



# THE MOLE

Great Burstead & South Green Village Council

Summer 2010  
Issue 6

Village Council Meetings  
Summer 2010  
8 June  
6 July  
7 September  
7.30pm @ South Green  
Memorial Hall



## Contact details

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## Review of Great Burstead Conservation Area

There are four conservations areas within Basildon District, of which an area within Great Burstead is one. The areas are designated to preserve and enhance the character of each area, as opposed to individual buildings that have a special architectural or historical interest. An appraisal has been commissioned by Basildon District Council, the first since 1983 when the areas were originally designated. The Great Burstead area encompasses the Church, its grounds and a number of properties, some of which are listed, and greensward in the immediate vicinity. The brief for the appointed company is to appraise the area, identify the qualities which should be preserved and enhanced and to produce proposals for their enhancement and future management. The Village Council has been consulted for initial comment which has been submitted and a formal public consultation will take place in the summer at Great Burstead Church Hall. A date is yet to be arranged but details will appear on the notice board, website and in the local press nearer the time.

**MOLE FACT...** a group of Moles is called a labour.

**Look inside to find; Club spotlight, Summer events, Annual Report, Crunch dates/locations, Quiz, Local history, Local news and more...**

Thank you to local resident David Twitchett for supplying this great photo of a steam rally exhibitor on his way past South Green after last years Country Show.



## 2010 Annual Report

The Village Council, being at the grass roots level of local government, has continued on its quest to ensure that our surroundings, community facilities and services available within Great Burstead and South Green are maintained, supported and improved where possible.

The summer of 2009 saw the launch of 'The Mole', the newsletter of our Village. The media working party, which was responsible for it, have been innovative in its content and style and it has been extremely well received by residents, with many coming forward with material for articles and photos. I would like to thank them, and the team of Great Burstead Church for their assistance in ensuring it is received each time by all residents within the village. It's quite a task, when you think, that we have 2700 households in our village!

Last summer saw the launch of a series of walks along the local footpaths, the result of collaboration between the Village Council and

Phoenix Striders. The walks were most ably led by Gwyn Hughes of Phoenix Striders and well attended. It is hoped to run a similar course this summer if demand is sufficient.

During the festive period of Christmas, the illuminations were in place again and our councillors with the clerk, organised a Christmas Sing Song, outside the shopping parade, which was a great success, a first in village history. The Ladybirds, a local ladies singing group and South Green Infants plus 1<sup>st</sup> Great Burstead Brownies were in great voice. Our thanks go to our local traders, who were most supportive and ensured with their tombola contributions in support of St. Luke's Hospice, that there was fun all around.

Road safety continues to be a major concern and with the collaboration of residents the Village Council continues to highlight concerns to the County Council. The Village Council was successful in acquiring the newly installed vehicle activated speed signs in Outwood Common Road and Kennel Lane, the result of funding applied for and awarded by

the County Council Community Initiatives Fund (Highways) 08/09. The funding also included the Village Gateway signs which have recently been installed, to define the area of our village and where permissible further display the prevailing speed limits.

Prudent housekeeping has again ensured the precept remains at a similar level to recent years. The precept for residents within Great Burstead & South Green is the lowest when compared to other parishes within the district.

December 2009 saw the departure of Cllr. Aisha McConnell due to her husband's relocation to Singapore, thus creating a vacancy for a councillor. It's a great opportunity for anyone of you to have a 'say' into the future of our village.

In closing, I would like to thank Aisha McConnell, our current members and of course our clerk, for their tireless efforts on behalf of residents.

**Cllr. Asad Aly-Khan,  
Chair of Great Burstead & South**

## Club spotlight - PEPS

People Enjoying Pensions meets every second Tuesday of the month at Great Burstead Church Hall from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. There are 43 members who pay an annual fee of £8.00, and 50p each time they attend. The club's main offering to the pensioners of Great Burstead and South Green is an excellent range of guest speakers. These are usually booked more than a year in advance, and speak on a wide range of topics. For example, talks have covered New Zealand illustrated with a slide show, and deep sea fishing with a speaker who sang sea shanties.

In addition to this first-rate variety of guest speakers, the club has a New Year tea and an AGM each September; this year the AGM will be accompanied by a Chinese auction. The club is hoping to attract new members, so if you are interested the chairman, Ted, invites you to pop along to Great Burstead Church Hall or 'phone him on 01277 622183. If you have trouble getting out and about, transport to the club can be arranged with the Basildon District Volunteer Carers.

John Dear

**Crunch times** free mobile tip.  
Saturday 12th JUNE 2010,  
9am - 12, Meadow Rise, behind shops.  
Saturday 19th JUNE 2010,  
Saturday 17th JULY 2010,  
Saturday 7th AUGUST 2010  
9am-12, Little Burstead car park.  
Saturday, 3rd JULY 2010  
9am-12 Radford Way, car park  
Saturday, 28 AUGUST 2010  
9am-12 Carvers Wood  
For more info. 01268 294949.



Quote..... 'We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them'  
Albert Einstein

## 2010 Festival At Burstead

This year's festival takes place from Friday June 25<sup>th</sup> to Sunday June 27<sup>th</sup>

The festival starts with a concert on the Friday night which will be given this year by the Essex Police Choir. The concert, in the church and starts at 7.30. Tickets are just £8 and include wine and a light buffet.

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> is Festival Day

This year it is promising to again be fun for all from 11am until 4pm in the Church Grounds, Hall and Church. There will be arena events throughout the day, and the ever popular Stalls, Exhibits, and Sideshows. Refreshments will be available. Free entry and free parking . What more could you ask! A great day out for all!

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> at 5.15pm

Picnic in the Church Grounds followed by Evensong at 6.30pm.

More details or tickets from Margaret 01268 288723

**Mobile library - Fortnightly**  
30 min visits 11 & 25 June 2010.  
Carvers Wood 9 am  
Hickstars Lane 9.35am  
Greens Farm Lane 10.20am  
Allington Court 10.45am

**Did You Know? The only reptile to be found in Ireland is the common lizard.**



## SUMMER QUIZ

1. When is the summer solstice?
2. When is the Queen's official birthday?
3. When is Father's Day?
4. During which summer month was Anne Boleyn crowned Queen of England in 1533?
5. On which day of July does France celebrate Bastille Day?
6. On which day of July does the United States of America celebrate Independence Day?
7. What is the Welsh name for August?
8. Where were the Summer Olympic Games held in 2000?
9. The 1990 FIFA World Cup began on 8<sup>th</sup> June. In which country was it held?
10. Elvis Presley performed his last ever concert on 26<sup>th</sup> June. What was the year?
11. On 11<sup>th</sup> June 1987, the Conservative Party was returned to power after a general election. What share of the vote did the party get?
12. Which recent winner of the X Factor was born on 25<sup>th</sup> August 1988?

Answers overleaf.

## Summer walks

A series of walks along the paths within the Parish took place last summer in collaboration with Phoenix Striders. It is hoped, if demand is sufficient that such a programme could be arranged again for this summer. Please contact the clerk if you would be interested.

## The History of Great Burstead & South Green – 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> Centuries

During the 13<sup>th</sup> century Billericay became a stronghold of a new religious teaching because of the efforts of Wycliffe preachers known as Lollards reaching the town. Amongst the Lollards were such men as John Ball & Jack Straw.

Perhaps the most significant event of the 14<sup>th</sup> century was the Peasants' Revolt against Richard II's poll tax of 1381. This particular tax was troublesome for the peasants as it was a burden in addition to their service to the lord of the manor. King Richard II's officers had a hard time collecting the tax and as a result the King's Justice, Sir Robert Belkan, was sent to Brentwood to deal with rebels in the South East. He was confronted with men from Essex armed with bows and arrows and other rudimentary weapons and was driven from the town, lucky not to be killed. Many of his officers were less fortunate. The peasants then went to manors in the county and made bonfires of the manorial rolls. Together with men from Kent they marched to London, where they met the King following the death of their leader Wat Tyler at Smithfield. Initially the King promised to address the peasants' problems, but then reneged and the peasants were set upon by Richard II's armies. It is estimated that 500 were killed and believed that a number were buried at Great Burstead. More details about the history of our part of Essex can be found in 'Billericay Through The Ages' by W.G.Harper. Copies are available from The Cater Museum.

## Calendar of SUMMER EVENTS

There are a number of events happening locally for all ages over the coming months, here are details of just a few which may be of interest:

**BASFEST—3 / 4 July, Gloucester Park, Basildon**—Free admission to the County's largest entertainment festival.

(Full details viewable at [www.basildon.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=2856](http://www.basildon.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=2856) or telephone 01268 294266)

**South Green Infant & Junior School Summer Fete—10 July 12noon to 3.30pm**

**St Peter's RC Primary School Summer Fete—10 July from 1pm onwards**

**Mill Meadows Society Minibeast event—10 July at Mill Meadows**, details available at [www.millmeadows.org.uk](http://www.millmeadows.org.uk) or on their notice board.s

**Barleylands Farm , Summer Activities—19 July to 3 September** , different activities each week , details from 01268 290223 or at

[www.barleylands.com](http://www.barleylands.com)

**Billericay Gala weekend—24/25 July, Lake Meadows Park, Billericay**

(Full details inc ticket prices viewable at [www.basildon.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=2856](http://www.basildon.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=2856) or telephone 01268 294266))

**Mill Meadows Society Bat talk followed by a walk - 19 August at Mill Meadows**, details at [www.millmeadows.org.uk](http://www.millmeadows.org.uk) or on their notice boards

**Folk Festival, Wat Tyler Park - 12 September**

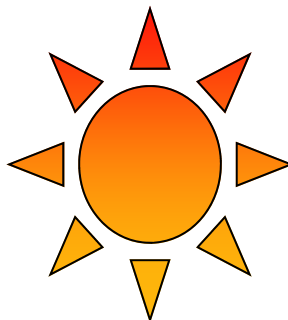
(Full details including ticket prices available at [www.essex-live.co.uk](http://www.essex-live.co.uk) )

**Youth Summer Activities and events across Essex—Details at [www.essexyounglife.co.uk](http://www.essexyounglife.co.uk)**

## CHRISTMAS QUIZ ANSWERS

- |                              |                 |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Friday                    | 7. 1942         |
| 2. Seven                     | 8. Balthasar    |
| 3. Turkey                    | 9. Indian Ocean |
| 4. 21st December             | 10. Mistletoe   |
| 5. Capricorn                 | 11. 1979        |
| 6. A motto, a toy and a hat. | 12. Four        |

by John Dear



## Allotments or Garden Share?

The Village Council is always looking to explore new ways in which it can support the wishes of residents.

Recently there has been a lot in the news about the increasing need for allotment space and the mandatory obligation of municipal authorities to try and provide a sufficient number of allotments. Such space is particularly hard to source in our part of the region. However, our members would still like to hear from residents who may be interested and would ask they contact the clerk with any such requests.

An alternative idea, and one that has already been well received in other parts of the country, is to garden share. In such a scheme people who may have garden space they cannot or do not wish to cultivate make the space available to others. Generally a register is kept of those who have such space to match with those who are keen to source such space.

More information is available on the web by inserting 'garden share scheme' into your search engine the websites of many successful schemes already running are viewable. Again please contact the clerk should you be interested , tel. 01277 652057 or email [kimbarford@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:kimbarford@tiscali.co.uk).

**VACANCY.....** Following a recent resignation we have a vacancy for a Village Councillor. If you have an interest in local matters and wish to have some input into the future of Great Burstead & South Green, please apply. Full details and an application pack are available from the clerk via email [kimbarford@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:kimbarford@tiscali.co.uk) or telephone 01277 652057

**South Green Junior School** currently has a vacancy for a **Community School Governor**. Full details are available from the clerk to the governors Steph Pamplin, telephone 01277 651897 or alternatively you can obtain more information at [www.essexcc.gov.uk](http://www.essexcc.gov.uk) following the 'school governor' link.

**Join us** We are keen to hear from you! Are you interested in joining our small group. To either write or do art work for "The Mole". Or, you may have photos of interest, or any ideas for the content of future issues. Please contact the Clerk.

## Neighbourhood Policing

Non-urgent local issue 07969 365610  
Report non-emergency crime and incidents 0300 333 4444 ext 45827

## Summer quiz answers

1. 21<sup>st</sup> June
2. 12<sup>th</sup> June
3. 20<sup>th</sup> June
4. June
5. 14<sup>th</sup>
6. 4<sup>th</sup>
7. Awst
8. Sydney, Australia
9. Italy
10. 1977
11. 42.2%
12. Alexandra Burke