

Eight Ash Green & Fordham Heath Quarterly Newsletter July 2013 Village Festival Edition



The Heath 19th & 20th July 2013

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EIGHT ASH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council meets in the Village Hall at 7.30 on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

**Parish Clerk: Helen Cook
07530 873736**



**Derek Franklin
(Chairman)**

210959

Elected 5th May 11

derekfranklin@btinternet.com.



**Leon Coombs
07526 743634**

Co-opted

leon.coombs@eightashgreen.com



**Josh Greenwold
572645**

Co-opted

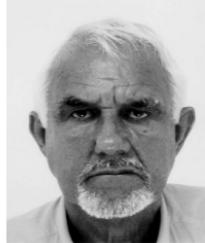
josh.greenwold@eightashgreen.com



**Louise Greenwold
572645**

Elected 5th May 11

louisegreenwold@hotmail.com



**David Mills
231572**

Co-opted

david.mills@eightashgreen.com



**Christine Willetts
240314**

Elected 5th May 11

christine.willetts@eightashgreen.com



**Keith Winterbourne
240497**

Co-opted

Keith.Winterbourne@eightashgreen.com

Parish Project Managers (not Councillors, but they assist on major projects)



Andrew Cook

07584
218280

Playground
Project

Anthony Robin

anthony_robin@hotmail.com

Village
Speedwatch

Marcel Horst

07917
586132

Broadband
& Web-site



Parish Council Chairman's Report for Spring - 2013

The Parish Council was sadly depleted by six councillors, when the Central Government passed the Localization Bill. "That it would now be a criminal offence, if councilors did not declare the financial interest of their partners". This was considered by some as an intrusion into the private lives of individuals not connected with the Parish Council and hence resignations. Two Councillors who stood down agreed to continue to assist the Council as advisors on the Broadband and Play area Projects.

The three remaining Parish Councillors, assisted by a local Clerk Helen Cook, continued and over the following months we have co-opted a further four Councillors. There is still two vacancies to be filled. I would appeal to anyone interested to come along to a Parish Council Meeting.

The Council is currently undertaking a safety review of all the trees on parish land to comply with our insurance commitment. We hope to have the results of the survey in time for the July Meeting.

Pot holes are a big problem this year, many have been reported to the highways and await repair. If you are aware of any that appear to be outstanding please report to Highways department direct on Essex County Council Highways website.

There are still reports of dog fouling on the village footpaths and we ask all dog owners to "pick up". Again this is a small minority of people causing the problem. We have requested the Borough Dog wardens to visit the Parish. Please be aware there is a £70 fixed penalty for offenders.

There are concerns regarding day-long inappropriate parking on the Old Halstead Road & Abbotts Lane area which is being addressed by the local residents, Borough Councilors' and Parish Council.

We are still receiving reports of cars driving along Blind Lane Footpath. This is a safety issue. Residents affected by this action, should note the registration numbers and report the incident to the Police.



Attended Freighter
27th July 2013

Fiddlers Folly

11:00am - 11:25am

Top of the Heath

11:30am - 12:00 noon

ESSEX COUNTY STANDARD

The Village correspondent for the
Rural Life Column is

Louise Greenwold,

Tele 01206 572645, e-mail
louisegreenwold@hotmail.com

Reports from local organisations
should be sent directly to Louise for
publication.

**Louise is standing down so a
another volunteer is required.**

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Susan: 07986 384591**



Parish Clerk: Helen Cook

parish.clerk@eightashgreen.com or 07530 873736

The Parish Bench by the Old Brick and Tile.

This Bench was first positioned in 1927. Later replaced in 1977 on the occasion of the Queen's Silver Jubilee. Sadly the bench was vandalized beyond repair and it was agreed between the Parish Council and the Land Owner that rather than reinstate it in its current location a new commemorative bench

would be positioned in the village at a location voted on by villagers. Suggestions for the new commemorative bench should be sent to the Clerk.

Locality Budget for 2013/14

Borough Councillors Marcus Harrington and Dennis Willetts have been awarded a grant of £2,000 for the Parish of Eight Ash Green. Matched funding must be provided and the project must have a lasting legacy within the village.

If you have any ideas or indeed are a group within the village who have a project that would benefit from funding, please mail your ideas to the Clerk. All ideas put forward will be discussed in the November 2013 Council meeting with an award expected to be made by the end of the financial year 2013/14.

Vacancies on the Council

There are currently 2 vacancies on the Parish Council. If you are interested in joining the Council, please contact me and I will give you further details.

WEST BERGHOLT GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION

Meetings at 7.30pm in the Orpen Hall, West Bergholt.

Large garden, allotment holder, small window box,
devoted gardener or just a passing interest -
why not join our gardening club?



Meeting re-commence in September after the summer break. New members and visitors always welcome. *Annual subscription is £10; visitor entry £3.* If you require information on our organisation please contact Valerie Lofthouse on 01206 855450 or valerielofthouse1@hotmail.co.uk.



CALLING ALL GRANDPARENTS!

Looking for information on your local area?

Reviews on new restaurants, local craft classes, recommended plumbers, and more?

Would you like to get to know people in your community with similar interests?

Then visit the newly launched Gransnet Local where you can share your knowledge with others and make the most of your community.



local.gransnet.com

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07956 429102

Prop. Brenda Eagland



LOOK



Bluebell Pre-school has opened in Fordham Heath.

Would you like your child to attend this outstanding pre-school?

Would you like your child to have fun while learning?

Would you like your child to be prepared for school life?

Then look no further – bring them along to Bluebell Pre-school at Holy Trinity School, Fordham Heath.

Available sessions:

Tuesday 9.15am – 3.15pm

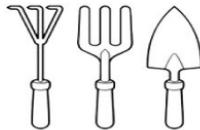
Wednesday 9.15am – 3.15pm

Thursday 9.15am – 12.15pm

For further details please call Jackie Leach 01206 241677

The Allotment News

Louise Greenwold, Site Steward



This is the time of year when we reap what we sow. What is nicer than walking around the allotment and picking peas, broad beans or carrots and cooking and eating them. The flavours are far superior than anything bought from a shop and the personal pride that you have actually grown and provided this feast is unsurpassed.

15th July is St Swithin's Day. St Swithin who was an Anglo-Saxon bishop of Winchester, originated the rain legend. If it rains on St. Swithin's day it will rain for forty days and forty nights. St Swithin wanted to be buried in the churchyard where the rain from the church eaves might fall on his grave. When he was removed to Winchester Cathedral in 971AD it poured with rain from 15th July to 23rd August. So look out for the weather forecast on 15th July.

The summer always brings moans from the allotmenteers about lack of water on the site. Attaching guttering and a water butt to your shed will harvest the rain when it does come but otherwise it's a case of taking water in containers up to the site. Previous attempts to arrange for water to be taken to the site have failed. There is water to the Football Pavilion but it would take someone with more time than I have to look into taking it on to the site.

All the plots have now been allocated and there are two people on the waiting list. I went to the site last Saturday, as I try to most Saturday mornings and it is looking a lot tidier. Don't forget if you are struggling to keep on top of things or feel that your plot is too big please contact me.

louisegreenwold@hotmail.com or Tele 01206 572645

Your local village Primary School needs you!

The children at Holy Trinity C of E Primary School are finding out about the history of our school. We have found old log books and other ledgers but we need your help!. We want to find out about the original school and the move to its current site. Do you have any photographs or memories you can share? Please contact our Head teacher, Mrs Hann, on 01206 240880 or admin@eightashgreen.essex.sch.uk

Thank you.

The children of Holy Trinity Primary.



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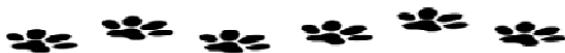


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Play Area Proposals

-An Update on progress-



The formal s38 application for the scheme was submitted in April of 2013. A notice was posted on site, sent to all statutory consultees and advertised in the local press.

The formal notice period has now concluded, and the Government's Planning Inspectorate is now considering the application and all representations, before making a decision on how to proceed with the decision-making process. Three options are available to them;

- Determine the application on the information already received (the written representations process), or
- Call for an informal hearing to gather further evidence from all parties before determining the application, or
- Hold a formal public inquiry, where all parties have the right to be legally represented and witnesses called to give evidence.

Once one of these three routes have been selected and followed, the appointed Planning Inspector will issue a report and decision on the application.

Once we hear from the Planning Inspectorate we will be updating the website: <http://eightashgreen.com/local-info/play-area-project>.



Dog bags are available from Chris Payne, 46 Heathfields. Tele 768580 or just call when walking past with your dog. Cost is 50p for a pack of 50.

Village Heating Oil Syndicate



Each member of the syndicate is responsible for deciding how much oil they require, and for paying the supplier directly. The syndicate ensures that the supplier delivers a considerable quantity of oil to a small area of the village, thus sharing in the benefits of the supplier's reduced transport costs and time.

If you are interested in joining the syndicate, please e-mail your name, address and telephone number to Trevor Westall at EagOilSyndicate@ColchesterBorough.com



All Saints Church Eight Ash Green

Thursday 18th July,

11am Communion

Sunday 21st July

11.15am, All-age service

Sunday 4th August

11.15am Communion

Thursday 22nd August

11am Communion

Sunday 1st September

11.15am Communion



If anyone is interested in setting-up a Neighbourhood Watch for their road, street, or part of the village, then please do get in touch with me. I can help you get started by giving you the relevant contacts.

[susan.greenwold @colchesterborough.com](mailto:susan.greenwold@colchesterborough.com)



World War One Commemorations

28th July 2014 marks the 100th anniversary of World War One. The Government has allocated £50 million assessable via the Lottery Heritage Fund for community projects to mark the occasion.

There has already been some interest from a parishener to put on a concert at the village hall, however, more ideas or volunteers would be welcome.

If you would like to help please contact me on 01206 572645 or louisegreenwold@hotmail.com
Thank you Louise Greenwold.

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Eight Ash Green

Music Festival and Funday

19th & 20th July 2013, Fordham Heath



Following the success of last years festival, this year's festival will again span two days.

On Friday 19th July starting at 7.30pm there will be a music evening featuring a variety of music played by Jamie Williams Roots collective band and Q plates, to name but two. There will be a BBQ and bar but please bring your own chairs if you wish to sit down.

On Saturday 20th July starting at 1.00pm there is a family fun day. Arena events, side stalls, rides, a fantastic BBQ, bar, tea tent, donkey rides, I need to draw breath! Michael J Fitch will be providing magic to astound you, and many bands including Mad Dog Blues Band and Ellenbac our returning Geordie boys will perform on stage.

We have a wonderful acoustics tent catering for every musical taste. There will be a opportunity to buy raffle tickets before and during the event. The first prize is two tickets to a London Show and a trip up the Shard. The whole festival will draw to a close with a wonderful fireworks display courtesy of Matt at The Cricketers.

All monies made are ploughed back to improve and provide a festival for the following year. What we are in need of are some volunteers to help set up the gazebos on Thursday 18th July at 6.30pm, to man some of the stalls on the day and to help clear up on the Sunday morning.

If you feel you can help please email richard.e.brown@hotmail.co.uk or phone 07712 570685.

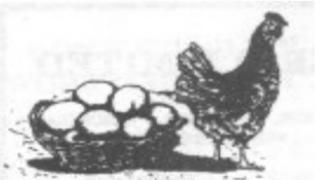


Eight Ash Green & Fordham Heath Open Gardens

Unfortunately the event has been cancelled this year. Time ran out for organising the event because of the problems with insurance and health and safety .

Hopefully we are going ahead for next year. Would you please contact Jenny Huxtable on 241034 if you can help in any way with the organisation, or with offers to open your garden. Gardens of all sizes welcome. They do not have to be posh!!!

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The Editor's Column

Dennis Willetts, The Retreat, Wood Lane.
cllr.dennis.willetts@colchester.gov.uk
Telephone 240314



Summer is with us, but it seems more like autumn already. Let us hope we have a really good weekend for our splendid Village Festival on 19 & 20th July. We report in the Newsletter that the Gardens Open-day planned for 6th July will not go ahead this year. However we are doubly determined that the event will be held in 2014, so start getting your garden ship-shape now.

The village roads still a cause for concern. The County Council are fast catching up with the pot-hole repairs after the damage caused by two cold winters, But they are not keeping pace with the damage done by heavy lorries on the route to Fordham and Wormingford. Likewise the constantly wet conditions in Argents Lane cause rapid deterioration of repairs, with little prospect of improving drainage.

We report in this issue on the various solutions being proposed for the indiscriminate parking around the Holiday Inn round-about, which has become a mini park and ride.

An increasing number of complaints are being voiced about villagers not clearing-up after their dogs. Most dog owners are responsible and fastidious, but a very small proportion are causing some serious hygiene issues, particularly to our children playing on grassed areas around the village.

At the end of May, six travellers' caravans from Suffolk parked for a few hours on Seven Star Green, to the consternation of local residents. They were quickly moved-on by the Police, but circled around the area looking for somewhere else to park, before eventually departing to an official travellers' site. The Heaths and Greens are for the enjoyment of everyone living in the village, and also those passing through. But there are strict bylaws prohibiting the parking of vehicles and caravans on these areas.

Smooth running of the village requires an active and dedicated Parish Council to administer local services. In this issue of the Newsletter, the Parish Clerk makes yet another plea for additional volunteers to bring the Council up to full strength. Currently 4 of the 9 councillors live in Spring Lane. It would be good to see volunteers from other parts of the village.

The Village Design Statement Group have completed their task and will be presenting their plan to the Parish Council in July. Great effort all round.

Finally might I thank the Parish Council and the advertisers for funding this edition of the Village Newsletter, and the diligent band of foot-soldiers who deliver it to all houses and businesses in the village. The next edition will be in November, with an editorial deadline of 14th October, so get writing.

Youth Group Report: The youth group for 10 to 16 year old boys and girls is held in the village hall on Wednesday evenings and has been running for over three years. Dates and times and activities are displayed on the village Website - eightashgreen.com and also on the village Notice boards.

We do however require assistance if the youth club is to continue running in the long-term, so we are appealing for any parent or adult interested in youth work, who would like to help out, if only for 2 hours a month.

The club has WII equipment for 4 players, Table Tennis, Pool and other activities including Essex association of Boy and Girl Club sponsored events which include outdoor activities.

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The Cricketers

Spring Lane, Fordham Heath,
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Tel: 01206 240 666

thecricketers06@btconnect.com

thecricketerscolchester.co.uk

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News from Cllr Marcus Harrington

The unofficial Park and Ride activity around the Holiday Inn Hotel is close to an end. The inconsiderate behaviour of the drivers has been a nagging source of irritation and inconvenience to local residents and blighted the gateway to the village. It has now spread to the hammerhead on the opposite side of Halstead Road.

After strong lobbying from your Councillors over an 18 month period, with support from the residents, Parish Council and Bernard Jenkin MP, the North Essex Parking Partnership has finally proposed a Residents Parking Zone including Abbotts Lane, the Halstead Road spur and the hammerhead. The only cost to residents is for parking on the road in the Zone (£55 for an annual permit or 80p for a visitor's day ticket). The Zone is enforceable by Traffic Wardens who will issue fines.

The Zone puts residents completely in control of parking. A legal mechanism also prevents parking on the greenswards.

A public meeting was attended by 36 residents who declared unanimous support for the scheme. This is a major breakthrough, but I do expect a few months to elapse before delivery of the scheme.

The bicycle rack for the Village Hall and sign for the Village Well have arrived and await installation.

The Locality Budget grant from the Council funded these two projects and also provided equipment for Holy Trinity School. Sasha Halls, Deputy Headteacher, said "the grant has opened up another way of teaching and learning, enjoying the outdoors and looking after our environment, as well as forging even stronger links in our local community". I know myself how much children love the Forest Schools project.



Eight Ash Green Music Festival & Fun Day

Friday Evening 19th July + Saturday 20th July 2013

Marcus will be bring his donkeys to the Fun Day, weather permitting

Essex County Council Mobile Library Visits Eight Ash Green Village Hall 14.30 to 14.55



Jul: 2, 16, 30
Aug: 13, 27
Sep: 10, 24
Oct: 8, 22
Nov: 5, 19
Dec: 3, 17

Use it or lose it !

Letter to the Editor

I and many more are saddened to hear of the loss of our bench on the corner of Spring Lane on which villagers have sat, rested and watched the world go by for over 80 years. What a shame when all past businesses have been happy to accommodate it, whom ever it belonged to.

May be the new owners have plans to install a new one for our villagers to once again watch the world go by.

Name & Address supplied.

(Editor's note: Current update can be found in the Parish Clerk's report on Page 7)

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in Fordham village hall for fun, friendship and listening to a good speaker.



August 6th	Yesteryears collection, outing to Little Tey
September 3rd	Aware, Alert, Alive, your safety
October 1st	Holiday packing magic
November 5th	Rare breed meat and Christmas poultry

For more information, phone our secretary, Mrs Judith Rose, 01206 240426, or just come on the night.



Road News, from Borough Councillor Dennis Willets

Junction of Wood Lane and Porters Cottages

This junction is notorious for flooding. The surface water drain has been damaged by heavy lorries mounting the pavement as they pass on the bend.

A significant number of people in wheel chairs from the near-by ECC care home use this pavement, as well as many pupils going to and from Holy Trinity School.

The initial response from the highway engineers was to propose concrete bollards along the pavement on the inside of the bend. However the safety assessment suggested that they would just be knocked over by the lorries, further damaging the drains.

The current proposal is to provide a double-height kerb line. Two stepped heights, possibly incorporating over-run area around the radius of the bend, should deter HGVs from mounting the kerb and footway. This will however require full-depth reconstruction, and extending the footway into the current verge area. Changes to the route of the drainage may be required.



This £50,000 scheme has been recommended by the Local Highways Panel and signed-off by the ECC cabinet member for Highways.

A1124 40mph speed limit, Choats Cottages to Ford Street

Until recently, the village's 30mph ended at Choats Cottages. Concerns had been raised about the speed of traffic between the village boundary, at Foxes Lane, and Green Lane in Aldham Parish. This stretch of road just fails to qualify for a 30mph speed limit.

Highways experts were also concerned that the frequent changes to the permitted speed limit, for relatively short distances, would confuse motorists.

Our compromise was to implement a 40mph limit along the entire length of A1124 between Choats Cottages and New Road at the boundary of Ford Street village.



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- * Microdermabrasion

Eden Beauty Room is a new beauty salon situated within the Spirit Health Club at The Holiday Inn, Eight Ash Green. Here you are provided with a relaxing and calm experience carried out by a fully qualified and experienced therapist. We are open to the general public, members of the spirit health club and also hotel residents. Free parking is also available. Spa days available upon request.

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EAG PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



Anne Brown re-elected Essex County Councillor

The Constable Division, which Anne represents, is a huge rural area stretching from Dedham down to Marks Tey, and includes the Parish of Eight Ash Green.

The County Council deal with the large scale services: Economic Development, Highways, Waste Disposal, Education, Social Services, Libraries. Anne can be contacted on 321241.



Leon Coombs co-opted onto Parish Council

I have lived in the village with my wife Sandra for just under a year, having moved from Prettygate, where we lived for about 6 years. We moved to EAG primarily because we loved our new house and garden, but once we knew we were moving here, we started to look around the village a little more.

We were pleasantly surprised to see how friendly everyone was. Everyone we met gave us a smile and friendly 'hello', happy to stop for a chat. I work full time in a demanding job (IT software testing) and thought the Parish Council may be too much on top of a new house, allotment and all my hobbies, but I'm glad I said yes!

I have a love of the natural world and conservation of our natural environment – so joining the council I have a personal interest in the changes to our community. But, more than anything, the council is here to represent you, the parishioners. If there is anything you want to discuss or change in our village, or you have concerns or questions about things happening, I can guarantee you'll be listened to and your views and ideas given care and consideration.

Lymphoma Association

Roley Greenwold held a Garden Party at Ambleside, Wood Lane, on Saturday 1st June 2013 to raise money for the Lymphoma Association.



First prize in the raffle was a magnificent cake, won by Fred Campbell (pictured left).



Roley reports that he has sent off a cheque for £1,337 which includes the donations from the craft open workshop he ran at Easter. Thank you all for your kind help and support once more.

Parish Plan & Village Design Statement Group

Consulting on the future of the Village Newsletter Editorial Team

Contact us on 01206 248628,
Email: eagpp@ColchesterBorough.com
Website: eagpp.colchesterborough.com



John Allcock
Chairman

Steve Brown
Secretary

Keith Winterbourne
Treasurer

Dennis Willetts
Press Officer

Jenny Jones
Committee

Marcel Horst
Committee

JUNE 2013 QUARTERLY REPORT BY JOHN ALLCOCK, CHAIRMAN

As we reported in the last newsletter, we held a village meeting on 9th March with the aim of informing everyone about the latest progress in developing our Village Design Statement (VDS) as well as providing an opportunity for people to look at and comment on the latest draft.

Whilst the meeting went very well and gave us some very useful feedback, to be frank, the attendance was really poor. Only 21 people came and this included 6 members of the VDS Committee. This means that less than 1 per cent of the total village population attended – does no-one care what any future developments in the village may look like?

Following informal discussions with Colchester Borough Council (CBC), a final draft of the VDS has been prepared and has gone to the Parish Council for approval. Subject to their views, it will then be formally submitted to CBC for adoption.

We will have copies of the VDS available at our stand at the village festival on 20th July along with copies of the Parish Plan we produced in 2011. In due course, each household in the village will be given a hard copy of the VDS and it will also be placed on the EAG website www.eightashgreen.com

Police Constable David Underwood Neighbourhood Policing Team



Over summer, many of you are thinking about topping up your heating oil tank. With the value of fuel it is worth considering its security. In the more isolated parts of the countryside it is primarily domestic properties that have been targeted by the heating oil thieves, but we have also seen such thefts at farms and other businesses.

There are a number of security devices available that will protect your fuel supplies - details of which can be found via your fuel supplier or local plumber's merchant. One such system is "GPRS Fuel-Oil Alarm" from www.compoundsecurity.co.uk which has "Secured by Design" accreditation; this detects a dramatic drop in fuel and calls you on the telephone. There are also other systems that will add on to an existing intruder alarm system, whilst others protect the filler cap and there are of course the conventional locks.

Another consideration would be defensive planting around the tank, concealing it and restricting access to it by gates or fencing, and where possible locating the tank under lighting in view of lived in rooms within the house.

"For larger quantities of fuel <http://dieseldye.com/> supply a dye that will uniquely mark the fuel should it be later recovered. Use of the dye, combined with signs making it clear that the fuel has been marked, can act as a strong deterrent to thieves.

If you like any advice regarding security please do not hesitate to contact your local Crime Reduction Advisor by using the 101 non-emergency telephone number.

"Naturally we also ask locals to report any unusual activity seen around fuel tanks to police in an emergency on 999 or after the event on 101 or to Crime-stoppers on 0800 555 111."

Any issues regarding the above please contact ; Stephen Arsmson-Smith Crime prevention tactical advisor for the Colchester District- For contact 101-extension 430386 or PC David Underwood at Ipswich Road 101- Extension 436123.



Eight Ash Green Music Festival & Fun Day Friday Evening 19th July + Saturday 20th July 2013

Neighbourhood Policing Team supporting the Musical Festival & Fun Day

Eight Ash Green Village Hall

Many users have admired the renovations to the hall floor. The new lighter shade of varnish is a great improvement, completed at a lower price than first estimated, thanks to research by those involved.



The free Wi-Fi system has been installed and is a great boon to organisations hiring the hall, and should be very useful to the village, I have even tried the internet in the car park, and been successful.

The Youth group continue to use the hall, and the club is proving popular with the youngsters. The village should be grateful to the gallant few that run the club.

The bicycle rack has also been delivered to accommodate those who cycle to the hall. It has to be properly installed, but at least it's arrived.

The village hall continues to be well used and Bernard Alden, Chairman of the Trustees, puts many hours in making sure that everything is ok.

Bernard can be contacted on 01206.540245, bookings on 01206.562860.

National Census 2011

By law we every household has to take part in the 10-yearly census, collecting lots of details about our lives. Before the age of the internet, this data was accessible mainly by Government departments and university researchers. Now it is available to everyone via the internet. Here are some details about the village and its population in 2011.

Key Info	Number
All usual residents	1,730
Household residents*	1,676
Communal establishment residents (eg care homes)	54
Area (Hectares)	651
Population density (Persons per hectare)	2.7
Households with at least one usual resident	682
Average household size	2.5

Ages	Males	Females	Total
0 - 4	45	44	89
5 - 9	47	40	87
10 - 14	48	53	101
15 - 19	55	49	104
20 - 24	45	36	81
25 - 29	40	46	86
30 - 34	44	50	94
35 - 39	45	54	99
40 - 44	50	62	112
45 - 49	70	73	143
50 - 54	55	56	111
55 - 59	56	52	108
60 - 64	67	82	149
65 - 69	63	59	122
70 - 74	37	44	81
75 - 79	35	35	70
80 - 84	23	25	48
85 - 89	8	18	26
90 and over	5	14	19

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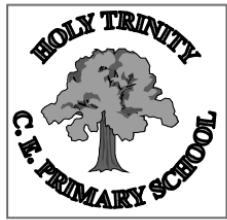
BetterLearning

www.betterlearninguk.com

Eight Ash Green, Colchester, Essex

Report from Holy Trinity School

We are having another busy term at Holy Trinity! Our Year 5 and 6 pupils really enjoyed their residential visit to the Isle of Wight and have come back more independent and with memories that they will cherish for many years to come. In addition the work on refurbishing the ICT suite and Bluebells Pre-school buildings has been completed along with a new fantastic outside area laid with astroturf, all weather surfaces and also a stage area.



To mark the opening of the new area the school held a Theme Day entitled 'Up, Up and Away!' At the end of the day all the children released a helium-filled balloon and we are looking forward to seeing how far they have travelled. At the time of writing this article we have had labels returned from Walsall, Kent and one from Switzerland which have caused great excitement and a really good incentive to get out the atlases!

This term's events include Sports Day, Beach Day, VIP Day, swimming for all classes in the pool, Leaver Events for our Year 6 pupils, Induction Events for our new September FS pupils, KS2 Production and much more...

For details of school events or to find out more about your local village school please contact us or visit the school website www.holytrinityeightashgreen.co.uk

Heather Hann, Headteacher



Ofsted Inspection of Holy Trinity School

Headteacher Heather Hann reports on the recent inspection of the school.

"I am delighted to be able to share the main outcomes from our recent Ofsted inspection which took place on 5th and 6th March 2013. Copies are available on the Ofsted website, or from our school website.

When the school was previously inspected in May 2010, it was graded as satisfactory (3). The latest inspection grades the school as **good (2)** in all categories, and **good** overall.

I am pleased that Ofsted has recognised the huge amount of hard work from all members of the Holy Trinity team to improve rates of attainment and progress, '*pupils' attainment has improved steadily*' with '*pupils currently in the school making rapid progress.*' These improvements have been whilst still retaining the things that make Holy Trinity such a '*happy, friendly place.*' The pupils are '*polite and friendly*' and '*follow the good example by adults and show respect for each other*'

I am also pleased that the inspection confirmed that '*teaching is now consistently good. Teachers' marking helps pupils to improve their work.*'

Information about our school can be found on the school website www.holytrinityeightashgreen.co.uk.

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John Parker is Rector of the Parish of Eight Ash Green & Fordham. John is assisted by Aella Gage, who lives at the Rectory in Wood Lane, and by three lay workers.

**All Saints
Fordham & Eight Ash Green
Colchester**

Summer is here at last! It is still struggling a bit isn't it, but it is wonderful to see the fruit trees having flowered and anticipate the fruit that will be maturing in the months ahead.

I am particularly pleased with the prospect of some apples and pears, and watching the strawberries, raspberries and tayberries with anticipation!

This gives us a wonderful picture that Jesus himself used, of how good works relate to saving faith in Him. He proclaimed in the sermon on the mount "Do people pick grapes from thorn bushes or figs from thistles? Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus by their fruit you will recognise them". Matt 7:15-20.

Jesus is clear that good works, or good fruit, come from the nature of a tree or a person. We are not made right with God, or declared in the right with him (justified) by what we do, but by what Jesus has done on the cross. It is by faith in Jesus Christ and what he has done, that we are part of God's kingdom, heading for heaven. But what place do our good works have? They show what kind of tree we are. Good works do not make us right with God, they cannot help us before the judgment seat of God, but once we are right with God by faith in Jesus, our new nature produces good works which show us that we believe.

Article 12 of the 39 articles of the Church of England makes this clear – "Although good works, which are the fruits of faith and follow on after justification, can never atone for our sins or face the strict justice of God's judgment, they are nevertheless pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ and necessarily spring from a true and living faith. Thus a living faith is as plainly known by its good works as a tree is known by its fruit". We should be looking for fruit, not only on fruit trees, but in our lives, as evidence that we have believed in Christ and so are heaven bound.

HBC
**HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB
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*Games Sport Crafts
Bible Stories Fun
Singing Snacks*

24th – 26th July
10am – 3pm
(early arrivals from 9am)

John Owen Barn, Fordham Church

The price is £15 per child. This price includes all craft materials and a morning and afternoon snack. For an application form please visit our website www.fordhamchurch.org.uk or contact AJ on 043265. We do not want any child to be excluded so please contact us if you need help to cover the cost.

Report from County Councillor Anne Brown

Essex County Council is one of the largest and most complex councils in the country. It is responsible for Highways, Economic Regeneration, Children's and Adult Care services, Schools, Sport, Waste Management and a great deal more. In the past year Public Health services have been added and this gives the council a link to Community Health and Hospital services.



Tele 321241

Eight Ash Green is one of sixteen parishes in the Constable Division. I try to visit about two Parish council meetings a month. The most commonly raised topics are: highway maintenance, poor parking, increased heavy traffic through small country roads, schools and the ripple out effect from urban Colchester.

My computer inbox receives about fifty emails a day from constituents, most of which require action or at the very least a reply. So you will understand this is a serious job requiring a lot of time and it may not always be possible, for me to reply to you as quickly as you and I would like. My husband sometimes complains that he has to book an appointment to see me!!.

After the recent elections, the Conservatives again formed the Administration at County Hall. The Leader of the Council appointed me Deputy to the Adult Social Care and the Health and Wellbeing Portfolio Holders. This has funding of just under £1½ billion a year. This is an enormous part of the County Council's work and includes provision of Care Home places, homecare, Sensory Services, Mental Health and much more.

I want to stress that funding for Highway maintenance has NOT been reduced but increased with an extra £35 million added to both this year's budget and next. The problems we have all encountered, on our roads around north Colchester are well understood at County Hall but there are over 5,000 miles of road across the county to be maintained. This means that we have to wait our turn for repairs and some village problems will not get to the front of the queue without a lot of encouragement and input from the Parish, Borough and County Councillors! Please don't forget to report potholes and potential hazards on the ECC Website or contact your local councillor.

The new Highways Portfolio Holder has given Colchester £1million to be spent on small projects during the next year. These projects must be given the support of the Parish Council and Borough Councillors.

I would like to thank Eight Ash Green Parish Council for its support during the recent extremely hard winter, which fully stretched services.

I am very happy to go to County Hall with your problems and try to get them resolved. We can give residents the best service by working together.

Bus Report

By Christine Willets
Parish Council
Transport
Representative



Many people have asked that we publish the complete bus time-table in the Village Newsletter, including Saturday and Sunday services. This gets increasingly difficult. There are now five Bus Companies operating services between Eight Ash Green and Colchester Town Centre. Furthermore the County Council has ceased to print a county-wide time-table book containing details of all services because of the constant changes to times.

As the parish Council Transport Representative, I have to download the time-table from the web-site of each bus operator and construct a Village time-table, which I also put on the village notice-boards, two of which are in bus shelters. The time-tables are correct at the time of the News Letter going to press.

No 88 Timetable: Monday to Friday

Brick & Tile to Colchester
Earlier from Wood Corner
(0756 School days only)
(*Spring Lane opp Walk)

0703	0724	0746	0741	0756	0811*	0841	0916
0941	1016	1041	1116	1141	1216	1235	1241
1316	1341	1416	1441	1516	1541	1616	1641
1741	1811	1859	1916	2014	2208	0001	

From Colchester Bus
Station to EAG
* indicates via Spring Lane
& the Cricketers

0540	0600	0730	0810	0840	0910	0940	1010
1040	1110	1140	1200	1210	1240	1310	1340
1410	1440	1510	1550*	1610	1620	1620*	1650
1710	1740	1750*	1810	1850	2040	2240	

No 88 Timetable: Saturday

Brick & Tile to Colchester
Earlier from Wood Corner
* indicates Spring Lane
opposite The Walk

0741	0815	0841	0916	0941	1016	1041	1044*
1116	1141	1216	1235	1241	1316	1341	1416
1441	1516	1541	1616	1641	1716	1741	1821
1918	2018	2208	0001				

From Colchester Bus
Station to EAG
* indicates via Spring Lane
& the Cricketers

0645	0735	0810	0840	0910	0940	1010	1040
1110	1140	1200	1210	1240	1300	1310	1340
1410	1440	1510	1540	1610	1640	1710	1740
1810	1850	2040	2240				

No 88 Timetable: Sunday

Brick & Tile to Colchester

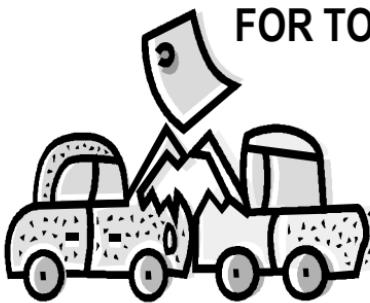
1003	1203	1403	1603	1803	2003	2203	
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From Colchester Bus Stn

0848	1048	1248	1448	1648	1848	2048	2248
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Village Contacts

Essex County Council	0845 743 0430
Colchester Borough Council	282222
Eight Ash Green Parish Council	07530 873736
Holy Trinity Primary School	240880
Stanway School	575488
Village Hall booking	562860
Police Constable Dave Underwood	999 or 101
Revd Aella Gage (Church of England)	243266
Revd Ruth Ridge (Methodist)	242183
Father Tom Lavin (Catholic)	576898
Zen Dental Clinic, Tollgate	762417
Francois Rossouw, Dental Practice	764111
Tollgate Heath Centre	710030
The Cricketers	240666
Bernard Jenkin. MP	01376 564292
Cllr Anne Brown, County Councillor	321241
Cllr Marcus Harrington, Borough Councillor	241411
Cllr Dennis Willetts, Borough Councillor	240314
Derek Franklin, Chairman Parish Council	210959
Leon Coombs, Parish Councillor	07526 743634
Louise Greenwold, Parish Councillor	572645
Josh Greenwold, Parish Councillor	572645
David Mills, Parish Councillor	241572
Christine Willetts, Parish Councillor	240314
Keith Winterbourne, Parish Councillor	240497
Andrew Cook, Parish Volunteer, New Playground	07584 218280
Marcel Horst. Parish Volunteer, Village Broadband	07917 586132



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EAG VILLAGE DIARY

Monday	— Scouts (ring 0844 414 2746 for time and venue) 19.30 Ladies Monday Club, Methodist Church 20.00 Cardio Blast, Keep Fit, Holy Trinity Primary School
Tuesday	— Explorer Scouts (ring 0845-0946-208 for details) 14.40 Pilates, Village Hall 19.30 Line Dancing, Village Hall 19.30 WI, (1st Tuesday) Fordham Village Hall 20.00 Harley Davidson Club (1st Tuesday), The Cricketers
Wednesday	09.45 Zumba, Village Hall 10.30 Lower Body Blitz, Village Hall 18.30 Village Youth Club (3rd & 4th Weds) Village Hall 19.00 Wednesday Club (1st Wednesday) Village Hall 19.30 Parish Council (2nd Wednesday) Village Hall 20.00 Quiz night (alternate Wednesdays) The Cricketers 20.00 Mini Club (1st Wednesday) The Cricketers 20.00 VW club (alternate Wednesdays) The Cricketers
Thursday	10.00 Daisy Beaders, (2nd Thursday) The Cricketers — Cubs (ring 0844 414 2746 for time and venue) 11.00 Holy Communion, (Last Thursday) All Saints Church 19.30 Christadelphians Bible Class, Village Hall
Friday	16.30 Karate Club, Village Hall — Beavers (ring 0844 414 2746 for time and venue) 19.30 Mens' Darts & Snooker Club, Village Hall
Saturday	Village Hall available for hire
Sunday	09.30 Worship, EAG Methodist Church 10.00 Worship, Fordham (EAG and Fordham congregations) 11.15 Morning Prayer, All Saints EAG (1st Sunday in month) 14.15 Christadelphians Memorial meeting, Village Hall 16.15 Christadelphians Bible Talk, Village Hall

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Opinions appearing in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors and are not necessarily those of the Editor, the Parish Plan Group or Eight Ash Green Parish Council.