

WETHERSFIELD

NEWS

BLACKMORE END & BEAZLEY END

Spring 2010

In colour on www.Wethersfield-Essex.co.uk

Wethersfield well on course with community project!

Through the combined efforts in applying for grants and organising local fundraising events, the Wethersfield Pavilion Project's target funding of around £460,000 is now well within reach and work now continues apace to pave the way for construction to begin on the new multi-purpose community facility scheduled for the Summer on the village's playing field.



Architect's impression of the new pavillion

An initiative of registered charity the 'Derek Flannery Playing Field Association', the project was started in earnest in late 2008 when a generous donation by local benefactor Mrs Betty Pygram gave the boost the project team needed to take up the challenge. In the intervening 18 months the project team have made a number of successful applications to granting bodies while others from the Wethersfield Community have been very busy organising a series of fundraising activities - all part of a determined campaign to turn the long held ambitions of many into a reality.

The merits of the project have been recognised in the form of significant awards by the Essex Environment Trust, the Greenfields Community Housing (CHIP) fund, the Garfield and Weston Foundation, the Essex Community Initiatives Fund, the BRE managed Community Sustainable Energy Programme and the Low Carbon Building Programme Phase 2 and ultimately by the Government's Sure Start - Early Years and Child Care initiative. Their contributions together with local fundraising efforts have ensured that the hard work by Wethersfield's local residents will be rewarded with a facility that will serve the many users of the Wethersfield's playing field and the community as a whole well into the 21st century.



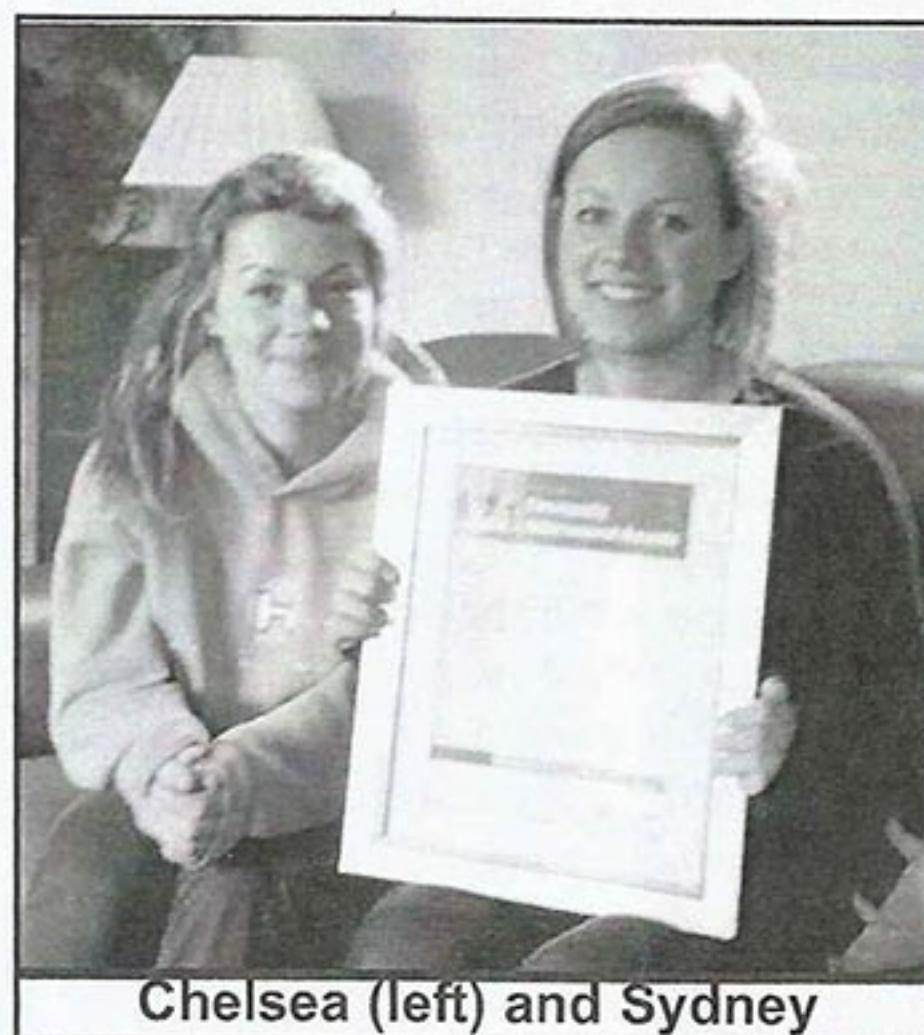
Fundraisers!

Local Community Award

How often we hear of the bad behaviour of the young people of today.

Well, here are two shining examples to give one hope that all is not lost! Sisters Chelsea and Sydney Church of Wethersfield mentioned that "we were both put forward for this year's Community Awards by our Aunt Claire"

Sydney (16) was the one who actually got the award, for her contribution to the community for young people 11 to 17. Her core skill is piano, and she has played the church organ in Wethersfield Parish church for some time. However, last Summer Michael Burton formed a Church band, which currently comprises piano violin, drum, Clarinet, Sax and Guitar, as played by Sydney. She is



Chelsea (left) and Sydney

about to take her GCSEs at Colchester High and "hopes to go on to University to study music." The Church band play every month, usually at the Sunday morning service.

Chelsea (18) was "absolutely convinced that I was going to get an award!" She has been working as a volunteer with Mencap for two years, helping people with learning disabilities. She is based at Charles Leek House (opposite Sainsbury car park). Chelsea commented that "you really make a strong bond with the people you help" and intends to carry on with the work as long as possible, as it gives her so much personal satisfaction. One can only assume that Chelsea did not get an award because the judges are reluctant to give two awards to one family!

Sadly, for our community, the family are moving down to Devon in July. But our loss will be Devon's gain. Wethersfield News wishes them both well for the future.



Healthy School

WETHERSFIELD C. of E. PRIMARY SCHOOL
Silver Street Wethersfield Braintree Essex CM7 4BP
Headteacher Mrs C M Shingleton B. Ed. Hons.
Tel:01371 850220 Fax:01371 851200
email: admin@wethersfield.essex.sch.uk



17.3.10

Doesn't time fly!

This was my first thought as I sat down to write the term's news from Wethersfield C of E (VC) Primary School!

I have now been Headteacher at the school for just over a year and have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know children, staff, parents, governors and members of the local community. In fact, strangely enough, although the year has flown by I feel like I've been at the school for a lot longer and I'm sure that's because of the warm welcome I've received. Thank you for making me feel part of the community so quickly!

We started the New Year with a very unsettled first week due to snow but the following week things returned to normal and the children were out and about visiting Braintree library. Our commitment to involving the children in real life experiences has continued throughout the term with older children taking part in a Grand School Council at Braintree District Council, a visit to the school from the Chairman of the Council and Class 2 children experiencing a Chinese banquet as part of their topic on China. I was invited to taste jasmine tea for the first time and I have to say, it was delicious!

The high quality sport's provision at Wethersfield continues and we are extremely proud of all the children who have represented the school at local events this term.

Children of all ages have taken part in multi sport and football events at Tabor Science College and our Year 5 and 6 team not only represented the school really well but won the whole tournament! Congratulations to the whole team! Many congratulations too, to Aidan Cayley in Class 3 who has made it through to the next round of the district multi skills event for gifted and talented children, organised by the Sports Partnership. Well done Aidan - we're all very proud of you!

We are now busy getting ready for our Easter celebrations and would like to invite members of the local community to join us for our end of term service at Wethersfield Church on Wednesday, March 31st at 2.15pm. The children will be singing and sharing some of this term's work. We will end the term with our annual Easter tea and Easter garden competition on April 1st at 2pm in the school hall. Cakes and drinks will be served by the children and there will be a chance to view the competition entries. Please contact the school office if you would like to join us for this event. All are welcome!

On behalf of the school I would like to wish everyone a very happy, peaceful Easter. May the joy of the Easter message give us all new hope for the future!

Mrs Caroline Shingleton
Headteacher

C.R.E.A.M.E.R Fund

I am pleased to tell you that the Fund still receives considerable community support. The equipment that the Fund has been able to buy needs some £12,000 a year to maintain it, and any health professional can request an item which would enable members of the local community to receive the best possible health care, as near to their home as is feasible.

Grateful thanks to all who supported the recent coffee morning, when £362.45 was raised, and to all that you do in so many ways.

The mid-summer raffle at the Health Centre will run from 21st - 30th June, other events are always well advertised, we look forward to seeing you.

Jean Murphy
01371 851147

Wethersfield Bellringers

- recently attempted a sponsored Quarter Peal of Plain Bob Triples in aid of the Haiti earthquake appeal. A Quarter Peal consists of 1260 Changes and takes around 45 minutes of intensive concentration and teamwork. A glitch at the halfway point meant that the performance can't be officially claimed, but nevertheless we carried on for the full length of time. Had it been successful, this would have been the first all-local eight bell Quarter Peal (we often ring six bell quarters) for around 30 years. The total raised for the appeal looks like being well over £300. Thanks to all our supporters.

Congratulations are due to Esther Pilgrim for her first Quarter Peal as conductor on her 15th birthday - 1260 changes of Grandsire Doubles. If you are interested in seeing what Change Ringing involves, why not come

along to the church on a Monday evening 7.30 - 9.00 p.m. or contact Roy on 850481.



Wethersfield URC Youth Group

Every Wednesday evening a group of young people between 9yrs and 14 years old gather in the URC hall or, in the warmer times, on the playing field, to chill out, play a few games and enjoy time together over a drink and some tuck.

The Youth group started just over a year ago and over 40 of the Wethersfield young people have at one time or another attended. In addition to indoor games and activities we have arranged to go out to places. The most recent trip was to Stubbers near Upminster where the 10 people and one leader enjoyed a time of games and adventure activities including climbing and high wire as well as tunnelling! In the last year we have been bowling, ice skating, visited a sound studio, as well as having training in archery and football skills.

Over the next six months we plan to have more of these events including a "wet day" in May. Some of these events are provided by the Association of Essex Boys and Girls Clubs who also run competitions for various sports, weekends away and one day events. See <http://www.essexboysandgirlsclubs.org/>. These activities and events are open to members of the WURCYG or any affiliated club.

To keep the group going we have a group of dedicated adult helpers ranging in age from teens to 4 times that age! So long as you are willing to supervise the children and can speak with and share with them, then we are always looking for more people to come along, perhaps just once a month, and provide adult backup for the indoor games, crafts and cooking that we do each week. We also need drivers to offer to get children to the events. (we do ask for CRB checks!).

We would like to thank all those who help and the URC for providing the hall for our use, and Henry Playle from the URC Eastern region who has provide training and backup for the club and it activities.

All who come along week by week enjoy time out in the dry and warm with friends and with space to participate in football and other games, crafts and activities.

Contact Jacy Thomas (Chair person) 07936 708292, Richard Norman (Treasurer) 07968 855286 or Adrian Burr 07983 656166 for more information.

Wethersfield Chess Club

Wethersfield Chess Club meet on Tuesday evenings at Wethersfield Club (8 to 11pm). We are keen to recruit new members BUT very happy to entertain visitors of all standards whether on a "one-off" or regular basis (we can offer instruction to younger players up to 9.30 pm on non league match nights*).

After winning our first trophy (NECL Plate KO) last season the Club are enjoying another good run in the Third Division of the North Essex Chess League and remain in with an outside chance of promotion. Latest League positions:

North Essex Chess League Division 3 Table – 13th April 2010

TEAM	PLAYED	WON	DRAWN	LOST	POINTS
BILLERICAY B	8	6	0	2	12
COLCHESTER C	8	4	3	1	11
WETHERSFIELD	8	4	2	2	10
BRENTWOOD C	8	4	2	2	10
COLCHESTER GRAM.	7	4	1	2	9
WITHAM B	8	3	3	2	9
CLACTON C	8	3	2	3	8
BADDOW B	8	2	3	3	7
CHELMSFORD D	9	2	1	6	5
BRENTWOOD D	7	2	0	5	4
BRAINTREE D	7	0	1	6	1

Contacts: Bill on 01371 851094 or Chris on 01371 850937

*Wethersfield Chess Club remaining league fixtures:

Thurs. 22nd April (A) Brentwood C; Tues. 27th April Braintree D

St Mary Magdelene Church Wethersfield

Vicar - Rev Colin Wilson 810309
Reader Mrs Sarah Pilgrim 850781

Church Wardens

Mrs Joy Fossitt 850823
Mrs Eve Newell 850957

Normal pattern of services:

1st Sunday in the month

8am Holy Communion

2nd Sunday

11 am Family Service especially for families with young children

3rd Sunday

11 am Parish Communion

4th Sunday

6.30 pm Evensong

The vicar should be contacted direct for Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals. He is pleased to take communion to those who are sick at home, housebound or in hospital. Please let him or the Church Wardens know if we can be of help. There is a Memoriam Book in the church for recording the names of deceased relatives. If you are interested in having a name recorded please speak to one of the Church Wardens.

Flower Festival 26 & 27 June

The theme this year will be 'Nursery Rhymes' with plenty of scope for imagination! If you are interested in arranging flowers or helping out over that weekend, please contact Joy or Eve or Myrna on 851349. There will be various stalls and refreshments. On the Saturday, some gardens will be open for the Pavilion Fund. Why not call in at the church and enjoy the flowers as you wander through the village. Look out for further details nearer the time.

Wine Club News

Review of the year so far:

January Wine Sharing night had to be cancelled due the bad weather

The Annual Dinner took place at The Moot House in February.

The March meeting was a Wine Tasting by vintner Robin Greatorex.

April was the annual 'blind' tasting evening, other Wine Clubs joined us with their 'home-made' contributions.

And with another year gone

May is the AGM.

Annual Barbecue is on Sat. 12th June
New members welcome.

Phone Barbara or Brenda on 01371 850978

Wethersfield Cricket Club

Wethersfield's cricketers will soon be coming out of hibernation for indoor nets at the Graham Gooch Cricket Centre in Chelmsford. Net sessions will take place between 20:00 and 21:00 on Tuesday evenings during the four weeks commencing on 23 March.

At the time of writing we are all looking forward to the club's annual quiz on Saturday 13 March at Wethersfield Village Hall. A full house is expected for a keenly fought contest.

This season, which commences with a match against Lindsell on Saturday 24 April, will be a season of two halves. This will be the first of eight consecutive home matches leading up to Sunday 20 June when the Club will host a six-a-side tournament. All proceeds from both the quiz night and the six-a-side tournament will go to the Wethersfield Pavilion Fund. It is important that all Club members keep this day free because if not selected to play for the Wethersfield side (or one of our opponents) there will be plenty of other jobs to do on the day. We are hoping that many other members of the village will come down to the playing field to support us. Entrance will be free and there will be food and refreshments (including a bar run by the Wethersfield Club) available from mid-day onwards.

During the second half of the season the Club will play all of its matches away from home while the building work on the new pavilion gets under way.

Because we play only friendly fixtures we are able to choose our opponents meaning that we only play against sides that we enjoy playing against. Most of our members live in, or near, the village and new members are always very welcome. The captain this season is David Holliday (mobile 07850 105046) and he will be ably supported by Simon Pomfret as vice captain (mobile 07860 105711).

The fixture list (subject to finalisation) is as follows:

24-Apr-2009	Saturday	Lindsell	Home
02-May-2010	Sunday	Wickham St Paul	Home
09-May-2010	Sunday	Cornish Hall End	Home
16-May-2010	Sunday	Thaxted	Home
23-May-2010	Sunday	Castle Hedingham	Home
30-May-2010	Sunday	Helions Bumpstead	Home
05-Jun-2010	Saturday	Twinsted	Home
13-Jun-2010	Sunday	Great Canfield	Home
19-Jun-2010	Saturday	Lindsell	Away
20-Jun-2010	Sunday	Wethersfield 6-a-side Tournament	Home
26-Jun-2010	Saturday	Sampford	Home
04-Jul-2010	Sunday	TBA	Home
11-Jul-2010	Sunday	Twinsted	Away
18-Jul-2010	Sunday	TBA	
25-Jul-2010	Sunday	Gestingthorpe	Away
01-Aug-2010	Sunday	Castle Hedingham	Away
08-Aug-2010	Sunday	Thaxted	Away
15-Aug-2010	Sunday	Helions Bumpstead	Away
22-Aug-2010	Sunday	Finchingfield	Away
29-Aug-2010	Sunday	Wickham St Paul	Away
05-Sep-2010	Sunday	Gestingthorpe	Away
12-Sep-2010	Sunday	Cornish Hall End	Away
19-Sep-2010	Sunday	Great Canfield	Away
25-Sep-2010	Saturday	Sampford	Away

Halstead and Colne Valley Scout District is 100 This Year.

If you have any memorabilia, souvenirs, pictures or information from your experiences in Scouting and its branches, or know of a relative or friend that was involved in Scouting in the District, we would be delighted if you could get in touch with us!

We are compiling a book to celebrate the occasion and all information, however big or small, is welcome!

Please contact Steve Sudbury on 01787 475115 or email steven@sudburygardens.fsnet.co.uk

DFPFA Wethersfield Tennis Club

Memberships:

Including renewals will commence 1st April 2010 as follows:

Annual Family £40; Adult £24; Junior (U 17 or full time education U 20) £16. (Court Keys £3, Tennis Balls - £3.50 from Post Office)

Tennis Coaching:

We will again be employing Rob Hardy (Braintree LTC and LTA coach) for groups of 4 initially as follows:

- From 17th May to 12th July inclusive; Monday evenings 7 to 9pm comprising two 1hour sessions for Adults or Juniors.
- Further sessions will be booked in Wethersfield later if demand exists.
- Week long Junior coaching from 26th July to late August; at Braintree Tennis Club.

Charges for coaching in Wethersfield will remain at £5.50/hour and the DFPFA will again offer a 50% subsidy to coaching Juniors. Please book ASAP to give best chance of arranging extra sessions if we are over subscribed.

Casual Court Hire:

The court is also available year round for casual hire @£3/hour (£2 under 17's).

Main Contacts:

Memberships, Coaching and Court Bookings: Bill Norman: 01371 851094
"Summer School"- Tennis coaching at Braintree: Rob Hardy: 07710 420226



WATCHWORD

SUMMER ISSUE 2010

*produced by Braintree Neighbourhood Watch
Steering Group.*

LIGHTS OFF!

Much was written in the local press at the end of 2009 about street lighting being turned off at midnight except in certain areas in 2010. The pilot areas of Maldon and Uttlesford did not show any increase in crime when the lights were turned off. Should Essex County Council decide to turn the lights off throughout the County and if you have concerns about the street lighting being turned off in your area, then speak to your local Parish Council, who will be able to explain where the lighting will be turned off and why.

DOOR SECURITY FOR UPVC DOORS

The most often asked question that Neighbourhood Watch receives is what sort of door security – door chains, doors bars or viewer – is suitable for my UPVC door?

1. If you don't already have a UPVC door fitted but you are thinking of having one installed, ask your supplier if he can fit door security for you at the time of fitting the door. This should then not invalidate any guarantee that comes with the door.
2. If you already have a UPVC door fitted, speak to the manufacturer/supplier and ask them what they recommend for their door, so that your guarantee is not invalidated.
3. If you have a UPVC door and you do not know who the manufacturer/supplier is and you are not worried about any sort of guarantee, it is possible to buy a 1mm pilot drill and "Bay Pole" or "Driller" screws from DIY stores that can be used in place of the wood screws that are usually supplied with all door security items.

However, care should be taken if you are using them near the glass pane.

4. If you do not own the property or the property is part of the Greenfields housing stock, please ask either the owner of the property or Greenfields before fitting any door security.

DO YOU TWEET ON TWITTER OR BLOG ON FACEBOOK?

Then do take care what personal information you are giving out. It has come to the attention of Neighbourhood Watch that people are actually putting their holiday dates on these sites, informing everyone that nobody is going to be at home during this period. Please be aware that if you do put your holiday dates on Twitter, Facebook or the like, that you could be leaving yourself wide open to burglary.

Cable Thefts what to look out for.

As you will probably have seen in the press, there have been a number of thefts of cable from all the utilities, which in many cases has resulted in large scale disruption. On the rail network, many commuters have suffered long delays as result of the theft of overhead cable and the operators, severe financial losses. With the electricity and telephone networks, many people have suffered loss of power and communication, and some farmers, important equipment. These thieves are not solely interested in cabling, as while they are looking around they may find your property appealing to them, after all, any metal can become scrap metal, and of course like any other venture they do diversify into other crimes.

So what to look out for:

Network Rail: Whenever they are working health and safety is paramount therefore they will be dressed in hard hats, orange reflective coats and leggings with "Network Rail" on the coat, normally 3 or more workers. In most cases vehicles will be also be liveried with "Network Rail"; they do on rare occasions use other contractors but would prefer a call to check them out.

Electricity = EDF Energy: As with Network Rail, health and safety is important, but here, as with BT the reflective coats are yellow, vehicles should again be marked "EDF Energy".

BT: Again, health and safety is paramount, so they will always put out signs, road guards and wear BT yellow reflective coats. BT however also have an "Open Reach" division and use contractors i.e. Telent, but as before if in doubt please report it.

Quite often the offenders will reconnoitre the area during daylight, so please report any suspicious activity of unusual interest. At night time legitimate routine work will not be carried out and if emergency work is undertaken there is always good lighting to cover health and safety requirements. Most of the above companies use fairly new vehicles, so older vehicles should cause suspicion.

Best advice is, if the operating practices look suspicious, then please contact Essex Police, dialling 999 for an emergency response, or in the case of Network Rail 999 for an emergency response or 0800 405040 for the Central Control Room of British Transport Police.

The Safeguarding Adults Line

0808 80 10 345

Most of us can recall the names of children who have suffered as the result of abusive relationships. Many have become household names because they have become the subject of wide scale and often national media campaigns.

But what if we switch the focus to adults? Though modern media rarely focuses upon the abuse of vulnerable adults, it does happen.

Last year in Essex, around 1500 referrals of adult abuse were made, and we'd be foolish to assume the abuse stopped there.

If you have regular contact with an adult who may be at particular risk of suffering abuse of any kind, though you may not witness any form abuse in person, there is no harm in keeping an eye out for certain signs, especially if you are concerned.

For more information visit www.asksal.org.uk.

Help keep adults safe across Essex.

Remember, ignoring abuse is not an option.

Any person or organisation with knowledge of, or suspicion that a vulnerable adult may be at risk of abuse or is being abused must report their concerns.

Do not hesitate, call today on 0808 80 10 345.

A DIFFERENT TYPE OF DISTRACTION THEFT

In recent weeks, a different type of distraction theft has come to the attention of Essex Police in mid and North Essex, and they are advising members of the public to ensure that they keep their bags and purses safe and secure in car parks across the region. So far, there have been six incidents – two in Chelmsford, and one each in Halstead, Witham, Dunmow and Stanway.

The modus operandi for this type of crime is that an unidentified suspect distracts a shopper in a car park usually by asking for directions. An accomplice then steals the shopper's purse or bag from inside the car. Any credit or debit cards from the stolen bags are then used, to withdraw sums of cash fraudulently, from ATMs, often within minutes of the theft.

Essex Police say that this type of crime is extremely rare, but that members of the public should be aware of this new criminal technique and should keep their valuables, such as bags and purses, safe and secure when they are in busy car parks – perhaps parking their car or unloading their shopping.

HARE COURSING

Since the Hunting Act came into force in 2004, attending, facilitating or participating in hare coursing has become an illegal activity. If you live in a more rural area or perhaps are out and about enjoying the countryside at weekends when this type of activity usually takes place, here is some guidance on what you should do if you think that hare coursing is taking place:

If the offence is in progress then phone 999 and report what is happening. Any suspicious vehicle/s driving off road in strange circumstances or people 'walking' their dogs in strange areas could well indicate that hare coursing is taking place. Do not talk to the people involved, but do take a note of the vehicle/s being used and the number plate/s. Often these vehicles are not insured and have no road tax. Also, make a note of the exact area where the hare coursing is taking place. Just saying "In a field near....." is not a great deal of help.

If you have information or intelligence about hare coursing then contact your Neighbourhood Specialist Officer or phone 0300 333 4444.

Essex Police do need the information from the public to enable them to more effectively combat the problem. The implications of this offence on the economic wellbeing of rural communities and the ripple effect of associated criminality cannot be underestimated.

ARE YOU BEING WATCHED?

Essex Police suspect that criminals may be watching people using ATMs to try to read their PIN numbers as they type them in. Members of the public should be aware and alert when withdrawing cash from a cash machine. Try to make sure that your PIN number is kept private when entering it into the keypad and be swift to remove both the card and the money when they are returned to you. It could be that this type of crime is also part of the new distraction theft above and is why the thieves are able to withdraw cash very quickly once they have stolen the bags.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ITEMS FOR SALE

Don't forget that Neighbourhood Watch sells the following items:

Door Guards at £2.50

Door viewers £1.50

Personal Alarms £4

24 hour Timers £3

If you would like any of the above items, then please contact either Nigel Oldacre on 01376 325074 or Moia Thorogood on 01376 560 698

Why not recycle this newsletter? Pass it on to someone who is not in your NW group. They may like to start a Group or join yours.



Wethersfield DFPFA

(Derek Flannery Playing Field Association)

Registered Charity No. 301434



Family Fun Day & Fun Run

Saturday 19th June — 2pm till late
Bar, BBQ, Live Music, Stalls & Events

Free Parking

£1 Entry by Prize Draw Programme

Fun Run start 9:30am at the Playing Field

Cross country course, approximately 5 miles

Entry £5 plus sponsorship

Contact Jerry Wells for further information and entry form

- 01371 851672

Car Boot Sale

£5 per table pre-booked or £7 on the day

£10 commercial pitch

Contact Helen Finbow for more information and to pre-book

- 01371 850979

The Wethersfield Local History Group

.....normally meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month in the Village Hall at 8.00pm. (apart from January and August when we take a break)

There is no membership, just £1.50 at the door, which includes coffee or tea and biscuits. All are welcome.

We try to present a varied programme which will appeal to everyone. We usually have a speaker or films which last about one hour. Afterwards there is an opportunity to ask questions, before coffee is served. We now have an average audience of about 60. Our July meeting is usually an outdoor visit.

The programme for the year started with March 11th: Three Hundred Years of Rural Life, a talk by Mr Ashley Cooper Then:

April 8th: John Vine, Essex's First Sporting Painter. He became famous for painting farmers' prize beasts. An illustrated talk by Mr Hugh Scantlebury

May 13th: The Remarkable Story of Wethersfield Manor 1600-1900. A story of changing fortunes and scandals. An illustrated talk by Dick and Pam Wenley and Camilla Jarvis.

June 10th: Sir John Hawkwood the medieval mercenary soldier from Sible Hedingham whose prowess became known across Europe. An illustrated talk by Dr Christopher Starr

July 8th: A visit to Hill Farm Gestingthorpe to visit the extensive museum of farming by-gones, the Roman villa site and museum and the medieval guildhall. The visit is by kind permission of Mr Ashley Cooper. 7.30pm

September 9th: The de Vere Family of Castle Hedingham. An illustrated talk by John Woollard

October 14th: Parliamentary Elections, bribery corruption and punch ups. A talk by the very popular Roger Cooke.

November 11th: Snippets from Wethersfield's Past. Articles from the archives, old parish magazines and newspapers, presented by the Committee.

December 9th: Christmas Meeting.

Dick and Pam Wenley hold the village archives, including a large collection of photographs and the census books for the village from 1841-1901. Contact them on 01371 850333 if you wish to search through the archives. They also welcome any documents/photographs connected with village history. These can be scanned and returned.

List of Contacts for Clubs and Societies

Group / Society	Contact	Telephone
History Group	Richard & Pam Wenley	01371 850 624
Wine Club	Barbara Mostyn	01371 850978
Garden Club	Eve Newell	01371 850957
Floral Art	Eve Newell	01371 850957
Parish Church	Eve Newell	01371 850957
Pathfinders	Peter Pascoe	01371 850937
Creamer Fund	Jean Murphy	01371 851147
Pre-school	Elaine Millen	07935 771 835
WAP	Nicky Pearce	01371 851019
The Club	Dave Benfield	01371 850564
Cricket Club	David Holiday	01371 851 376
Primary School	Caroline Shingleton	01371 851200
Bell Ringers	Roy Threadgold	01371 850481
Bowls Club (Carpet)	Ros Gudgin	01371 850552
Blackmore End Village Hall	David Foster	01371 850852
Rounders Club	Kim Suckling	07778 304098
Jackson School of Dancing	Kathleen Jackson	01787 473607
Youth Group	Jacy Thomas	07936 708292
URC Church	David Jenkins	01371 850752
Brownies & Rainbows	Sarah Pilgrim	01371 850781
Parish Church Sunday School	Sarah Pilgrim	01371 850781
Wethersfield & Blackmore End Conservatives	Pamela Westland	01371 850705
Village Hall	Jack Tilbrook	01371 851204
Chess	Bill Norman	01371 851094
Tennis	Bill Norman	01371 851094
DFPFA	Chris Richards	01371 850797
Pavilion Project	Jerry Wells	01371 851672
Wethersfield Celtic Football Club	Neil Moore	

Weddings - 100 Years Apart

In 2008 my daughter Kelly and her Fiancé Daniel decided they wanted to marry in 2009.

They asked me if I would like to join them at a wedding fair to get some ideas on venues, flowers, transport etc. On leaving the wedding fair in January 2009 we travelled down the road a short distance when in a lay-by was parked this gorgeous white carriage with two white horses. Kelly and Daniel gasped at the sight of it and stopped to take a look. They both jumped out to see it and a little while later returned to the car and said "That's the one for our wedding!"

A few days later it was booked for the wedding on 1st October 2009 at St Mary Magdalene Church, Wethersfield, following on to the stables at Spains Hall, Finchingfield.

A few months later, I was looking through my old diaries when I came across an old newspaper cutting. I thought 'now why did I keep this?'. On unfolding the sheet I

realised why. My daughter Kelly had placed an advert that week

(Thursday February 9th, 1996) in the Braintree & Witham Times, advertising her first salon with her business partner Louise in Witham). As my eyes looked above her advert I was astonished to see a picture of a black horse and carriage outside St. Mary



Magdalene Church, Wethersfield 100 years earlier at a wedding in 1909. Almost identical to the carriage that Kelly and Daniel had booked for their wedding, except theirs was white. I rushed downstairs to tell my husband John. We both thought "how uncanny is this?".

The wedding day finally arrived and I can honestly say that it was a wonderful day.

The sun shone and everything just fell into place and I loved every minute of it. To John and I, Kelly looked every bit our little princess in that wonderful carriage.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all those who helped to make their day so special.

Barbara Ayton



Parish Surgery

To enable improved access to members of the Parish Council and to our local police, representatives of each will be available monthly on Saturday mornings in the Parish Halls at Wethersfield and Blackmore End.

The first 'pilot' surgery is on Saturday 22nd May 10am-12.30 and 'if successful, monthly surgeries will continue.

Come and find out what the Parish council do, how your money is spent, air your concerns and suggestions. Talk to the police. The idea is that Saturday mornings is more convenient for those that work during the week.

WETHERSFIELD CLUB PRESENTS

BINGO

CASH PRIZES

EYES DOWN ON THURSDAY
1ST & 15TH APRIL

7PM FOR 7.30PM START
ALL WELCOME

Coming Soon!

Sat 24th Apr St Georges Day Celebrations

Sat 29th May Live Rock Music ('Story')

New Memberships now available

It's Your Village It Should be Your Club!

Club Competitions are coming back
Pool, Snooker, Darts, Table Tennis,
Chess, Dominoes.

Interactive Nights with Teams from the
Base & Castle Heddingham.
(More details will be posted on the
Club Notice board)

Wethersfield Indoor Bowls Club

Meets every Tuesday at 7.30pm in the
Village Hall

Urgently need new members !

Enjoy a social evening for coffee, tea ,
a chat and gentle exercise

We play with same size woods as out-
door bowls

Just come along and give it a try !

Contact Ros Gudgin Tel: 850552

Pathfinders

Now the better weather is here, join us
on our monthly Sunday morning ram-
bles over the local footpaths. Meet at
10.30 at Wethersfield Green on the 4th
Sunday of the month. Contact Peter
Pascoe on 850937.

Many thanks to all the contributors but
apologies for any material which has
been left out or pruned due to layout
constraints.

The Editors welcome articles of village
news, events, ideas and photos.

Please contact Helen Finbow 850979

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Writers' names and addresses are
required, but will not be published,
unless agreed