



What's On?



The Newsletter of Bulmer---December 2007

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

BRENDA MAUD JOLLY 1937 – 2007 A TRIBUTE

This eulogy was given by Fr. Eoin Buchanan at the service on Friday 14th December, at which it is estimated over 400 family and friends attended.

“Today is a day of lists; some of the writing is in pen and some in pencil.....

No flowers, you can have the day off, ladies.

Hymns – Vince and Peter to choose

Eulogy – Fr Eoin (ah revenge is sweet)

Red frontals

Rose petals to throw on coffin – can't stand that thump when people throw stem roses!

No black

Jolly not sad

Make sure I'm buried on the correct side otherwise the old man's stiff leg will get in the way when it's his turn etc. etc.

So as you can see, if you have any complaints about today then you need to speak to...well it's just too late, isn't it!

Born in 1937 Brenda was Bulmer, born and bred starting her life in Flint Cottages, Bulmer Street before moving, at the ripe old age of 3 months, to a smaller house Oakview. For those not aware, that has been the family home ever since. Lived in Bulmer and went to school in this village...and even at this early stage in the proceedings it is possible to see what was important to Brenda, as at least one of her friendships has lasted since those school days.

On leaving school, Brenda didn't really travel that far as she spent most of her working life in and around Sudbury; so sit up straight, uncross your legs, keep your hands still and hold onto your hats as we take a whistle stop tour through Brenda's various work conquests.



Brenda left school at 15 – she had known Peter since she was 14, him delivering bread and all that – and she entered retailing, joining the old firm of Washers. At the age of 17 she found her self in sole charge of ordering and selling and was promptly offered a Partnership in the company. But she had met properly her future husband Peter and did not want him to see her selling paraffin etc. and so she took a large pay cut and joined the shoe retailer Stead and Simpson. From shoes Brenda moved to cakes and bread as she entered Chantry's where, when working on the Delicate Cake side of the business she worked under Mr Harb – a Swiss Confectioner; a very hard, strict fellow.

Now I haven't got a clue where we are in terms of Brenda's age but all I know is that she then moved to Chamberlain & Petit selling petrol, paraffin, diesel and so on. Quiet nice really because Peter was now driving tankers – nothing quite like the smell of 4 Star to help light the flame of romance! When Brenda joined the company I understand that they were retailing 500 gallons of fuel per week...when she left that figure had risen to 8000 gallons per week!

Well in 1968 that flame of love gave rise to the arrival of Vince. Now at this point I have to change track for a moment because you all know Vince; nothing like his mum...after all he has got a strong will, likes to be direct, get things done, be on the go (just as well with a daughter like Frayer) and so on...nothing like Brenda at all! But you know that during the last few days of Brenda's life I saw the other side of this man as he nursed his mum, and I mean nursed, with nothing causing embarrassment and nothing being too much trouble. If you ever give up nuts and bolts, Vince then there is only one other option open to you and let me say publicly that your humility in what you offered your mum would put many healthcare workers to shame.

Nuts and bolts I hear you ask? Well that isn't something he picked-up from mum is it! I don't know if a desire to work with nuts and bolts can ever be classed as hereditary, all I do know is that having had Vince, Brenda went to work at Kenneth Heap's as stock controller working with...yep you got it...nuts and bolts. Little metal objects gave way to working with little fleshy objects many of whom resembled nutters as Brenda joined North Street School as an ancillary member of staff. It is here that she definitely bandaged hundreds of grazed knees but also helped probably the same number of children to learn how to read and write...oh yes, and she was a leading light in the PTA.

With all this happening, in 1970 Brenda passed her Public Service Vehicle Licence and was often found driving minibuses around the various villages, including the old blue sharabang owned by the church, and also 52 seaters on longer trips. AND she had also started to become a prominent figure in the Church, singing in the choir with Vince as server and Crucifer; that is until, at the age of 10 the lure of the odd shaped ball gripped Vince followed a year later by a desire for the proper shaped ball...in other words rugby and soccer. And talking of soccer, Peter and Brenda could regularly be found working in the canteen at Sudbury FC on match days; having said that, Brenda was not just the active spectator when it came to sport. A keen netball player, Brenda was a member of one of the founding teams of the Sudbury Netball League and continued to play until around 50 when she retired only to continue as an umpire...even adjudicating during the onset of cancer.

In 1985, obviously feeling under used, Brenda proceeded to dig the foundations for the extension to Oakview, carry the hod and then plaster the outside from top to bottom. 1986 saw a move to a job with a difference as Brenda joined the Post Office and could be found delivering letters around the streets of Long Melford.



Now as you will all know, the family seemed to have this love of motorbikes, well still have really...that's Peter's excuse for subscribing to Motor Cycling News anyway! Well in Vince's earlier years he owned an MG as well as a rather expensive motorbike; Peter and Brenda had their Vincent – the motorbike not their son. In those days Vince obviously liked to sample various brews of falling down water and after one such evening of organised tasting Vince crawled out of bed and eventually went to climb onto his bike. No two wheels to be seen; it must have been a really bad night, he thought as he scoured Finch Hill and beyond to see where the treasured bike might lay. In the end it turns out that between 4.00am when Peter took Brenda to work and 6.30pm when he returned, the bike had been stolen. Not the Vincent or the toolbox or numerous other valuables, just Vince's bike.

Retirement came and Brenda became more involved in the community and for the word community, read Church. It was the church that Brenda and Peter saw as being at the heart of the community. Both of them with a remarkable level of Christian Faith and belief but neither of them overly pious.

So let's go back a few decades...you thought that was it didn't you...yeh?...In 1957 Peter and Brenda were involved in a serious motorbike accident which left Peter hospitalised and Brenda with a few fractures especially the one to her Collar Bone. When visiting Peter one day Brenda approached his bedside at which point gave a big smiling welcome and placed a firm and loving hand straight onto her...collar bone – you won't find her response in the Bible. But all was well as in 1959 Peter and Brenda (with a black eye) were married in St Gregory's Church, Sudbury. But Peter was all heart; for instance when Vince was born he took Brenda a big cuddly toy dog; Brenda there in the delivery room in a most unladylike posture approached by this big softy carrying and even bigger softy. What did Brenda say; 'do you want a cup of tea, Pete?'

Over the past three years I have come to know Peter as someone who will always help if he can, I've seen him exert great physical strength and in the last few months retain incredible, incredible emotional strength and courage. He has chauffeured, carted, brewed, fetched, loved, got the hump, offered some plain speaking advice and...well here is a man who has loved without request for return. In 1959 God joined you and Brenda together in an everlasting bond of love; today he physically separates you both in death. But we pray that the memories of such a loved one will keep you moving forward and able to cope with the changes that lie ahead...we will be there for you as well, Peter.

Enough! Brenda, a lady who was always there for others, organising, hugging, nagging, loving, inspiring and comforting and making sure that the Vicars were looked after and that the Team Rector remained challenged; It's what you want Fr Eoin was the statement. The unwritten nuance was '...but he will do what I want...or else!'

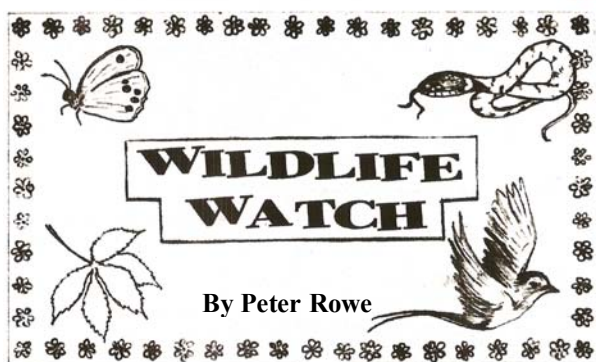
She collected for so many charities, RNLI, McMillan, Children in Need, British Legion, Christian Aid, NSPCC and EACH to name but a few. She ran Lent lunches and offered a lunch club for older members of the community all the time opening hers and Peter's own house as the venue. Finally my friends; finally with Shrove Tuesday only 44 days away what will Bulmer, Sudbury, London, Birmingham, Manchester, Glasgow and the whole world do without Brenda on Pancake Day. It is a looming crisis, which Gordon Brown will need to address before our nation collapses through a lack of pancakes. I exaggerate, but only slightly because to cook around 750 pancakes in a tent in your back garden from cock-crow to Vicar's snore takes stamina beyond comprehension, it takes a well drilled team of batter bashers and...well it takes two long washes and a good dry-cleaners to get the smell out of you clothes.

Brenda: Never thinking of herself; always there for others; caring; mad (never a dull moment) [Vince's words not mine], friend, saint, model, grafter and perhaps a mum to everybody – well her only son and her loving husband seemed to share her with a lot of people. It just leaves me wondering how Peter will cope after all during one of Brenda's more recent stays in hospital he husband did try drying his pants in the oven; three pairs originally various shades of blue, now all one shade of black but a perfect fit for that stiff leg of his.

Jesus tells us that the harvest is ready but the labourers are few; take heed of that message because today the labourers have just lost one of their numbers.

Brenda Jolly, just bloomin' marvellous".

Fr. Eoin Buchanan



Bird disease update. Since seeing the greenfinch showing the symptoms of trichomoniasis, as reported in the last "What's on", we have happily seen no more signs of this disease. I have constructed a stand about 7 ft. high to hang our feeders on. I move this about the lawn every two days, this prevents food waste and droppings building up in any one place. We are getting a good selection of birds, including greenfinches, which seem to be the most vulnerable to the disease.

Departures and arrivals. My last dates for summer migrant birds seen in Bulmer are Swift 9th

Aug. whitethroat 6th Sept. chiffchaff 23rd Sept. house martin 25th Sept. swallow 7th Oct. The first fieldfares were spotted on 18th Oct. and redwings on the 25th Oct.

Many of our smaller birds appear to be flourishing, mainly due to the mild winters that we have enjoyed of late. Wrens seem to be everywhere and large parties of long tailed tits are often encountered. John Battersby counted an amazing 27 in one flock of these delightful little birds. With their rounded little



bodies and long tails, ex Bulmer resident Neville Hume christened them “flying spoons”.



An insect that is rapidly colonising most of Britain is the harlequin ladybird (see picture). “Harlequin” because they come in an amazing variety of colour combinations, from almost black to pale yellow, with varying numbers of spots. We had many of them coming indoors this autumn. They originate in the far east. Being extremely voracious, when it comes to devouring aphids, they were introduced into Europe, as biological pest controls. Inevitably, they escaped into the wild and within a couple of years were over here. The same has happened in America, where they are already branded as pests. One concern here is that they will replace our native ladybirds, by out-competing them for food and also eating their larvae. They join the ever-lengthening list of species introduced into our countryside that have become pests, like grey squirrels, muntjac, mink, American crayfish etc.

We recently attended a fascinating conference at Ipswich, which focussed on farming and wildlife. Whilst we were encouraged by a lot of what was discussed, it was disquieting to realise how political decisions taken on a worldwide scale, could bring significant changes to our local environment. The big push to lessen the use of fossil fuels has seen a huge decrease in the acreage of cereal crops grown, as farmers, particularly in America and Australia, are encouraged to grow crops to produce bio-fuels. This and other factors, has resulted in a worldwide shortage of some cereals, doubling the price of wheat in about two years. This has turned the economics of farming on its head in this country. Set aside is no longer compulsory, which means that some farms may return to hedge to hedge intensive, farming. Many farms have taken up country stewardship schemes under which they receive extra payments for implementing wildlife friendly practices, such as the 6-meter strips around fields. These are left as grass, in some cases sown with plants, which will provide sources of pollen and nectar for insects and seed for the birds. These strips are terrific assets to all of our wildlife, from the tiniest insects and on up the food chain. A couple of years ago, the payment that they received for these strips was, acre for acre, more than the profit they could have made from producing wheat. Today the payment would only amount to about half the value of the wheat, owing to the increase in grain prices. Thus, clearly, there will be no financial incentive to continue with these schemes when they come to the end of their term. It's to be hoped that, with increasing profit margins, landowners will continue to protect wildlife friendly habitats, whether in or out of agri-environmental schemes. We are fortunate in Bulmer in having farms that are well managed both for wildlife and (or) game shooting. There may appear to be a conflict of interests here, between shooting and conservation, but in fact, providing suitable conditions for pheasants and partridges, inevitably provides good habitat and feeding opportunities for a host of assorted creatures birds, like finches and small mammals. Long may this sporting interest, combined with the good will of landowners and the right sort of environmental support from the government, continue to benefit our local wildlife?

It's been a really good year for Autumn colours, with golds, russets and soft reds shining up at us from the trees down in the Belchamp Valley. Have you noticed the spindle bushes this year? They have excelled themselves, bearing a heavy crop of carmine pink berries so thick that from a distance the whole bush looks on fire. As they mature, the four lobed berries split, to reveal the bright orange core peeping through the outer pink. Not one of nature's most complementary colour combinations! Spindle is in the euonymus family. It gets its name from the fact that in the past, being a very hard wood, it was used for making spindles for spinning yarn and also for making meat skewers.

A date for your diary. *On Friday 8th. February, at Bulmer Village Hall, at 8 pm.* I will be showing a DVD of local wildlife that I have filmed over the last few years. With amorous ladybirds, swimming grass snakes, pouncing buzzards, besides many other birds, deer, masses of wildflowers, butterflies moths etc. If you are at all interested in our local wildlife, I'm sure that you will find much or interest. Hope to see you there. Admission £2-50, In aid of Village Hall funds.

Bulmer History Group - Autumn 2007

After the lovely evening spent at Hill Farm in June, the history group also had an enjoyable evening in October.

The venue once again was the village hall where the Reverend/historian/comedian/author entertained us with a nice sideline in publishing, Keith Lovell. His aim was to enlighten us on Essex history through town and village signs and by the end of the evening his mission was almost accomplished. With the aid of some slide films and a projector we viewed several signs with the Reverend explaining their history as well as several other historical facts and fascinating events from a man who freely confessed he loved to talk, which sometimes did lead him to becoming quite sidetracked. The evening however was very interesting and informative as well as comical with the outstanding historical fact of the evening being that Bulmer once had a very famous brickyard. Mr Minter was possibly a little stunned to be told that he had been out of business for the last few years but vowed to continue making bricks none the less.

Also vowing to continue was the Reverend Keith Lovell but realising he did have to end his jovial evening in Bulmer he decided to leave us with a reminder of what the swastika originally symbolised.

The event will be on **March 7th 2008 at 8pm in Bulmer Village Hall - UNDERSTANDING & ENJOYING OLD CHURCHS** by Roy Tricker. Everyone welcome - Free entry.
There is now a new website for the Sudbury History Society at www.sudburyhistorysociety.co.uk

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

The Committee has had a very busy year especially with the Fire Risk assessment and we are very grateful to Steve for all his patience and understanding in helping us through it. We now hope that we have made the Village Hall as safe as we can but our message, as always, is for hirers to be diligent at all times to the possible problems which might occur during their period of hire.

We are sure that you will all be appreciative of the improvements to the back room. Thanks to the very kind donation from the estate of the late Ken Leech we have been able to make the room warm and inviting and suitable for smaller meetings.

We are hoping to continue to organise varied events throughout the coming year and are always ready to listen to your requests should you wish to see a particular event held in the Hall. We have already booked the **"Time of our Lives Music Theatre"** for **April** and we are hoping to repeat, by popular demand, the Ferret racing again. Our first event for the New Year will be on **February 8th when Peter Rowe will be presenting a film show on the Flora and Fauna** of our beautiful area. Please watch the Parish notice boards and the Bulmer website www.bulmeressex.co.uk for further details.

The Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support throughout the year at various events and with the lottery.

We wish you all a bright and very happy new year ahead.

BULMER FLOWER CLUB

Bulmer Flower Club is a new club, which meets in the Village Hall on the second Tuesday of each month. Tuition is by Carol Morris and the club is completely none profit making. The charges will vary as each session will require different materials but at the end of each class you will have an arrangement to be proud of and a new skill learnt. The club is open to all, young or old, male or female and previous experience is not expected. If you wish to know more or to book a class, then please ring Carol on 01787 881797 or Maggie on 01787 374758

Hire of the Village Hall

The hall is available for hire to residents and non-residents of Bulmer.

Residents can hire the Hall for as little as £55 (or £80 non-residents) per day

Or

£8 (£10.50 non-residents) per hour

Special concessionary rates for children's parties £21.50

All enquiries to: -
Mrs D Allen 376676

VILLAGE LOTTERY WINNERS

Month	First	Second	Third
Sept.	C. Massey & S Davies	Mr J Mortimer	Mr & Mrs B Parry
October	Mr Jolly	Mrs J Steed	Ms B Barnard
Nov.	Mr & Mrs A Burbidge	Mr & Mrs M Raymond	Mr & Mrs E Wood

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 if you would like to join.

BULMER AND DISTRICT W.I.



Bulmer W.I. would like to thank you all for your very generous donations to their appeal for toiletries and sweets for the troops in Afghanistan and Iraq. The response in so short a time was

overwhelming and we were able to send 11 boxes full of essential "goodies" out to the troops in time, we hope, for Christmas.

Despite a worrying start to our year through a drop in membership, we have picked ourselves up and enjoyed our Monday evenings with a variety of speakers. We have also held Coffee Mornings and two very successful Craft Fayres. Our Christmas meeting was held at the Olde Bull in Sudbury where we enjoyed a Dickenson Christmas Meal.

Our programme for the coming year is one of variety, with the prospect of interesting speakers, a sausage and mash night, and an Ascot race evening in the Village Hall. Why not come along and find out about us, it's not all Jam and Jerusalem!

If you would like to find out more the please ring Muriel on 01787 373464

BULMER STITCH & SEW CLUB

We are still holding our meetings on the 4th Tuesday in each month; our numbers have dwindled a bit, but never mind we are still working hard. We have a good old chatter, it only costs £1 per session and a one off fee of £3 after 3 weeks as a joining fee. The next meetings are on January 22nd, February 26th and March 25th. Do come and join us Ladies & Gents. For further details contact Jean on 01787 376392 or Margaret on 01787 312915.



BULMER CARPET BOWLS CLUB



We meet every Thursday evening at 7pm and would like to see a few more people come to join us. It isn't a hard thing to do, and we have a laugh, we do not enter leagues, although sometimes we have friendly matches with other nearby villages. It would be lovely to be able to use all 3 carpets that we bought when we started several years ago, we used to have about 30 people come

down, now we are lucky to get 16. So please do come on villagers, come down (or up) to Bulmer Village Hall and have a go, it costs 50p per week with £5 a year membership.

Hope to see you in the New Year, why not make a resolution to join the Club and have some fun. Please contact Barbara Rawlins on 01787 370845 for more details.

SUDBURY HORTICULTURAL SHOW

Congratulations to Hannah Cushney, Thomas Parks and Jessica Sewell who won 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes in the Sudbury Horticultural Shows under 14's handicraft competition, who all attend Bulmer St. Andrew's School. It would be nice to see more entries; any child can enter for a low fee of 10p. The next show is on July 5th and 6th 2008 in St. Peter's Church, Sudbury.

Please contact Margaret Dixey on 01787 312915 for further details.

VILLAGE DESIGN STATEMENT (VDS)

Following on from the announcement in the last edition of 'What's On', two displays have taken place in the village hall at recent events. A lot of interest was shown in the idea of a Visual Design Statement and appreciated its importance to the future development of Bulmer. A number of residents both in Bulmer & from neighbouring villages have put their names forward to be involved. However, we still need more people, and with this in mind there will be further displays at the next two events in the hall during February & March 2008.

Funding for the project has been applied for, and the decision is expected in January 2008.

For more information and what a VDS is log on to: - www.essexinfo.net/bulmer/vds

Or should you wish to become involved, then please contact:- Irene Dickinson 370016, Christine Leigh 378133 or Jeff Wright 376083



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS SID HAS ARRIVED!

The Speed Indicator Device was installed at its first location near the cross roads at the entrance of Bulmer Street from Sudbury in mid-October, and then moved to outside 'Clements Cottage' on the other side of the Street at the end of November.



There are other sites in the Street and Church Road where it will be located in due course. Unfortunately it can only be located in an area of 40mph or lower, so not the A131.

This as well as giving information to the vehicle driver, it also records the date, time and speed of all vehicles passing it.

During its time at the first location some interesting statistics were produced:-

Total no. of vehicles passing the device in the direction of Gestingthorpe 28,709

Total no. exceeding 35mph 9,474 or 33%

Total traveling between 1 – 30mph incl. 12,452 or 43%

Total traveling between 31 – 40mph incl. 12,250 or 42%

Total traveling between 35 – 40mph incl. 6,198 or 21%

Total traveling between 41 – 50mph incl. 3,863 or 13%

Total traveling between 51 – 60mph incl. 219 or 1%

Total traveling between 61 – 70mph incl. 12

Total traveling between 71 – 75mph incl. 1

These statistics and others have been passed to the police for further analysis. All future readings will also be communicated to the police.

It should be noted that the device does not record the vehicle registration number.

LITTER PICKERS WANTED

Margaret and I would like to thank our team of litter pickers for their endless task in keeping Bulmer and The Tye reasonably clear of litter. I say reasonably because no matter how often litter is cleared there is always more, even minutes after clearing. Each 'picker' has a section of the village to keep tidy, however, we do need more people to come forward to help as there are various

areas of the village not covered e.g. Ryes Lane, Smeetham Hall Lane, pt. Sandy Lane and pt. Church Road. We need more help on the Hedingham Road and also Sudbury Road.



All volunteers are issued with yellow waistcoats, gloves and a picker.

The Braintree Rapid Response team is excellent in clearing any reported dumping and if any villager sees dumping please phone either Margaret or myself so that we can get it cleared. They also litter pick Ballingdon Road on our request.

We plan to hold a general 'litter pick' at the end of March/beginning of April, when all villagers will be invited to help. Notice will be given nearer the date.

Once again, many thanks to our team, Bulmer and The Tye would be in a sorry state without you.

Margaret Mills 269377 Barbara Rawlins 370845.

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

MINUTES OF THE BULMER PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14th SEPTEMBER 2007

Prior to the meeting, a gathering of residents, councillors and friends were welcomed by the Parish Council to celebrate with John Dixey the many years he had served as a member of the Council. John had decided that after 46 years as a councillor, 26 as chairman, it was time to step down. The Parish Council felt this achievement should not go unrecognised.

After much thought, it was decided to grant John the 'Freedom of Bulmer' (a first for this parish). He was presented with a framed



certificate granting him the Freedom, together with an inscribed water jug and glasses.

John has contributed so much to the village, always helping when things needed to be done. His knowledge and experience of the parish and of village life will be sorely missed at future council meetings.

PRESENT: Councillors Margaret Mills (Chairman), Stephen Coombes, Mike Crome, Ron Mansfield, Stephen Morgan, Peter Rowe and the Clerk. Nigel Harley DC

9 members of the public

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Peter Fulcher, David Finch CC

PUBLIC QUESTIONS: None

DECL. OF INTERESTS: None

APPROVE THE MINUTES of the meeting held on 13th July 2007. Proposed Cllr. Crome, seconded Cllr. Morgan.

MATTERS ARISING: Cllr. Crome reported that to progress with the **Village Design Statement**, 450 leaflets will need to be printed and display boards required. Cllrs. Morgan and Coombes said they could help with this.

COE'S MEADOW:

The Parish Council had received a letter from the Chairman of CMMC setting out the future role of the Committee. Several suggestions had been put forward -

1. A new committee be formed which would produce a work and cost schedule to cover the next five years. The new committee would carry on with the present responsibilities of opening the gate, play equipment inspections and arrange working parties/tasks that require regular attention.

2. Negotiate a contract for the work with a local company or Braintree DC. A member of the Parish Council be appointed to oversee that the contract is carried out efficiently.

3. Appoint a park ranger with deputy to carry out the above mentioned functions and organise working parties.

Ted Wood (Chairman CMMC) and Simon Harris attended the meeting to discuss the contents of the letter with the Parish Council. After a long discussion the Parish Council decided that the formation of a new committee was the best way forward. Suggestion 2 was not practical as it could result in losing control of the work, especially the safety of the recreation ground as a whole. Suggestion 3 - it was felt there was too much work for just two people. An item will be placed in the Newsletter asking for volunteers to join the CMMC.

Ted Wood said he would be willing to raise more funding if it was found necessary, he also wished to thank the members of the CMMC for their work and support over the years, with special thanks to the Treasurer - Ken Mills. This was endorsed by the Parish Council.

Some of the present Committee have been members since the conception of the recreation ground 5 years ago. Under its management it has produced an excellent playing area for the children of Bulmer, Bulmer Tye and surrounding areas also an attractive area for adults to walk and picnic.

It was proposed by Cllr. Crome, seconded by Cllr. Rowe and carried unanimously to **adopt the Lawrence Coe Recreational Trust Annual Accounts**. Grant funding for the meadow was now complete.

The **Register of Inspection** was signed by the Parish Council. (Inspections are carried out weekly by Allen Burbidge)

PLANNING:

Land adjacent 3 Park Lane - application refused on the grounds of access onto A 131.

7 Park Lane - erection of garage/car port. No objections from Bulmer Parish Council.

4 Bulmer Tye - proposed change of use from land to garden. Granted on appeal.

BRAMBLEY HEDGE NURSERY SCHOOL:

Information and accounts have been presented to the Parish Council by the nursery school in their search for grant funding. There was a long discussion between the PC and Mrs. Noel Riley (Chair of BHNTrust), which focused on the percentage of Bulmer children attending the school and had there been a consertive effort to obtain funding elsewhere. It was acknowledged that from the OFFSTED report the school was successful. It was proposed and agreed that the Clerk should pass the information to the EALC legal services asking for clarity on the request.

CORRESPONDENCE & NOTICES

1. Cluster meetings - It had been muted in the past that Bulmer might like to move to the North area cluster, joining up with Borley, Foxearth and the Belchamps. The Councillors were against this proposal stating that the Parish had more alliance with Twinstead, Henny's and Middleton. The Clerk was asked to convey this to Linda Hadley - BDC Parish Liaison Officer and the matter should now be closed.

2. Placing the spare noticeboard at Finch Hill is still in discussion with ECC Highways.

3. Unsatisfactory pinboards to the noticeboard in The Street. The Clerk is in discussion with the manufacturer.

4. Speed Indicator Device - Traffic Technology have been asked to meet with Balfour Beatty, ECC and Bulmer representatives in order to sort out the problems over the setting up this device. The meeting is to be held on 4th October.

5. Insurance costs - ECC are presently developing a tender specification for the appointment of a firm of Brokers, who will act on behalf of parish and town councils via EALC, to negotiate a package of cover that is of high quality and at an appropriate cost The PC is in full support of this action.

RECEIPTS: None

PAYMENTS:

Mike Crome	- mileage expenses	£17.85
R & R Lawnmowers BDC	- strimmer belt	£32.75 inc VAT
BDC	- code of conduct collective announcement	£80.32
G.Martin	- grass cutting Little Dean Spinney	£20.00
AnglianWater	- Coe's Meadow	£17.30
	- Park Lane	£31.27
Roy Mortimer	- grass cutting	£1,375.94 inc VAT

Lubbock Fine	- audit fees	£334.88 inc VAT
B. Rawlins	- Clerks half year salary - expenses	£850.00 £94.23 inc VAT
Checkmate	- carpet for VH (to be refunded)	£198.00 inc VAT
A. Dixey	- breaking open strong chest	£15.00

The **Annual Accounts** have been **agreed and signed off** by Lubbock Fine - Auditors. The **Transfer and Covenant** for the sale of part Clapps Farm piece was duly signed by the Chairman.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Cllr. Coombes pointed out that the **electricity pole** at the corner of Park Lane had been resited in order to straighten up the line. The pole now blocks the visibility of drivers exiting Park Lane. Also that vehicles are constantly going into Park Lane only to find it is a **Cul-de-sac**. The Clerk was asked to deal with both these matters.

Cllr. Crome reported to the Council how nice the **frontage of Swains Croft** is looking, as residents have been regularly cutting the grass and putting out tubs of flowers.

He also mentioned that PC Nick Smith (Neighbourhood Policing) will spend some time with the CSW to issue **speeding tickets**.

Cllr. Rowe mentioned that the Park Lane **allotment area** is almost full and we may have to look for a new allotment site.

Cllr. Morgan was concerned at the speed of traffic down Smeetham Hall Lane.

Cllr. Mills had received complaints over **bonfire smoke** drifting across a major road. It was pointed out that there is a fine of £2500 for allowing this to occur. A reminder is to be put in the Newsletter. Cllr. Mills also mentioned that the **permissive path** from the VH to St. Andrews school is open, but that work needs to be done on clearing the path behind the bungalows. The clerk was asked to obtain a quote from Mortimers for grass cutting along the path.

Cllrs. Crome and Fulcher will be attending the **EALC Training Day**.

It was agreed to place a notice in the **Clerks & Councils** magazine regarding John Dixey's long service as a councillor and chairman.

The new Community Warden to Bulmer is now **Trevor Lawrence**.

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

~~~~~  
The next edition of **Whats On** will be published in **April 2008**. **Could I please have all your articles, photographs, and future events etc. by the 15th March. Either by email [mike@mcrome.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:mike@mcrome.fsnet.co.uk) or by post to 6 Vicars Orchard.**

Should you wish to read this Newsletter again but are unable to find your copy, it is now **available in colour** on the Parish Council website at: - [www.essexinfo.net/bulmer/what-s-on/](http://www.essexinfo.net/bulmer/what-s-on/)



## 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

- 11th January 2008
- 14th March 2008
- 9th May 2008
- 4th July 2008
- 12th September 2008
- 14th November 2008

**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.

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ST. ANDREW'S PRESERVES

Some Bulmer Church members make jams, jellies, marmalades and chutneys to sell in aid of church funds. Ring Margaret Mills 269377 for information on what varieties are available. The ever-popular Seville orange marmalade will become available in January!

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## MARGARET'S PARISH PATH WALKS - AUTUMN 2007

Throughout the autumn Margaret had chosen some lovely walks taking us through parts of the countryside where the changing landscape could really be seen at its best.

In late September we walked the fields from Gestingthorpe to Castle Hedingham, the sun occasionally appearing to highlight the few leaves on the trees that had just began to change colour in our still mainly green surroundings. On reaching Castle Hedingham we wandered down into the village after passing through the fields beside the castle to admire their various and sometimes rather incredibly small styles of buildings. On leaving Castle Hedingham our chosen paths took us to Maplestead before crossing the Hedingham to Bulmer road where we then headed back to Gestingthorpe.

In October we took a stroll that covered both sides of the Belchamp valley. By now the weather had become quite changeable from day to day and the true signs of autumn had become quite visible around the fields and hedgerows as we walked from the village hall to the Belchamps returning via the edges of Gestingthorpe.

Our final walk was on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December and was quite possibly my favourite of the season. It was a beautifully bright morning as we set off for Colne Engaine from the Kings Head in Pebmarsh with the wind being just a little chilly in exposed areas. Our route consisted of mainly field and woodland paths where most trees were now bare except for some that were still managing to cling on to just one or two leaves. We also passed two fishing lakes where one being so large you could not see from one end to the other and as the sun glistened down on the

cold rippling water as far as the eye could see the effects were quite mesmerising. As mesmerising as it was



though we still had a few more miles to go and the job of rescuing Margaret from the jaws of a rather constricting piece of ironmongery before making it back to the Kings Head for a rather welcome spot of lunch.



Once again our thanks go to Margaret for organising and leading such lovely walks.

For those interested in future walks, these should be listed in the What's On or on the Bulmer website [www.essexinfo.net/bulmer/parish-path-walks](http://www.essexinfo.net/bulmer/parish-path-walks)

*Lisa Sandford*

## FUTURE PARISH WALKS



Make a New Year's resolution to get out more! Put on your strong footwear and take to the local footpaths with these monthly walks. Adult accompanied children and dogs on fixed leads are welcome. Ring Margaret Mills 269377

for details.

### **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> January at 2.30pm**

A Brundon and Borley circuit of 4 miles with just 2 stiles. Meet at Rodbridge Carpark.

### **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 2.30pm**

Over the river to Little Cornard. 6 miles over variable terrain with some stiles. Meet at Henny Church.

## Easter Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March at 2.30pm

“One Hole, Two Hills and Three Halls”

Meet at Bulmer Brick and Tile Works for a 6 mile walk into Belchamp Walter and Gestingthorpe. Some stiles.

Note that mud is frequently encountered on all walks!  
Further details on all walks from Margaret Mills 269377.

## NEW PATH IS OPEN



The Parish Council is pleased to announce that following the Village Appraisal in which many residents requested a footpath from the Village Hall to the School, and with the kind permission from Nigel Burke (landowner) a **permissive path** is now open. This now means you can for the first time walk from Bulmer St. to The Tye entirely without walking along any roads. Many are already using it on a regular basis, and comments have been made regarding the beautiful scenery that can be seen from the field.



The entrance to the path is in the left hand corner of the Village Hall car park, and exits a little way down the lane to the right of the school.

A **permissive path** means if it is abused or misused the

provider is at liberty to close it at their discretion with immediate effect.

## APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA



Supporting Seafarers Worldwide

### Christmas message to all men

During the Christmas period when you receive gifts of new clothing and need to find space to put them away – take the opportunity to sort out your old items

(especially- coats-fleeces –jumpers- gloves –shoes-boots etc) that will help working sailors from all nationalities who are less fortunate than ourselves.

The clothing will be collected from you and taken to Ipswich seafarers centre for distribution. Ipswich is an ecumenical centre that helps all seafarers regardless of religion or race.

Contact: Tom Dickinson tel: 370016 who will arrange collection.

## MOBILE LIBRARY



This facility now visits once every 2 (two) weeks on a Tuesday, the locations and times within Bulmer for 2008 are listed below.

| Location                              | Arrive                                                | Depart |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| School Bus Stop                       | 8.50                                                  | 9.15   |
| Street                                | 11.55                                                 | 12.10  |
| Finch Hill                            | 12.15                                                 | 12.30  |
| Dates of Visits in 2008 - Fortnightly |                                                       |        |
| January                               | 15 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup>                   |        |
| February                              | 12 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup>                   |        |
| March                                 | 11 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup>                   |        |
| April                                 | 8 <sup>th</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup>                    |        |
| May                                   | 6 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup>                    |        |
| June                                  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup>                    |        |
| July                                  | 1 <sup>st</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> & 29 <sup>th</sup> |        |
| August                                | 12 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup>                   |        |
| September                             | 9 <sup>th</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup>                    |        |
| October                               | 7 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup>                    |        |
| November                              | 4 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup>                    |        |
| December                              | 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> & 30 <sup>th</sup> |        |

## RECYCLING REMINDERS – HOW TO SORT YOUR WASTE FOR RECYCLING



Separate your waste into clear recycling sacks provided. The pictures below explain what goes where. On your collection day, just

place the bags at the edge of your property, where they can easily be seen from the road by 7:00am (**but no earlier than the evening before**). This will prevent



pests/vermin from attacking any waste residue and help to keep the village tidy.



## Tins, Cans, Foil & Plastic Packaging

### We accept:

- ✓ food & drink cans
- ✓ aerosol cans
- ✓ foil containers
- ✓ biscuit/chocolate tins
- ✓ milk bottles
- ✓ soft drinks & water bottles
- ✓ washing up liquid bottles
- ✓ shampoo & conditioner bottles
- ✓ detergent & fabric conditioner bottles
- ✓ bleach bottles
- ✓ cooking oil bottles
- ✓ yoghurt pots
- ✓ margarine & ice cream tubs
- ✓ ready meal & plastic food trays
- ✓ fruit & vegetable punnets
- ✓ plastic vending cups
- ✓ empty plastic carrier bags
- ✓ flower pots

### We cannot accept:

- ✗ gas containers
- ✗ paint tins
- ✗ metal utensils
- ✗ polystyrene
- ✗ plastic film/clingfilm
- ✗ video tapes, CD cases
- ✗ hard plastic items such as toys

Please ensure items for recycling are clean and free of food traces.



## Need more recycling sacks?

Collect more sacks free of charge from your local Library, Council Office at Causeway House Braintree or call 0800 074 8243



## Paper & Cardboard

### In another sack please put:

- ✓ junk mail & envelopes
- ✓ card food packaging
- ✓ cereal boxes
- ✓ office type paper
- ✓ cardboard boxes
- ✓ cardboard egg boxes
- ✓ toilet roll tubes
- ✓ cardboard soap powder boxes
- ✓ Yellow Pages / directories



### But not:

- ✗ wallpaper
- ✗ crisp packets, biscuit wrappers
- ✗ foil-type wrapping paper

Please dispose of these items in your normal refuse collection.



## Newspapers & Magazines

Newspapers, magazines, catalogues and directories (but not Yellow Pages or the Financial Times) should be presented for collection either tied in bundles, or placed in a used carrier bag.



## Glass Bottles & Jars

Glass is NOT collected as part of this scheme due to the risk of breakages and contamination with other materials. Please continue to use existing bottle banks situated around the District.



**Tie/Knot your sacks** Please knot your recycling sacks at the top.  
**Clear sacks** are for recycling only. Do not use them for general refuse or green waste - they will not be collected.



## Large or Bulky items of Waste



If you have any large or bulky items of waste, you can dispose of them at a Recycling Centre for Household Waste or make use of the Council's Special Collection service.

If you want to know more about what can be taken to the centres, please visit [www.essexcc.gov.uk/recyclingcentre](http://www.essexcc.gov.uk/recyclingcentre) or call 0845 603 7625



Printed on recycled paper, August 2007

## A NEW opportunity for Tetrapaks at major Bring Bank Sites



If you want to recycle your tetrapaks, look out for the special bins at:

- Tesco - Great Notley, Braintree
- Tesco - Marks Farm, Braintree
- Morrisons, Witham
- Butler Road Car Park, Halstead
- Stoneham Street Car Park, Coggeshall



COLLECTION CALL WITH THE



## Special Collection Service.

A charge of £23.50\* for the collection of up to six items is made for the Special Collection Service to cover the cost of the collection and final disposal. For full details and to arrange a collection, call the Customer Service Centre on 01376 552525

\* price correct at time of publication, August 2007

There is also a facility for these packs at the refuse recycling centre in Sandy Lane, Ballingdon, where also all other types of recyclables including all garden waste can be deposited.



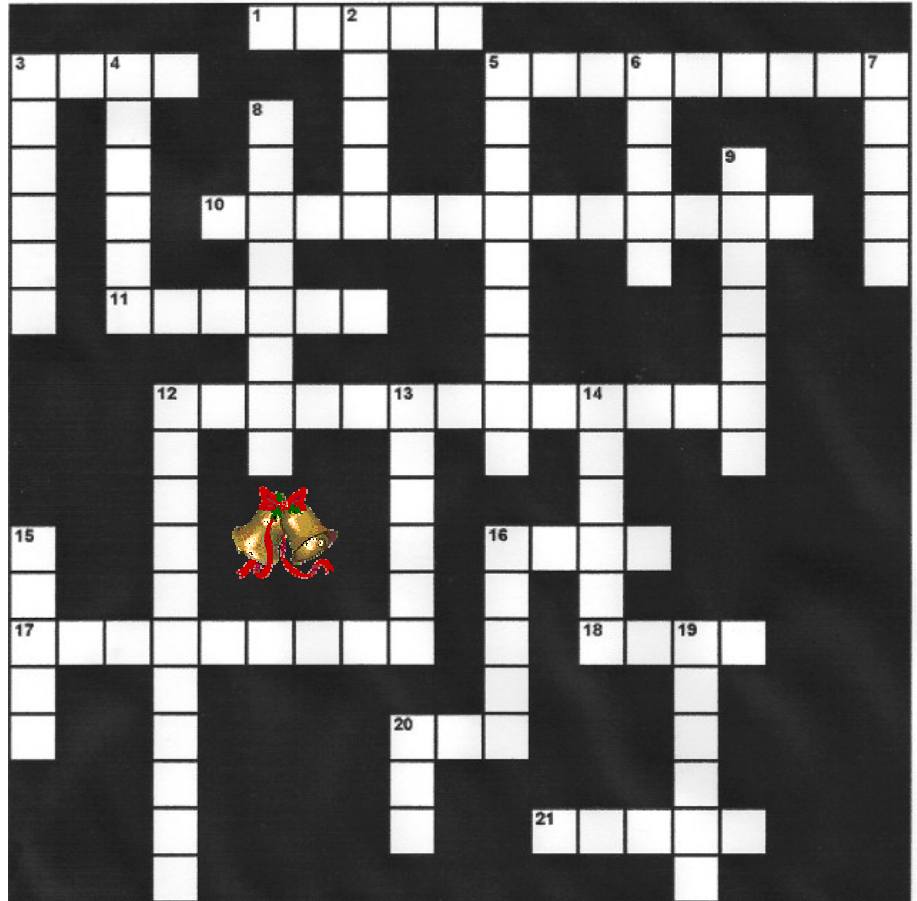
# A COUPLE OF CHRISTMAS PUZZLES

## Across

- 1 Christmas hymn (5)
- 3 The wise men's guide (4)
- 5 The town where Jesus was born (9)
- 10 The original Santa Claus (5,8)
- 11 The bird traditionally eaten for Christmas dinner (6)
- 12 A tradition introduced by Prince Albert (9,4)
- 16 A lot of angels (4)
- 17 Evergreen plants with white berries (9)
- 18 Gift from the shepherds (4)
- 20 Climbing plant (3)
- 21 One of Santa's reindeer (5)

## Down

- 2 Small brown thrush with a red breast (5)
- 3 Where Joseph and Mary had to stay (6)
- 4 The four weeks leading up to Christmas (6)
- 5 The day after Christmas Day (6,3)
- 6 The king visited by the wise men (5)
- 7 Gold, frankincense and .....(5)
- 8 A popular addition to the Christmas table (8)
- 9 Name of the archangel (7)
- 12 A decorated orange (11)
- 13 Christmas lasts for ? days (6)
- 14 A Christmas tree decoration (6)
- 15 The army occupying the land at the time (5)



- 16 Deck the halls with boughs of ..... (5)
- 19 Baby Jesus' bed or crib (6)
- 20 No room for Mary and Joseph here (3)



## Christmas Jumble

By Rachel Woods, LDS Guide lds.about.com

Instructions: Unscramble each word. Place the letters in the circles into the circles of the second jumble. Unscramble the second jumble.

- MIEESWN
- SEALGN
- SHOEPJ
- RATS
- YARM
- DEERSPSHH
- TENSREPS
- GEARMN
- HEEHTMELB
- MEERDEBC
- KUEYTR

### Second Jumble

- Letters:
- Jumble:

A very Happy Christmas and New Year to you all. I would also like to say thank you to the many people who contribute articles for publication, without them your Newsletter would not be possible. Should anyone like to submit an article for a future edition, then please do not hesitate to contact me on 378155 or email [mike@mcrome.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:mike@mcrome.fsnet.co.uk)



## Answers to puzzles

- Across
- 1 Carol
- 3 Star
- 5 Bethlehem
- 10 Saint Nicholas
- 12 Christmas Tree
- 11 Turkey
- 16 Host
- 17 Mistletoe
- 18 Lamb
- 20 Ivy
- 21 Vixen/Comet
- Down
- 2 Robin
- 3 Stable
- 4 Advent
- 5 Boxing Day
- 6 Herod
- 7 Myrrh
- 8 Crackers
- 9 Gabriel
- 12 Christingle
- 13 Twelve
- 14 Tinsel
- 15 Roman
- 16 Holly
- 19 Manger
- 20 Inn
- Baby Jesus