

History Recorder report for ARDLEIGH 2022

January

Animal trainer, Jo Nutkins, won trophies for her super duck, Echo Orchard Barns Nursery, Colchester Road, rated inadequate

February

Surya Foods take to press to stress the benefits of their planned huge new warehouse in Old Ipswich Road.

A three vehicle crash on A120, Frating/Ardleigh interchange.

Filming at Bowls Club for D.B. (Dominic) Morgan's film, 'Morris Men'.

March

Premier of 'Morris Men' announced (Clacton in October)

EA Associates, a construction recruitment company with an Ardleigh director, announce expansion plans.

Consultations with village on new 9000 homes plan on edge of Ardleigh (Crockleford)

April

Allotments run by Dick Green torched for third time. Villagers contribute to replace machinery etc.

Bobby George (George Hall, Ardleigh) presents Channel 4 TV show 'Fun Darts Tournament' National Grid launch a so-called 'Public Consultation' over their 'Anglia Green' plans to run 180 miles of 50' high pylons from Norfolk to London, with a huge sub station on the Ardleigh/Little Bromley border.

May

Online campaign against the pylons attracts 6000 signatures. Campaign to take the wind power from offshore wind turbines and transfer it in undersea cables gathers momentum.

Dental lab set up in Moze Hall Farm barns by Mr Wood

Refugees from the War in Ukraine start arriving in Ardleigh under 'Homes for Ukraine' govt scheme.

June

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrated with beacon lighting and party, then a Big Fun Day on the Millennium Green.

Colchester Bowls Club held a Big Weekend Showcase at ground, Colchester Road, Ardleigh.

Colchester MP, Will Quince, joins NE Essex MP, Sir Bernard Jenkin, in opposing pylons.

Women's Cycle Tour speeds through Village.

With A12 closure, traffic is diverted through Ardleigh every night for weeks.

Car crashes at bend in Dedham Road.

July

Opposition to pylons grows. Local action groups. Exhibition on wind farms.

Official announcement of closure of rail crossings (footpaths closed years before)

Blenheim Garden Centre voted best local centre in newspaper poll.

Shirley Shelley, originally from Ardleigh, celebrated for building up her cleaning company over 40 years.

Ardleigh and Little Bromley house prices are most expensive in Tendring.

Green Island runs Summer Fair.

August

Fields catch fire off Harwich Road (sparks from combine harvester plus hot dry weather)

Kennels in Slough Lane catch fire, but dogs are rescued.

Horticultural Society holds successful Show, first since Covid lockdown

Efforts continue to explore other avenues than pylons. Matthew Salon achieves 5 grade 9s in his haul of GCSE results.

Hunnaballs Memorials (part of undertaker family=y firm) are advertising for staff.

September

On the death of the Queen, official notices were put on boards & a condolence book was opened in the church.

Salary Brook Vineyard is officially launched with an opening party.

PM candidate, Rishi Sunak, says he'll support a proper consultation on the pylons

Surya Foods given go ahead for huge warehouse, but a judicial review is mounted.

Drones are used at the reservoir to spot leaks. (Very low water levels because of drought.)

October

Ukrainian refugee trainee film maker, hosted in Ardleigh, gets proper training.

EADT article on autistic artist, David Downes, with studio in Ardleigh Studios.

Planning approval given for 50 megawatt battery storage system on Ardleigh/ Little Bromley border for power coming underground from Clacton wind farms.

Bobby George launches the Colchester Mixed Darts Open League.

Alex Day and co-driver win TCR Class in the season finale of the British Endurance Championships at Donnington Circuits.

November

Remembrance Sunday service by war memorial, continued inside the church.

Primary School rated 'inadequate'.

Ex orthopaedic surgeon, Jeremy Parker, appears before a medical tribunal accused of malpractice, when he had been placed under supervision.

Fire in outbuilding in Bromley Road, quickly extinguished.

Housing estate on Crockleford Hill well underway as are houses at Cherrytree Farm , Harwich Road.

December

Jo Nutkins again winning awards, this time for 'Animal Hero'.

Father Christmas tours the village, distributing presents to children. Pensioners are given Christmas 'hampers'.