



## LITTLE BADDOW PARISH COUNCIL

# Annual Report & Newsletter 2004

## *From the Chairman...*

**May 2003 saw some changes in the Parish Council. Simon Johnson and Bob Goodall stepped down having both served the Parish Council well for several years. We would like to thank them both for their time and dedication. In their place we welcomed Keith Ferguson in May and Mary Buckley who was co-opted in June. They have both made great contributions during the past year.**

### **Village Design Statement**

Work on the Village Design Statement has been going very well. There has been great support from the village with many people being active in the different areas, such as local photography and the recent questionnaires. Little Baddow has had the

greatest response to this scheme in the area. Thanks go to all those who have taken part, but especially to the Committee who have organised and collated all the information.



**Tim Thorogood, Chairman  
Little Baddow Parish Council**

### **Parish Website**

This year will see the launch of the Little Baddow Website. It is hoped that this will help to promote the village and its activities.

### **Many thanks**

Mr & Mrs Lewis who looked after the Sports Pavilion retired in May after some thirteen years loyal service. Many thanks go to them for all their good work over the years.

Once again I would like to thank all those who have supported me in my role as Chairman, especially Bob Shepherd, Parish Clerk and all the parish councillors. Thanks also go to John Sheriff, Caretaker of the Memorial Hall, Mrs Jarvis for her continuing vigilance of the Spring Close Play Area, Kenneth Stebbings our Parish Correspondent and to everyone in Little Baddow who helps and cares for the village.

## New look for the Memorial Hall

**Major improvements have been carried out to the Memorial Hall during 2003. The new extension has provided extra space for a cloakroom, disabled toilet, baby nappy changing facilities, and a larger Meeting Room.**

The cloakrooms have been completely refurbished and carpeting has been ordered for the entrance hall, meeting room and bar area. Improved lighting in the Meeting Room will soon be installed. Still to come in 2004 are improvements to the bar area and the adjoining area of the kitchen.

We would like to thank regular users of the hall for their co operation during the building works, and for their patience with some 'inconveniences' while the toilets were being refurbished.

When the builders have completed their work we will have a hall to be proud of. We hope to provide an attractive and welcoming venue for all social events, and hope to see the hall used more by all village residents.



***It is your hall, please use it.***

### **LITTLE BADDOW MEMORIAL HALL**

#### **For Hire at Reasonable Rates**

*Large Hall with stage and polished floor*

*Bar and well equipped kitchen*

*Smaller rooms can be hired separately if required*

*On site parking*

*Discounts for Little Baddow Residents*

**Enquiries to the Caretaker - 01245 223444**

### **About the Annual Report and Newsletter**

*Welcome to our new style Annual Report and Newsletter. The updated format allows us to include photographs and a village directory, as well as our usual reports from Councillors and village organisations.*

*We hope you like it, and would reassure you that it cost the same to produce as the previous style publication.*

# Meet the Parish Council...



(Back row, left to right) Bob Shepherd, Keith Ferguson, Tim Thorogood, John Robinson  
(Front row, left to right) : Mike Fenn, Jane Rigler, Margaret Martin, Mary Buckley, Harriet Middleboe, Maurice Hurrell

## Councillors' Responsibilities

<b>Tim Thorogood</b>	Chairman/Amenities/Planning/Sports Club
<b>John Robinson</b>	Vice Chairman/Sports Club/ACD
<b>Maurice Hurrell</b>	Borough Councillor/Planning/Transport
<b>Mike Fenn</b>	Amenities/Spring Close/Chelmer Valley
<b>Keigh Ferguson</b>	Finance/Hall
<b>Mary Buckley</b>	Hall
<b>Margaret Martin</b>	Planning/Butler Educational/Pledger Trust
<b>Harriet Middleboe</b>	Community Care/Hall/Home & Safety
<b>Jane Rigler</b>	Holybred Wood/ Spring Close Play Area
<b>Bob Shepherd</b>	Clerk to the Parish Council (227275)

# Parish Council Reports

## Planning

The Parish Council considered fifty-one planning applications in 2003 and there were seven planning appeals, two of which were dismissed and one is still pending.

Three of the applications were for completely new buildings and three were for replacement houses, the remainder were for extensions, alterations, outbuildings and minor miscellaneous matters.

The Parish Council raised objections to fourteen of the applications and the Borough Council has, so far, refused six applications and granted thirty-seven.

Comments were made on the Chelmsford Borough Council Revised Deposit Draft Plan which was withdrawn at the end of July and the Parish Council was represented at the meeting held in September to discuss the future of Planning. Mary Buckley attended a planning seminar during the Autumn.

A number of Tree Preservation Orders have been made during the year and representation was made regarding the re-routing of Footpath 30.

## Amenities

The Jubilee seat has been replaced as the old seat was in a state of disrepair.

Heather Hills - This excellent parish facility continues to be managed well by the Essex Wildlife Trust and their ongoing efforts make this area a place of much enjoyment by all that go there

## Sports Club

This year saw the change of ownership of Elm Green School, one of our members, as Tibby Mimpres retired. The new owner, David Bullock has also taken over from her as our Secretary.

We lost two of our member clubs in 2003 - the Hockey Club merged with Maldon Hockey Club and were wished every success with their new venture; and the Youth Club which closed down. Consequently the remaining clubs will have to pay larger portions of the running costs.

Mr and Mrs Lewis, who had cleaned and cared for the Pavilion for many years, retired and contract cleaners have now been recruited.

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of John Enefer. He had been a long and loyal servant to the Cricket Club and the Sports Club and he will be sorely missed by all the members.

In a year with little good news we were pleased to yet again earn a commendation for the Sports Field thanks to the efforts of John and Tom Suthery.



Next year the Cricket Club will be celebrating its Centenary in style from 24th to 27th June and we wish them every success.

We hope and trust that 2004 will be a more prosperous one for the remaining clubs.

## Spring Close

Vandalism and anti-social behaviour by local youths caused distress during the summer. A meeting was arranged between residents, parish council, police and Chelmer Housing Partnership to try to tackle the problem. Unfortunately most of these incidents had not been reported to the Police, who reminded us that it is vital that **all** crimes, no matter how minor, are reported to them. Police use the statistics generated by crime reports when allocating resources to areas.

A Police Community Support Officer, Bill Evans, is now operational in the village and will be targetting this kind of problem. He can be contacted at the South Woodham Ferrers Police Station.

The Parish council investigated all options for its future management of the Play Area in order to alleviate the problems experienced by some residents. Limited space necessitates all age groups sharing the space - a situation which is not ideal and budgetary constraints caused the replacement of play equipment to be deferred.

## Butler Educational

The trustees have met three times during the year and continued to make small educational grants to young people in Little Baddow and Boreham. More information and application forms are available from John Brocklebank, Deborah Burt, Wendy Godden and Margaret Martin.

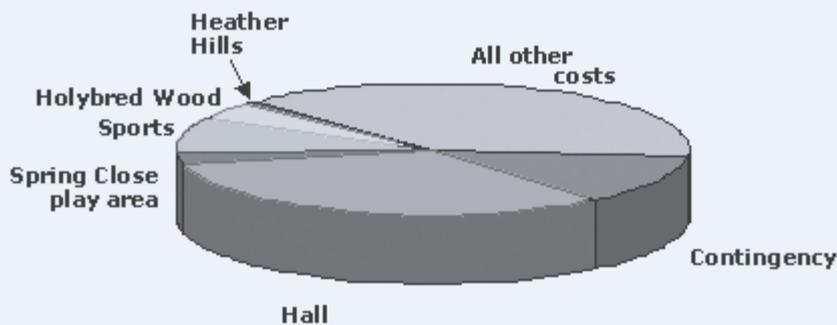
## Finance

Little Baddow Parish Council is financially responsible for the Memorial Hall, the Spring Close play area, the Sports Field and Pavilion, Holybred Wood, Heather Hills, and certain other activities like grass-cutting of communal areas, and involvement in planning control.

The largest asset and income-earner is the Memorial Hall – one of the key Village social hubs. Accordingly, the Council has recently undertaken extensive improvements to the Hall, financed by a combination of grants, reserves, and a loan. The loan is at a fixed and favourable rate of interest. We hope all agree that the changes will make the hall more attractive to users and hirers! To ensure repayment of the loan as rapidly as possible, it will be necessary in the coming year to raise the precept to £30,000 – equivalent to £47.62 per year on average for each household in the Village.

We have faced cost rises on items beyond our control (notably insurance) amounting to over 12% of precept. We are budgeting for no increase in the coming year in those costs that we can control. In addition we shall be focussing closely on maximising our non-precept income.

Excluding loan repayments and capital items, the Council's budgeted *net* expenditure in the coming year will be split as follows –



## Financial Statement 2002 - 03

2001-2	INCOME	2002-3
25000	Precept	25000
678	Interest	801
10492	Hall	9653
1154	Sports	1355
231	Other	231
	EXPENDITURE	
17958	Hall	17007
2405	Spring Close Play Area & Sports Facilities	2703
8658	Capital Items	6647
10805	Other	12927
39826	Total	38184

## Almshouses

Mrs Grace, who has been a trustee for almost twenty years retired at the end of 2003 and was thanked for her many years of service to the Charity and its beneficiaries.

Routine maintenance of the houses has continued. The trustees are pleased to report that the Essex Wildlife Trust has renewed its lease of the Smaller Poores Piece for twenty-two years. Not only does this provide the Almshouse Charity with a small income, it also means this piece of woodland is maintained for the benefit of the whole community

### Parish Council Meetings 2004

12th February  
4th March  
29th March - Parish Assembly  
1st April  
6th May - Annual Meeting

Meetings are held in the Memorial Hall, commencing at 7.30pm

Members of the public are welcome to attend

All enquiries to the Parish Clerk, Mr R J Shepherd, M.B.E., Tel: 227275

## DOES YOUR HORSE HAVE A PASSPORT?

All owners must obtain a passport for their horse by 30th June 2004  
further information from [www.defra.gov.uk/rural/horses](http://www.defra.gov.uk/rural/horses)

All Little Baddow Residents are invited to attend the

## PARISH ASSEMBLY

on Monday 29th March 2004, at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall  
**Our invited speaker, Andy Coppell will give an update on the progress of Little Baddow History Centre**

# Borough & County

## Reports from our Borough and County Councillors

### Peter Martin, County Councillor...

There have been very few local issues this year that affect Little Baddow although there have been several in the rest of my division!

I have been concerned for some time at the increasing visual intrusion on Little Baddow and the Chelmer Valley of the development at Chelmer Village in particular of the warehousing and industrial units. I am investigating the feasibility of planting a band of trees east of the A12 to hide this eyesore. This is obviously going to take some time to bring to fruition.

I am also involved in the project to maintain the Chelmer Navigation following the Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation Company going into Administration. It is vital that we retain this hugely important facility for future generations.

### Maurice Hurrell, Borough Councillor...

#### Road Improvements

The latter half of 2003 saw significant and much needed improvements to road surfaces within the village. The bottom end of North Hill no longer feels like travelling down a roboggan run and Spring Elms Lane has benefitted. The effect of underground springs and winter frosts are partly responsible for the breakup of the road surfaces, together with increased traffic use. As always, restricted funding is a limitation on what can be achieved in any year. However, the Borough Council's new administration has

demonstrated its determination to ensure that rural highways receive a fair share of the road funding. It has allocated an additional £100,000 for repairs to rural roads on top of the funds from the County Council.

#### Refuse Collections

In response to criticisms that a two-weekly collection of black bins (non-recyclable refuse) was inadequate, the new administration took early steps to reinstitute a weekly collection. This, together with the two-weekly collection of recyclable tins and bottles is now working well. The collection of green garden waste (brown bin) will recommence in March.

#### Planning

One of the first actions undertaken by the new administration was to withdraw the emerging local development plan. It was judged that by adopting the new planning procedures about to be introduced by the government, there would be greater certainty in controlling development in the Borough. Certainly, the dire predictions that, without the plan, the Borough would be covered in concrete as developers moved in unrestrained, has not materialized. The new planning procedures are more simplified, comprising two documents in place of the highly detailed plan that was previously being produced. One document will set forth the core development strategy for the Borough; the second document will be site specific, showing where development will take place.

Legislation is now awaited from government to enable the process to get underway. It is intended to hold a meeting in early April to brief Parish Councils.

## The Parish Chest

*When the History Centre opens later this year the collection of documents, photographs and artefacts known as the "Parish Chest" will move in. But where does the term come from?*

Originally, parishes would have had a wooden box, perhaps hollowed from a tree trunk and later iron-bound and chained for security for storing the church plate, vestments and any precious books. These chests developed into more elaborate pieces of furniture which often had three locks with the keys held separately by the priest and two churchwardens so that they would all have to be present for the chest to be opened.

The first tier of local government gradually moved from the manorial lords to the Vestry or Parish Meeting. The Vestry could levy rates for such things as highway maintenance, poor relief and the care of maimed soldiers and vagrants. It also appointed the Parish Constable and other officers. Vast quantities of paper resulted, all requiring secure storage. Parish churches had kept registers of baptisms, marriages and burials since 1538, but from 1753 Hardwicke's Marriage Act required all marriages to be performed in churches and registers had to be kept in a standard form.

Civic responsibilities and associated record keeping moved away from the church to the Parish Council following the Local Government Act of 1894.

So, what does Little Baddow's chest contain?

Over time, any ancient or valuable documents were housed with the Essex Record Office, but we have an extensive documentary archive on people, events, clubs and societies, newspaper cuttings, originals and copies of paintings and drawings, information on properties, schools and Sunday schools, church and chapel and many parish council records and a collection of photographs dating from Victorian times. We also have a small sound archive of local people recalling their early memories of life in the village, a small library and a few artefacts.

Our archive is no longer housed in a chest, but in a bank of filing cabinets, map chest, bookcase and assorted other containers. There is a chest, but it is an old travelling trunk, provenance unknown!

*If you have any documents or photographs that could be added to the archive, please contact Jane Rigler on 223429.*

# History Centre update...

**The first and major phase of the building contract for the new History Centre was finished just before Christmas. The building which is now watertight is looking splendid and fits in well with the existing building and setting.**

What remains to be done is to complete the fitting out work i.e. complete the partitioning, plaster the walls, install the heating, lay the floor, install the lighting and complete other electrical work and build a proper entrance! The building work will be completed within the £125,000 budget of which approximately £100,000 has been spent. It is planned that this fitting out work will be put in hand before Easter providing that additional funds or interest free loans can be raised in time!

With regard to fundraising: at the end of December the village appeal, including the money from the 17th Century Faire, has raised approx. £17,500 while there been has an additional £2000 raised by other fund raising events organised by the URC such as the Charity Walk, Beetle Drive, Ploughman's Lunch. This means that together with the promised donation from the Friends of Little

Baddow Trust a total of £60,000 has been raised. The emphasis on fundraising during 2004 will move to seek support from the wider URC Community, to other charities, to local businesses and to North America.

A management group with representatives from different village organisations will be set up to oversee the operation of the new centre.

In addition another group will be responsible for promoting the use of the centre particularly with the local schools and the other educational establishments.

At the more practical level the cataloguing of all material to modern standards is now in hand and discussions have started with the Historical Society and other interested parties, on the best way to move the Village Chest and other historical material into the new centre when it is ready. Separate groups of people are taking responsibility for different



*Construction of the History Centre was completed in December. Fitting out will commence shortly.*

types of information. e.g. Village Chest, Church and American History, and Conservation.

It is hoped that this can be done in line with a planned dedication of the new History Centre on 4th July 2004.

So a long cherished dream is well on the way to becoming reality. The challenge, after completing the fundraising will be to establish the History centre as a Living Building helping to build a better future based on lessons from the past.

*Andy Coppell*

## Conservation Society gains Charity status

**REGISTERED CHARITY No 1095368**

**Since the last Parish Newsletter, success was finally achieved when we became a Registered Charity.**

One of our Secretaries, Yvonne Welch, stood down from the Committee as she and her husband were moving from the village. Our best wishes went with them and we hope they will be as happy in their new house as they were in Little Baddow.

The Society would hope to continue in all that it has done in the past, and to acquire any land in the village that may

become available for the benefit of the public. The acquisition of such land would prevent any future development and would retain the natural beauty of the village.

Our Executive Committee meets regularly, approximately once every six weeks, to consider planning applications and to discuss any other topics of interest and concern to the area. My own thanks to our hard working Secretary Helen Hardwicke, and to my Committee members, who give up their valuable time during the year.

*Bob Shepherd*



LITTLE BADDOW  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LITTLE  
BADDOW  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

**Thursday 11th March 2004**  
8pm, St Andrew's Room  
**"The Excavations at  
Beeleigh Abbey"**

**Thursday 10th June 2004**  
7.30pm at the History Centre  
**Visit to Waterhall, Little Baddow  
Hall and Cuckoos Farm**

*New members welcome*  
Membership £5 per family per year  
Further details from  
Ann Greenslade - 224261

# St John's Church of England Primary School

## Celebrating talent

***It is always a pleasure to celebrate talent, and we have some very talented children at St John's, but the greatest pleasure is to watch children develop that talent by giving time and effort.***

The school's recorder group and choir celebrated their musical talents when they performed to a packed audience at Chelmsford Cathedral as part of the Barnardos Christmas performance in order to raise money for the charity. The children sang a medley of carols and the song 'Last Night I Had the Strangest Dream' which was accompanied by the recorder group and played in two parts. The recorder ensemble also played 'Any Dream Will Do' from Joseph and His Technicolour Dreamcoat.

The recorder ensemble also made a special trip just before Christmas to play for some elderly patients at St John's Hospital. The children played and sang a number of carols and some of their

favourite pieces to an appreciative audience. The group also accompanied the school throughout our Christmas Performance and ended the programme with two pieces. The players practise every week and put in extra time when a recital is looming. Our repertoire is growing steadily and ranges from Abba to classical music and, of course, the hymns played in assembly each day.

The rewards for the children are the enjoyment they clearly have when that tricky piece is mastered, or when they are able to play a piece that has been performed by a well known artist, or being part of a group which relies on its members to do their best whatever that best happens



to be. The reward for the teacher (apart from seeing those smiling faces waiting at the door twenty minutes early for rehearsal) is knowing that they are growing and developing skills which will take them into their adult lives.

Talent is a wonderful gift but the most wonderful thing is making the most of any talents we have and sharing them when we can!

## Neighbourhood Watch

***This year has gone in fits and starts - whole spates of incidents then lengthy periods with nothing happening at all.***

In January we held three working parties to clear up the area of the Ford.



We are still looking for co-ordinators for Spring Elms Lane, Hammonds Road and Spring Close. If anyone is interested please contact Simon Johnson on 01245 227338. November saw the introduction of Community Policing

Support Officers, and our community PC

Mick Battersby has been allocated a mountain bike on which he has been seen.

For the future we are investigating setting up a system of local people being linked to Mick by texting on mobiles, which he can use if an urgent incident takes place. Thanks to all who help with the running of NHW.



## Little Baddow Drama Club

Little Baddow Drama Club has been putting on first-class productions in the village for over 50 years. We hope to uphold this dramatic tradition for the next 50 years - but we can only do this with your help.

We are always looking for new members to come and be involved in whatever way they wish - either treading the boards or behind the scenes. We have two shows annually - April and November - and we also meet several times a year for Members' Evenings. These evenings can be diverse and range from quizzes and play-readings to social get-togethers.

***For further information please contact the Secretary, Lindsay Lloyd on 01621 891326***

***The Mother, Baby & Toddler Group*** meets every Tuesday morning, including school holidays, from 10am - 11am at St Andrew's Room during the winter and in the Manse garden in the summer. Mums, Dads, Grannies and Nannies are welcome to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee in an informal setting while the children play - and all for only £1. Further details from Hillary Bufton (223379) or Kathryn Wilkinson (227845)

## Holybred Wood

### Formalised parking area gives access to the disabled

Work has now been completed to formalise a small parking area at the Holybred Lane entrance to the Wood. This provides much needed access for disabled people without encroaching into the woodland.

Many thanks to John Hooson, Volunteer Warden for all his work, and to the team of walkers who patrol the wood on a regular basis.



Next on the agenda is commissioning of a sign, dedicating the wood to the memory of Geof Pyman, and to institute a programme of coppicing to aid the wood's regeneration.

## Little Baddow Women's Institute

### Memories of 2003

**The 70+ members of the WI enjoyed an active and successful year, which included several theatre outings and a great day out in July, enjoying fish & chips at Dunwich followed by an afternoon at Southwold.**

A Watercolour Painting Taster Day resulted in a grant-aided course for the latent artists amongst the members, and a Flower Arranging day was enjoyed by all who attended. The garden meeting was rained off from Betty Willis's to the Memorial Hall for a ploughman's lunch, and the charity morning resulted in £188.85 being raised for this year's charity, REMAP.

There was a wide range of speakers during the year, the highlight being the Autumn Group meeting in October when Little Baddow entertained six other WI's in the Mildmay group. Hall and tables were decorated in the theme of "Cinderella" and the entertainer was a pantomime dame who demonstrated applying his makeup and costume. The transformation was gradual and stunning and with plenty of audience participation, everyone was soon in the spirit and a noisy afternoon ensued.

The year ended with the annual Christmas lunch, leaving members looking forward to next year's programme.



Dispelling the stereotype image - Little Baddow WI



## Outstanding response for the Village Design Statement

**The Village Design Statement has received overwhelming support from the residents of Little Baddow. The finished VDS will give a detailed description of the existing character and features of the village and give guidelines for future development based on the opinions of the village as a whole. It will be an advisory document for planners, designers and local people and it is intended that it should be adopted by the local authority as Supplementary Planning Guidance.**

Seventy-five villagers joined in the fun of photographing the village in March. This was an important step in recording the village as it is now and assessing what should be conserved for the future. The photographs were developed over lunch and then assembled into an exhibition reflecting the good and bad points of the village and inviting everyone's comments. Further comments were invited when the exhibition was displayed at the Parish Assembly, and again in November.



The residents assembled their photographs into an exhibition

A questionnaire was then devised, based on the comments from the photographic day and incorporating all the questions for which planners need the answers when considering planning applications. The questionnaire was delivered to every household in Little Baddow and we received an amazing 50% response. This is the largest response to a VDS questionnaire so far in Essex.

All responses are being keyed into a computer program which will analyse the results. Statements can then be made about development issues which reflect the views of the residents who participated.

These "statements" will be incorporated into the VDS publication and residents will once again have the opportunity to comment while it is at the draft stage. Once approved by the local authority the VDS will be published as a booklet. Every household will receive a copy, as will anyone submitting a planning application.

Although the brief of the VDS is to consider planning matters, a number of other issues arose from the photographic day and the questionnaire. These issues will be brought to the attention of the relevant authority.

The Committee would like to thank everyone who has participated in the project and looks forward to the finished document being produced in 2004.

Further information is available on our website at [www.littlebaddow.org.uk](http://www.littlebaddow.org.uk), or from Richard Godden on 223873.

# DIRECTORY

## Clerk to the Parish Council

Bob Shepherd, MBE  
1 Chase Cottages  
Little Baddow CM3 4AU  
Tel: 01245 227275  
littlebaddow@yahoo.co.uk

## Bookings - Memorial Hall

John Sherriff (Caretaker)  
01245 223444

## Bookings - St Andrew's Room

Sally Lowe - 223733

## Bell Ringers

Wendy Godden - 223873

## Brownies

"Brown Owl" - 227397  
(Thurs 5.45, St Andrew's)

## Church of St Mary the Virgin

Revd Canon Christine  
McCafferty - 476371

## Church - United Reformed

Revd Michael Powell - 422781  
Brenda Hooson - 222836  
John Gibson - 222148

## Church - Roman Catholic

Father Paul Fox - 324138

## Cricket Club

Paul Churchouse - 227426

## Drama

Lindsay Lloyd  
01621 891326

## Edward Bear Club

Ann Poulard - 224221  
(2nd Thurs, 1.30pm St  
Andrew's)

## Essex Wildlife Trust

Geoff Ford - 222328

## Guides

Karen Boddington - 225382

## Historical Society

Ann Greenslade - 224261

## Leisure & Sports (Over 60s)

Ted Grace - 223018

## Mother, Toddler & Baby

Hillary Bufton - 223379  
Kathryn Wilkinson - 227845  
(Tues, 10.00, St Andrew's)

## Netball Club

Felicity Coxhead - 222698

## Neighbourhood Watch

Simon Johnson - 227338

## Open Group

Fiona Dale - 227051  
Jan Yule - 222117  
(2nd Weds evening)

## Parish Archives

Jane Rigler - 223429  
poleighs@btinternet.com

## Prayer Fellowship

Ann de Boise - 222044  
Elisabeth Bourn - 223183  
Ann Poulard 224221  
(Ecumenical, Weds 2pm,  
St Andrew's)

## Ridge Runners

Mrs Birch - 223673

## Scottish Dancing

Jan Yule  
01245 222117  
(Tues, 8pm Memorial Hall)

## Schools:

**Danbury Park** - 224994

**Elm Green** - 225230

**Heathcote** - 223131

**St John's** - 222173

## Tennis Club

Giles Hollingworth  
01245 382828  
Paul Hibbert - 222002  
Mon & Weds - Ladies 10-12  
Tues & Thurs - Seniors 5-8pm  
Sunday - Seniors 10-12noon

## W.E.A.

Ann de Boise - 222044

## Village Design Statement

Richard Godden (Secretary)  
01245 - 223873  
richard.godden@btinternet.com

## POLICE

PC 428 Mick Battersby  
Community Policing Team  
Police Station  
Tylers Ride  
South Woodham Ferrers  
Essex CM3 5XD

## URGENT INCIDENTS:

01245 491491

## NON-URGENT INCIDENTS:

01245 491212

## EMERGENCY - 999

## COMMUNITY BUS

Colin Budgey - 225434

## MOBILE LIBRARY

*Mondays only:*

Memorial Hall 14.10 - 14.25pm  
Spring Close 14.30 - 14.45pm

## MANNED REFUSE VEHICLE

*The vehicle will be stationed at  
Spring Close from 8am to 11am  
on the following Saturdays  
in 2004*

**24th April      26th June  
30th October**

# Little Baddow Voluntary Care Group

***The Group has developed from the old 'Good Neighbours Scheme', a title which most aptly describes its aims then and now. A small committee and a much wider group of supporters provide regular lunches and the opportunity for social contact for elderly and retired villagers.***

The once-a-month Sunday lunch takes place on the second Sunday of the month in the Memorial Hall at 12.30pm and the weekly Tuesday soup lunches are held in St Andrew's Room at 12.15pm. Transport can be arranged to both lunches. If you would like to give the lunches a try, please contact Barbara Staines (226417) about the Sunday lunch and Joan Atkinson (226241) about the Tuesday lunch. You will get a very warm welcome.

We also have list of voluntary drivers we can call upon to take elderly or car-less people to Doctors' surgeries, clinics

and hospital appointments. Transport is booked through Barbara Staines (226417).

Our 'Link Helpers Scheme' is a network of 'good neighbours' who keep a gentle eye on their more vulnerable neighbours and can suggest when some short term support, such as shopping help, might be appreciated. Our Link Helpers number about 50 and cover all areas of the village. We try to welcome new people to the village with a card about our activities and the name and telephone number of their Link Helper. If you don't know who your Link Helper is, please ring Joan Atkinson (226241) to find out.

It was through the Link Helpers several years ago that the Voluntary Community Care Group instigated the Emergency Equipment Survey. A house-to-house questionnaire enabled our group and the Parish Council to locate equipment such as aga cookers, houses with a gas supply,

4x4 vehicles, chainsaws etc and manpower which would be available in emergencies like prolonged snow or power cuts.

The Voluntary Community Care Group also links with the village Visiting Group.

If you have a few hours to spare in 2004, your help with one of our activities would be very welcome. If you would like to know more, please ring Marjorie Ferguson on 223179.

## Netball Club

*Little Baddow Netball Club has two teams - Elms and Oaks in Division 5 & 6 respectively of Chelmsford & District Netball League. Some 20 members enjoy exercise and play once a week throughout the year, and a strong social bond. Anyone interested should contact Felicity Coxhead on 01245 222698*