

What's

On?

The Newsletter of Bulmer - September 2008

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

Nothing To Crow About!

Did you find time to visit the competitive exhibition of modern art held at the

Village Hall during June & July? One of the rules (in keeping with today's drive for recycling) was that the creations should be fashioned from any discarded household item.

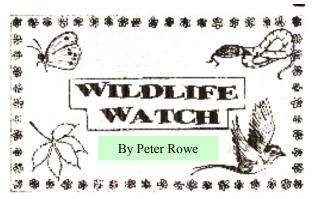
The judge (more about him and his marking method, later) decreed that the works of art should be displayed over, or on the hall entrance doors. Brian Parry, our hard working caretaker, kicked off with a fine effort constructed from old CD discs



suspended on a network of billowing cassette tape. A most striking mixed media composition. However, it failed to make any impression on the Judge. It was now time to show my skill. With the ribs of an old brolly and a lump of 4x2, I created a most tasteful sculpture, with all the sharp spines projecting over the spot where they would make the required impression on the judge.

At this point I should say a little about the Judge. It had already been decided that a carrion crow, which uses the roof of the hall, as it's nocturnal abode, should mark the competition. It was agreed (well not actually agreed, more dictated by the crow) that he would leave a sign of disapproval, if the artworks were not up to scratch. Every morning his disapproval would be found lying on the doorstep or dripping off the door handle, having perched on or beside the artwork above the door. Every day brought bigger dollops of disapproval. Brian then decided to execute a piece of two-dimensional art. This took the form of two carefully weathered sheets of black polythene, mounted, for effect, on the glass of the door. For whatever reason, this somewhat unprepossessing piece of minimalist art, won the crow's instant approval. No longer are heaps of disapproval to be seen on the step.

To return to the world of reality, we were convinced that the crow was roosting right over the door and depositing its foul mess on the step. Having made it impossible for it to perch there, the fouling still continued and it was only then that the real truth emerged. The crow was fighting it's own reflection in the glass door and judging by the mess it dropped, scaring itself silly! Brian's dustbin bag, taped to the glass of the door, appears to have solved the problem.



Maureen Dixey thought that her husband Tony was playing games on her earlier this year. When, instead of finding a few early "scrapers" in her potato patch, out rolled a couple of ducks eggs! They had already found the ducks nest in a corner of the garden. Dark deeds were afoot here; some wanton thief had made off with some of the eggs and had buried them for future reference, but just what? A fox will often bury its prey, so that's a possibility. I once watched a stoat roll a pheasant's egg across a road, but I don't think they would actually bury them. Of course, the number one animal for burying small food items, is the grey squirrel, but eggs? I doubt it. If anyone knows of any similar happenings or have any ideas about it, please get in touch.

In the last issue I gave the dates that I had noted down for the arrival of some of our migrant birds this spring. One of the later birds to arrive is the spotted



flycatcher, which, like many others of our migrants, has suffered a sharp drop in numbers in recent years.

They appear to be very faithful to their nesting areas. This year a pair nested in a

hanging bird feeder in Sandy and Allen Burbidge's garden. They had one in their garden 2 or 3 years ago and last year one nested in Vicars Orchard, only 100 yards or so away. But the real hot spot in for them in Bulmer is down at the Brick Yard, where Peter Minter reported three pairs nesting this year, which is quite exceptional nowadays. As you can see they are very dapper little birds and as their name implies, they are very adept at ambushing insects. They will sit on some prominent perch, then launch themselves out, often vertically, to snap up anything to their taste, from gnats to honey bees. The one pictured, was filmed in the Burbidge's garden. The adult was supplying a beak-full of flies to the nest about every five minutes. At that time they had three young, but Allen tells me that only two fledged, a dead youngster being left in the nest.

Little Dean Spinney

In 2005 George Millins, a specialist in reptile conservation, released common lizards & slow worms, rescued from construction sites in Sudbury, on the site. In 2006 & 07 lizards were regularly seen on the log

habitat
piles built
at the
release
end of the
site. This
year
however
we have



been disappointed, with no lizards using the piles. George (who homes in on things that seem invisible to the rest of us) surveyed the whole site in August and to his, and our delight, found two juveniles out in the middle of the field. He is satisfied that they have now spread out and are probably doing very well. This does present a problem. We normally have a portion of the site cut by tractor every Autumn, leaving the end where the lizards were released uncut. George is sure that tractor cutting would result in killing many of the little reptiles. He suggests cutting with a strimmer, as that will give them a good chance of escaping in front of the operation, but take an awful lot longer!

It's always nice to meet up with old friends, and that's just how we feel each year, as we come across plants and flowers growing in the same locations as they have for years. Late summer flowers for us include the showy nettle leaved bell-flower and the delicate enchanters nightshade, growing side by side, on the edge of an oak wood. Yellow swathes of common fleabane displaying in a damp meadow. Toadflax, a yellow antirrhinum like flower, has really flourished this year, especially in our wild patch at home. Unlike flowers, fungi are never very predictable, but this autumn should be good for them after all the rain, provided that we get a few warmish days.

Peter Rowe

VILLAGE LOTTERY WINNERS

The Lottery still provides 3 lucky winners each month. Are you a member? The more members the more funds for the Village Hall and the bigger the prize! Please contact Dawn at the Post Office (376676) if you would like to join.

Month	First	Second	Third	
June	Mr & Mrs	Mr & Mrs C	Mr & Mrs N	
	Burbidge	Barton	Fraser	
July	S Davies & C	Mr & Mrs M	Ms L Evans	
	Massey	Raymond		
Aug.	Mr & Mrs E	Mrs J	Mr R Stuart	
	Wood	Crawford		

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

Fortunately we did have a few dry days in June giving our painters the chance to redecorate the outside of the building. We hope you all approve of the colour change and will agree with us that the improvement to the exterior of the Hall has been well worth the effort. There are plans to improve things further both externally and internally and the Committee is always ready to listen to your suggestions for further improvements.

Future events being organised for this year are:

Family Beetle Drive

1st November
Fun for all the family
If you've never experienced this event then come along, you will not regret it.

Quiz Night

21st November Tables of 6 Fish and Chip Supper

For further details of these events or to book a table for the Quiz (and hurry as they always sell out very quickly) Please ring **Maggie on 374758**

The Committee thanks you for your support over the year enabling us to maintain an important Village asset.

BULMER AND DISTRICT W.I.

Despite a gloomy summer our July meeting saw all our members and many guests arrive at the Village Hall dressed in their finest clothes and wearing a most beautiful array of hats. This was for our "Ladies Day at Ascot" evening where we enjoyed a glass of Bucks Fizz and Strawberries and Cream. We also learnt a little of the history of Ascot which was followed by some very noisy horse racing. If anyone thinks W.I. Ladies are demure creatures the think again, our meeting that night proved just the opposite!

Our programme for the last quarter of the year promises to be both varied and interesting so why not come along and find out just what goes on. We will be finding out what life is like as a Police Chaplin in October and Paula Short will give us some insight into Castro's Cuba in November. As always, our December meeting will see us enjoying a Christmas meal in one of our local restaurants.

For further information please ring Muriel on 373464 or pop along to our meeting on the 1st Monday of each month.

Latest News on all Village Events can also be found on www.bulmeressex.co.uk

AN APPEAL

Bulmer W.I. in conjunction with the British Legion will once again be collecting for our troops in Afghanistan and Iraq. You were all very generous last year and we were able to send 11 boxes full of "goodies" out to the troops in time for Christmas. May we appeal to your generosity again this year to enable us to, hopefully, make life a little more comfortable for our men and women serving in these countries.

As last year we have been asked to send:

Shower Gel, Talc, Roll on Deodorant, Soap, Flannels, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Good Quality Disposable Razors, Biscuits (not chocolate) Boiled Sweets, Barley Sugars in Tins, Wine Gums, Chewing Gum, Wet Wipes and Tissues.

N.B. PLEASE NO AEROSOLS OR CHOCOLATE.

We would also like empty shoeboxes too as they are the preferred mode of packaging. If you would like to help this very worthy cause, a collection box is placed in Bulmer Post Office for your items or shoeboxes. If you have difficulty getting to the Post Office and would still like to donate, collection can be arranged by ringing Maggie on 374758.

Last day for donated items will be Friday 28th November.

BULMER HISTORY GROUP

Friday October 10th 2008 Village Hall at 8pm. Entrance Free

There will be three speakers talking on diverse subjects for no more than twenty-five minutes each. **Peter Minter** will reveal the connections between 'Bulmer and Wartime Airfields', **Margaret Mills** will discuss and display 'Domestic Bygones', whilst **Ashley Cooper** will describe life in medieval Bulmer in, 'Trespass and Ducking Stools- a Bulmer Manorial Court'.

Summer Meeting 2008

On the suggestion of resident wildlife pundits Peter and Wendy Rowe, the Bulmer History Group had a glorious summer meeting at Cornard's country park

and mere guided by Robin Ford. We were extremely lucky in choosing one of the few days of good weather that



our summer offered and most donned sun hats and glasses before setting off from Cornard's football club car park for the country park. We entered the park via a shaded path that opened into a clearing providing picnic tables. Here we gathered briefly to be given some history of the area and to look at some then and



now photographs of the progress that has been made in the area over the last few years. From the picnic area we moved on and into the most beautiful wildflower meadow.

Wendy helpfully named several of the flowers but I think it may take a few more years yet before I can recognise and name so many species. For now they will just remain beautiful. Unfortunately the view back from the top of the meadow now isn't quite so beautiful. The bees and butterflies however didn't appear to be too bothered by the sprawling housing development behind the rugby club and were a delightful distraction. Watching them serenely going about their business, never still, leaving me unable to get that perfect snapshot. Now heading for the mere we left the bees and butterflies to the flowers as we strolled through some fields where various members of the wort family had established itself. Now ragwort I can identify, as any horse owner will know it becomes a never-ending task trying to eradicate this devil from paddocks. Growing alongside the wort some rosebay willow herb seemed to be attracting some nasty nipping horse flies. These took a liking to a select few and nipped away whilst an assortment of butterflies, damsel and dragonflies were rather expertly captured into an insect pot, very practically containing a magnifier to get a close up look of some of the rather spectacular inhabitants of the mere's surroundings. Giving the insects back their freedom Robin then led us through the jungle of reeds so we were able to get alongside the meres edge being a little



careful of the rather deep treacle type mud that surrounds it. Moving round to the far side the vegetation was less dense and Wendy continued to impress us with her flower naming skills, many of which she has wonderfully painted. Finally, with the aroma of mint scenting the air we made our way back thoroughly enchanted, feeling honoured to have spent such a beautiful afternoon courtesy of an individual with such an immense knowledge and passion for nature. A huge thank-you to Robin and all involved in organising such a wonderful afternoon.

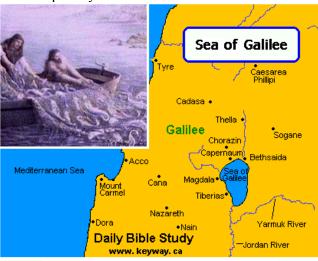
Lisa Sandford



Apostleship of the Sea

AOS Holy Land Trek $11^{th} - 19^{th} \text{ October 2008}$ **SEA to SEA**

Tom Dickinson is off again, this time on a sponsored walk in Israel from the Mediterranean Sea to the Sea of Galilee and on to Nazareth. 5 Days walking, 12 to 14 miles per day.



Minimum sponsorship of £2000 - has already been paid so all monies donated will go totally to the work of Apostleship of the Sea in the UK, supporting all sailors visiting at seaman's missions and onboard ships. Should you wish to be a sponsor you can contact Tom tel. 370016 or e-mail tomdick@talktalk.net.

SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE (SID)



After SID was outside 'Griggs farmhouse' in Bulmer Street it was then placed in Church Road near to Vicars Orchard approaching the crossroads, at the end of the 40mph zone. The following statistics were produced, some of which may surprise you.

Total no. of vehicles passing the device 16,967

Total number exceeding 40mph 5,937 or 35%

Total traveling between 1 – 40mph incl. 11,030 or 65%

Total traveling between 41 – 50mph incl. 5,113 or 30%

Total traveling between 51 – 60mph incl. 751 or 4%

Total traveling between 61 – 70mph incl. 67 or 0.4%

Total traveling between 71 – 80mph incl. 6 or 0%

Those traveling over 50mph must have flown quite a distance over the drop by the village hall.

These statistics and others have been passed to the police for further analysis. All future readings will also be communicated to the police. So *please* watch your speed.

COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

This has now been operating since January 2007 in various locations in Bulmer, unfortunately not on A131 as we are only permitted to monitor 40mph or less zones.

Out of 5,769 vehicles, monitored, 329 have been reported to the police. It is thought this has had an impact on village drivers, but little effect on others. What do you think? Have your say by joining the discussion on www.essexinfo.net/bulmer/discussion

Braintree

Can we help you with your Council Tax Payments or Rent Payments?

If you are experiencing problems meeting these costs, you may be entitled to benefit. *Don't delay, make a claim today* on 01376 557852

Alternatively, you can visit our offices at either Causeway House, Bocking End, Braintree, or 8/9 The Centre, Halstead or at The Witham Library, High Street, Witham.

If you suspect someone of falsely claiming benefits, you can contact us on our confidential Fraud Line, and you do not have to give your name - just freephone

0800 7811355 or alternatively, visit our website www.braintree.gov.uk

If you are already receiving Housing Benefit and/or Council Tax Benefit, please make sure that you tell us of ANY changes in your circumstances, which might effect your benefit entitlement. This is because; a delay may result in an overpayment of benefit, which must be repaid by you.

Some examples of the changes, which you must tell us about, are:

- If you move house, or the room you live in.
- If someone in your household moves in or out.
- If your income, or your partner's income, changes.
- If your Child Benefit or Tax Credits change.
- If your non-dependant's income changes.
- If your capital (savings) changes.
- If you stop receiving Income Support, Job Seekers Allowance or Employment Support Allowance.
- If you stop receiving Pension Credit.

PLEASE DONT' DELAY - LET US KNOW TODAY

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Margaret Mills (Chairman)	- 01787 269377
Mike Crome (Vice Chairman)	- 01787 378155
Peter Rowe	- 01787 375935
Ron Mansfield	- 01787 375301
Peter Fultcher	- 01787 269935
Stephen Morgan	- 07973 341048
Stephen Coombes	- Ex Directory

Barbara Rawlins (Parish Clerk) - 01787 370845

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

- 31st October 2008
- 9th January 2009

Public Question Time - there will be a period of up to 15 minutes of public question time at each meeting. Members of the public will be able raise questions about Parish business or other matters of local concern. The Council requests that questions be submitted to the Chairman or Clerk, **in writing**, at least **ONE WEEK PRIOR** to the meeting in order that the letter can be circulated to all Councillors.

COUNCILLORS SURGERIES

Are you happy with how your Council is managing the Parishes affairs?

Have you a question you wish to ask one of Councillors?

No appointment is necessary, and you may approach any of the councillors in attendance on issues on a one to one basis.

The next surgery in the Village Hall will be 11am, Sat. 6th December

Reminders will be advertised on the noticeboards and on the Parish Council website www.essexinfo.net/bulmer

BULMER PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF BULMER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 4th JULY 2008

PRESENT: Councillors Margaret Mills, Stephen Coombes, Mike Crome, Peter Fulcher, Peter Rowe and the clerk David Finch CC

6 members of the public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Steve Morgan, Nigel Harley DC, Ron Mansfield, Rob Sippitt PCSO, Trevor Lawrence CW.

DECL. OF INTERESTS: None

PUBLIC QUESTIONS: Mrs. Mags Evans wished to put various questions to the Council regarding the vacant allotment land at The Tye.

- **Q.** Would the Council be prepared to sell some of the land, even a strip behind the houses?
- **A.** Parish Councils are not allowed to sell off land unless it is absolutely necessary or in certain circumstances, they can only lease or rent.
- **Q.** How does the Council stand on annual renting? A tenant would want to know that he/she has the assured tenancy for more than one year?
- **A.** Paddock land is rented on an annual basis of 364 days for as long as the tenant wishes to rent it and adheres to the rules/regulations of the tenancy agreement. It would not be in the Council's interest to keep changing a tenancy.
- **Q.** How will the Council select the tenant?
- **A.** As there are a number of interested parties, the Council will have to choose by tender and how the applicant will manage the land.

APPROVE THE MINUTES of the meeting held on 9th May 2008. Proposed Cllr. Crome, seconded Cllr. Fulcher.

MATTERS ARISING: None

DAVID FINCH CC - distributed a Grant Scheme leaflet, also an Essex Health Profile leaflet, then went on to report on various projects the County Council have in hand -

- how well in ECC performing or not performing will be assessed by the Audit Commission, to which Star Awards will be given.
- a major review of social services is being carried out - assessing people for grants and how the individual wishes to use the grant. Independently, is the most popular request.
- library services are expanding into video, DVD and also broadband.

The Parish Councillors expressed various concerns to Cllr. Finch - the BT pole at Church Road/Park Lane, Old Church Lane and the need for grass cutting at the Tye, especially the triangle, all of which Cllr. Finch said he would look into.

COE's MEADOW:

The Fun Day was very successful and although it was just a day for children and adults to enjoy themselves and not for moneymaking, a small profit of £27.60 was made. A vote of thanks was given to the committee and the Clerk was asked to write to the Chairman expressing the Council's congratulations and thanks.

Cllr. Fulcher reported that a branch of a lime tree, in the Avenue, was growing very near to a resident's fence. Mr. Melvyn Crow is to be asked to assess the situation. Cllr. Crome pointed out that the drainage gutters across the field needed attention.

VDS REPORT:

The Activity Day was well supported and at the follow up meeting on 30th June, good progress was made. A draft form of VDS incorporating a questionnaire is to be delivered to every household.

PLANNING:

3 Park Lane - access to A131. Appeal application dismissed by Planning Inspectorate. **Barleys, Blacksmiths Lane, The Tye** - erection of first floor extension over garage, two storey rear extension, together with new roof over existing conservatory, plus internal alterations. No objections from Parish Council.

Brambley Hedge Nursery School - erection of entrance porch to new nursery school building. No objections from Parish Council.

VACANT ALLOTMENT LAND:

Following a lengthy discussion, the Parish Council decided its main preference was to rent the three pieces of land to one tenant (or group of tenants under one name), but would accept tenders for the 3 pieces separately with a guide rental of £190 per acre, per annum on the 6 acre plot. The two smaller plots could be tendered for at a rent the applicant felt suitable for the purpose it was going to be used. The Council reserved the right not to accept the highest tender if they felt the land would not be used appropriately under tenancy rules. It was also proposed by Cllr. Crome, seconded by Cllr. Rowe that the first year of tenancy should be free of charge and the second year at 50% of rent. This should give the tenant enough time to put the land into good order for the purpose of paddock. Motion carried.

The Clerk was asked to inform all applicants of these new proposals.

CORRES. & NOTICES:

1. Speed Indicator Device (SID)- the device, which had stopped working, was sent back to Traffic Technology (TT) for analysis. The report was that the two external batteries were flat, even though they were charged regularly and the charger showed the green light. These were recharged by TT. The internal battery was completely dead. A new one was fitted.

At a meeting with TT on 4.10.2007, the Council was given to understand that the internal battery would be drip fed from the external battery. Now we are informed that the internal battery needs to be rested every few weeks and put on charge. As the Parish Council is not allowed to move the SID themselves (health and safety regulations); it has a contract with ECC for it to be moved by Highways every 6 weeks and is in constant use during that time. It would not be realistic for Highways to move the device every few weeks.

The Parish Council found this all unacceptable and asked the Clerk to write to TT with their concerns.

- 2. Henny footpaths Cllr. Mills, as Chairman and footpath representative for Bulmer, wrote to Henny Council regarding problems accessing FP's 15, 16 and 20 which pass over land owned by the residents of Dove House Farm. Henny Council replied that it was aware of the situation and had been pursuing the matter for some time. Mr. Bartley, County Highways officer will be writing to the landowners. Meanwhile, Henny Council will continue to raise the matter at meetings and keep Bulmer informed.
- **3.** The Parish Council continues to pursue the matter of the **BT pole** at Church Road/Park Lane obscuring access from Park Lane. Cllr. Finch has been informed and the Clerk was asked to write again to County Highways.
- **4.** Again County Highways are maintaining that **Old Church Lane** is a public right of way and not a highway. It was established in 2002 that the lane was indeed a highway and should be maintained as such. The Clerk was asked to contact Mr. Ciaburro Director of ECC Highways informing him of the recent history and problems the Parish Council has had with Highways over maintenance of Old Church Lane and to ask him to sort out this problem. Cllr. Finch was also informed.

RECEIPTS:

ВVНС	- repayment for tressle tables	£1,113.60
ВVНС	- repayment on chairs	£454.80
Customs & Excise	- repayment VAT 2007/08	£1,053.38
Village Appraisal Fund	- balance remaining put to VDS fund	£35.06

PAYMENTS:

Alliance Insce	- premium	£1,495.17
Cllr. Mills	- expenses to planning meeting	£17.46
Cllr. Mills	- fuel for strimmer	£9.77 inc VAT
B Rawlins	- fuel expenses to Buckingham re SID	£34 inc VAT
Cllr. Crome	- expenses re VDS	£32.75
Chilton Office Supplies	- re Coe's Meadow	£81.37 inc VAT
Rbt. Acton	- re Bago's x 15	£141.00 inc VAT
BALC	- subscription	£1,308.48 inc VAT
RCCE	- ditto	£18.00
Sudbury Office Supplies	- chairs for Village Hall	£40.00

PAYMENTS Continued

R Mortimer	- grass cutting	£1,189.11 inc VAT
T Dickinson	- expenses re VDS	£47.62
Chilton Office Supplies	- newsletter	£81.78 inc VAT
Chilton Office Supplies	- re VDS	£5.63 inc VAT

OTHER BUSINESS:

Parish surgeries - due to lack of response (we can only assume residents are quite happy at the way the Parish Council is managing affairs), the next surgery on 16th August will be held for 1 hour only.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 10.05 pm

PARISH PATH WALKS - SUMMER 2008

For those of you who aren't quite ready to welcome autumn and are still hoping for that one final spell of good weather to call our summer, don't be too despondent.

Looking back, not only did the history group manage to select a glorious day for their summer outing, Margaret achieved three for the parish path walkers. So briefly, inspired by the BBC's Jim Bacon's optimism and meteorological skills in number crunching I thought I'd do some number crunching of my own. Deciding that all was not surely doom and gloom, I discovered, that on average for our summer we actually received 1.33333333 days of sunshine a month. Except for Bulmer who I understand had thirty minutes less due to torrential rain on the afternoon of Sunday July 27th whilst we were treading the trails of Toppesfield.

This for me is where the summer seasons walks began as the dreaded lurgy prevented me being able to even start the 6 mile figure of eight walk to Belchamp Walter from the village hall, let alone finish it. Margaret however reliably informs me that all who attended had a joyous afternoon and none of the trials and tribulations of the three previous walks were encountered.

For the Toppesfield trail some protested it was too hot. I bet they were glad they stayed at home in Bulmer when it rained. However, those who decided to risk it and were led by Ann Read had a lovely afternoon. I'm not totally sure of the distance we walked but I think it was roughly six miles. Ann had chosen some wonderful paths for an almost circular walk starting from Toppesfield leading us to Gainsford End and touching on the fringes of Delvin End and Yeldham. All on quite high ground too so the views were spectacular. This area must also be popular with horse riders with the miles of quiet country lanes connecting up with a network of bridle paths and green lanes. So narrow were the lanes the only mode of transport we came across was a motorised rickshaw. This coincidently was owned and driven, or should that be ridden by Ann's son.



Other sights of the day included a black domed mill, with some rather controversial housing and planning applications attached to it, with the highlight of the day, for me, watching a stoat having a game of jump and tumble in the grass beside a rather tranquil pond, totally unaware of our

presence. A beautiful walk, thank you Ann.



So, to the final walk. The Belchamps were once again our destination. Six of us left Belchamp Otten church to be led by Margaret around the paths of Belchamps Otten and St Paul. This walk also consisted mainly of field tracks and bridle paths with very little road walking. The weather for day, although originally uncertain, but still optimistically forecast by Jim wasn't too bad either. Five minutes away from the church and all six of us were stripped of jumpers or anything resembling winter garments and down to t-shirts and sunglasses. The half way tipple of Margaret's wine gums was a much-welcomed refresher too. Other than the noise from a few motorbikes that didn't actually bother us there is nothing else much to report, a nice uneventful stroll taking in the views of some of our very lovely countryside. Admittedly, had I not been chatting all the way round I may have observed a little more. I did nevertheless detect that the grounds of the rather grand house just along from the church, who's footpaths we used to complete our walk, contained a significant number of coloured horses. How remarkable I should make such an observation.

Our sincere thanks go to Margaret, and also on this occasion Ann for organising and leading such lovely walks. Look out for dates of future walks in the latest edition of What's On or on the Bulmer website (www.essexinfo.net/bulmer) or from Margaret herself on 269377.

Lisa Sandford

FUTURE PARISH WALKS

Keep fit, keep walking! Here are some more walks to keep you on the move. So put on your boots - mud is guaranteed at this time of year - and come on a 5 or 6 mile ramble.

Sunday 19th October at 2.30 pm "Borley Green and Back" Meet at Bulmer Village Hall.

Saturday 22nd November at 10.30 am

"Foxearth, Pentlow & Liston"
This is new ground for Parish Paths Walks.
Meet at Foxearth Village Hall.

Christmas Weekend - to be arranged

Check the Bulmer website <u>www.bulmeressex.co.uk</u> and notice boards nearer the time.

Further details on all walks from Margaret Mills 269377.

A big thank you to all those of you who keep the paths near your home cut. Some of the field paths have become very overgrown due to all the earlier rain. Cutting is progressing however, so it is upsetting to find that some dog owners are still illegally allowing their animals to foul paths and not clearing up afterwards. Flying dog dirt is very unpleasant for the kind volunteers who make the paths so easy for the dog owners to use!

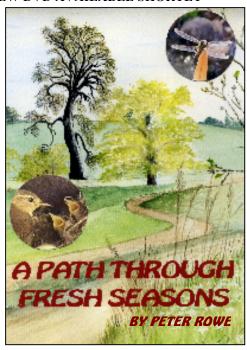
COE'S MEADOW A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY SUNDAY 7th DECEMBER

A Festive event on the meadow for all the family, watch out for further news on Noticeboards and the village website www.bulmeressex.co.uk



The next edition will be published at the end of December/early in the New Year, could I please have all articles, events etc. by the 15th December. Either by email to mike@mcrome.fsnet.co.uk or snail mail to 6 Vicars Orchard.

A PATH THROUGH FRESH SEASONS -A NEW DVD AVAILABLE SHORTLY



TAKING A FURTHER LOOK AT THE FLORA & FAUNA TO BE SEEN IN OUR GLORIOUS LOCAL COUNTRYSIDE.

A follow on from the video" A Path Through The Seasons" released in the Autumn of 2003 it includes flowers, fungi, birds, butterflies, mammals, snakes, lizards and even dragons and damsels! Filmed over the past five years. 1 hour 20 mins long.

As before any profit will be split between St. Andrews Church, St Nicholas Hospice and the Wildlife Trust. They will be available by the end of October, price £9 -00. Orders taken now, but please **do not** include payment with your order, pay on receipt of DVD.

Orders to Peter Rowe – call 01787 375935.



Cricket is played on Coe's Meadow again. Bulmer C.C. last played here in 1953. Then in the 1960s the club re-formed for a few seasons and played on a small meadow off Smeetham Hall Lane, behind the old vicarage. (Bulmer – Then and now).