



Theydon Bois Village News

Produced for residents
of Theydon Bois

Issue 40
April 2003

Annual Parish Meeting - Chairman's Report

MEETINGS

The Parish Council has been active as usual with 6 Public meetings, 6 pre-meeting of Councillors and a meeting of the General Purposes committee to review income and expenditure and to establish the precept for the coming year. In addition there have been the regular two weekly meetings of the Planning Committee to review planning applications and meetings of the Cemetery and Environment Committees. Councillors have also attended the various Representative Groups.



NEW GOVERNMENT LEGISLATION

During the last year, Government has introduced four new pieces of legislation affecting Parish Councils. Members of your Council may not have been totally in agreement with the newly introduced legislation but we elected to comply with the provisions and terms of each. They are:

1. Parish Councils Model Code of Conduct 2001.
2. Race Relations Policy.
3. Equal Opportunities Policy.
4. Freedom of Information Act.

PLANNING



76 planning applications have been dealt with by the planning sub committee during the year. They raised objections to 25 of the applications. The committee's work is made considerably easier by the valuable contribution made by the Rural Preservation Society, who share our desire to preserve the symmetry of the street scene and the rural nature of our Village.

The majority of the applications have, as usual, been for extensions and conservatories. We have also continued to receive applications for mobile phone masts and objections have been registered for all that were within parameters of the Village boundary or close to residential properties. The most notable application posing a serious threat to our rural environment and infrastructure was the application by Tottenham Hotspur Football Club to build a football academy adjacent to Epping Lane. The intention was to create a large sports complex consisting of clubhouse and associated facilities and up to 20 pitches. District Development Control Committee unanimously refused this application.



Annual Parish Meeting - Chairman's Report (cont)

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES

At the financial planning meeting held in January, councillors decided that the margin between income and expenditure was insufficient to allow the Parish Council to undertake any Village improvement schemes or projects. Consequently, we decided that the Parish Precept for 2003-2004 should be increased by £1,000 to £54,099.



Arising from recently introduced Government legislation, the Parish Council has employed the services of an internal auditor. He has raised a number of issues but these relate to procedure rather than finance. These are being addressed by Councillor Mike Hannibal, our Financial Controller. We continue to exercise strict control over the budget and accounts.

CEMETERY

The cemetery has remained financially strong contributing almost £10,000 income net of expenses, excluding the Garden of Remembrance.

The Garden of Remembrance was officially opened by the Chairman Wilf Shales and the Rev. David Penegar on the 29 May in a ceremony attended by parish councillors, parishioners and local press. Final planting to complete the garden will be carried out this spring and a number of roses have now been sponsored. New trees have been planted along the drive and these are now well established. A large section of the roadway has been resurfaced and the summer house refurbished.



Lawn maintenance was improved following a change of contractor. The gardener left and has at last been replaced, in the meantime his duties were covered by the Burial Supervisor and a local handyman. Loose gravestones have been re-fixed.

Following two incidents of fly-tipping, a skip was hired and a number of parish councillors worked over two days to clear rubbish. There has been a further incidence of fly-tipping over the past few weeks. Improvements to security are still under review.

The committee met three times during the year and all committee members were in attendance. Revised Burial Ground Regulations, a General Policy and Terms of Reference for the committee were drawn up. We remain indebted to George Gardner the Burial Supervisor for the diligent way he performs his duties.



Annual Parish Meeting - Chairman's Report (cont)

VILLAGE STRATEGIC PLAN

We recognise that with the exception of the new Village Hall, the Council has tended to be reactive to events or situations rather than proactive. It is our intention to change this situation. Your Council has embarked upon the development of a documented strategic plan for the Village. We have already developed the framework of the plan. This is intended to achieve long term improvements in the Village environment in partnership with the Village Association, the Rural Preservation Society and the Horticultural Society. Discussions on the plan started last summer but work on the documentation of the plan commenced in February and is ongoing.



VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT

The ongoing challenge we face to keep our Village neat and tidy continues as never before. The damage to the environmental structure caused by the Three Valleys Water pipe replacement scheme is daunting. It must be said, that where they have finished a particular road and they have carried out reparation work, the Greensward is now improving. However, we need to be diligent in reporting unacceptable damage where it is not properly rectified.

The Environment Committee continues its work in striving to protect and preserve the special amenities we enjoy in this Village. Combined with the work of those associated with the Tree Strategy and our Tree Warden, Jane Turner, our Village is still a very desirable place to live. Their work is invaluable and is very much appreciated. I would like to thank all concerned.



PARKING FORUM

The work of the parking forum has succeeded in giving focus to the problem in Theydon Bois. The District Council has recently launched a 'quick fix' initiative, which if implemented, will relieve the pressure on eight roads; Barn Mead, Buxton Road, Elizabeth Drive, Forest Drive, Orchard Drive, Poplar Row, Slade End and Thrifts Mead. The proposed limited parking restrictions are welcomed by many residents but as with the last parking forum, we are receiving letters criticising and highlighting shortcomings of the scheme. There are problems but failure to gain advantage from this initiative will exacerbate the parking problems for many years to come with the likelihood that all the other surrounding areas will be protected against commuter parking whilst Theydon Bois is left to become a huge free car park for commuters.





Annual Parish Meeting - Chairman's Report (cont)

If that were to be the case, those voicing their concern that their roads may be adversely affected by the proposed scheme, may well find that commuter parking extends to all roads in the village within a relatively short time anyway. We all have to be prepared to sacrifice something in return for the benefits to the greater cause.

THEYDON BOIS PARTNERSHIP

As reported by the previous Chairman Wilf Shales, the Partnership structure was put in place last year and that remains in place today, ready to be activated when required. Under the Partnership, the Community Safety Group was set up and I will report on that later. Also under the Partnership, villagers celebrated the Queens



Golden Jubilee together in a Village wide celebration on the Primary School field. This event was very successful. It was organised by Peter Simmance and his dedicated and hard working band of volunteers, without whom, the event would not have been possible. We thank Peter and his group for doing so much to towards making it such a successful day. The Parish Council provided the funds for this event.

THE COMMUNITY SAFETY GROUP

It is now approaching two years since the first moves were made to start a Community Safety Group, and nearly one year, since the formation of the two Village Action Groups. One of these concentrates on Anti Social Behaviour and the other Burglaries, these being the two problems that the Village Crime audit revealed as being of the greatest concern.



Both groups have established themselves well and are already making a valuable contribution to improving village life. A public 'Progress Report Meeting' was held last Tuesday and the actions taken so far, plus ideas for the future, were reported upon and discussed. As Theydon is one of the leaders in this area, there has already been a positive result. We were the only village selected to receive one of the Ladies Self defence courses, held here, in the Village Hall. I would like to thank all of the people on the two Action Groups, particularly the Chairmen, the Vice Chairmen and the Group Hon Secretaries for all their very considerable work during the year.

SCHOOL



The Primary School continues to go from strength to strength under the inspiring leadership of Mrs Bonds and her very capable staff. This school provides an excellent springboard for the children of the village starting their academic life.



Annual Parish Meeting - Chairman's Report (cont)

As mentioned above, the School kindly played host to the Village Jubilee celebrations and our thanks go to Mrs Bonds and her staff who made that possible.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Members of the Society provided us, yet again, with wonderful winter and summer floral displays in the Village planters. The summer display was particularly notable but I know the Horticultural Society's plans for this summer's displays are already well advanced. The Society also organised and administered the Front Gardens Competition and awarded the cups to the winners at the annual show in July. A big thank you to Jane and Barry Turner and the members of the Horticultural Society for all their hard work on behalf of the Village.



CHRISTMAS TREE



At the beginning of December we celebrated for the second time "Lighting of the Christmas Tree" at the new venue, the Village Hall. A large crowd braved the rain to watch Father Christmas arrive by sleigh and then joined in the carol singing led by The Theydon Singers. This year we collected for Haven House Children's Hospice, Woodford.

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Councillor Wilf Shales, when Chairman, entered our Parish Newsletter into a competition run by the Rural Community Council for Essex. Unfortunately, it did not achieve much by way of acclaim by the judges.



As a result three Councillors, Martin Oliver, Ken Cushing and Sheree Powell were appointed to look at other Parish newsletters and identify ways of improving our Product, particularly in respect of content. The group came up with a number of recommendations. These will take some time to assimilate and incorporate and so we have decided to launch a re vamped Newsletter starting next year.

We hope to secure participation from a wider group of correspondents to give the newsletter greater interest. However, because of the greater work this will generate, discussions are going on about the frequency of the issues. A majority of the newsletters scrutinised are issued quarterly.

We will keep you informed about the re-design at later meetings.



Annual Parish Meeting - Chairman's Report (cont)

LITTER PICKS



At every opportunity and I make no apology for doing so, I dwell upon the fact that there are areas within the Village which will never be cleared of litter unless volunteers do so. The Village Green and Pond, the Hoppit and the Plain are the principal areas. It is sad that a number of drivers and passengers passing through Theydon discard food wrappers and drinks containers without a thought for the environment. A disappointing number of Theydon children also wilfully drop litter. Unless we organise regular litter picks this rubbish would pile up making our beautiful greens an eyesore. Some people seem to take the view that litter picking is not their scene. Our motivation is simple. It is purely to eradicate the unsightly scar of litter from the village scene.

CONCLUSION

In August 2002, our Clerk Frank Jones moved away from the area. He took on the job at a very difficult time. I would like to record our thanks for all his dedicated work. Onto the scene came Madeleine our new clerk. If I say that we are delighted to be taking up references with a view to transferring her to the 'permanent staff, I think that says it all, but thank you Madeleine for your help and assistance.



There are many people I would like to thank and I have already mentioned some of them. Another unsung hero I would like to mention is Trevor Roberts for his work as Local History Recorder. The documents and photographs he creates each year are sent to the Essex County Council Archivist where they are kept for research purposes. I can highly recommend the work he does, it is well worth a read. Once again, thanks to Caroline Law for her work on Neighbourhood Watch. Also to the band of litter pickers who regularly turn out to assist. If I have inadvertently overlooked anyone who gives freely of their time for the benefit of the Village, please, forgive me and accept my thanks.

Last and by no means least, I should like to thank the Parish Councillors for the time they give and for their support during the year. I am very grateful for the advice they freely give me and for the tasks they undertake with such professionalism. I am very grateful. I would like to mention Councillor Peter Gooch, my Deputy Chairman, who despite heavy Work Commitments, provides me with loyal and dedicated support and advice. Thank you Peter.

There are some difficult decisions looming, one being the proposed Parking scheme. These decisions will not be made lightly. I hope the public will get behind and fully support your Councillors, whatever those difficult decisions may turn out to be.



Theydon Bois Playground Re Opens



After some weeks of closure due to vandalism, the Playground at Theydon Bois reopened on Saturday 29th March at 10 am and was back in business almost immediately with children enjoying the play facilities in this wonderful playground.

During the previous week, the play equipment manufacturers had been repairing the damage to the climbing frame and the swings caused by misuse and vandalism. The PAT (Playground at Theydon) Committee which runs the charity had also been hard at work in cleaning off the graffiti, levelling out the protective bark and clearing up the site generally.



Financial aid to offset the expense of repairing the damage has been received from many residents and various organisations; enquiries regarding further help can be made on 01992 813219. Local residents had also monitored the Playground and informed the police of any incidents; consequently there are now regular police patrols in this area. The Chairman of PAT, Joy Wainwright, expressed her grateful thanks to all for their help and was very pleased that families from the village and the surrounding area can once again use this play facility.

The Playground will be reopened officially at a Party For All in the Playground on Saturday 17th May 2003 commencing at 2.00 pm. There will be stalls, games and many other attractions to enjoy and the proceeds will go towards the maintenance and continuing improvement of the Playground. So please make a note in your diary and support this very worthy cause which benefits all children in the local area.



Trevor Roberts Press Officer



Playground At Theydon (PAT)

Parish Council Reply to letter received from PAT.



The Parish Council fully support the efforts of the PAT committee — We have allowed an increase in the budget for anticipated insurance premium rises (up from £700 to £800 if required). We also discussed that an offer of additional financial support be made to help combat vandalism (no sum mentioned). However, every consideration will be given to their needs and requirements.

The Vandalism and Anti-Social Behaviour group made contact with the police and the Community Safety Officer and asked for regular patrols by the police I understand that PAT also asked for their assistance.

I can report that this has happened and that signs have gone up at the Playground to inform anybody causing what amounts to criminal damage be in no doubt that they (PAT) will fully support a prosecution. One - Stop have also been watchful in the sale of alcohol.

PAT have been very encouraged by the reaction of the community and feel that the village have pulled together on this issue and they do not feel they are working in isolation. Also they have praised the police in their endeavours. However it cannot be stressed enough that if anybody sees any person/s enter the playground with intent to cause criminal damage then the police must be informed immediately.

An informal meeting has been arranged with two representatives from PAT, two from the Vandalism and Anti Social Behaviour Group and two Parish Councillors to discuss the whole issue and to look at a way forward.

Repairs are now being carried out at the playground and it is anticipated that it will re-open either this week-end or very soon after. PAT deserve our support for all the hard work they do and the facilities they provide for the children of this community — so I cannot overstate the fact that all incidents must be reported. The playground celebrates its 10th Anniversary this year and we want to see it celebrate many more.

PS. I am pleased to report that the playground re-opened on Saturday 29 March, 2003.

CLLR. MARGARET O'CONNOR



ELVIS helps PAT!!

On March 1st at the village hall over 150 local adults & children danced, rocked and rolled the night away to the sounds of Scirroco.

It all started quietly, the bass player got held up in traffic & was late, the special effects smoke machine had a mind of its own & set the hall smoke alarms off.



But then the music played. Mark Raules a local lad set the theme with “*you’ve lost that loving feeling*” etc.

Then there he was - Gold Suit - Sideburns - Dark Glasses. “*Heartbreak Hotel - Hound Dog - Teddy Bear - Love Me Tender*” and lots more. The Hall was rocking: Pause for Chicken & Chips, then more from the King, Mark and Scirroco. To everyone’s disappointment 11.45 pm came all too quickly.

What a night and the best was to come when to the delight of all, over £850 was presented to PAT for badly needed repairs to the playground following the vandalism.

Thanks to everyone for their support and to the hard working helpers behind the scenes for making it such an enjoyable event.

JACK WHITE



National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

A LADIES DOUBLES TENNIS TOURNAMENT

is to be held on **Tuesday, 20th May** at
Theydon Bois Lawn Tennis Club.

Application Forms can be obtained from

Pat Walter (81 3485) or Carole Risdon (81 3724).

Lunch is included



Essex Best Kept Village Competition



Our village has entered The Essex Best Kept Village Competition. First round judging will take place in early May, followed by final round judging in early June.

It is some time since our village won the award despite the efforts of many in our community to make Theydon Bois look as good as it does. One of our biggest problems is the careless litter left around the shops and the village green. In this respect it would help us all enormously if every villager would encourage their families to put their litter in the bins or to take it home.

It costs nothing to be thoughtful and the rewards of winning will be the good publicity the village will receive and the extra enjoyment you will feel from being part of a caring community.

A win will encourage more shoppers and visitors which will help the local businesses. We have written to the shopkeepers separately seeking their help too.

Theydon village has its problems with vandalism, litter louts, road works and poor parking but it still remains one of the best places to live in Essex. Anything you can do to help us with your efforts will be much appreciated.

CLLR R G H SMITH

From the Editor's Desk

The Newsletter is changing

As mentioned in the Parish Council Chairman's Report, one of the first changes which I'm sure you've noticed is the change of name from Parish Newsletter to Village News. This is to reflect the Parish Council's aim to widen the content and encourage input from all the entities in the village. During the rest of 2003 the newsletter will continue to evolve and it is intended that the new format be fully adopted by Jan 2004.

Please keep the news stories coming in.. If you have an event or an activity, remember a news item can advertise the event and afterwards a report can be used to thank the people who supported you and tell of the successes.

More articles please via the Parish Clerk who will copy the material to the *newsletter* and *website* editors as appropriate.



District Councillors Column

We intend this to be a regular column written by your two ward councillors to keep residents informed about the work of Epping Forest District Council and particularly any matters directly affecting the village.

There are elections for one third of the Members of the Council on the 1st May (although not this year in Theydon Bois) and so things tend to be fairly quiet in these last few weeks of the Civic Year.

The new Parking Restrictions for the Village have been confirmed and will now move on to the next stage. This will involve a letter to each resident in the affected streets giving them an opportunity to express their individual views. This is likely to happen in the summer.

The works of Three Valleys Water Company, and the state in which they are leaving each site, continues to cause concern. The District Council Officers are monitoring the situation as closely as they can and already the contractors have been cautioned several times.

At last the re-surfacing work in Coppice Row is finished and the new “Village Gateway” speed limit signs will be installed shortly. Work has also been carried out at the zebra crossing to reduce flooding and to straighten up the lights. Let’s hope that drivers don’t knock them down again too soon!

If you have anything that you feel that you would like to bring to our attention please let us have any comments to either of the following e-mail addresses



**DISTRICT CLLR
ROY NEWLAND**

RNewlandEFDC@aol.com

or

rglozier@btinternet.com



**DISTRICT CLLR
ROBERT GLOZIER**



LIMESLINK



You will read elsewhere in this magazine about open meetings held at the request of the parish council with representatives of the Limes Medical surgery and Aiden Thomas, Chief Executive of the PCT . The purpose of this article is to remind you

of the existence of Limeslink which is the recognised link between the patient and the surgery.

Limeslink was set up a number of years ago in accordance with government guidelines. I took over chair from John Eaton in the second half of last year. The committee is currently working with the surgery to re-define our role but the general purpose of Limeslink is to be an interface between patient and surgery.

A full announcement about the objectives of Limeslink will be published later in the year to coincide with completion of redevelopment of the Limes surgery.

The committee has nine members who are all patients of the surgery and live in Theydon Bois, Epping and North Weald. Sheree Powell has recently joined the committee to act as our link to the Theydon Parish Council. Sheree will make regular reports at Parish Council open meetings and I will ensure that important developments are reported in the parish magazine.

We are aware that the change to an all appointment system is not universally preferred but we do hear of many patients expressing their support for the change. Obviously the ability to make contact over the telephone is an issue and I can assure you that the surgery are well aware of this.

We will continue to discuss this with them. Any discussion we have had relating to the surgery in Thrifts Mead has always revolved around the need to provide more surgery sessions. Closure has never been an issue.

If you have any constructive suggestions about the way the surgeries operate please put them in writing addressed to Limeslink and leave your letter at the Limes or the surgery in Thrifts Mead.

The surgery has just made the following announcement - “We would like to inform all our patients that we will no longer be holding an emergency surgery on Saturday mornings. If you need medical advice that cannot wait until Monday morning please contact **Primecare** on **01245 444486**”.

LINDA CUSHING CHAIR LIMESLINK



LIMES MEDICAL CENTRE

APPOINTMENTS

To make an appointment please ring **01992 573838**. Bookable 3 weeks in advance for afternoon surgeries, bookable up to 48 hours in advance for morning surgeries.

Nurse appointments bookable 6 weeks in advance.

TO CANCEL AN APPOINTMENT

If you need to cancel your appointment please ring **01992 566502** as soon as possible, leaving your details on the answering machine. All pre-notification of cancellations, even if only 10 minutes before your appointment, is of assistance to the Limes Medical Centre.

HOW TO REQUEST A HOME VISIT

If you are unable to travel to the surgery due to immobility or nature of your illness a home visit can be arranged. All home visits are arranged on the telephone by the Duty Doctor.

If you need a home visit please ring **01992 566500**. Where possible ring before 10.30 a.m. so that rounds can be planned. The receptionist will ask for brief details of the illness to help the doctor assess the urgency of the visit.

EMERGENCY VISITS

If you need urgent advice a doctor is always available 'on-call'. During surgery hours please ring **01992 566500**. Out of surgery hours please ring **01992 566500** and listen to the message on the answering machine which will tell you how to contact the Duty Doctor. During weekdays the visiting doctor will usually be from our surgery, but at night or weekends you usually see a relief doctor either at home or at an emergency centre. In an acute emergency dial 999 for an ambulance.

ENQUIRIES AND TEST RESULTS

The enquiries line is **01992 566501**. Please ring on this number for general enquiries, test results etc.. If your doctor has referred you for a pathology test or X-ray, please telephone for the result in 10-14 days and call between 11.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m., or between 2.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. when the telephone lines and the staff are less busy.

HOW TO REQUEST REPEAT PRESCRIPTIONS

If your doctor agrees that you need regular medication the details will be entered on the computer and you can request repeat prescriptions by indicating the items you require on the perforated slip attached to the prescription and returning it to the Limes Medical Centre. You can do this by posting it, bringing it to the surgery, or (preferably) by taking it into the T.B. pharmacy. You can then collect your prescription or the medicines 48 hours (2 working days) later. If you would like the Limes Medical Centre to post your prescription, please enclose a stamped addressed envelope. Whichever method is preferred, please give at least 48 hours notice.

If you are on long term medication your doctor will wish to review this at least once a year. The review date can be found on the perforated slip. Please help the doctors to keep a check on your condition by contacting the surgery when requested.



Just two items of news this month.



Firstly, we have a new Community Policeman, PC John Lace, who can be contacted on **01279 625442**.

If he is not there, his answer phone will be on and he will pick up his messages every day.

Secondly - a gentle reminder that the Mobile Police Bus visits the Village Hall every other Thursday morning from 10 to 12 noon.

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW TIME.

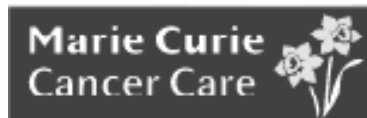
If you have a problem or query and cannot visit the bus, Chris Caten's (the driver) number is **07715 771603**. If you visit the bus, Chris will give you a copy of his newsletter.

Also I would be grateful for volunteers to distribute the newsletter in Thrifts Mead & Red Oaks Mead. If you can help or have any queries about anything related to Neighbourhood Watch,

*please contact me,
Caroline Law, on 01992 813905.*

CHARITY DANCE

in aid of



**Theydon
Bois
Village Hall**

**19th April &
17th May**

**Ballroom
Latin,
Sequence**



8 to 11 pm

£5.00 on the door

**Bring your own
food and drinks**

Coffee & Tea available

01279 876336

Parish Council Newsletter

Edited & Produced : Tony Ames

Theydon Bois Village Website

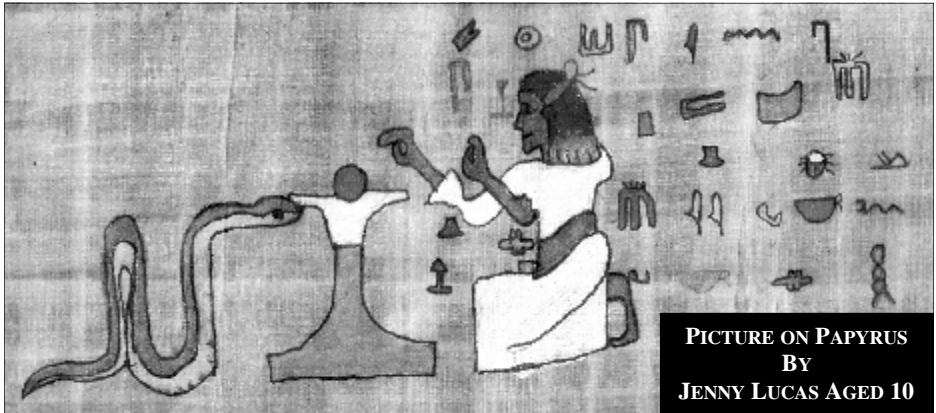
www.theydon.org.uk

Edited & Produced : Jim Watts



Local School Art Exhibition

Theydon Bois Primary School staged an art exhibition in the school hall which was opened on Monday 7 April by our local MP, Eleanor Laing and attended by several Parish Councillors. The public were invited to view the exhibition during Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings with other groups viewing by appointment during the afternoons.



**PICTURE ON PAPYRUS
BY
JENNY LUCAS AGED 10**

On display in the exhibition were paintings, crayon drawings, collages made from paint feathers and glossy paper and also pottery face masks and metal and wire sculptures all made by the children. There were also a number of items of furniture made from rolls of paper using a Stixx newspaper construction process.

This consists of rigid rolls of paper which can be joined together to form items of furniture of the children's own design that will take the weight of an adult. There were also Egyptian papyrus drawings.

It was a wonderful example of the children's artwork excitingly displayed. Well worth the £100 donated by the Parish Council to the school to help finance the exhibition.

To quote Eleanor Laing *"An enjoyable and inspirational exhibition"*

Well done pupils and staff for a wonderful exhibition.

JOHN EATON



Protecting Milkmaids



Milkmaids, Cuckoo Flower, Lady's Smock, May Flower, Fairy Flower - a list of evocative English names for a modest plant with lilac or pink blooms. Such a list speaks of familiarity and fondness for a flower, a local character, whose reappearance ahead of others each spring provided a reassuring marker of renewal and of warmer times ahead. A plant of damp grassland across England it is particularly associated with old commons and village greens, spreading its pretty rosettes of divided leaves in such numbers that it could often

colour a whole area of meadow pink with its flowers.

Although once a common flower, drainage of meadows, greens and other areas during the last century reduced its populations to small but widespread pockets across the south-east. In Essex it nowadays represents the remnants of the older grasslands, like commons, and overlooked areas such as stream-sides and minor road verges.

At Theydon Bois Green it has survived in small numbers and its flowering in recent years, which has delighted many local people, seems to have increased, possibly as a response to some of the recent wet summers. The Lady's Smock flowers on Theydon Bois Green make up one of only a handful of significant populations across the Forest, so not only for their intrinsic loveliness is it important to sustain them and allow them to flower each year. So, two small areas of the Green have been left uncut in the spring of 2003 to allow the flowers to show themselves and provide seeds for future years.

In addition to the display of flowers Lady's Smock plants provide a home for the eggs and caterpillars of the jaunty Orange Tip butterfly, another early harbinger of springtime. To look after these butterflies, therefore, it is best not to cut the plants until July allowing the caterpillars to go to ground where they shelter in the grass until the following year. The long grass itself provides shelter for other butterflies such as Meadow Browns and the skippers, which should be on the wing in June. There's lots to watch for and let's hope that these lovely flowers multiply.

**JEREMY DAGLEY
CONSERVATION OFFICER
EPPING FOREST.**



MUSIC ON A MIDSUMMER EVENING AT COPPED HALL

Saturday, 28th June 2003

Following the success of last year's evening of entertainment at Great Gregories Farm, Davenant Foundation School Bands, Choirs and Orchestra will provide four hours of musical entertainment (whilst you picnic or dine) in the beautiful grounds of Copped Hall, near Epping.

There will also be some jazz dance routines from students who have lessons at the school and a few short guild plays from work done in Year 9 Drama classes.

Please bring your own food and drink.

*Tickets (£12.00 each) & more information are available from
John Powell*

Tel:0208 508 0404 (Daytime); 01992 812862 (Evenings)

OLD PHOTOGRAPHS OF THEYDON BOIS



The Rural Preservation Society are looking to build up their archive of Theydon Bois photographs and are interested in obtaining old (pre 1960) photographs of the village or of villagers e.g. cricket, football teams.

The older these photographs are the better.

If you have any, the Rural Preservation Society will take a copy of your photograph and possibly also give you a free enlarged copy in return.

To get in touch with one of the Committee members, please refer to the Notice Board in The Bull garden.



The Merry Band of Litter Pickers

For the second consecutive month, more than twenty people turned out on the first Saturday in April to assist with the litter pick.

It was a glorious morning as we picked our way over the greens, round and in, yes in, the pond, the Hoppit, the shopping area and Forest Drive, Orchard Drive, Coppice Row and the Plain, Loughton Lane and up the Abridge road



Once again nearly 30 sacks of rubbish were collected. One collector removed a polythene sack full of bricks from the pond and another found an old and rather large fibre bollard which must have been in the ditch for years.

On behalf of the village I thank all those who have turned out again this month for their sense of public duty.



As this spring has been dry so far, we have been able to get onto the greens early this year to cut them and, coupled with the efforts of the litter pickers, I think you must agree they are a splendid sight.

The next litter pick will be on Saturday 3rd May at 9.30 am at the Village Hall. In the meantime, if you do have youngsters please remind them of their duty not to drop litter.

JOHN EATON

Copy for Village News to be sent to the Parish Clerk, Parish Office
Theydon Bois Village Hall Preferably by E-Mail or floppy.

Copy deadlines are 1st bi-monthly

Next deadline is 1st June 2003 theydonboisclerk@supanet.com

Phone: 01992-813442 Fax: 01992-813442



THEYDON BOIS DRAMA SOCIETY



presents

Time and Time Again

By Alan Ayckbourn

29th to 31st May 2003 8pm

Tickets from Carol James

01992 812250

QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 9th May 8 pm

At Village Hall

maximum of 8 per team

Tickets £8 including fish & chips bring
your own drink

Tickets from Karen Burns

0207 862 8224

Theydon Bois Best Front Garden Competition 2003

This year at the request of the Parish Council, the Horticultural Society is responsible for the above competition. The society will be presenting the prizes for the best gardens at its Annual Show in the village hall on Saturday 13th September .

Cups are awarded in four categories:-

- 1) Formal
- 2) Informal
- 3) Hard Standing with Planting
- 4) Commercial (pubs, shops etc, not front gardens!)

Please help to make this competition a success by nominating on the form below, front gardens of friends or neighbours, or of course your own front garden, which you would like considered by the judges. Do not worry about the category of your entries, leave that to the judges. We are interested in front gardens of all shapes and sizes so long as they are within the Parish of Theydon Bois. Judging will take place in July.

Barry Turner—Horticultural Society President

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I/We wish the following garden(s) to be considered in the judging for the Best Front Garden Competition 2002

Address 1	
Address 2	
Address 3	

Please return this slip **BEFORE 16th JUNE** to the Parish Clerk at the Village Hall or to Barry Turner, "Rosedene", Coppice Row.



USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

DISTRICT COUNCIL SERVICES		ADVICE, HELP & INFO	
Epping Forest Dist Council	01992 564000	Citizen's Advice B-Loughton	0208 502 0031
Epping Sports Centre	01992 564564	Citizen's Advice B-Epping	01992 574989
Loughton Sports Centre	01992 564574	Epping Forest College	020 8508 8311
Waltham Abbey Sports C	01992 716194	Samaritans	020 8520 9191
Waste Management	01992 564320	Local Police (non-urgent)	01279 625442
COUNTY COUNCIL SERVICES		TRAVEL & TOURISM	
Registrar Births & Deaths	01992 572788	Arriva Herts & Essex	01279 426349
Registrar of Marriages	01992 572788	Gatwick Airport	08700 000303
Education Office	01245 436231	Heathrow Airport	08700 000123
Loughton Library	020 8502 0181	Luton Airport	01582 405100
Social Services	020 8508 9311	Stansted Airport	08700 000303
CINEMAS		London Regional Transport	020 7222 1234
ABC (South Woodford)	020 8989 3463	National Express (Victoria)	0990 808 080
Odeon (Gants Hill)	020 8554 2452	PUBLIC UTILITIES	
UCI (Lee Valley)	0870 603 4567	British Gas	0845 609 1122
Virgin (Harlow)	0870 505 0007	TXU Energy	0800 183 1144
HEALTH & HOSPITALS		VILLAGE	
Limes - Epping (Appt)	01992 573838	Village Hall Bookings	01992 815150
Limes - Epping (Emergency)	01992 566500	Village Hall Caretaker	01992 813771
Limes - Epping (Enquiries)	01992 566501	Parish Office	01992 813442
Limes - Epping (Cancellation)	01992 566502	Cemetery Burial Clerk	01992 813100
Limes - Theydon (Appt)	01992 812450	Theydon Pharmacy	01992 812130
Limes(Primecare)weekends	01245 444486		
St Margaret's Hospital	01992 561666		
Princess Alexandra Hosp	01279 444455	Holly House Hosp (Private)	020 8505 3311