

## Parish Council Report

Ian Orton, Chair of Parish Council

The last few months have been busy as the new Parish Council has been looking at the way the Parish does things to try and do more with your money and to ensure that we get maximum value in everything we do!

One of the first things we have been able to do is increase the opening hours of the Council Offices so we are now open Monday to Friday 10am to 12noon and we have a target of increasing opening hours from 9am to 1pm so that if you have a local problem you can get through to people who can help!

In addition we have a range of new activities planned for the next few months; Larks in the Park was so successful this year with almost 2000 people enjoying the day that we are planning an additional community event a St Georges Day Celebration on Sunday 22nd April next year – complete with St George chasing a dragon and lots of fun.

We are proud of the range of retail facilities within our village and to celebrate this we are arranging a Retailer of the Year Competition to be held next March when you can vote for your favourite pub, shop or any other retail facility within the village.

Next year is the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the weekend of June 2nd to 5th and a big party will be held at the London Colney Community Centre on Caledon Road, but if anyone wants to organize a street party information packs will be available from the Parish Council.

2012 is also the year of the Olympics and I am keen to know how we can celebrate this once in a lifetime UK experience – a Festival during Olympic fortnight with local sport and arts activities has been suggested. In addition we have been asked to introduce a carnival starting out at the village green and going to the Morris Playing

Fields, which could also link in with the Olympics.

Other events such as Bonfire Night Celebrations, Christmas Carols, Christmas Lights and the Christmas Ball, which this year will be held at the

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Councillor Orton looking for dragons ready for St Georges Day!

London Colney Community Centre on Friday 16th December, are all rolling forward.

The Parish Council provides a large range of services including over a hundred allotments – ever fancied an allotment? If so get in touch with the Council Offices and put your name down – if we need more allotments the Parish Council will see what can be done about bringing more allotments into use.

If you get the chance please have a look at the Parish Council web site and let me know what you think! The address is www.londoncolney-pc.gov.uk

We are working closely with the new district council in St Albans to bring forward projects such as a leisure facility on Cotlandswick Open Space and ensuring that when the Pastoral Centre closes in December the future uses of the building are of benefit to the village.

On a personal note I recently carried out a sponsored parachute jump to raise money towards research into MS and can I thank everyone in the village that wished me well – at 15,000 feet London Colney seemed a long way away!!

I am very keen to hear from anyone who has ideas about existing services from the Parish Council and how we can do things better!

My e-mail address is: chairman@londoncolney-pc.gov.uk

I look forward to hearing from you.

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To serve lunches & help out. Lunch provided for helpers. In the Community Centre Caledon Road

# Christmas Competitions

## Editor

Last year's Christmas Competition was such a success we've decided to do it again. There are three parts to the competition this year:

You can enter the first two parts if you are aged under 16 and live in or go to school in London Colney.

The first is to make a decorative border for the front cover of our Christmas issue. We will be giving local schools a template for children to use. If you don't attend a local school but live in the village then please do enter. Just take an A4 sheet of white paper and draw a line around the 4 sides of the sheet 4cm inside the edge. Now you can decorate outside that line.

Part two is a bit different this time. The idea is stolen from The Readers Digest

so must be a winner. Please write a Christmas Story in just 100 words.

Part three is for adults and isn't a competition. If you are a Radio 4 listener you will be familiar with this idea. Write your news in one sentence. It won't be read by a famous radio presenter but it will appear in the Christmas Issue of the magazine. under the heading My News. The Editorial committee will decide which items of news will be published.

Send your entries to The Parish Council Office, Caledon Community Centre, Caledon Road, London Colney before 16th October 2011. Mark it F.A.O. Maria Aguado. Please include your name, age, address and school and a contact phone number if you wish. Part three entries can be anonymous. Please mark them F.A.O. Maria Aguado but no name or address is necessary.

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# Parish Council Events

## September to December 2011

If you would like more information, to take part or volunteer to help with any of the following events please contact [projectmanager@londoncolney.com](mailto:projectmanager@londoncolney.com)

### Popular Local Band 'The Push' are performing in the Caledon Community Centre on 17th September and 19th November.

Members FREE, Non-Members £1

### St Albans Food and Drink Festival - 28 September - 9 October

Luncheon Club prices reduced to £2.50 during the Food Festival. Recipe Swap. Bring your favourite recipe and add it to the Recipe Swap board in the Members Bar. Bring a sample if you're feeling enthusiastic.

### Elvis Live at the Caledon Community Centre – Friday 21 October 7.30pm 'til late.

Don't miss another electrifying performance from our own, our very own, Leigh Casling!

### Fireworks Display – Sunday 6 November – 6.30pm

Local Schools, Churches and groups come together with the Parish Council to run this spectacular event of Fireworks and music, at Morris Playing Field, Whitehorse Lane. No entrance fee. The bucket donations (suggested £5 per family) go to those local groups that assist the Parish Council with the event. Last year the groups were the 3 local primary schools, the Scouts, St Peter's Church and the Poppy Appeal.

### Remembrance Sunday – Sunday 13 November – 10.30am

The general public start to gather at the War Memorial in the High Street from 10.30am. The groups marching from the Caledon Community Centre, Caledon Road, will be the Royal British Legion, Parish Councillors, The local Scouts, Guides, Cubs, Brownies and Rainbows. They march round to the Memorial at 10.50am. A short service is held at the Memorial where the names of the fallen will be read and a collection will be taken for the Poppy Appeal. The High Street from the junction of Haseldine Road to the junction of St Annes Road will be closed off by the Police during the marching and service.

### Christmas Lights Switch on – Friday 25 November – 5.30pm

Come and join us on Chester Gibbons Green by the Millennium Clock and help members from the cast of the St Albans (Snow White & 7 Dwarfs) and London Colney (Jack in the Beanstalk) Pantomimes count down to switching on the lights in the High Street and on the big Christmas tree. Children from the three local junior Schools will also be singing carols.

### Christmas Ball – Friday 16 December 7.00pm

A magical night, music and dancing till midnight, a five course meal and charity raffle. This year at the Community Centre Caledon Road. See page 7 for details and booking form.

## Public Notices

**LONDON COLNEY  
HISTORY SOCIETY  
ANNUAL  
EXHIBITION  
CALEDON  
COMMUNITY  
CENTRE  
SATURDAY and  
SUNDAY 1st and  
2nd OCTOBER 2011**

### POPPY COLLECTION 2011

**Sun Oct 30th - Sat Nov  
12th**

I am looking for volunteers to collect at Sainsbury's/Marks in London Colney. If you could spare one or two hours to hold a Poppy tin I would be very pleased to hear from you. We all know what a good cause this is - for service men and women who have fought for their country. Last year, 2010, the overall total for the village was £13,500. Of this, £6,000 was collected at Colney Fields. I'm sure, with your help, we could raise even more please contact Laurel Blyth on 01727 869530

### NEXT ISSUE WINTER 2011

Distribution date - 1st week December 2011 Copy deadline - 1st November 2011

Articles should be sent to the editors c/o: Maria Aguado, 369 High Street, London Colney, AL2 1EA Tel: 823528 (phone manned evenings and weekends only) or e-mail: [editor@londoncolney.com](mailto:editor@londoncolney.com)

The editors of this magazine rely on contributors for the accuracy of their articles. We regret that we cannot check all the facts, but we are happy to consider printing corrections if errors are brought to our attention. Whilst the editors endeavour to include all items submitted by the deadline given, pressure on space may sometimes mean that items will be held over for consideration in future issues and may not therefore appear in the current issue. Articles may be edited for length or clarity.



# Park Street Camera Club

Rosemary Wenzelul



On the 8 September we re-start our weekly meetings looking at the holiday snaps our members have taken.

The following week on the 15th we get down to business again with a 'People' competition for projected images, followed the next week by a 'People' competition for prints.

On 29 September Peter Bradman of the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew, will be speaking on 'The US Desert Experience'.

19 September to 2 October 2011 - Photographic Exhibition at St. Albans Library (The Maltings)

27 October 2011 - Inter-club Landscape Competition at How Wood School

We are a small and extremely friendly Club, we welcome new members (both beginners and advanced photographers)

and you will always be given a warm welcome on arrival. If you would like to come along one evening as a visitor, you will be more than welcome (there is no pressure to join) we meet at 7.45pm for 8pm start, each Thursday at St. Stephen Parish Centre, Station Road, Bricket Wood. Visit our website to view our programme, photo galleries, competition winning photographs and much more.

Please contact Rosemary Wenzelul, Publicity Officer, on 01923 677111 for further information or visit our website at [www.parkstreetcameraclub.com](http://www.parkstreetcameraclub.com)

©Photograph 'City of London Ship Windvane' by Club Member Derek Wenzelul

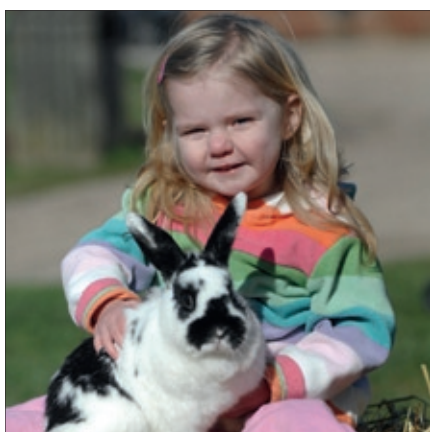
# Ye Ha at Bowmansgreen

Jacky Potter

A rootin', tootin' two evenings of cowboys, outlaws and Indians entertained packed audiences as Year 4, 5 and 6 children at Bowmansgreen School performed their cowboy play 'Ye-Ha'.

The production told the story of how saloon cook Wilbur, adventurous cowgirl Billy-Jo and her trusty steed Lightning defeated bad mayor Tex Truman and his outlaw henchmen proved to be a real hit.

Fantastic acting and singing resulted in a performance that all involved can be proud of. Well done to everyone who took part.




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 Maria Aguado  
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**[www.paperchain-preschool.co.uk](http://www.paperchain-preschool.co.uk)**

## Food and Drink Festival

Maria Hoskins



The St Albans Food & Drink Festival is now in its 4th year, showcasing the fantastic range of food, drink and produce available throughout St Albans District.

The festival starts on 28th September with the famous CAMRA Beer Festival, and ends with the al fresco Festival Finale on St Peter's Street, St Albans on 9th October.

Throughout the 12 days, many of the pubs, restaurants and hotels in the District are offering meal deals or holding events including tastings, workshops and cookery demonstrations. There will also be a continental market, farmers market, and festival stalls giving you the chance to sample and buy local food.

Nominations for this year's Food & Drink awards are announced on 15th September, and voting runs from 15th September to 30th September. You can vote online at [www.stalbansfoodanddrink.com](http://www.stalbansfoodanddrink.com), and the winners will be announced at the Award Ceremony on 6th October.

If you would like more information about the Festival, full details of all the events and meal deals on offer (including all those in London Colney) will be on our website [www.stalbansfoodanddrink.com](http://www.stalbansfoodanddrink.com). You can also email [foodanddrinkfestival@stalbands.gov.uk](mailto:foodanddrinkfestival@stalbands.gov.uk) to join the mailing list or telephone the Tourist Information Centre on 01727 864511 if you have any queries.

*Here in London Colney we are marking the Food Festival with a Recipe Swap. Bring along your favourite recipe and pin it to the Recipe Swap Board in the member's bar at the Caledon Centre.*

*Luncheon Clubbers will find their lunch at a special reduced price of £2.50 during the festival so come along, contribute and enjoy!*

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# World Wildlife

Dave Ansell

Red foxes hunt mainly at night, eating almost anything from rabbits and earthworms to fish and apples. They have adapted to exploit other sources of food and now live in towns as well as the countryside.

They should live for about as long as a dog, about 10 years, but they rarely do.

Many will have died by their first spring at the hands of man - commercial trapping for pelts, farmers worried about their livestock and gamekeepers all account for many while a great number are killed on the roads.

A fox's home is called its earth, usually situated in woodland or rough pasture from where the fox must hone its hunting techniques and seek out new territory in order to find enough food especially during the winter months.

It has been estimated that one fifth of all the world's wildlife is threatened with extinction. This is not true of the fox. At the end of winter, when numbers are lowest, there are 258,000 adult foxes in Britain, of which 33,000 live in urban areas.



# Team of the Year Award Seals Season

Jacky Potter

Bowmansgreen Primary School Girls' Football team put the seal on a fantastic season by winning the Primary School Team of the Year Award at the St Albans City and District Sports Awards.

This award recognises 'a primary school team who have achieved success in their chosen sport whilst showing great sportsmanship, motivation and determination'. This year, the girls have triumphed in the Wix Millennium Shield, St Albans Primary School Cup, St Albans Primary School League and St Albans Primary School 6 a side, and have done so exhibiting all the key values outlined in the above citation. The girls received their award from Alison Mowbray, an Olympic silver medallist in rowing and also met Emma Wiggs who, as captain of the Great Britain Sitting Volleyball team, will be participating in next year's Paralympics. The award of Team of the Year provided a fitting finale to a football season of fantastic effort and achievement.



London Colney Parish Council presents  
**12th London Colney**

# Christmas Ball

**Friday 16 December 2011 7.00pm – Midnight**

*Enjoy a four course meal and dance till midnight  
 with a great atmosphere in our own Caledon Community Centre*

**Grand Draw in aid of Local Charities  
 Late Bar**

**Tickets £30.00**

Book early to avoid disappointment as tickets are limited  
 This year there is a menu choice for the starter, main course and dessert.  
 Please make sure you've entered your choices on the booking form below.  
 Please complete and return the booking form to: Linda Gibling  
 Parish Council Office, Caledon Community Centre, Caledon Road, London Colney, AL2 1PU



## Christmas Ball Booking Form

Please send me . . . . tickets @ £30.00 each      Total . . . . .

(Tables seat 10 people)

**MENU CHOICES** - Tell us how many of each dish your party will need.

**STARTERS**

- We would like .....
- Chef's Homemade Soups*
  - Exotic Fruit and Prawn Cocktail*
  - Vegetarian Dish*

**MAIN COURSE**

- We would like .....
- Traditional Roast Turkey with all the trimmings*
  - Fillet of Salmon served with Hollandaise Sauce*
  - Vegetarian Dish*

**DESSERT**

- We would like .....
- Sherry Trifle*
  - Chocolate Roulade with Cointreau Cream*

*Coffee or tea and Mince Pies for everyone please!*

Cheques, payable to London Colney Parish Council, must be sent with this booking form

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Tel No ..... eMail.....



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# DON'T MISS



**LIVE AT THE CALEDON COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
**Saturday 17th September & 19th November**  
**8.30pm Members FREE, Non-Members £1**



# British Legion Women - 80th Anniversary

Beverley Crofts



The Royal British Legion Women's Section London Colney Branch celebrated their 80th Anniversary on 15th May 2011.

A Service of Thanksgiving was held at St Peters Church, conducted by Reverend Lynne Fawns. Our County Standard Bearer Heather Spence, followed by our Branch Standard Bearer, Beverley Crofts led the visiting Branch Standards into Church. Our guests included the Chairman and members of the Parish Council, Officers of Hertfordshire County Women's Section and members of The Royal British Legion Women's Section and Branches from around the County.

A collection was taken for the Royal British Legion Women's Section Benevolent Fund, which raised over £80 to help Ex-Service Personnel and their dependents.

## *"... presented a National Certificate of Appreciation..."*

After the service refreshments were enjoyed in the Church hall, during which Mrs Barbara Todd, County Chairman presented a National Certificate of Appreciation to the Branch for 80 years continuous good work to The Royal British Legion Women's Section.

## *"Join Us..."*

Our Motto of "SERVICE NOT SELF" is as relevant today as it was when we were first formed in the village 80 years ago, so why not come along and join us so that we may continue to raise funds to help support both those being injured in conflict today and those that have been injured in past conflicts as well as their dependents and the dependents of those that have served and paid THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE.

## *"interesting speakers, suppers, sales..."*

Our meetings are held Thursdays fortnightly at the Pavilion, Morris Playing Fields, Whitehorse Lane at 7.45pm where



Royal British Legion Women's Section, London Colney Branch Officers cutting the 80th Anniversary cake. From left to right: Beverley Crofts, Secretary & Standard Bearer; Gill Hoplin, Treasurer; Joyce Lintill, President; Susan Ward, Chairman; Pat Naseby, Vice-Chairman

we have interesting speakers, suppers, sales, competitions etc.

Membership is open to all women over the age of 16 years with or without a Service connection. Members also have the opportunity to attend County & National conferences, the Festival of Remembrance and other events both locally and nationally throughout the year.

Further details from our Secretary Miss Beverley Crofts on 01582 763736.

We would like to thank everybody who supported our fundraising at "Larks in the Parks".

## *Forthcoming Events*

We are holding a quiz night and raffle on Friday 9th September 7pm for 7.30pm at the Pavilion. Tickets £3 each available from our Secretary Miss Beverley Crofts on 01582 763736. Please bring your own drink/nibbles. Tea/coffee and biscuits will be served during the interval. Bring along a team or join a team on the evening. PLEASE SUPPORT US

## *FORTHCOMING MEETINGS*

**8th Sept Group Meeting & Keep Fit**

**22nd Sept Harvest Sale & Supper**

**6th Oct Musical Evening  
Competition: Favourite Toy/Teddy**

**20th Oct Auction of small items  
for The Poppy Appeal**

**3rd Nov Annual General Meeting  
Competition: Your Favourite Article**

**17th Nov Sweet Modelling**

**1st Dec Group Meeting**

**15th Dec Christmas Party  
Competition: Write a Christmas Poem**

# Village Person - Lisa Barton, Head Teacher at St Barnadette Catholic Primary School

Lisa Barton



I first came to St Barnadette Catholic Primary School as an interim Head in April 2010 whilst the school was awaiting the appointment of a substantive Head. I have now been at the school for a year. I enjoyed working and contributing to the further development of the school so much so that I applied for the post of Headteacher and was appointed in February 2011.

Much of my childhood was spent in

County Kerry in Ireland where I attended the Mercy convent in Tralee. As I began to think about my own future I decided I would like to train to be a teacher and wanted to do this at St Mary's University College, Twickenham. I came to England with my family and attended St James' Catholic High school in Burnt Oak, Edgware. I have been extremely fortunate to have had an excellent education provided by teachers who were committed and dedicated to ensuring their pupils both enjoyed school and reached their potential.

I have always been in Catholic Education and have had the opportunity to mentor and support other headteachers whilst also managing and leading my own school. I have been an interim Head in three other Catholic schools over the last ten years. I thoroughly enjoyed this work as it gave me an opportunity to support other colleagues and also learn something from their practice. It is a great privilege and honour to be in a such a position and one which I would never take for granted.

The reason I decided to choose to go back into a substantive headship was that as an interim Head, you do not have the

same contact with the children. This is my passion. I enjoy being part of a team who has the children's well being and interest at heart and takes great pleasure in working hard to ensure they receive a high quality education.

I have three Cocker Spaniel dogs who are 6, 4 and 2 years of age. They are not related in any way and are very different dogs in terms of colouring and personality. I enjoy going for long walks with them and enjoy being in their company.

I am also a keen runner however, I must say my work often prohibits me from running as much as I would like. I have ran two marathons, Dublin and the Paris marathon in the last two years with a personal best of 3 hours 40 minutes. I have raised money for various charities.

I also enjoy walking, reading, attending the theatre, dancing, listening to music and spending quality time with my family.

As I work quite long hours, I never really sit down to watch television until about 9pm. I thoroughly enjoy programmes such as the Apprentice. I avidly follow the contestants throughout the programme and enjoy watching how they respond to the tasks and to one another.

## Eye Care Costs to Rise

Ingrid Marson



Volunteer researcher Ian Lamb has spent the last year compiling statistics about the cost of providing eye care services. He has found that the costs of providing eye care in Hertfordshire will spiral over the next decade. This increase is due to the ageing population in the Hertfordshire area - by 2020, the number of over 65s in Hertfordshire is expected to increase

by 22% (compared with the number in 2010).

Hertfordshire Society for the Blind (HSB) supports 5,500 people with sight loss in Hertfordshire and is worried that it will struggle to cope with the future demand, particularly as the charity had its funding cut by 25 percent last year.

In Hertfordshire, the current cost of

providing eye care services to over 65s is estimated to be £95m; by 2020, the costs are predicted to rise to £165m.

HSB advises all adults to get their eyes tested every two years. Eye tests will not only allow an optician to check whether you have a refractive error, but will also allow them to pick up on the early signs of preventable eye diseases such as glaucoma or diabetic retinopathy.

If you are suffering from sight loss, contact HSB Sight Line on 01707 324680 or email us at [office@hertsblind.com](mailto:office@hertsblind.com). We offer a range of services to people with visual impairments, including information, advice, social activities and home visits.

HSB hopes to recruit more volunteers to provide support to people with visual impairment. For more information about volunteering, contact 01707 324680 or [office@hertsblind.com](mailto:office@hertsblind.com)



# Elected Representatives

## Parish Council

### North West Ward

Maria Aguado	369 High Street	823528	maria.aguado@dsl.pipex.com
Jane Hobday	14 Telford Road	769748	janeantonia@gmail.com
Mike Hobday	14 Telford Road	07853 292 307	mike.hobday@ntlworld.com

### South West Ward

Jacob Quagliozi	5 Morris Way	07807 096824	cllr.j.quagliozi@stalbans.gov.uk
Norman Mahony	36 St Annes Road	767348	ncmahony@ntlworld.com
Ian Orton (Chairman)	8 Jubilee Avenue	852169	ianorton@btinternet.com

### East Ward

Laurel Blyth	30A St Annes Road	769530	laurelblyth@hotmail.co.uk
Katherine Gardener	47 Thamesdale	07765137453	auxin@hotmail.co.uk
Tony Smith	2 Summers Way	821314	tony@happyliife.co.uk

## St Albans District Council

Jacob Quagliozi	5 Morris Way	07807 096824	cllr.j.quagliozi@stalbans.gov.uk
Irene Willcocks	76 St Annes Road	821753	cllr.i.willcocks@stalbans.gov.uk
Dave Winstone	7 St Annes Road	822310	cllr.d.winstone@stalbans.gov.uk

## Hertfordshire County Council

Chris Brazier	The Cottage, 3, Park Lane, Colney Heath, AL4 0NR	823586 07836 738853	chris.brazier@hertscc.gov.uk
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## Member of Parliament

Anne Main	House of Commons, Westminster, London	0207 219 8270	maina@parliament.uk
	Constituency Office	01727 825100	

## Members of the European Parliament

There are 7 MEPs for the Eastern Region. Contact them at these numbers...

Conservative: 01245 345188,

Labour: 01223 240202,

Liberal: 01223 566700,

UKIP: 01245 266466

## DIRECTORY ERRORS

St Bernadette Catholic Primary School

Headteacher Mrs E Barton 01727 822489

# Parish Council Meetings

**Parish Council Meetings are held on the first Friday of each month except in August. The next meeting will be on Friday 2nd September at 7pm in The Pavillion at Morris Way Playing Fields. Members of the public are welcome to attend.**

**Early in each meeting Police Community Support Officers give a report of the previous month's crime in the village followed by a Public Question time if you wish to ask questions of the PCSOs or the Councillors.**

**The dates for the forthcoming meetings are:**

**October 7th, November 4th and December 2nd.**

# Family Fitness and Fun

Armand Constantin

It was January 1st 2006 – the day I was supposed to make New Year resolutions and hopefully keep them. I was thinking about where to focus my energies on this wet, dull and windy day. I was keen on doing something both physical and enjoyable and ideally in a group for the social aspect.

Whilst I was pondering, a leaflet was posted through the letterbox. Nothing unusual about that I hear you say. The thing was, it was just what I was looking for. In big bold print the heading said:

“Come and join TISKA, London Colney’s brand new karate club. Great for fitness, flexibility and family fun”

Excellent timing. And first lesson free. Sounded great. I telephoned the Sensei, Mr Gregory, who put my mind at ease with his focus on family, fitness, flexibility



and FUN! I was sold on the family aspect, so asked my daughter Hannah if she would like to go along with me. Hannah was 18 years old at the time and was also keen. The venue was London Colney’s sports centre in Perham Way, and the karate was to take place in the main hall.

The initial free lesson was all it said on

the tin – and some. We had great fun, and we knew we wanted to continue this together.

It’s now 2011. Hannah and I are both black belts, and I teach and help out at the club under the guidance of Sensei Mr Gregory. The club has gone from strength to strength, and always encourages new members. I recommend you turn up one Friday at 7:00pm and have a go – you won’t regret it, and you might get hooked, just like Hannah and me.

See you there!

Sensei Mr C Gregory (pictured below) has been training in Shotokan Karate for 17 years and took part in his first beginners class at the St Albans Karate Club, under the instruction of Mr K Coles. In May 1999, he passed his grading for Black Belt (Shodan), which gave him a great sense of achievement and made him realise anything is possible if you put your heart into it. The highlight of his career was when he went on the 2010 Masters Course in Dubai, where the Chief Instructor of TISKA, Sensei.G.Sahota (below left) held a 5 day course for all senior grades in the association and Mr Gregory was also awarded 4th Degree Black Belt (Yondan). “Karate is so much more than Self Defence, it’s about having fun, learning from others and the making of great friendships!”



**Sunday 2nd October 2011 10:15 - 11:30am**

**Nicholas Breakspear School, Colney Heath Lane, St Albans**

**nearly new**

**10am start for card holding members of St Albans NCT**

**sale**

## Christmas Biscuits

The Parish Council has given boxes of biscuits to the over 75s and house-bound in London Colney for the last eleven years and would like to update its delivery list.

If you, or a friend or neighbour in the village, are 75 years or over or house-bound would like to receive a gift from the Council then please complete the form below and sent it to:

Parish Council Office, Caledon Community Centre  
Caledon Road, London Colney, AL2 1PU



Parish Council Christmas Gift

Name .....

Address .....

Tel No .....



# Cricket Colts Re-Launch in 2012

Andrew Stirrat

London Colney Cricket Club is looking to re-launch their colts section in 2012.

Former colts' organiser Ian Prior has been asked to start up the youth section again following several fallow years. The club has recently been revitalised following the return of Graham Seymour as Club Captain. The club has been working hard to secure sponsorship for the proposed new colts section and aims to provide a high standard of coaches and coaching equipment.

However the club is no different from any other and needs new players if the club is to flourish in future years. Ian is hoping to start with boys who will be U10 (Year 5) for 2012 and to take the group through to U15 cricket – in fact a 6 year plan that will hopefully lead to several of these youngsters playing in the senior teams by maybe 2015. If all goes well a new group of players will form a squad every year, so that hopefully London Colney CC can enter teams into the Hertfordshire Club competition every year. Ian is in the process of forming a small team of coaches to run winter/spring training sessions and then to run summer teams.

Ian played for the club for 30 years and now works as a free lance cricket coach. He works mainly at Choice Cricket Centre, Redbourn, as well as being the present North Hertfordshire Area Head Coach. He was a Hertfordshire County coach at various age groups 2003-2009 and is qualified to Level 3 status.

He is looking at organising taster sessions during November/December so that a squad of 16 boys can be formed at 2012 U10 (year 5). Year 4 boys are of course also welcome. We would be looking to get the boys playing hard ball cricket as soon as possible.

So if you are interested in cricket or maybe just sporty and would like to give it a try please contact Ian by e-mail on [ian.prior2@ntlworld.com](mailto:ian.prior2@ntlworld.com) or phone 07762353819. London Colney CC are investing money into this project and will make all new boys and their parents welcome at their lovely ground in Green Street, Shenley. Please feel free to contact Ian if you have any questions or enquiries. Further information, news and results please visit the club website at [londoncolneycc.hitscricket.com](http://londoncolneycc.hitscricket.com)

We look forward to hearing from you.



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# Gardening

Anne Kitchener

My overriding desire with the garden is to fill it with as much colour as possible for as much of the year as possible. Harmonising, clashing colour I don't really mind as long as there is plenty of it. Alongside this I would also like to use what little space I have to grow a few crops. These are rather large demands on a small space. To this end, over the last year, we have made what we consider to be significant changes to our garden. We removed a thick covering of ivy from the garage and replaced it with a plum tree and 2 gooseberry bushes. After reading various books on the matter I am training the plum tree as a fan and the gooseberry bushes as cordons against the garage wall. This has perhaps removed some of the colour, but I hope has added to the productivity of our plot.

In the spring we removed the lawn and replaced it with a raised bed and surrounded this with gravel. Both of these areas are developing well. The bed has been planted up with a mixture of plants which have either been given, have self seeded or bought. I took the opportunity of having a new bed to play with to add plants that I have wanted for some time but did not have room for, or had previously failed to grow. It is now filled with a mixture of eryngium, penstemons, perovskia, catmint and hesperis plus others taken from cuttings and offshoots from around the garden. I wanted to

use the bed to provide colour to follow the first flush of flowers in early summer which tends to falter during July and into August, and so far this seems to be working.

After the very dry and unusually warm spring of this year many of the early summer flowers developed earlier than usual and I was concerned that there would be a prolonged period in July without anything in bloom before the later summer flowers appeared. I need not have worried. The rain of the last month or so has made up for the dry spring and has encouraged plants to flower for longer or to have a second flush of flowering which is now filling in the gap before the later summer rudbekias, helianthus, ice plants, monbretia and echinaceas start to provide their colour.

I also use pots to help give a continuity of colour. I have a few favourite fuchsias which I propagate by cuttings in late August and in summer keep these in pots on the patio to brighten up its shadier side. In full sun I have various different potted lilies and with the gravel area it is now possible to spread the pots around further. In spring I sow seeds of Cosmos Sonata in mixed shades of pink and white in the conservatory which I can then transfer to two wide pots. These can be moved around to where more colour is needed as the summer

season progresses. I have had to start again with my agapanthus in pots as they failed to survive last winter even though they had done previously. This year I will wrap them in bubble wrap as well as moving them to a sheltered spot against the house wall and hope that this will be more successful



The latest improvement has been to remove a clematis Montana which has been growing up the back of the house since we moved in. Its flowering capacity has diminished of late and it was smothering a climbing rose. It has been replaced with another planted at the other side of the wall and the rose is already showing signs of responding to its rejuvenation and is flowering. All these changes will hopefully in time bring about my desire to prolong and enhance the colours and the productivity of what is a small plot, but one that gives great pleasure.



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# Alexander Church Celebrates 50 Years

Keith Simpson

You may not be aware of Alexander Church, as it is tucked away in Alexander Road just past the London Colney School. However if you were living in London Colney in the 1950's or 1960's you probably came to the Sunday School or the mid-week Bible Class, or knew someone who did. At this time both the Sunday School and mid-week bible class had over 100 children attending.

Although this year the Church is celebrating fifty years in the present building, its roots go back to around 1947. A travelling evangelist held a tent campaign on some spare ground on the corner of Peters Avenue and Napsbury Avenue, now built on with three houses. The campaign attracted a lot of interest and when it finished, Mr Vic Poulton, the Curator of St Albans Museum, was asked if he would continue the work by starting a Sunday School, and so started the beginnings of Alexander Church.

The Sunday School opened in a cobblers shop, run by Mr Connibere in the parade on the High Street at the top of Kings Road. Word quickly spread and the confined space of the shop soon became over crowded. A move was essential and the Sunday School moved into the Junior School in Alexander Road and it wasn't long before children from all over Colney were coming along. The High Street, at this time, was an extremely busy main road, this being before the by-pass was built and it needed a "lolly-pop" man to be in attendance at 3pm every Sunday, to ensure all the children safely crossed the road.

Being led of God, Mr & Mrs Poulton and the founding members prayed earnestly for a permanent meeting place. They were pleased to learn that Mr Stephens, the property developer who had built the Napsbury Avenue estate, offered them a parcel of land in Alexander Road. The problem was that no one had the money to buy the land. Again much prayer was made and on the eve of the purchase dead line, an envelope containing the exact purchase money was posted through Mr Poulton's letter box. He never did discover who had made this generous donation.

The land was bought and a wooden Gospel hall was soon erected. There will be many in London Colney who will have good memories of the Sunday School days or Bible Class hours, spent packed into this wooden building. Many will remember Laurie Gower and his piano accordion or the boys and girls youth groups, called "Covenanters".

A building fund was started and with the help of Sir John Laing's charity, for local churches and many gifts, the present building was built. It opened in December 1961.

The Church is still very active and still has that friendly and welcoming atmosphere that has been its character since the days of Mr & Mrs Poulton. After all it is not the bricks and mortar that make a church but the people, who are the Church. It still continues to proclaim the truth of the Scriptures with its text that "Jesus Christ, is the same yesterday, today and forever".

We are holding several events to mark this fiftieth anniversary and would love to welcome you to any or all of them.

## **Cheese & Wine Evening Friday 7 Oct 7.00-9.00pm**

A reunion for those who came to Sunday school, Bible Class and Covenanter. Drop in for a very informal evening and catch up with friends from the past.

## **Back to Church Sunday Sunday 9 Oct 11.00-12.00am**

A great opportunity to once again return to church for a family service.

## **Family service Sunday 16 Oct 11.00 - 12.00am**

Guest speaker Mr Derek Hayman, artist and ventriloquist. Ideal for all the family.

## **Songs of Yesteryear Sunday 13 Nov 4.00- 5.00pm**

An informal sing-a-long with songs that remind you of your Sunday School days.

## **Quiz Night Friday 25 Nov 7.00-9.00pm**

It's just for fun. A general knowledge quiz night, includes a short epilogue.

## **Carol Service Sunday 11 Dec 6.00- 7.15pm**

Join us for our traditional Carol service including mince pies and hot drinks afterward.

The Church is located in Alexander Road just after the London Colney Junior School and past the first turning on the right.




Visit  
[www.willowsfarmshop.com](http://www.willowsfarmshop.com)  
for our latest events or call  
**0870 129 9718**

## **GOOD FOOD AT LONDON COLNEY COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Luncheon Club every  
Tuesday and Thursday  
from 12 until 2pm  
Enjoy a 3 course meal +  
Tea or Coffee for £3.50**

# 40 Years at St Bernadette

Lisa Barton

St Bernadette Catholic Primary School, London Colney celebrated its 40th anniversary with a special liturgy celebrated by Bishop George Stack on 20th May 2011. Past staff including the Loreto sisters who were instrumental in establishing the school were invited to the liturgy. To mark the celebration in a very special way, the school purchased a new lectern and altar with a donation made by a past parent. In keeping with the first blessing of the school, all pupils and staff received a small resurrection cross.

The celebration ended with the blessing of the newly created Prayer Garden.

It was a wonderful occasion bringing together both past and present members of the school community. It was a very joyful and uplifting liturgy; all the more special by the way in which the young children participated. They were so involved and aware of the importance and happiness of the occasion and entered into the celebration with dignity and enjoyment.

This celebration gave the whole school community an opportunity to celebrate its success. The parents association, known as FABs, Families at St Bernadette School, worked hard and epitomized the great commitment and dedication of parents. There were many opportunities to celebrate with a whole school street party and a Ball for parents and friends. This was such a great success that we cannot possibly wait another ten years or so before experiencing such a joyful event!



During the Summer Term 2011, the curriculum focus was on arts and drama. To commemorate our 40th anniversary, the school funded various art workshops led by professional artists. As a result the pupils created a mural in our Dining Room which depicts our patron saint, St Bernadette



in a modern setting accompanied by two pupils.

A wall hanging which displays the work of every child depicting what they enjoy most at St Bernadette School.

A mosaic, mounted at the front entrance of the school which was designed and made by pupils.

Having completed the national tests by the end of May, pupils were quite rightly able to engage fully in the more aesthetical and sporting elements of the curriculum. The pupils were treated to two theatre shows in school. One was provided by Ten Ten theatre and looks at Education for Personal Relationships issues such as friendship, growing up and moving on. Our school FABs team funded "The Happy Prince" show by Image Theatre. This gave pupils a valuable insight into drama and they were able to pick up valuable tips and incorporate into their own work which culminated in the summer production "Those Canaan Days" which was a great success and was a total sell out!





# What Larks We Had!

Maria Aguado



Another excellent day of entertainment provided by London Colney Parish Council and St Albans Leisure with this year, the blessing of the weather:

Local organisations and performers combined with professional acts who toured the various Larks sites made this another day to remember.

Money was raised for a number of worthy causes and everyone had a great day out. We're already planning an even better Lark for next year.



# St Peter's Church

Rev'd. Lynne Fawns

One of the most humbling aspects of being a parish church of a busy village is that we have the privilege of being a welcoming place in times of joy and in times of sadness. This is something we do in the name and place of Jesus. I hope you will always feel that as your parish church we are here for you. This summer we have had the great pleasure to host quite a few special events. We hosted a moving service celebrating The Royal British Legion Women's Section 80th anniversary and we had a stunning concert from the wonderful Cantilena Choir. We welcomed schools and cubs into our church; we held our Summer Fayre and indeed had the great pleasure of welcoming our multinational music group from the SPEC centre to lead us in worship and of course we had a wonderful Celebration of Marriage Service with the Renewal of Vows, complete with wedding cake, wedding candles, photographs and of course champagne. Perhaps the strangest event was the Village Duck Race.....the sight of three grown up members of St Peter's wading in the river trying to coax 200 ducks to flow towards the bridge is something I'll never forget. Thank you to you all for the wonderful support.

## Memorial Service

The annual Village Memorial Service will take place this year on Sunday 13th

## New Warden for War Graves

Reverend Lynne Fawns

Following the retirement of Ted Turner who did a wonderful job tending the war graves, we are pleased to welcome John Fuller. John will now be responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the seven war graves at St Peters Church.

He is originally from Norfolk and served in the RAF as a mechanic for many years. He moved to St Albans over 7 years ago to be close to his family and is looking forward to caring for our war graves. If you see him in the churchyard do say "hello!"

### Playing Ducks and Rakes at the St Peter's Church Summer Fair 2011.

*Rumours that the ducks were being encouraged to race upstream are unfounded. The difficulty was caused by the slow summer flow. The ducks made a bid for freedom as they crossed the finish line but were all safely gathered in before they could get lodged in under the bridge at Shenley Lane and cause a flood.*



November (Remembrance Sunday) at 4pm. This service is open to all who want to attend. As I say every year it doesn't matter if your loved one died 2 months ago or 20 years ago you are welcome to come and have your loved one remembered.

It will be a simple and hopeful service with well known, well loved hymns, prayers and a short talk. There will also be an act of remembrance during

which candles will be lit in memory of each of our loved ones. At the end of the service you will be invited to take a candle away with you, if you wish. Of course you are very welcome to come and join us for refreshments after the service. If you would like your loved one remembered by name in the service and you are going to be there, then do place a note through the Vicarage door with your name, telephone number and your loved ones name, printed clearly. We hope you will come and join us for this simple but moving village service.

Finally, if you are finding the darker and colder nights a bit of a drag then do look on our notice boards for some of our forthcoming services and events. Two of which are:

Sunday 25th September "Harvest Festival" at 10am

Saturday 12th November 11am – 2pm St Peter's Christmas Fayre.

Please remember that St Peter's Parish Church is your church and her doors are always open, ready to meet you with a warm welcome.

May God Bless you all!

Lynne and the family of St Peters



# Age UK

Judith Howells



Help in the Home  
Age UK Hertfordshire brings a sparkle to London Colney  
Age UK Hertfordshire's popular Help in the Home service offers domestic support to older people (50+) and people with disabilities: helping with laundry and ironing, changing the bed, collecting shopping and prescriptions, as well as general cleaning tasks...all to help you to keep your home the way you like it to be.

The service is tailored to the individual; clients choose the type of help they receive and pay by the hour for as much time as they require from their Home Helper each week

Sometimes a little help with the smaller things, such as cleaning the bathroom or washing the kitchen floor, can make life a lot easier.

It's also a brilliant way to gain some extra time to do the things you enjoy rather than worrying about the housework. While your Home Helper takes care of keeping your home spick and span, you have more time to keep up with your interests.

All Home Helpers are checked through references and the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB), and are thoroughly trained to provide an excellent service.

If you think Age UK Hertfordshire could add some sparkle to your home in London Colney Call: 01923 224472  
e: helpinthehome.sw@ageukherts.org.uk



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# London Colney Baptist Church

Joan Thomas

As I sit writing, it's summer; the sky is dull and the rain pouring down. By the time *you* read it the summer will officially be over; but hopefully we will have seen some sunshine in between!

This is a time of change, when the nights get longer (or the days shorter!), and the weather colder; and we begin to look forward to harvest, bonfire night - and even Christmas. The children return to school, some for the first time, some from Infant to Junior and others will go on to college or university or enter the adult world of work. Whatever the case, all will face new challenges on life's journey.

Life is a continual journey – looking back at what is past, living in the present and looking forward to the future. This is so with us at London Colney Baptist Church. We look back and remember that Baptists have worshipped faithfully in London Colney for over 200 years. We continue to meet and worship God in the present and look forward to the future



**Adrian Wood, London Colney's new Baptist Minister**

with anticipation as we welcome our new minister, Adrian Wood, his wife Nikki and daughter Amelie, in October.

Like the children facing changes at school we look forward to new challenges, getting to know a new family and working together as we journey together. I am sure that Adrian will soon settle and get to know many of you around the village, and will be introducing himself in the next

edition.

In the present we continue to meet at the Baptist Church in Kings Road every Sunday at 10.30 am. We are a small, family church, and you can be sure of a warm welcome. If you have a child under the age of 5 and are free on a Friday morning, you are welcome to come along to our Parent/Carer Toddler group, held in the church hall from 9.30 to 11.30am (term-time only).

If you have need of legal advice then come along to our Solicitors Surgery held on the first Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm (excluding January & August; rear church entrance). This is hosted by two church members and a local solicitor will provide you with initial legal advice completely free of charge.

If you wish to know more please do not hesitate to call Joan Thomas on: (01727) 763528.



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## MUSICAL EVENING

St Margaret's Parish Church in Ridge is a Grade II\* listed building dating from the early 15th Century with chancel walls possibly 100 years older. Built from napped flint with tiled roofs, it was extensively repaired between 1740-6 and restored with the addition of the South porch and organ bay 1881 by A. Billings. The church has needed costly repairs over the last two years hence this musical evening to bolster the repair fund.

Come along and enjoy this evening in a lovely setting.

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# London Colney Primary SATs Success

Lisa Valla



A proud Year 6 celebrate in the sun with their teacher, Ms Barefoot

London Colney Primary School ended the Summer term with a lot to celebrate. Firstly, the school was able to report its highest SATs results in the history of the school; 85% in Maths and 90% in English.

These high results have been achieved through an intensive focus on how children best learn. The staff have worked very closely together over the past few years to develop an approach to the curriculum that is both highly motivating to the pupils, whilst maintaining high challenge. This is also why our data shows that these high standards are set to continue.

The school's current successes have also been recognised by other organisations. Recently, the University of Hertfordshire asked the school to become one of ten Research Schools, ranging across both London and Hertfordshire. These settings have been chosen as schools which are already trying to lead the way in certain

educational fields. We were over the moon to be asked to participate in this new programme. It gives the school the opportunity to work in partnership with the University, so that formal research can be carried out on our approach to teaching and learning and the results of successes can be accurately measured.

## QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Earl Grey was Prime Minister of the UK and Northern Ireland from 1840 to 1843. He began life as a playboy Whig and ended as a reformer. At an exhibition in the Tate Modern last year, Ai Weiwei, the creator, employed hundreds of ceramic workers from Jingdezhen in China. The hundred million porcelain sunflower seeds were hand-fired and hand-painted.

2. Emperor Dragonflies. They spent up to 3 years as larvae on the bottom of the pond and emerged in June. The larvae lived on aquatic insects, tadpoles and small fish and the adult dragonflies catch and often eat insects on the wing.

3. Emperor Dragonflies. They spent up to 3 years as larvae on the bottom of the pond and emerged in June. The larvae lived on aquatic insects, tadpoles and small fish and the adult dragonflies catch and often eat insects on the wing.

## Quick Quiz

Editor

1. Who or what, apart from tea, is Earl Grey?
2. Where was this photo taken?



3. What hatched out of these?





# Holly House

Beena Dooraree

Holly House Residential Care Home caters for residents with enduring mental health needs. The care home supports residents to follow personal interests and activities. Residents are able to keep in touch with family, friends and representatives and the home supports them to have appropriate personal, family relationships. Residents are as independent as they can be, lead their chosen lifestyle and have the opportunity to make the most of their abilities. Their dignity and rights are respected in their daily life. Holly House is the provision of therapeutic techniques such as developing/maintaining life skills, domestic skills, budgeting skills and positive assertiveness. Holly House promotes good mental health, prevention of relapse and participation in local community life. Recently Jacob Good completed his brown belt in karate and John Dobson completed an art foundation course and is now attending Middlesex University doing a Fine Arts degree. The staff team at Holly House are trained and supervised by the Registered Manager, Beena Dooraree and the Care Provider, Neil Dooraree. Holly House focus is on person centred care and have the residents best interest at heart and making a positive difference in their lives.

On 8th July 2011, one of the staff members, Elena Lopez was nominated for "Activities Organiser of the Year Award" by Hertfordshire Care Providers Association and became a Finalist. Residents and staff attended the awards ceremony at Sopwell House and Elena was awarded her certificate and a bouquet of flowers by Max Clifford. This was to show that the exceptional hard work and support of the staff at Holly House goes a long way into helping residents maintain personal responsibility and improve their lifestyle while trying to combat the stigma of mental health.

If you want to know about Holly House Residential Care Home please contact [hollyhouse38@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:hollyhouse38@yahoo.co.uk)



1 Neil Dooraree, Max Clifford & Elena Lopez at the awards ceremony



2 Jacob Good with his brown belt and certificate

3 John Dobson with a painting he did of Holly House, now going to university

4 All the staff at Holly House



## Staff and residents from Holly House Barnet Rd - and Max Clifford!





## Suitable For Solar?

Gordon Glass



UK Feed-in Tariffs (FITs) make solar photovoltaic (PV) panels an attractive investment for homeowners who have savings. The soon to be introduced Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) will also provide better returns for solar water heating (SWH). But there are some points to consider before chasing quotes:

1) Which way does my roof face?

A south facing roof is best but panels can deliver very good results facing anywhere between east and west, through south.

2) Do I have the roof space?

A minimum of about 10m<sup>2</sup> of panels are needed for solar PV and approximately 4m<sup>2</sup> for SWH (based on a household of 4 people). Sections of roof shaded by trees or buildings are to be avoided.

3) Will I get the most benefit?

Daytime users of electricity and hot water have much to gain by directly replacing energy they'd otherwise have to pay for with free solar energy.

4) Can I afford it?

An ideal budget would be in excess of £8,000 for PV and £3,500 for SWH. It's important to remember that in order to be eligible for FITs and RHI your system must be installed by an MCS certificated installing company.

To find out more, check out Cocoon's new on-line 'Solar Suitability Checker'. This tool allows you to find your roof on a satellite map, check its size and orientation, and see what returns an investment in solar might deliver. No personal details are required. The tool will go live in Summer 2011 at [www.cocoonyourhome.co.uk](http://www.cocoonyourhome.co.uk)

## Junior Rugby Opportunity

Neil Campbell



The thriving mini and junior section of St Albans-based Old Verulamians rugby club is gearing up for the new season which starts on 4 September, with a free three-week trial period for new members. The youth section of the club, known as Chariots, caters for all age groups from under 7's to under 16's. The club will be

holding a registration day on 4 September, with new members at all age groups especially welcome. For new members the first three weeks is free (until you've made up your mind to stay!) so why not give it a try? Old Verulamians is a very friendly, sociable club and looks forward to welcoming anyone who's interested. Contact Rob Lines on 01727 759613, email [minis@verulamians.co.uk](mailto:minis@verulamians.co.uk) or see [www.verulamians.co.uk](http://www.verulamians.co.uk). The club grounds are located just off the A414 opposite Ayletts garden centre.

# LANGLEYS

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# The Base

Shelley Taylor, Project Coordinator, TheBase Youth Project

## Kids@DaBase Every Monday 4-5.30pm Term Time only

The Kids @ Da Base is an after-school project for children in Years 5 and 6.

It runs every Monday afternoon during term-time from 4-5.30pm at The Base Youth Project, 184 High Street, London Colney. Entry is 50p.

We provide a range of fun activities which include pool, table tennis, computers, fussball, art sessions and trips out.

Each week we have a cooking/food preparation activity where the children prepare and eat a healthy after-school snack.

Why not come and join us? The first week is free, so you have nothing to lose.

For more information, call Shelley Taylor 01727 821639 or 07920 708029

**Evening sessions Cost 50p**  
**Tuesday for ages 11-14**  
**6.30-9pm**  
**Wednesday for ages 14-17**  
**7-9:30pm**

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**Got a problem or question?**  
**Go to Auntie Annie at**  
**www.baseyouthproject.org.uk**



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