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**Village Magazine
Summer 2013**



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A Word from the Editor

In my editorial this time I have chosen to talk about our Village Hall. The land for the Village Hall was given to the Residents of Ramsden Bellhouse around 1936, on a 99 year lease, by Homesteads Ltd. In 1947 the land was given Freehold, and is held in trust forever for the Residents.

The Hall was built in 1936 with money raised by residents, and a second Hall was added in 2000, financed by grants, Lottery fund, and again money raised by residents. The Hall is therefore owned by you, and financed by money raising events and booking rents.

It is managed by a committee consisting of one representative from each Section (ie Badminton, Bowls etc), several public members, and representatives from each of the two local churches. It is also administered by the Charity Commission and four local Trustees. Each year an AGM is held in January, open to all residents and members of the Sections.

At this AGM a charity (usually local) is chosen for support that year. It is worth noting that only residents of Ramsden Bellhouse and Members of Sections are eligible to vote, either for the charity or for the Election of the Committee.

Sections get their rent at a reduced rate, but in order to qualify for this they have to raise money at the Summer Fete and the Christmas Bazaar, and run an event for the chosen Charity. It is not usually acceptable for them to give a donation in lieu of this as the idea of stall and an event is to add to the social life of the Village. The Charity this year 2013 is Parkinsons Support.

Much of the maintenance of our Hall is done by regular working parties (see front cover). If you can help please contact a committee member.

Thanks as always to all involved in the production and delivery of this magazine. Copy for the next one by September 20th, either to me, but preferably email to bryan.diggory@sky.com. If you set your copy on a PC and have the use of the internet, then please do send your copy to Bryan, as this saves a lot of time.

Isabel Johnson

PHOTOS BY DICK WELLBORNE

Chairmans Report

The cold weather is still with us and looks if it will continue for some time yet. Lets hope that this coming spring will turn the mood around and that when the flowers start to bloom it will lift our hearts to face the coming year.

2012 was about the worse year of my life so far. It started with high hopes culminating in September when my wife and I celebrated our Golden Wedding Anniversary. We had a great garden party with relatives and friends, those who wanted to camped out in the garden, the weather was kind to us and the general atmosphere pleasant. Unfortunately from September onwards my wife's illness rapidly deteriorated and eventually despite of all the hospitals efforts she died on the 29th December at the University College Hospital London. I therefore thank all those concerned for their messages of sympathy I have received since that event. I also thank all those who decorated St Mary's church with flowers for her funeral and those who were present for their flowers and donations to the UCHL.

I intend to continue as chairman of the village hall for as long as I can and for as long as you will have me. I do enjoy the friendship of all those involved and I am convinced it will help to readjust my life for the future.

Wishing you all a happy and successful 2013. Regards

C. Jeffree

Ramsden Bellhouse Village Hall Chairman
ramsdenbellhouse.info

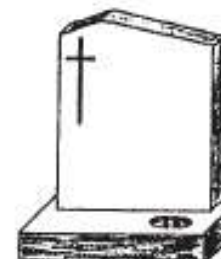
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Christmas Bazaar



Tony presents the Charity cheque for £5312.78 to J's Hospice

I know my place!



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Bowls:	Roy Richards
Baptist Church:	Sylvia Ealham
Badminton:	Derek Jackson
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Dancing:	Barry Gardiner
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The Friends of St Mary's

After completing the new toilets and kitchenette at the rear of the church we have been able to congratulate ourselves on a job well done. After a short break we have started to prepare a list of other jobs to be tackled. There is no shortage of jobs and it has been a matter of listing them in order of priority.

The top of the list so far is repairs to some of the timbers on the west side of the porch where they have been affected by wet rot. Our Architect has prepared a drawing showing his plan for tackling the problem. We have sent a copy of the drawing to the DAC (Diocesan Advisory Committee) for their approval and they have now asked for more details.

It is difficult to appreciate the extent of the internal decay from a drawing so we have invited them to come and see the problem for themselves. We have also sent a copy of the drawing to English Heritage as we also have to obtain their permission as we are carrying out work on a listed building. This is all part of the paper chase one has to indulge in when dealing with Historic Buildings and although we moan about it, it does help to preserve our heritage.

Len Ferris



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Daffodil Day

Daffodil Day was Tuesday March 19th and as I prepared to leave the house to go to Ramsden Bellhouse I was thinking "oh dear another dull and dreary day weatherwise". However, I reached my destination and as I stepped into the porch of 'Bramhill' Orchard Ave., I was greeted by a wonderful display of bright yellow sunshine.

Of course it wasn't really sunshine but dozens of daffodils all beautifully arranged with complimentary foliage by Isabel because it was her house and her annual drop in Daffodil Day.

First to welcome me was Isabel with a hug and her hand extended for the £2 which could be construed as entrance fee but is in fact for tea and coffee on tap throughout the day accompanied by delicious homemade cakes, a small price to pay for lots of freshly made tea, coffee and cake.

It was at this point I had my first mis hap. I decided to top up my porridge breakfast with a delicious scone with jam and cream. Isabel had given all her helpers pretty daffodil yellow aprons and yes you guessed it, as soon as I took the top off my scone I dropped it into my lovely clean apron and as always it landed jam side down. Luckily Jill Lewsey who



Joan sells the raffle tickets

does a great job in the kitchen came and swapped her apron for mine so I didn't have to greet guests with a sticky front.

Then there was Joan K in her usual place charming people into buying raffle tickets and the table was absolutely covered with prizes.

I spent the morning until Len and Hilda arrived in charge of books and gifts, one of which was a beautiful china doll dressed in tartan, that was purchased by a lovely lady who said her granddaughter would love it and I am sure she did. Apart from the cake on offer in the kitchen there is a room manned in the morning by Joan Lewis and Pat Sparke, Joan Wright in the afternoon where you can purchase a whole range of sponges, fruit cakes and jams all home made and all sold out, Mr Selfridge dream on. I managed to sell a jar of jam twice, once to Joan W and then to a man who came and helped himself. There's profit making for you.

Incidentally the total funds raised from this event was £524.00 to be donated to the Friends of St. Mary's.

Visitors were arriving from the very start of the day and continued throughout until about 4.30 - 5pm all very happy pondering over their choice of cake, should it be chocolate, ginger or fruit and jams and just enjoying catching up with friends and neighbours, chatting and filling the house with a warm friendly atmosphere. The Rev Janet came, unfortunately with a broken arm and we wish her a speedy recovery. A first time visitor was Kish from Hemmings store with her infectious smile, promising herself to come again next year.

Well I could go on and on but I will end up filling up the magazine so I will end by saying if you haven't been to this event please do try to come next year as you will have such a lovely time and go home possibly loaded with lovely goodies.

Vicky Chuffer

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History of Ramsden Exhibition 2013

The weather on both days was cold and bleak, but this did not deter a record attendance. Maybe people stayed longer and were more interested, but certainly there were always plenty of visitors, even Sunday morning which is usually slow.

We were well up to date, with the Ramsden website being shown on screen by Steve and Barbara. Also they printed copies of any pictures, documents or maps requested by visitors at a very reasonable price. Thanks to them for this service. Thanks also to Geoff for bringing his laptop and giving information about Wickford and District Archives. And talking of thanks, I cannot say enough in praise of my helpers who gave so much of their time over that weekend. It was truly a community effort. It is not a money making event, but we did raise £327.50 for Village Hall Funds.

Isabel Johnson

PS Thanks also to Dave Monk of BBC Essex who gave us glowing praise and recommendation during the week previous to the Exhibition on his morning programme. He visited this Exhibition in 2011.



War Memorial

Memory Lane



Scouts at Remembrance Sunday

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Dancing

It is with much regret that the Dance Section is mourning the loss of our founder Joan Tellman who died suddenly on the 9th February 2013. Joan Founded and ran the Dancing at the Village Hall for 23 years during which time she also served as the Chair of the Village Hall Management Committee. She will be greatly missed.

The Dance Section is continuing and still meets on Sunday evenings between 7.30 and 10.30pm.

So far this year we have held a Burns Night Buffet Dance with the honoured Haggis taking pride of place, we celebrated Valentines Day with another Buffet Dance. Our Charity Square Dance is taking place at the Village Hall on the 18th May. For further information on this and our forthcoming events please see our page on the Village Hall web site.

In the words of Sir Bruce 'Keep Dancing

Barry Gardiner



Line Dancing at Christmas Party

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Bygone Years



GUESS WHERE?

(ANSWER ON PAGE 24)

In years gone by Ramsden Heath was part of the Parish of Ramsden Bellhouse which stretched from Nevendon in the South to Stock in the North. In fact the original village of Ramsden Bellhouse was centred at the crossroads where today stands the White Horse in Ramsden Heath.

In this area stood the Blacksmiths, the Wheelwrights, the Workhouse, the Mill and the Bakehouse, but all were recorded as being in Ramsden Bellhouse. The Church however, was sited in what is now the more modern village of Ramsden Bellhouse. The split started roughly about 1910 when Homestead Ltd built their estate centred round St Mary's Church Ramsden Bellhouse. The original Village gradually became known as Ramsden Heath.

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The Mugger

I wandered down the high street
Up to the cash machine
Been told to keep my eyes peeled
For guys who can be mean.

My heart it leapt, what shall I do
I'll just give him the cash
Better to be hard up
Than to fight and get a bash

I pushed my card into the hole
Looked furtively around
My cash came out I grabbed it tight
And then I heard a sound.

But then I took another look
Thought - hang on there my dear
This man is smiling like a friend
That much it is quite clear

This guy he came from nowhere
Oh no! no folks about
Mouth open wide I sucked in air
But no scream did come out

He's some body I recognise
Someone you can rely on
Silly me I'm such a fool
it's Cindy's husband Brian

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Personal Page

Congratulations to:

Mark and Rita Smith of Orchard Avenue on the birth of their Granddaughter **Pearl Elizabeth** on March 2nd. Her parents are **Rachel** and **James Ovel**.

Sylvia Ealham, Chris Lewell, Tom Ealham and Tony Ealham, representing Ramsden Bellhouse Bowls Club, for being Runners-up in East Hanningfield Charity Day for "Dogs for the deaf"

In Memory of:

Marylin Search a valued member of Ramsden Bellhouse Baptist Church and one time teacher at Crays Hill School. Our sympathy goes to Chris and family.

Janet Jeffree of Homestead Road who died December 29th. She was Akela in the Cubs for many years and wrote their report in this magazine. She also worked tirelessly on the Village Hall Committee at all their social events. Our sympathies go to Clive and family.

Joan Telkman of Glebe Road who died suddenly on February 9th. She founded the Dancing Club and was chairman of the Village Hall for a number of years. She was also a Friend of St Mary's Church and gave much appreciated help to them. Our sympathies go to her family.

Ralph Nurse late of Cherrydown Veterinary Practice who died in March. He will be remembered by many for his dedicated care of their animals. He was also a regular worshipper at St Mary's Church Ramsden Bellhouse. Our sympathies go to Hetty and family.

Sylvia Searle who died earlier this year. She was a valued member and worker of Ramsden Bellhouse Baptist Church, and supplied photos to this magazine. Our sympathies go to her family.

Barry Shillum of Oak Lane Crays Hill who died on March 19th. He was treasurer of the Horticultural Society and a valued helper at all their events. He also produced the colourful posters for Horticultural and Village Events. Our sympathies to Marion and family.

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WEDDING FLOWERS

Table Tennis

The table tennis started on 7th October and the membership has grown to approximately 30. We have an average of 12 - 18 players attending each week and we are fortunate to have Fred Lockwood, who has gained various medals in the over 70s and 75s VETTS World Championships in 2004, 2008 and 2010, giving some gentle tuition to the members. We also made an application to the Basildon District Council for some funding under their Sports Development Grant and were awarded £200, which went towards the purchase of our first table tennis table, and we have now been able to purchase a further 3 tables out of funds. Below is a recent photo of some of the members.



Jan & Brian Smith

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Remembrance Sunday



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Village Hall AGM



St Mary's Autumn Fayre



Dog Training Club at Crufts



Kish wins the Raffle at Christmas Bazaar



Steve sets up website for History of Ramsden



Father Christmas and Friend at Christmas Bazaar



Bowls Stall at Christmas Bazaar



History of Ramsden



Isabel's Daffodil Day

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Scout Report

The scouts have been very busy as usual, taking part in a variety of traditional, sporting and fun activities.

The troop have been on a number of nights out, including an evening at the Thriftwood Scout Centre, cooking over open fires and playing games, a Christmas party at Eddies with bowling and food, an evening practicing their golfing skills at the Belvedere golf driving range, and a very muddy hike around Ramsden Heath and Downham, a few shoes and boots were lost in the mud, but thankfully recovered.

We always like our scouts to attempt and hopefully achieve badges, so we have been working on a writer's badge, producing poems about all the enjoyable things scouts do, also the first aid badge, helping the scouts to identify what to do in an emergency, dressing wounds etc.

Sport is always an important part of our night's events and we have recently had two challenges one in Basketball and one in Volleyball, always competitive and great exercise.

The scouts also take part in a number of traditional scouting skills, and they have been learning about different types of lamps and stove, types of knots for different purposes. This was particularly useful when we built a climbing frame on a pioneering project.

We held a Chinese night to celebrate the 'Year of the Snake'. The scouts cooked Noodles with sweet and sour sauce and bananas in a caramel sauce, very tasty. They also took part in a Chinese quiz and also paper folding.

Ten scouts took part in the Wincam Winter camp at Belchamps in Hockley, the Scouts did a variety of activities including building fires, archery, zorb balls, bouncy castles, went to a disco and much more.

We continue to have a thriving Scout group in the village with 30 scouts. If anyone would like to find out what scouts could offer your children or grandchildren, please contact the scout leader Chris Maker on 01277 652337 or e mail on jean@jeanmaker.wanadoo.co.uk



Answer to Guess Where?

The picture shows old cottages, Blacksmiths and Wheelwrights opposite the White Horse on the road to Downham.

They were demolished in the mid 20th century.

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Baptist Church

Church Services: Every Sunday at 10.30am (Communion is normally on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month). An informal "Drop In" is held in the Church Hall every Monday from 10.30am. Please Drop in one Monday, you will be very welcome.

Time marches on and we remain in the same position that we were six months ago, in that we are still without a Minister at the church. However we continue in the search, knowing that we are in the Lord's hands and that His guidance is paramount. As members of our church we all work together to maintain our witness in the community. Since the Rev Jon Stannard left us as our Moderator last November the Rev Jim Hamilton has become our Moderator. He is a great support and help to us, and also a challenge to us as we continue to move on through 2013.

In February this year, we had a very good evening when we were entertained by Steve Price, a Christian illusionist. His act was in two parts. He was extremely entertaining with his magic and his humour. He

wove the Christian message into the time, particularly in the second half of his act which began after a break for tea, coffee or a cold drink. By the end of the second half he had emphasised why Christ died and the fact that he rose again from the dead, using a news paper, which he tore up into many pieces to illustrate Christ's crucifixion. Having done this he let go of the pieces of the news paper and he was holding up the complete newspaper as if he had never torn it up! He said this was like Jesus resurrection when he was alive again. It was a very striking illusion and a very strong illustration of what he was saying.

We continue our normal Sunday morning services. Very recently our friend and member the Rev Ray Bolton, has preached a series of sermons on Ephesians chapter 1:15 - 23. These were very inspiring and uplifting to all those in the congregation. Our current Moderator has recently also commenced a series from the book of Ruth in the Old Testament, which we are looking forward to. We have much contact with the Anglican Church in the village and continue to have joint services with them at the Baptist Church and at St Mary's. It is very good to share worship together.

Sadly, during the last six months two of our members have passed away. Both ladies were much loved and will be greatly missed. Both funerals reflected their faith, and were a great witness to their trust in the Lord which was evident during their lives.

To end I would like to quote a verse from Psalm 40 which says "I am poor and needy: yet the Lord thinks about me: You are my help and my delivery; please do not tarry O my God." This, I feel, I sums up our human condition. We are all needy and cannot be proud of ourselves in God's presence, but He does not forget us; he thinks of us. He cares! Our faith, however weak, knows deep down that He is our help, and we need him in our lives in 2013. Give Him some thought these next six months - He won't let you down

Roger Newton - Church Secretary



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Fun Whist

Spring is, laughably, supposed to be upon us as we see TV reports of snow, rain and yet more cold weather ahead! Numbers attending the Whist evenings over the winter months have varied greatly.

Maybe this indicates that, following on from a long, wet, miserable summer, the long, wet, cold and miserable winter has sent us scurrying to our firesides!

However, the lighter evenings are now with us and it's good to get out and meet our neighbours. The whist evenings were started in the Village Hall about 20 years ago. Derek Jackson ran the evenings. The format has changed little over the years, except that Derek has recently had to step aside for health reasons and Roy Richards has taken over running the sessions.

It proved very popular with the village, when it was started. Today, we have quite a few of the players coming from outside the Bellhouse. We always welcome new players, so consider coming along, either on your own or bring friends and family! The second Saturday in the month is when we gather round the tables for a pleasant game of whist (not too serious), tea coffee and biscuits and raffle. All for the princely sum of £3.00.

Worth having a go at that price and we look forward to seeing you.

Angela Hodivala



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Bowls Club

The cold wintery weather did not deter too many members from attending club sessions. We are now looking forward to warmer months ahead.

Bowling sessions are held on:

MONDAY EVENINGS. 7.30pm. With teams selected at random.

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS. 10.00am. Teams selected at random by drawing numbered spoons or spooning as we call it. Games are generally relaxed but can become competitive when occasionally the team's joker is played, for double points score, or when ladies compete against the lads.

FRIDAY AFTERNOONS. 1.30pm. Pairs play competitively to accumulate points.

Our league teams, Rooks Ravens & Robins have played well trying to maintain positions against other league teams. Away games often present challenging opportunities whilst playing at different venues.

Forthcoming event is our club doubles competition on May 12.

A Christmas atmosphere was presented for our annual Christmas lunch by member volunteers who worked their socks off to tastefully decorated dining tables, provide quiz sheets and a gift, as well as a tasty buffet lunch. A most pleasant, enjoyable afternoon, much appreciated by all. Thank you. Thank you too, the guests who sneaked into the kitchen and washed all the dishes! The icing on the cake.

Once again club members were very supportive contributing a variety of goodies for the Christmas Bazaar. The Bowls club stall fairly groaned under the weight of homemade cakes, pickles, pies and raffle prizes offered at very reasonable prices. Sincere thanks to everyone who was generous with giving time and effort to support us.

Interested in joining our Bowls Club? Please contact the club secretary. There are vacancies Wednesday morning.

Bye for now, A. Bowler, E. Smith



PLEASE KEEP OUR VILLAGE TIDY

Badminton Club

The Badminton Club continues to meet on Friday nights and we have 11 members at present but are always happy to welcome new players. The first couple of weeks are free for anyone who wishes to try us out, our annual membership fee is very reasonable and we are especially interested in any players with some previous experience who are able to attend on a regular basis. Whilst we like our doubles games to be competitive the emphasis is on having an enjoyable social evening of sport. If you think this might be of interest to you please come along one Friday between 8.00pm and 10.00pm and have a go.

Karen Pearce



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Saturday 10th August

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St Mary's Church

Rector: Rev Stephen Robertson, The Rectory, Castledon Road, Downham
01268 710370

Services: 1st Sunday: Evening Prayer 6.30pm (3pm Dec - March)
2nd Sunday: Holy Communion, 9.30am
3rd Sunday: Holy communion 6.30pm (3pm Nov - March)
4th Sunday: Family Service, 10.30am
5th Sunday: Joint Holy Communion, 10am, for all the churches in the group, rotating between them

According to the calendar the year ahead looks like being another busy one although we completed the work on the church in the addition of two new toilets and a small kitchenette.

The work has received general approval. Although the weather caused us some problems we finished on time and within budget. We are now beginning to focus on the next job which is repairs to some of the timbers of the porch.

The remembrance service in the village hall was well attended by members of the two churches and the cubs and scouts. The collection at the service amounted to £200 which was sent to BLESMA (British Limbless Ex Service Men's Association). BLESMA always takes its place in the march past at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Day. Although instead of marching most of the ex-service men resort to more mechanised forms of transport.

The remembrance service is an example of the cooperation between our two churches, the Baptists and the C of E. some people are mystified as to how we are able to co-operate as we do. The church members on the other hand rejoice in the joint activities after all we both worship the same God so why not co-operate as we do.

The next example of our co-operation occurs on Palm Sunday when the two congregations meet up at the Baptist Church where the palm crosses are blessed and distributed before we join in a procession of witness along Church Road to St Mary's for a joint communion service.

In May we also join together for our Amble Ramble through our local countryside with Kay and Peter leading the way and finishing at the Baptist church where we indulge in hot soup and cheese and biscuits etc. This is the second year that our plans to sing carols around the village streets have been frustrated by the weather and we have finished the evening with refreshments as guests in one of our members homes. The

Carol service at St Mary's has again been well received with the collection of £200 being donated to St Luke's hospice. This year we also held a Christingle service for the younger members. The service also raised £80 which was sent to the Children's Society.

More news to come in the next issue of the Magazine.

Alan Pegrum



Dog Training

This year has started very well with lots of new members, the puppy classes have gone from strength to strength once again under the tuition of Jill Head along with Derek Robinson and newly commandeered to help Kim Rogers. This class now starts at 7.15pm - 7.45pm. With our new concept in the next level being split into 2 classes with Rita Barber taking the puppy class progression and Val Dean taking the young dogs with more experienced handlers that are training upto competitive obedience levels. These classes having grown are now on at 7.45 - 8.30 and 8.30 - 9.15. Then Pat Keeble and Gill Winyard are taking it in turns on an alternate monthly basis taking on the advanced class at 9.15 - 10.15. Our recent progress night went well, the new idea of getting handlers to enter 2 weeks in advance worked very well and made organising the event much easier. The people and dogs that entered special pre-beginners did extremely well, for many of them it was the first time under competition rules, and they should be very proud of themselves and their dogs.



Our open show for this year has been booked for the 28th September to be held at the Crays Hill open space, London Road, everyones help is needed to run this show.

For new members our AGM will be held at the end of May and a proposed agenda will be put on the notice board in April, please note that you must add points for discussion to the agenda as no other business can be discussed unless added to the agenda. Other news and dates can be found on our website rbdtc.webs.com. Please join the website as members so you can put any points you wish to make forward to the committee.

Rita Barber - Secretary

Brownies

300g (12oz) Good quality dark chocolate chopped
 100g (4oz) unsalted butter
 ½ teaspoon salt (optional)
 3 medium eggs
 50g (2oz) light brown sugar.
 150g (6oz) caster sugar
 1tsp vanilla extract
 100g (4oz) plain flour
 100g (4oz) chopped walnuts

Preheat oven to 180C/gas mark 4.

Butter a 20cm (approx 7") square baking tin and line it with baking paper or greaseproof, making sure the paper rises above the rim of the tin.

Take a heatproof bowl that will just fit inside a saucepan. Fill the saucepan with about 2cm of water and put bowl on top and then place the chocolate and butter into the bowl, add salt if using, and melt over barely simmering water.

In a separate bowl whisk the eggs with the sugars and vanilla extract until well blended. Remove the melted chocolate from the heat, whisk the egg and sugar mix into the chocolate, and gently fold in the flour and walnuts with a large metal spoon. Pour the mixture into your tin.

Bake until just set (about 25 mins). Leave to cool in the tin before cutting into squares. If you use a little self control these will keep in a tin for a couple of days.

Joan Wright



Teddies for Tragedies Essex Branch

Over the winter months 3240 teddies have been distributed in Hungary, Syria, Zambia, Sierra Leone and Kosovo together with many clowns, blankets, jumpers, hats etc. Our grand total of teddies is now 282627 distributed to 57 different countries. It was great to get blankets & teddies into Syria for traumatised children and people living in dire conditions.

Over 1200 margarine boxes filled with toiletries have been sent to Kosovo and Zambia. Thank you to everybody who kindly gives me their boxes and soap etc. to fill them. They are so needed and people clamour



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for them. We were able to send over 400 Christmas Shoeboxes through Blythwood Care. From their depot in Rochester 116007 boxes were distributed to Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and the Ukraine which brought a lot of smiles.

The Chief Executive of Blythwood travelled to Albania and helped to give out shoeboxes there. He said it was very humbling to see the conditions in which some people have to live in that country. However, the receiving of such simple items as soap, scarves or toothpaste brought such joy and happiness from them.

He shared how a little girl received a lovely doll and her face lit up with a beaming smile as she cuddled it and showed everyone the treasure she had found. This was a reminder of the desperate poverty thousands of people struggle with each day. A big thank you to all who helped in this worthwhile cause. Enjoy your summer and if you have any spare toiletries from hotels etc. I should be pleased to have them to send out.

Audrey Pegrum MBE, Essex Branch Organiser



Horticultural

As I write this (beginning of March) I am thinking will the weather ever be dry and sunny again so we can get on with our gardening.

Our society seems to be growing though; welcome to the new members. Our AGM was part social as always and went well, several items were discussed. We did not hold a meeting in December and January was cancelled due to bad weather. February we were back on track with a talk on Heligan and Eden, short but interesting; it brought back memories for some of us.

Our shows this year are 29th June (held with fete) and 7th September. They are open shows, so all can enter.

Let's make this a bumper year! We have some good speakers to come, so keep looking at the noticeboard. The hut opened on 3rd March until 27th October, please use it. Ken would like any help you can give to man it and loves a chat with customers, any past, present and new members are welcome. We meet the third Monday of every month at 8:00pm.

Marion Shillum

COPY FOR WINTER ISSUE

Thanks to everyone who sent their copy by email.

Please continue to do so as this is a great help and saves time.

Please send copy and photos for the next magazine by

September 20th 2013,

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or just as an email direct to

bryan.diggory@sky.com

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Mondays to Saturdays	NS	NS = Not Saturdays				
South Mordham Ferrers, Aude	0800	0900	1100	1300	1620	
Wickford, Rail Station	0817	0919	1119	1319	1639	
RAMSDEN HEATH, White Horse	0827	0929	1129	1329	1649	
RAMSDEN BELLHOUSE, Glebe Road	0830	0932	1132	1332	1652	
CRAYS HILL, Shepherd & Dog	0834	0936	1136	1336	1656	
Miles Gray Road, opp. A & C	0840	0943	1143	1343	1703	
Festival Leisure Park	....	0947	1147	1347	1707	
Basildon, Bus Station Stand R	0848	0955	1155	1355	1715	
Basildon, Hospital	0855	....	....	....	1720	NE
Basildon Hospital	....	....	....	1725	1825	
Basildon, Bus Station Stand R	1000	1200	1400	1730	1930	
Festival Leisure Park	1008	1208	1408	1738	1938	
Miles Gray Road, R10	1012	1212	1412	1742	1942	
CRAYS HILL, Shepherd & Dog	1019	1219	1419	1749	1949	
RAMSDEN BELLHOUSE, Glebe Road	1023	1223	1423	1753	1953	
RAMSDEN HEATH, White Horse	1026	1226	1426	1756	1956	
Wickford, Rail Station	1036	1236	1436	1806	1906	
South Mordham Ferrers, Aude	1055	1255	1455	1825	1925	



Further Word from Editor

You may notice that several reports are missing. I find this very disappointing because they are all get a written request for their contribution, and a follow up phone call, when it fails to appear. It is also an excellent way to bring your report to the public of Ramsden Bellhouse. I do realise that there are problems sometimes, but I have had a problem this time in filling your magazine. I would like more original articles and poems. Please help.

Isabel Johnson



Village Events

MAY

Saturday 11th	Amble Ramble	10.00am	St Mary's Church
Saturday 11th	Whist Drive	7.15pm	Village Hall
Saturday 18th	Spring Fair	11.00am - 2.30pm	Village Hall
Saturday 18th	Charity Square Dance (contact 711336)	7.45pm	Village Hall
Saturday 25th	Crunch	9.00am - Midday	Village Hall

JUNE

Saturday 1st	Quiz (contact 710757)	7.30pm	Village Hall
Saturday 8th	Whist Drive	7.15pm	Village Hall
Saturday 8th	Summer Concert (contact 710165)		St Mary's Church
Saturday 29th	Summer Fete & Flower Show Midday		Village Hall

JULY

Tuesday 9th	St Mary's Garden Party	2.00 - 5.00pm	Bramhill, Orchard Ave
Saturday 13th	Whist Drive	7.15pm	Village Hall

AUGUST

Monday 5th	Isabel's Garden Party	2.00 - 5.00pm	Bramhill, Orchard Ave
Saturday 10th	Whist Drive	7.15pm	Village Hall
Saturday 10th	Crunch	9.00am - Midday	Village Hall
Saturday 24th	Flower Festival	2.00 - 5.00pm	St Mary's Church
Sunday 25th	Flower Festival	11.00am - 5.00pm	St Mary's Church
Monday 26th	Flower Festival	11.00am - 5.00pm	St Mary's Church

SEPTEMBER

Saturday 7th	Autumn Show	2.30pm	Village Hall
Saturday 14th	Whist Drive	7.15pm	Village Hall

OCTOBER

Saturday 5th	Autumn Concert (contact 710165)		St Mary's Church
Saturday 12th	Whist Drive	7.15pm	Village Hall

Village Directory

Village Hall	Chairman	- Clive Jeffree	710559
	Booking Secretary	- Vivienne Fisher	07772 630513
			01268 531441
	Secretary	- Abby Short	01268 711675
Magazine	Treasurer	- Derek Swan	710478
	Editor	- Isabel Johnson	710428
	Advertising	- Isabel Johnson	710428
Badminton	Fridays 8pm - 11pm	- Karen Pearce	01268 711227
Dog Training	Monday (except 3rd in month)		
	7.15pm - 10pm	- Rita Barber	01702 231189
St Mary's Church	Church Wardens	- Beryl Clements	01245 601298
		- Len Ferris	710165
Horticultural	3rd Monday in the month except July, August		
	and December	- Joan Lewis	710893
Ladies Medau	Thursday 8pm	- Veronica Greenwood	01702 559914
Cubs	Wed 5.45pm - 7.15pm	- Patrick Smith	07838 252963
Scouts	Wed 7.30pm - 9.30pm except 2nd Wed in month		
		- Patrick Smith	07838 252963
Baptist Church	Roger Newton		01268 710259
Bowls	Mon 7.30pm		
	Wed 10am		
	Fri 1.30pm	- Angela Hodivala	01268 710619
Dancing Club	Every Sunday 7.30pm - 10.30pm		
	General Dancing	- Barry Gardiner	01268 711336
Whist Drive	Roy Richards (see Village Events)		710669
Line Dancing	Every Monday 2.00pm - 3.00pm	Ken Dobson	710771
Essex County			
Library Mobile Van	Fortnightly Tuesday 3.30pm - 4.00pm		
Bellhouse Preschool	Mon to Fri 9.30am -		07881 448686
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