RoSPA                   | Playsafety inspection             | 108  | 157.20          | Inc VAT |             |
| Mrs H L Fraser          | Salary Sep & Oct, expenses        | 109  | 552.32          |         |             |
| Mortimers               | Grass cutting Oct                 | 110  | 300.00          | Inc VAT |             |
| EALC                    | Training – Chairman's Day 3       | 111  | 65.00           |         | on          |
| Mr A J Dixey            | Drainage materials & Coe's Meadow | 112  | 861.00          |         |             |
| Chilton Office Services | Newsletter (ref 182705)           | 113  | 83.62           | inc VAT |             |
| <b>TOTAL (£)</b>        |                                   |      | <b>3,136.94</b> |         |             |

**i. The capital investments were reviewed.** The Scottish Widows account is being opened.

**ii. Insurance review:** it was agreed to look at this matter when the renewal notice was received.

**iii. Churchyard donation:** Cllr. Fulcher left the meeting at this point. The council had previously received a request to increase the donation. The council currently makes unequal donations to the churchyard, the village hall, Coe's Meadow and Skylarks, to a total of £2,720. The chairman proposed that next year a donation of £900 was given to each of the churchyard, the village hall and Coe's Meadow. Cllr. Morgan seconded, but the vote was 3 against and 2 in favour. It was agreed that the matter would be deferred to the January meeting, with a possible £70 increase for the churchyard donation. Cllr. Fulcher then returned to the meeting.

**iv. Budget/Precept for 2013/4:** The budget was discussed briefly, as the clerk is awaiting confirmation of most of the figures. One grasscutting quote of almost £4,000 has been received, at £100 higher



than last year. The Clerk is to seek another quote. It was agreed to reduce the subscription to *Clerks & Councils* to just one copy, and to not renew *Playing Fields Association* or BALC. Councillors are to send any further suggestions for economies to the clerk.

## 12. County Broadband update

This had been heard earlier in the meeting.

## 13. Days of meeting

Due to the possibility of a new councillor in the near future, Cllr. Fulcher proposed and Cllr. Crome seconded that this matter be deferred until after a new councillor is co-opted, if necessary. The vote was unanimously in favour.

## 14. Facebook page

The councillors discussed what a Facebook page would provide compared to the village website. There was some concern about security and abuse. The clerk was asked to research how other councils use Facebook and report to Cllr. Cook, who will then start setting up the page.

## 15. Speeding updates

The Chairman reported that the A131 is likely to have a speed reduction, possibly to 50mph. Thanks were given to Cllr. Finch for his support on this matter. The Batt Hall suggested limit of 40mph is going before the panel shortly, which Cllr. Finch is also supporting.

## 16. Correspondence not covered under previous items

C1: Community Asset Transfers - The parish council has no ideas at present.

C4: Request for BACS – this may be possible, but will be prioritised after budget matters.

C6: The Chairman attended the Meet the Police Commissioner.

C11: RoSPA inspection – Coe's Meadow is shortlisted for an award.

C14: Mortimers request for extra cut of Coe's

Meadow – this was not necessary due to weather.

C17: Email of interest in becoming a councillor – unfortunately the applicant is currently too young; details were passed on to CMMC.

C19: Extra salt bin: it was agreed that a small bin of 90L was needed at the junction of Ryes Lane and the A131 due to the slope. Approximate cost is £122 + VAT. The clerk is to contact Highways to find out how to proceed with siting it.

C22: Letter to Mrs L Brett - no response as yet.

C23: Letter to Highways re: deer sign – no response.

C24: Letter from Mrs B Rawlins (& tenant) about the tenancy agreement and cultivation – this was covered under item 8. The clerk is to respond to Mrs Rawlins and the tenant.

## 17. Items for the next agenda

Co-option of new councillor.

### Any other business

The clerk was asked to contact the Dog Warden about dog fouling on the permissive path between the school and the village hall.

The clerk was asked to contact Mr Burke about cutting back vegetation blocking the path from between Upper Houses/Dean Spinney, running past Hilltop towards Mr Cooper's land.

The meeting closed at 10.12pm.

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For all the latest news from your Parish Council, log on to www.essexinfo.net/bulmer

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## PARISH PATHS WALKS

I am happy to say I am back leading walks. Here are my next planned dates. Remember your strong footwear and suitable clothing for these winter walks. Most are suitable for adult accompanied children. Dogs must be on a fixed lead.

### NEW YEARS DAY 10:30am

Meet on Plough Green for a 5-mile walk to Henny and back.

### SUNDAY 27<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2:00pm

A classic local circuit from the Village Hall to Belchamp Walter. About 5 miles.

### SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2:30pm

Meet at Gestingthorpe church to walk towards Castle Hedingham. Approx. 6 miles

### SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2:30pm

Follow Mills to the Hills

Meet at Finch Hill end of Smeetham Hall Lane for a 5-mile walk.

Further details on all walks from Margaret Mills 269377.

**NORTH HINCKFORD CRAFTY  
(WO)MEN PRESENT  
A YARN ABOUT YARN  
BECKY POYNTER - YARNSMITH**

**TUESDAY 29<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2013  
2.00PM £5.00 INC LIGHT REFRESHMENTS**

BULMER VILLAGE HALL  
CHURCH ROAD, BULMER,

**A BRIEF, FUN LOOK INTO THE WORLD OF A  
SELF-CONFESSED "YARNIE", EXAMINING  
KNITTING HISTORY, TRADITIONS AND TRENDS –  
INTERSPERSED WITH ANECDOTES AND STORIES  
OF KNITTING DISASTERS AND DARING-DO.**

**ALL PROCEEDS TO THE BENEFICE OF NORTH HINCKFORD.**

TICKETS AND FURTHER INFORMATION FROM:  
Liz: 01787 269935/BECKY: 01787 881620



A very Peaceful & Healthy New Year to all my readers



# When cold weather strikes ... help is here ... to stay warm and well this winter.



If you struggle to cope during spells of severely cold weather then you can receive the essentials to see you through the worst of the winter.

**Don't be caught out in the cold.  
Do register with Age UK Essex so that you can be prepared.**

The British Red Cross, Age UK Essex and Essex Community Foundation have teamed up to bring help to those who need it through the Surviving Winter Appeal.

Practical help and support is available now for those most at risk during cold weather, elderly and vulnerable people.

### What's available?

- A Warm Pack to ensure you are prepared for severe weather. The pack includes a fleece, a hot water bottle and a flask to keep drinks warm, and is available once you have registered with Age UK Essex and been accepted as eligible.
- A Food Pack to help you through if severe weather hits and you can't get out to the shops. The pack will contain essentials such as tea, soup, ready meals and biscuits.
- An Electric Heater to help you keep warm if your heating breaks or you run out of oil.
- Help and Advice is also included to make sure you receive all you are entitled to.

To request your warm pack all you need to do is register with Age UK Essex by calling 01245 245455 or by completing and returning the coupon on the back of this leaflet. Carers can apply on behalf of elderly and vulnerable people. A Food Pack will be delivered to you by the British Red Cross, whatever the weather.

To register with Age UK Essex and to receive your warm pack, please complete this and post it to Age UK Essex, 112 Springfield Road, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 6LF.

### Surviving winter

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of people in household: \_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please tick

I am 65 or over, in receipt of benefits and may need extra help this winter

I give permission for Age UK Essex to retain my personal details on file for the purposes of the Surviving Winter Appeal and for providing future support if required.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Age UK Essex

112 Springfield Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 6LF

t 01245 346106

f 01245 346107

e [information@ageuk Essex.org.uk](mailto:information@ageuk Essex.org.uk)

[www.ageuk Essex.org.uk](http://www.ageuk Essex.org.uk)

The Surviving Winter Appeal is managed by Essex Community Foundation, Reg. Charity No. 1052061.



The next edition will be published around the end of March 2013. Can I please have all your pictures & articles, by the **15<sup>th</sup> March**. Call 378155 or email [mike@mcrome.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:mike@mcrome.fsnet.co.uk)