



# Ivinghoe Beacon Magazine

Issue 94

70 pence where sold



## Inside this Issue:

Wedding Bells

The Speaker Speaks

Neighbourhood News

New Faces on the Council

Rikkl>About

And much much more!



The Quarterly Magazine of  
Ivinghoe Parish Council

# The Beacon Team...

The Beacon Magazine would not reach your door without the kind help of the volunteer band of distributors.

Many thanks to them all: Andy Beezer, Les Hyde, Pat Roach, Peter Miles, Geoff Travis, Albert Reynolds, Rob and Anne Cattle and of course our roving reporter Nigel Thomson – it couldn't be done without you!

If you have any skills that will help us to keep the magazine going or you would like to submit an article, please let us know as we are always looking for new and varied talents!



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## BEACON COPY AND ADVERT DEADLINES

We aim to get the magazine distributed around the beginning of every February, May, August and November. To ensure your article or feature makes the edition you would like please see the submission deadlines below:



August 2015 Edition – 10 July 2015  
November 2015 Edition – 10 October 2015  
February 2016 Edition – 10 January 2016  
May 2016 Edition – 10 April 2016

## BEACON MAGAZINE ADVERTISING RATES:

1/4 page	£38 per year
1/3 page	£45 per year
1/2 page	£75 per year
Full page	£110 per year

**NB: Rates are for 4 editions.**

**Artwork must be supplied as a jpeg or a pdf file.**

# Welcome from the Chair



**Karen Groom,**  
Chair, Ivinghoe  
Parish Council

Welcome to the summer edition of the Beacon. I have been busy hay making and as ever there has been a great deal going on in the parish, there is a literally a buzz in the air. Despite the typical English summer weather for the Church Fete, there was a lovely atmosphere and another great turn out of floats and fancy dress. I am always so pleased to be a part of the Fete, it is a good way to catch up with those of you I don't see out and about or in my shop and meet some new people.

There are now some new faces you may or may not recognise who have joined Ivinghoe Parish Council. I would like to welcome Ruth Benton, who joined us in June and Andrew Dicker and Stephen Lott who joined us in July. You can read a little piece about them in this edition of the magazine and you can find out what they will be working on, on the back page, where all the councillor roles and responsibilities are listed. They are all enthusiastic residents of the parish and I am looking forward to working with them. We are saying farewell to Brian Dale, who has been an incredibly valuable member of the parish council. Brian, has contributed so much to our community, setting up Community Speedwatch, the mobile vehicle activated signs (MVAS) and lobbied County Highways tirelessly on all issues traffic related. He will be very much missed by us all but we wish him good luck with his move!

In case you are not aware following the May elections, our parish also has two new district councillors, Sandra Jenkins

and Derek Town, you can read about them in this edition too. They have both been attending our monthly parish council meetings and it is great to have their interest and support. If you would like to meet them or have something that you would like to discuss with them, an easy way would be to join us at one of our meetings, which usually take place on the first Tuesday of each month – see [www.ivinghoeipc.org.uk](http://www.ivinghoeipc.org.uk) for the dates and venues.

In July we were very pleased to be informed by the Heritage Team at AVDC that the work carried out by one of their conservation officers has resulted in an approved revised conservation area for Ivinghoe village. A copy of the newly revised conservation area can be found on the AVDC website under Environment and a copy will be kept in the Beacon Villages Library. Apart from being an excellent piece of work the document makes for fascinating reading, giving a very thorough historical and environmental view of Ivinghoe, so if you get the chance I'd really recommend reading it.

With the built environment in mind, we are still awaiting decisions on a number of significant planning applications; Six Acres in Ivinghoe Aston (9 dwellings), The Bottom Park (36 dwellings) and the two Gladman applications (70 and 60 dwellings respectively). The Gladman application for 70 dwellings is going to appeal this October and we are working with Ivinghoe Together to ensure that

we represent the parish views as best we can to the planning inspectorate case office. AVDC continue to struggle under the sheer volume of planning applications being made in the Vale and the number of cost cutting exercises within the planning department is making it harder than ever for the parish council to get the right information in a timely fashion, particularly on the larger planning applications.

The parish council is also progressing its Ivinghoe Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan (IPNDP). There will be a series of community engagement events starting this September at which your views for the future development of the whole parish will be sought. The steering group have a steep learning curve, none of the members having worked on a development plan before. They will be hosting the engagement events to which I urge you to attend. There will be events in both the villages, Ivinghoe and Ivinghoe Aston and they will be reaching out to as many stakeholders as possible; local businesses, landowners, residents young and old to ensure that future development of the parish to 2031 captures your vision of the future. Please read the newsletter inserted in the magazine to find out some more about the progress they have made so far and look out for posters and leaflets regarding the dates, venues and times of the engagement meetings. I cannot emphasise enough how important your contributions to the emerging development plan will be.

Many of you will have attended a presentation earlier this year by an independent traffic consultant, Hamilton-Baillie Associates. Hamilton-Baillie uses the expertise in the development of shared space principles for street design to improve

safety, congestion and access. The parish council has been successful in seeking funding from our Local Area Forum (LAF) to fund the next stage of this work, which will be to commission a scheme based on these principles for Ivinghoe in an attempt to mitigate traffic issues and to better manage the increasing volumes of vehicles (currently at 20% a year). We are grateful to our fellow LAF parishes for supporting this project and we will be sharing our progress with you and seeking your feedback in the coming months.

We continue to work on smaller projects to improve our parish. There is some new play equipment at the playground in Ivinghoe Aston and we have created improved access to this park, which we hope will make it safer for children and parents when exiting the park on to the road. We also have put in some steps to improve access at the Ivinghoe Allotments and allotmenters with dogs can now take their dog with them if kept on a lead.

Staying with the allotments I am sad to report that a number of allotmenters have had their produce stolen, literally plucked from the bush! There is little we can do to prevent such theft but please contact the parish clerk if you see anything or anyone taking produce that doesn't belong to them!

I hope that you enjoy reading the rest of this edition; I think it is a great way to find out who's been doing what and what else is going on in the parish. Do keep sending the Editor your contributions and start thinking about getting all your Christmas articles and event advertisements in!

Enjoy the summer in our beautiful parish, there is so much happening in and around us!

**Karen Groom**, Chair, Ivinghoe Parish Council

## A Note from the Editor...

I very much hope that you are still enjoying reading the Ivinghoe Beacon magazine, it has changed a little since the Parish Council took over the production of the magazine. We really want the magazine to be something you get pleasure from reading as well as a useful reference tool for local events and advertising.

We are always looking for new ideas to keep the magazine an interesting read, so if you have something that you would like to be considered for inclusion, please do get in touch!

**Many thanks and happy reading. Christabel Boersma** The Editor

Email: [christabelboersma@hotmail.com](mailto:christabelboersma@hotmail.com)

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# John Bercow

## August 2015

There is always someone who, just as the children are excitedly settling down to open their presents on Christmas morning and before the turkey has even left the oven, leans back with a melancholy expression and announces to the family, "Well. That's that over for another year."

I do not want to be that person, and the analogy I am ponderously working my way up to concerns the general election which, I appreciate, might not engender the sort of festive sentiments in Ivinghoe residents as December 25th does. However, whilst I was at the count on polling day, I felt a twinge of sadness that the election period was coming to an end. I met many hundreds – if not thousands – of Buckingham constituency residents during those five weeks, spoke at public meetings and hustings, and even fulfilled a childhood dream of riding on a fire-engine! It was enjoyable but, at the same time, hard work. My volunteer team and I undertook a rigorous schedule, attempting to get to as many villages in the Buckingham constituency as possible, and at the end we were all a lot thinner and suffering, in varying degrees, from "Canvasser's Tan", where the sunburn affects the hands and face of those afflicted, but nowhere else.

Nevertheless, I have always felt that it is important for politicians, and those who hope to become politicians, to get out on the doorstep in a general election. In my eighteen years as your Member of Parliament, I have always been quite clear that my constituency is of the utmost importance, and I spend as much time over Thursday, Friday and the weekends attending meetings on planning issues, hosting surgeries and opening



fetes, amongst a range of other duties and activities. That being said, there is something wonderfully grounding for an MP to commit him or herself to a prolonged period of doorstep conversations with local residents and finding out what they really think – whether that be flattering or somewhat disobliging.

I visited Ivinghoe during the campaign, and the number one concern on the doorstep was, and judging from my mailbox, continues to be, the unwanted development of the area, particularly the Gladman application and proposal for the area of land known as The Lower Park. I have submitted a number of objections with respect to the developments. Their size makes them totally inappropriate for a village of Ivinghoe's size, and would completely ruin its unique aspect. The small amount of housing need that may arise in future is best met via alternative brownfield sites, in line with the wishes of local residents. I hope that the correct determinations are reached on these proposals, and I will continue to make representations to Aylesbury Vale District Council in order to press home our case.

In the meantime, may I conclude by wishing all Ivinghoe residents a peaceful summer, and I hope that however you plan to spend your holidays – either at home or abroad – the unusually pleasant weather holds out for us.

**Rt Hon John Bercow MP**

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# RikkIAbout

## Up Hill Struggle

I was on my walk home from Sunday breakfast at the Brownlow Cafe. The sun was shining and the birds were singing. The tranquillity was, let's say, "entertainingly dented" when I reached the Two Ridges Link. Vehicles, designed for the road, were being put through their paces well beyond their comfort zone, judging by the steam emanating from a range of orifices. It was a Car Trial, run by the Falcon Motor Club, which included a category as part of the Motor Sports Association's National Championship series. Petrol heads from as far afield as North Wales were vying for glory in their Saxos, Beetles, Micras and the like. The ground was boringly dry but the organisers explained that they have ways of making up for that – tighter bends, steeper hills, etc. Whilst not designed for spectators, I was told that locals would be welcome to watch, with the usual proviso that "motor sport can be dangerous". Stick to the footpath and, hopefully, they won't. Next event 19th October.



## Good Beehaviour

Ashridge is a magical place for many reasons and I recently learnt a new one, courtesy of Head Ranger, Lawrence Trowbridge. Pasque flowers, which are growing near the Beacon, are pollinated by a small bee called *Osmia bicolor*. The bee inhabits disused snail shells

and hides them from birds inside a wigwam of grass. I've just retired after 40 years as an entomologist but hadn't come across that. Isn't nature wonderful?!



## Extraordinary Rendition

"Raise the bar and set yourself some new challenges – you can accomplish more than you think" (Rebecca Gordon). No idea who she is/was, but the Voice of the Village Choir proved her right. Or should it have begun "Sit at the bar"? For it was at the Village Swan that Sam and Sally hatched their crazy scheme to raise money for the Pepper Trust, a local charity providing hospice care in the home for children. Trained by local West End Musical stars Taira Foo and Chris Lennon, the Choir set out to learn to sing from scratch, and gave their remarkable performance at Eaton Bray Village Hall just nine weeks later. The evening was supported by other local superstars including young dancers and singers, Taira and Chris themselves and JC3, the band of John Cameron (see below), accompanied by talented IA saxophonist, Nicola Thomas. The evening belonged, though, to the Choir, and their rendition of The Proclaimers' 500 miles, accompanied by yells of admiration "great job Mum!" will live long in the memories of all present. Amongst the galaxy of stars with whom John has worked was the great Errol Brown of Hot Chocolate who died just a few days before the concert. I believe in miracles, he sang. Well so do I now. Eat your heart out Gareth Malone. And the best

news of all? More that £3000 was raised for the Pepper Trust. Congratulations to all involved. Brave and brilliant!

## Nobody Expects the IA Inquisition!

### Jung at Heart

It was the Village Voice concert (and a tip-off from Ketts) that led me down John Cameron's drive. Earlier the same day he'd been interviewed by *The Guardian* about his latest project. So Ivinghoe Beacon Magazine may not be the most widely circulated journal to have featured him (but at least we'll get the spelling right!). The juxtaposition of these two tells us something about John. He has a worldwide standing but also gets great enjoyment from creating and supporting local initiatives.

His musical talents were inherited or acquired from his parents (Dad played the fiddle, Mum the piano). With Alexis Korner, he founded the group *Collective Consciousness Society* (CCS), the name coming from his interest in the work of C.G. Jung, the Swiss psychologist who developed the concept of the "collective unconscious". CCS's first hit was an arrangement of Led Zeppelin's *Whole Lotta Love*, an arrangement which became the best known theme tune for *Top of the Pops*.

John can't be pigeonholed. He is a "musician" but that includes composing, arranging, conducting, playing and even mixing. His musical tastes and expertise span a huge range of genres and cultures: classical, choral, jazz, folk and others from around the world. His knowledge is deep and his intellectual input into all he does is profound. He has worked with an incredible range of musical megastars including Jose Carreras, Donovan, Cilla Black, Hot

Chocolate, Heatwave and Agnetha Faltskog (ex Abba).

## So, the inquisition!

**RH:** Of your amazing range of achievements, which make you the most proud?

**JC:** My first film score was for Kes. The music now feels somewhat naive but it was so right for the movie. I'm also particularly happy with *Missa Celtica*, a Celtic Mass and, of course, with *Les Misérables*, for which I did the original orchestration. I was pleased to write the Emmy nominated music score for *The Path to 9/11*, especially as the series managed to cheese off both the Clintons and the Bushes. It involved working with Iranians, Egyptians, Pakistanis and others – a marvellous cross-cultural experience. When it comes down to it, the work I am happiest with involved the people I was happiest working with.

**RH:** So what have you got on the go right now?

**JC:** Current major projects include productions in Ireland, Germany, USA and China. Music is a way of life. We (Barbie and I) will keep going until we drop.

**RH:** What attracted you to IA?

**JC:** The huge open skies (we get an extra half hour's daylight here!) and the bird song. The whole ambience puts me in the frame of mind to compose. IA is a real community where people look out for each other, and it harbours an extraordinary range of artistic talent, including painters, ceramicists.....and singers!

## Indeed it does! Right, who's next?!

**Rikki Harrington** Brampton, Ivinghoe Aston **01525 220625; harrington.rikki@gmail.com.**



# St Mary's Summer Fete

King John, his Page and full entourage were with everybody who came to St Mary's fete to help raise funds and celebrate the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta.

We had a great day, starting with the usual procession from Pitstone up to Ivinghoe. Four village organisations took part and put on a great show. There was a persistent drizzle (!) but spirits seemed to remain high and the whole retinue made it safely to Ivinghoe Lawn for the final judging of the fancy dress. Thanks to judges Karen Groom, Bob Saintey and David Holloway, for their continued help and humour in this role.



## The Fancy Dress results were:

### Floats

- 1st** St Mary's children's church  
*Robin Hood and the Magna Carta 2015*
- 2nd** Brookmead school  
*King John and the Merry Band*
- 3rd** I and P scouts/Cubs and beavers  
*Scouting in the Middle Ages*
- 4th** Women's institute  
*Magna Carta*

## Individual Fancy Dress: 0 – 5 yrs

- 1st** An owl – *Spencer Hose*
- 2nd** Robin Hood – *Tom Every*
- Joint 3rd** Merry men –  
*Hayden Sisley and James Walker*

## Individual Fancy Dress: 6 – 10 yrs

- 1st** Magna Carta and Quill – *Noah Lambert (Magna Carta) Sam Day (Quill)*
- 2nd** Lady in waiting – *Alice Walker*

The children of St Mary's had written their own new Magna Carta with laws including: 'every night is movie night', dream on kids!!

Although it was a very damp afternoon the only part of the fete which couldn't go ahead was the infamous Tug of War and the children's sports. We'll have to wait until next year for Ivinghoe and Pitstone to go head to head again.

The final amount raised for church funds was a little over £3000.00, which is a fantastic amount, particularly considering the weather.

So, thank you to everyone who helped in any way, whether that was setting up in the morning, running stalls, participating in the fancy dress, supporting your children or clearing up afterwards, another great afternoon.

## The Women's Institute Entry

**Annie Sandon and The Fete Team**



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# It's abuz in your Old School Hub!

**S**ummer bees are pollenating the tomatoes growing for our café use in the kitchen garden behind the Hub and the Buddleia is covered in butterflies! Just back from our tranquil hols in the north-west Dale farmland, Bob and I are once again plunged back into trustee volunteering at the Old School – Hubber-lubbin' on a nearly daily basis along with the other ten trustees, the many small jobs needed to keep that daily 'Wellbeing' support within the Hub for our Community.

**CuriosiTEA Rooms celebrated their second Birthday back in June,** and Hayley's team continue to welcome all comers, seven days a week with home-made delicious refreshment for all.

The General Election returned to this Hub on 7th May for the first time after several years – very successfully and has already been rebooked by Aylesbury Vale District Council for next year's Police Commissioner elections.

At the end of May about fifty old Scholars from this Ivinghoe School and a handful from Ivinghoe Aston and Pitstone Schools came together for their first ever reunion. They brought with them some great stories for our proposed book, and even the OLD SCHOOL BELL! The late Ian Horn had rescued it and John Horn had restored it and donated it back to us...where it sits proudly on the Old School mantelpiece!

Bob and I joined in with listening to Judith Sheridan's choirs as they all congregated on the Ivinghoe Lawn to sing out beautifully to the picnicking

throng on a rather damp afternoon, using our two large gazebos to shelter from the rain. The weather cleared and the evening Ceilidh was a total delight – rounding the day off well with dancing as the sun set, encircled by a frame of tents to rhythmic live music by the talented Candleford Ceiladh Band, led by the brilliant caller Martin Lindridge under the stars with the Lawn grass under our toes! Simply wonderful community fun, taking us through and into Summer Solstice, Midsummer's day!

Popular Crochet Classes have now arrived in the Hub and will be joined in September by an Arts Therapy Group and a yet to be confirmed Photography class.

Ivinghoe Parish's Neighbourhood Development Planning team, use the Hub for some meetings and will for some of the proposed community engagement, so look out for those dates! These groups complement the fitness, educational and social groups who already form the core of our regular weekly bookings for all generations.

**Our AGM falls this August 26th at 7.30pm with modest wine and nibbles and involves recruiting a dozen trustees that regularly use and support our Community Hub, as well as hearing the usual chair and treasurer short reports.**

**[www.ivinghoeoldschool.com](http://www.ivinghoeoldschool.com);** Our email is **[ivinghoeoldschool@btconnect.com](mailto:ivinghoeoldschool@btconnect.com)**; Our HUB direct phone number is **01296 661666** or visit our Facebook page

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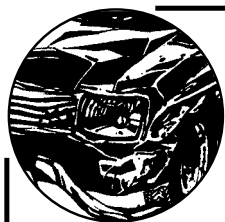
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Canoe activity on the restored section by Chiltern Canoe Club.  
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Nigel Williams Publicity Director, WAT

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# Ivinghoe Parish Council welcomes new members

## Cllr Ruth Benton



My family and I moved to Ivinghoe Aston in March 2012, having previously lived in Pitstone for 7 years. I am married to Matthew and have three children aged 24, 20 and 11. I worked in the retail travel business for many years before returning to college, then university to eventually become a college lecturer. Working in Further and Higher Education as a Senior Travel and Tourism Tutor was challenging, invigorating, exciting but above all rewarding. I taught people of all ages, backgrounds and cultures – seeing students learn and grow was a great privilege.

Unfortunately this was brought to an abrupt end in 2006 when I took early retirement on medical grounds – I suffer from an incurable disease called Complex Regional Pain Syndrome. This chronic pain condition affects both my legs, I take a lot of medication and endure endless pain. To add insult to injury, I was diagnosed with Osteoarthritis in 2011, which resulted in me getting a puppy to keep me moving and active!

I mention my illness as this was a catalyst to becoming more involved in the community. I volunteered as a

Governor at The Cottesloe School, Wing for 4 years, becoming Chair of Finance during the final two. As my son is at Brookmead School, I have also been secretary of Friends of Brookmead (FAB), their parent teacher association. Being a useful member of society whilst accepting my limitations doing these voluntary roles was invaluable in realising that I may be less mobile but I wasn't less able.

Not long after we'd moved to Ivinghoe Aston I became aware of the need to support our neighbours, we were victims of flooding which brought the whole village together. Some of the more elderly residents where stranded in their homes for days, the care and support given by individuals was heart warming. As time went on, I began to meet more and more people from the village and fully embraced our unique identity within the parish.

Early in 2015, one of Ivinghoe Aston's parish councillors stepped down, I began to think seriously about becoming a Councillor. After May's election I became a Parish Councillor for Ivinghoe Aston Ward within Ivinghoe Parish. I feel extraordinarily honoured to be a councillor, serving our community and giving something back.

## Cllr Andrew Dicker



I have lived in Ivinghoe since 1987. I worked for three years in a general practice partnership in Tring. In 1991 I had a rare opportunity to create a new partnership in Westminster, London from which I retired in January 2013. I continue to work one day a week in London in post-graduate education.

Over the years I have come to know

Ivinghoe and the surrounding area well. I regularly walk, run and cycle around the AONB and love the wonderful countryside which surrounds us. The cohesion and neighbourliness of the community of Ivinghoe are its greatest asset.

I hope that I can make a useful contribution to perpetuating all the good things, which make Ivinghoe a wonderful place to live, in my role as a Parish Councillor.

## Cllr Stephen Lott



Born in London in 1955, our family moved to Bletchley in late 1959, where I was brought up and my family still live in the same house. I was educated at the then Denbigh School and left at the grand age of 16 to start an apprenticeship with the Post Office Telephones.

I worked with the Post Office as a telecoms engineer, which morphed into the British Telecom. With BT I became a trouble shooter for all their customers and travelled the world with them sorting out computer and telephone problems. Next, I joined Cumbria Police in their IT department, retiring from full time employment five years ago.

Over the years I have lived in North Bedford, the Lake District and Worcestershire before moving back to Buckinghamshire last year. My family live in Bletchley and Berkhamsted.

Why have I joined the Parish Council? I believe in the ethos that you have to put something in to get something out and I

have always been interested in working for the good of the public at large.

With my partner Christine, we ran a theatre going group called Ouse Valley Theatregoers, a group of like-minded people, all living in villages similar to Ivinghoe, but not necessarily having easy access to theatre. I was also treasurer to the village hall for a number of years.

On moving to Kendal, I became chair of the Fellside and Greenside Forum. The Forum had responsibility for looking after a woodland area, gave input to the planning process that affected the area and generally campaigned on behalf of the local residents on anything that enhanced their lives. On leaving, the Forum were just embarking on their own Neighbourhood Development Plan.

As to Ivinghoe, I have known the village since 1960, cycled through here as a youth and always had a love for the area. We are now settled here and I look forward to working with the Parish Council and the residents of Ivinghoe Parish as a whole.

## So... it's good bye from me...

**H**owever, before I go. Due to pressure on my personal time there's been no Speedwatch exercises since my last report, and I'm aware that the MVAS needs new batteries, downloading and moving (as at the time of writing this – by the time you read it both issues should be addressed)

However, although these “bread and butter” issues have not progressed there has been other action behind the scenes. There's been a meeting recently with Bucks CC to look at the problem of the lorry traffic through Ivinghoe and other villages. There are some proposals about what action may help and have an effect, including a lorry count, and thoughts about how to turn these in to some practical actions are ongoing. The traffic issue through Ivinghoe will be one of the issues that can be raised as part of the Ivinghoe Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan process. Although not strictly a development issue, developments of a certain scale could further effect traffic and pedestrian use of our roads.

The proposal to downgrade the A4146 and apply a weight limit on the bridge at Water End is at present under consideration. We understand and empathise with those who live alongside the A4146 but are concerned that any downgrading of this road does not lead to more traffic locally, on the B488 and B489. To this end we are talking to the proposers of this scheme and to our own District and County Councillors so that appropriate alternative routes for this traffic are identified.

We also held a screening of the film kindly shot by Roger Hillier and Andy Beezer of the presentation by our traffic consultant about his initial thoughts concerning the management of traffic in Ivinghoe. Thanks to Roger and Caroline for making facilities available to us. The good news for us is that we have secured funding of nearly £8,000.00 from the Local Area Forum to allow a full survey to be carried out. The bad news is that we may have to wait for this to start due to pressure of work on our consultant, so watch the Beacon for updates.

Following initial skepticism by Bucks CC it's really positive to be able to report that Transport for Bucks see these outline proposals as a positive way forward in the management of traffic in our villages and will be using the Ivinghoe scheme as a pilot so that the principles can be applied throughout Buckinghamshire. They will work with our consultant to ensure that their administrative and logistical requirements are met through the process in such a way that they won't need to be repeated at considerable additional cost to the Parish before implementation.

And the reason for the “Goodbyes”? After eleven years of living in Great Gap my wife and I have decided that it's time to move on. We'll leave with sadness as we've found everyone in Ivinghoe so friendly and as a community really active. How many other small villages can boast retaining the pub, church, post office, shop, town hall, village centre and cafe, restaurant, cubs, guides, scouts – I could continue as the list is endless.

I hope that some of the initiatives

we have championed during my time here – the 30mph limit and road calming measures to name but two -have a long term positive effect for the community. Now progress may be possible on a management scheme for trucks using our rural byways as well and the programme with the traffic consultant should bear considerable fruit.

For the immediate future Christabel Boersma will look after the various traffic programmes for which I, personally, am extremely grateful, and I'm hopeful that one or more of our volunteers will take over Speedwatch and MVAS. No doubt more on that in a future issue of The Beacon.

**There are too many people to whom I owe a debt of gratitude to list them all individually but I thank each and every one of you. However, particular thanks to all the volunteers who have assisted with MVAS and Speedwatch and a special gong to Chris Poll who was always there for help and advice. Huge thanks too to all the members of the Parish Council for their support for some of my “off the wall” initiatives and ramblings. Although my time on the PC was brief it was also very enjoyable.**

**And it's goodbye from him.**

**Brian Dale**

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# BeaconLit goes from strength to strength

**BeaconLit**  
The Beacon Villages  
festival of books & writing

BeaconLit's third Beacon Villages festival of books and writing at Brookmead School, Ivinghoe on Saturday 27 June, and the signs are that the event is continuing to go from strength to strength, attracting bestselling and prizewinning authors as well as a healthy following of book lovers.

BeaconLit, which aims to raise awareness of books and writing in the Beacon Villages, and support Beacon Villages Community Library (BVCL) has established itself as a fixture on the literary festivals trail. The school's superb hall provided the perfect venue for a quality event.

This year's festival kicked off with 'New Voices' – a panel of up and coming debut authors talking about their first books, their publishing experience and their plans for the future. Eve Ainsworth (young adult), S J I Holliday (crime) and Jules Wake (romance), moderated by local author Dave Sivers, got the day off to a cracking start.



They were followed by bestseller, prize winner and Richard and Judy Book Club choice Rowan Coleman, who gave an engaging and amusing talk about what can go wrong with first novels and what



authors can do to avoid the pitfalls.

Throughout the day, there were opportunities to buy books, courtesy of official bookseller Chorleywood Bookshop, get them signed, meet the authors, and choose from a selection of refreshments on offer.



After a lunchtime break, Dave Sivers was again the moderator as historical fiction writers Vanora Bennett, Toby Clements and Elizabeth Fremantle talked about the 'Real Game of Thrones' and why historical fiction remains so popular.

The mid-afternoon slot brought a familiar face to local festival goers in the shape of BBC Oxford News presenter



Adina Campbell, who hosted an 'in conversation' session with multi-talented Julie Mayhew, whose accomplishments include radio plays, short stories, and two novels, the second of which imagines a modern-day Buckinghamshire after the Nazis have won World War Two.

The festival rounded off with the ever-popular crime panel, led by William Ryan, with Jane Casey, M R Hall and Laura Wilson completing a star cast with a thoughtful look at 'why nice people turn to crime'.

Avril Davies, Chair of BVCL, thanked the authors, Brookmead School Headteacher Katherine Douglas, Chorleywood Bookshop, all the volunteer helpers on the day, and the festival committee, especially Jackie Wesley and Dave Sivers, for making the day a success.

Festival committee member Dave Sivers added, "We are thrilled at the way BeaconLit continues to grow in support

and quality. The feedback on the day and on Twitter and Facebook shows how much the festival was enjoyed by the audience and all who took part.

To find out more, visit the website at [www.beaconlit.co.uk](http://www.beaconlit.co.uk).

Contact: Dave Sivers **0797 486 4592**  
[davesivers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:davesivers@hotmail.co.uk)

**Dave Sivers** BeaconLit



# A Dunstable Downs proposal



At noon on Saturday 11 July 2015, the Revd Adrian Manning and Becky Openshaw were married by a cousin of the bride, Ollie Mears, at St Mary's Church, Ivinghoe.

It all started two years ago, when the happy couple met each other through mutual friends. Love blossomed and Adrian proposed to Becky on the Dunstable Downs looking down on the area in which they now live.

We were lucky to welcome Adrian and Becky to Ivinghoe last year and they have settled very well into The Vicarage. Eager to embrace life together, Adrian and Becky

have not only begun to establish life in a new community but visited Paris, climbed a mountain in the Lake District (in the middle of winter) and cruised down the Nile. Next year they plan to see the Northern Lights from the Arctic Circle.

Adrian said, "I would say we have fulfilled some dreams with each other but have dreamed new, bigger and better dreams for a future together".

We wish them all the best in fulfilling their dreams together and for a very happy future life together.

**Christabel Boersma**



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01296 660344**

## Ivinghoe Aston Village Hall



Villagers are reminded that there is a hall at Ivinghoe Aston for hire at similar rates to Ivinghoe's Village Centre and Town Hall. For details contact booking secretary Barbara Rayment **01525 220959** or email [jackyparsons@yahoo.in](mailto:jackyparsons@yahoo.in)



## Ivinghoe and Pitstone W.I.

The last two months have been very busy for us. We had a wonderful day at Waddesdon Manor when we joined in the Buckinghamshire celebrations of the Centenary of the W.I. We enjoyed our picnics on a beautiful summer day and were able to stroll around the grounds and visit the many stalls and exhibits. There was a competition for the Best Dressed Lady with some of the hats rivaling those of Ascot. It was a great opportunity to meet up with friends from other W.I.'s in the County.

The weather was not quite as good when a group of us visited Wrest Park in Silsoe. However, we had a very enjoyable day exploring the Mansion which was the former home of the De Grey family. The gardens are in the process of being restored as part of a long term project. The Rose garden, Italian garden and French garden are now complete and were very attractive. Some of us took a "buggy tour" of the grounds while others strolled around the further parts of the estate meeting up for lunch in the Restaurant.

As is our custom, our July meeting was the Mystery tour. Our coach driver was determined to keep us in the dark as to our destination, winding his way through country lanes. We eventually arrived at the Olde Windmill in Barton-le-Clay. Sadly the shops

were not open but we had a very nice meal at the Restaurant and are determined to go back when the shops are open.

The Craft day arranged for the 18th July should be a lot of fun. We will be making paper and cards with direction from Maggie and Sue.

Looking forward to August (where has this year gone?) we have a visit to Ashridge House and Gardens early in the month. The August meeting will be our Picnic on the Lawn. So bring your chair and a picnic to the lawn on 13th for 7.30pm. We hope the weather will be fine but if not we will eat and chat in the hall. It is a great time to relax and socialise so do join us if you can.

Future dates to make a note of are **25th September** when we will be celebrating the **Centenary with the Beacon Group in Pitstone Memorial Hall**. The buffet refreshments will cost £10 which needs to be paid prior to the meeting.

Don't forget the **Quiz Night** on **24th October**. Tickets will be on sale at the September meeting.

We welcome new members so if you would like to join us please ring **Tessa** on **01296 661562**.

**Win Winstone**



## Pitstone & Ivinghoe Museum Society programme 2015

**All meetings are held in the Meeting Room in the Pitstone Green Museum at 8pm. All visitors very welcome.**

### Thursday 27th August 2015 – Hobbies Evening

Our evening which showcases our members and the wide range of hobbies that interest them is being featured again. The hobby you decide to show us does not have to have historical links and could be one you have shown us before. If you truly have nothing to bring, then do still come and learn more about other people's hobbies. If you have friends who would like to show us their hobby or simply enjoy the evening, please bring them along. This year we are again including a supper with quiches and salad with a complementary glass of wine. You will need a ticket for this event so please contact **Sue Lipscomb@btopenworld.com** nearer the time.

### Thursday 24th September 2015 – An Introduction to our three newest rooms

This evening we will put on display two rooms which will be opened to visitors for the first time in 2015; Peter Keeley's Workshop and the Book Binding Room. We shall also show you the Print Room which opened during our last season. Group of volunteers will have worked very hard to bring these rooms to life and Peter's Workshop will provide a fitting tribute to his memory. A finger buffet and drinks will accompany this evening. You will need to pre book for this event so please contact **Sue.Lipscomb@btopenworld.com** nearer the time.

### Thursday 22nd October 2015 – Subterranean Secrets

Edna, the alter ego of Amanda Pickard has been fortunate enough to have worked at the Imperial War Museum's Cabinet War Rooms. Since leaving Churchill's WW2 secret underground bunker she has

collected a series of images on subterranean London during WW2 and devised this fascinating talk. The talk is in 3 sections, firstly she sets the scene and explains why it was necessary to transfer many wartime activities underground. Edna then talks about Churchill's Cabinet War Rooms, including behind the scene images of how they are today. The final part of the talk features images from the many other wartime secret locations around London.

### Thursday 26th November 2015 – AGM: Faster than a Speeding Bullet

A brief look, by Dennis Trebble, at aspects of the World Land Speed Record over the course of the Twentieth Century. Personalities, venues, tall tales, engineering cul de sacs and the panoply of success and failure – all there for the asking. Personal triumph and tragedy litter the development of the ultimate speed record on land, though such things have been subsumed by the drive for jingoistic glory. Is it time to accept that this record has no place in the modern world?

Please note the AGM start time will be 7.30pm, followed by the talk.

### Thursday 17th December 2015 – Christmas with Films from the Archives

Frank Banfield will be returning once again with his amazing film archive. He has a vast collection of 16mm cine films, and will choose a selection, mainly of local interest, dating from the 1930s to the 1970s. These films will be interspersed by our usual mince pies and mulled wine.

*Please note that this is the third Thursday of the month.*

**Sue Lipscomb**



## The Miller's Tale...

The time moves so quickly and we are already halfway through our open season and our new opening regime of milling on every open day seems, thus far, to be bringing in slightly more visitors, but until we reach the end of the season we will not really know for sure. We are also pleased that we have some new members join us as volunteers on open days and they are proving to be great additions to our team, being quick to learn the ropes and helping to guide our visitors around the mill.

We were also approached earlier this year by the Chaldean Estate in Much Hadham who grow their own wheat asking if we could mill some of it for them so they could sell it in their shop.

We only usually mill our own wheat but decided that we would proceed on a trial basis and agreed to mill a small amount to see how it panned out and left them to get their own flour bags printed and then deliver the bags and their wheat to the mill when they were ready.

Around the same time we were contacted by Brookmead School to arrange a visit to the mill from the children, we thought it would be great to have the children come to the mill when we were actually milling wheat for the Chaldean Estate as it is much more interesting for them seeing flour being produced than just seeing the machinery turning but not producing flour.

With this in mind I was left to try and find a suitable date and time that I could arrange for enough volunteers to man the mill, to get the Chaldean wheat and flour bags to the mill and also get the children arriving to see it all being

milled into flour. This all sounds relatively simple in practice but with delays in printing the flour bags and school breaks and volunteer availability it seemed to drag on but eventually a suitable time was arranged and confirmed.

A few weeks later myself and several of the mill team arrived early in the morning to get everything set up for when the children arrived at 9-30am.

Shortly thereafter a line of children appeared slowly filing through the mill gate and we split them into three groups, firstly for safety reasons as the mill is not a large place and we have limits to the number of people allowed on each floor of the mill at any one time, secondly it is easier to shepherd a small group of children in and around the tight confines of the mill, especially the steep open treaded staircases which need to be ascended and descended like a ladder.

Firstly we showed them some wheat and told them it was what they see growing in fields around the village which provide their breakfast of weetabix or cornflakes, but that it also can be milled to provide flour for bread making and baking.

Then they were guided to the top of the mill to learn the history of wheat milling from the earliest saddle querns like those used in Egyptian times, through simple rotary hand querns to roman two man gear driven millstones, we have a saddle quern and rotary hand quern at the mill and the children took turns in using them to see how much work is required to grind wheat into flour. From there it was then explained how water was then harnessed to do

the work of turning the millstones using wheels and cogs to increase the power.

They also used the sack hoist to raise sacks to the top of the mill and learned how gravity does most of the work for us, both in flowing wheat downwards from the top of the mill through the millstones and down the meal spout to be bagged as flour on the floor below, along with the weight of water and gravity helping to turn the water wheel more efficiently than just the flow of the stream can.

They also spent time sketching different parts of the mill and its machinery and the fish and wildfowl in the millpond. After a morning looking around and learning about how the mill works and what it does and asking questions the children formed back into one group and headed off back to school. We thoroughly enjoyed their visit and judging by the smiles and thank yous

they gave us we think they did too.

For further information please visit [www.fordendwatermill.co.uk](http://www.fordendwatermill.co.uk)

Cheers all!

**Chug (Chris Tugby)**

Mill Manager



## Knitting for **SMILE** has come to an end...

**T**hank you to **ALL the generous and skilled knitters** who have kept up contributing to the **SMILE** Christmas shoe box scheme. I had a letter this month telling me that they no longer need our knitted scarves, gloves and hats.

This is because it is getting too expensive to sort and fill the boxes and take the lorry loads over to Kosovo. They will be concentrating on their Education and Support systems that they have

established overseas.

The shoe boxes have been extremely well received and they plan to source these in Kosovo now if they can raise sponsorship to do this.

Over the years we have contributed a very large number of beautifully knitted items, thank you for it all.

(HOPE are still very pleased to receive the teddies, so keep them coming!)

**Alex Wynne**

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## Time on our hands...

The school summer holidays are upon us and those with children will be thinking about how they can be occupied. I am sure we can all look back to when six weeks seemed like an eternity stretching out in front of us. Do bring your children along to the Messy Mornings running on Wednesdays from 10:30 till 12:00. These craft and activity sessions rotate around the churches.



I have just seen an advertisement for a very expensive watch. The slogan underneath a picture of a handsome man with a good-looking son is "You never actually own a Patek Philippe. You merely look after it for the next generation." It cleverly encourages you to spend money on an expensive item of jewellery. You are really buying it for a loved one rather than yourself but, of course, you can wear it yourself for the present.

The slogan neatly captures the principle of stewardship. Ultimately we

will find that we only hold in trust all we may own; our material possessions and wealth will be passed to others. However we are entrusted with much more than these things. We are to look after the earth's ecology for the sake of those we love.

Christians describe their talents or abilities as gifts. God, who loves us like a father, will share in the pleasure and joy we have using them. Thinking of them as gifts brings both a sense of gratitude and a responsibility to use our skills well.

Time is also entrusted to us in a special way. Unlike the money that we might bequeath to others no one else can ever spend it for us; we don't look after it for the next generation. Perhaps this summer we could invest some time considering how we use everything that has been entrusted to us: our talents, our material wealth, our world and our time.

But do enjoy your time; as to a loving parent this will give God pleasure. Don't leave him anxious to find ways to occupy you and keep you out of mischief. Invest it in both yourself and others. Have a good summer.

**Revd Adrian Manning**



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## Pitstone and Ivinghoe Junior Football Club



**H**ot on the heels of England Ladies success at the World Cup, Pitstone and Ivinghoe JFC are looking to set up a number of girls teams. Initially we are trying to start teams at two age groups for girls who will be in school years 5 and 6 and 9 and 10 in the next school year. However, we would like to hear from any girls interested in playing so we can gauge demand (if we can run more teams, we will).

For any players interested, please email the following information to: [matthewlist@pandifootball.net](mailto:matthewlist@pandifootball.net) :

- Your name
- School year ( for 2015/16)
- Email or alternative contact details

If your parents would be interested to help in either an administration, coaching or refereeing capacity

We look forward to hearing from you!

**Matthew List**



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([www.aylesbury-ramblers.org.uk](http://www.aylesbury-ramblers.org.uk))



## Summer Walk Programme (August – September 2015)

Welcome to our next programme. We would love to see you on any of the walks below. We run Way Finding and Map Reading courses for members occasionally. If you would like to join one, contact the Group Secretary.

Sun 02/08/2015 10:00	Hillesden and Preston Bissett and Padbury Brook.	SP685288	9 M	Meet at the car park to the side of All Saints Church, Church End, Hillesden MK18 4DB (car share as small). Walk to include Preston Bissett and Padbury Brook. All open country. Bring packed lunch.	Vicki 01296 336890
Tue 04/08/2015 10:30	Through shady woods to Little Hampden.	SP868078	5 L	Meet at Wendover library car park for woodland walk to the old village of Little Hampden and back.	Joe G 01296 623868
Thu 06/08/2015 10:00	Undulating walk around Croxley Green	TQ065951	6.5 M	Meet at the Scotsbridge Mill P.H. Park Road Rickmansworth (WD3 1AT) A varied walk following the waymarked Parish Boundary path including parts of the Grand Union Canal and the Ebor Way. No stiles. Parking at pub or adjacent for those not staying for optional lunch.	John & Tina W 07770 421889
Sun 09/08/2015 10:00	Undulating walk through woods and fields from Whiteleaf	SP823035	7 M	Meet at Whiteleaf Hill car park. Walk to Little Hampden and Hampden House along Grim's Ditch. Hopefully there will be no fog this time! Bring snack/lunch for one stop half way round.	Sarah 07746 056500
Tue 11/08/2015 10:00	Path Check & Maintenance Walk - North Marston & Oving circular walk	SP776226	6 M	North Marston - Meet at green in Church Street using roadside parking. Spend about three hours or so checking and clearing footpaths on this Bucks CC promoted route going to the edge of Granborough and returning through part of Oving parish.	Roy J 01296 486350
Thu 13/08/2015 10:00	Circular route around Wooburn Green	SU910878	7 M	Meet at car park Wooburn Park (not Woburn). River, woods, hills and great views via Mill Wood, Woolman's Wood and Hedsor Priory. Optional pub lunch.	John T 07719 936463
Sun 16/08/2015 10:00	Hills and woods. Amersham to Botley Circular Walk	SU964987	8 M	Meet at car park off Rickmansworth Road, Amersham (free parking when surveyed). Walking north via Lower Bois towards Botley. Mix of woods with open spaces. A small section walking along the River Chess, crossing twice. Bring snacks for lunch stop.	John T 07719 936463
Tue 18/08/2015 10:30	Dorchester to Little Wittenham and return mostly flat but one hill	SU579940	4.75 L	Meet at car park in Dorchester at Bridge End near public toilets. Walk along the side of the Thames and around Little Wittenham Nature Reserve. Lunch at a pub is optional and can be organised on the day	Bob and Jane T 07941 383869 01296 748695
Thu 20/08/2015 10:00	Fairly level circular walk around Mentmore area.	SP914229	7.2 M	Meet and park at Grove Lock Pub, Ledburn LU7 0QU for OAR Section 4 & Circular walk 7. Grand Union Canal section and Mentmore Towers with optional lunch at pub by the canal.	Pete & Les 01296 651653 07432 572534
Sun 23/08/2015 10:00 to catch the 10:40 train	A flattish walk from Leighton Buzzard using 'tracks', bridleways & footpaths.	SP928242	7 M	Meet at Page's Park station (LU7 4TN) for ride on narrow gauge railway out to begin walk in the country. Adult fare £9:50, seniors £8:00. A fine walk across fields and the A5 taking in Milton Bryan, and a little VW2 history. Bring packed lunch, possible stop for drink at lunch stop. Return by train all included in the fare.	Jerry 01296 481900 07923 536372

Tue 25/08/2015 6pm	Leisurely evening stroll around the parish of Stoke Mandeville	SP833104	4 L	Meet outside the village school on the Green to explore the backwaters of the village. There will be stiles! Park on side road in front of the school. Time at the end for refreshment at a local inn if you wish.	Stephen & Anne P 01296 612336 07743 501615
Thu 27/08/2015 10:00	Medmenham, near Marlow. Circular walk with 800 feet ascent and some stiles.	SU805845	7 M	Meet at crossroads by Medmenham Church three miles SW of Marlow. Park considerably in Ferry Lane. Scenic walk in quiet area passing Iron Age hill forts, WW1 troop practice trenches and beech woodlands. Optional pub lunch.	Helen & Keith 01296 631069 07759 420206
Sun 30/08/2015 10:00	Varied hilly walk to Hyde Heath via Pednor and Hundridge	SP910032	9 M	Park at recreation ground at Ballinger (HP16 9LE) near the Pheasant pub. This pub is now open to use at the end of the walk. Bring snacks or lunch for short stops.	Marie J 01296 630062 07733 412295
Thu 03/09/2015 10:00	Thames walk from near Culham	SU509949	7 M	Meet at Culham Lock car park. A flat walk from Culham to Clifton Hampden then return to the start along the Thames Path. Pub lunch in Sutton Courtenay.	Malc P 07526 222632
Sun 06/09/2015 10:00	Undulating walk around Ashridge	SP971130	8 M	Meet and park near Bridgewater Monument. Lovely undulating walk over Ashridge golf course and through the Golden Valley to the College and part of Berkhamsted Common. Back to the Monument and cafe. Bring snacks for two short stops en route.	Roger 07768 118529
Tue 08/09/2015 10:30	A wander over the hills & vales from Ivinghoe Beacon	SP963160	4 L	Meet at the Beacon Car Park for a trip via the Beacon and through woods via Duncombe Terrace. Optional lunch at Travellers Rest, Edlesborough LU6 2EE - a Vintage Inn so worth you looking on web site for offers before we go!	Malcolm O 07985 064705
Thu 10/09/2015 10:00	An undulating walk around Great Kingshill.	SU877981	6.2 M	Meet at the car park by Great Kingshill Common. A mixture of fields and woods with some lovely views. Optional pub lunch afterwards.	Peter & Sue R 01296 425015 07913 308369
Sun 13/09/2015 10:00	Ashley Green area, a few hills and vales	SP977051	9 M	Meet at Ashley Green Memorial Hall, Two Dells Lane, (HP5 3PN) for a circular walk around the Ashley Green area. A few hills and vales. Bring snacks/lunch for two short stops.	Tricia 07762 204292
Tue 15/09/2015 10:00	Path Check & Maintenance Walk - Granborough	SP768250	6 M	Granborough - Meet and park using parking area in Green End just past the church. Spend about 3 hours or so checking and clearing footpaths as you enjoy the countryside in this parish.	Roy J 01296 486350
Thu 17/09/2015 10:00	Circular hilly walk through villages to the south of Amersham	SU923957	7 M	Park at The Hit or Miss PH, Penn Street (if luncheon). A circular walk to Winchmore Hill and Coleshill. There's a clue in the name of the villages - some hills!	Lyn 07514 259713
Sun 20/09/2015 10:00	Marsh Gibbon and Grendon Underwood and area.	SP647228	9 M	Meet at Marsh Gibbon Village Hall car park, Clements Lane (OX27 0HG). Walk to include Grendon Underwood and hopefully nature reserve en route. All open country. Bring packed lunch.	Vicki 01296 336890
Tue 22/09/2015 10:30	Exploring the Thame Valley from Stone.	SP791123	5 L	Meet at Rose & Crown PH. Walk through Hartwell to Eythrope and back to Stone. One long, gentle climb. Optional lunch at R&C. If not luncheon please park considerably on roads behind the pub.	Stephen & Anne P 01296 612336 07743 501615
Thu 24/09/2015 10:00	Mixed walk of woodland, farmland, and common land in the Aldbury area.	SP964122	7 M	Meet at the Valiant Trooper Aldbury (HP23 5RW) for a walk around Aldbury Common, Ashridge, Northchurch Common and Norcott. Optional pub lunch afterwards.	Neil T 07930 554907
Sun 27/09/2015 10:00	Wigginton via two ancient tracks	SP868078	12 M	Meet at Wendover library car park for undulating route to Wigginton via Ridgeway and Grim's Ditch. Brief pub stop for drinks only. Bring packed lunch.	Joe G 01296 623868

Please note, when taking part in any of the walks listed on this programme you do so entirely at your own risk. Details are supplied by leaders long before any walk takes place, making it impossible to accurately predict the weather, conditions underfoot and other factors affecting safety, comfort or the degree of difficulty you may encounter. In really adverse weather, please check that the walk is on with the leader.

Members in group photographs taken on walks need to be aware that any of these photos may be used for publicising and promoting our Group and the Ramblers

### Walk Grading Definitions

**Leisurely (L)** Suitable for reasonably fit people with at least a little country walking experience. Walking boots and warm, waterproof clothing are recommended. Terrain: Includes unsurfaced country paths that may be narrow, muddy or overgrown and obstructions such as stiles and narrow bridges. May be hilly with a few ascents and descents. Pace: Slow or moderate pace.

**Moderate (M)** Suitable for people with country walking experience and a good level of fitness. Walking boots and warm, waterproof clothing essential. Terrain: As in leisurely walks but with some sustained climbs and perhaps some moderate walking on open hillsides or moorland in the warmer months. Pace: Moderate pace; could include walks taken on leisurely terrain at a brisk pace.

**Strenuous (S)** Suitable for experienced country walkers with an above-average fitness level. Walking boots and warm waterproof clothing essential. Terrain: Includes rough country and mountains, a few long or lots of short ascents and descents on rough paths and across open country. Pace: Moderate or brisk pace; could include walks taken on moderate terrain at a brisk pace.

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Visitors can work the sack hoist and mill wheat on a rotary hand quern. Stoneground wholemeal flour for sale on milling days.

### OPENING TIMES 2015

**Afternoons 2.00–5.00pm.** 6th April – Easter Monday, 4th May – Early May BH Monday, 10th May – National Mills W/end, 25th May – Spring BH Monday, 14th June – Sunday, 12th July – Sunday, 9th August – Sunday, 31st August – BH Monday, 13th September – Sunday, 11th October – Sunday As part of Tring Apple Fayre.

**MILLING DEMONSTRATIONS (water level permitting)  
between 2.30pm–4.30pm approx**

**Last admission 4.30pm. Admission: Adults: £3 children (5–15) £1**

Ample car parking – no toilet facilities Restricted disability access

School and other parties welcome by arrangement.

Contact: Mill Manager - Chris Tugby, [millman@fordendwatermill.co.uk](mailto:millman@fordendwatermill.co.uk)


or Telephone: 01442 825421. [www.fordendwatermill.co.uk](http://www.fordendwatermill.co.uk)




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## Ivinghoe Allotments **from the Plot**



**H**i all, I hope that you have all been making the most of the recent glorious weather. It's good for the cricket, tennis at Wimbledon, barbecues and although it meant more watering, it has been great for our crops!

Although courgettes, broad beans and sweetcorn were slow to show themselves they suddenly came into their own in comparison to last year. It has been a truly tremendous season for shallots – good clusters (six-10) and very good sizes, and of course, with the good weather quick to dry out, and get that lovely brown skin – some already pickled!

I noticed that onions are also looking healthy on the plots that grow them. I picked my first early potato – Arran Pilot, a few weeks ago, and just to taste them reminds me how much allotmenting is so worthwhile.

While writing about the crops, I am saddened to learn of the theft of blackcurrants and strawberries from other ploholders. I must say, that I also lost a few lettuces.

In view of the fact that some of our produce are coming to their peak each and everyone of us must be vigilant when we are on the site, and if we see anyone that we do not recognise, they should be approached. These people (or person) on being approached will not need a confrontation if they are there for an unlawful reason ie. to commit theft, and will either walk or run away. Remember, a bed of nearly ready onions just lying on the top of the soil can be lifted in a few minutes using both hands.

Ivinghoe Parish Council has kindly given us permission to hold a Summer BBQ for allotmenters and their families on our site late August. More information for allotment holders will be found on the gate or some will have already received the email.

IPC has also agreed a decision to allow dogs on the allotment, so long as they are kept on

a leash and any mess is cleared up and taken away. We have many plot holders with dogs so we are very pleased with this decision. And, being the responsible people we are, we will ensure that 'our' dogs will not cause any problems! I am also considering applying for permission to bring my pet Alpaca on to the site!

Incidentally, it is National Allotments Week (August 10 -16). Most Local Authority allotments were created in the 20th Century in response to the food shortage due to the 2nd World War. Originally, allotments were a way of giving means of growing food to the labouring rural poor, as they were suffering from the enclosures of common land in the 18th Century.

The oldest allotment site is yet to be decided. One at Long Newton, Shipton Moyne (Gloc/Wilts Border) dates circa 1795, but the endangered site at Coombe Allots, Glocs, claims to be dated 1763.

There is a 218 allotment site at Farm Terrace, Watford. It is named 'Allotment Paradise' which is also endangered as it stands in the way of a proposed business park. We wish them well in their fight against the proposals.

One beer company described allotments as being in line with the Queen, William Shakespeare, David Attenborough and deep fried Mars bars as the things that make Great Britain brilliant!

We are very fortunate where we are with a Parish Council so supportive in our aims and endeavours. Take into consideration what we pay each year for the rental of our plots and water, we certainly cannot complain, exercise when you dig, knee bends when you weed, plenty of fresh air and good, healthy food on your table – all for around £10 a year. Just imagine how you would pay at your local gym!

**Mind how you go.**

**Ernie Jones** Ivinghoe Allotmenteer



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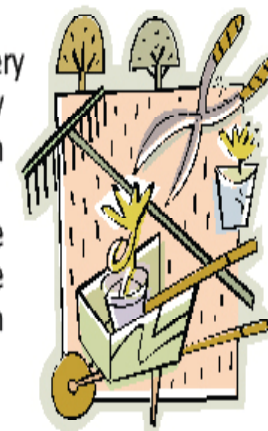
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Have you ever thought about 'growing your own'?  
Growing your own fruit and vegetables can be a very satisfying experience and in Ivinghoe we are very lucky to have some beautiful allotments just off Church Road, overlooking St Mary's Church.

If you are an Ivinghoe resident and would like some more information about availability of plots - we have them in a range of sizes - please contact the Parish Clerk at [ivinghoeparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:ivinghoeparishclerk@gmail.com)

or call Maxine on 07960 605 393

NB: there may not always be an available plot but we do keep a waiting list!



# Tales from the Compost Heap

Your compost heap may not fancy a Pimms, but...  
It surely could do with a drink!

None of us can have escaped noticing that this summer we have had a lot of dry weather, not to mention some of the hottest June days on record. How lucky we are to be able to go to the fridge – or maybe the pub – and get a nice cold drink to quench our thirst.

So spare a thought for your compost heap, which, when conditions become desert-like, does not have the luxury of popping to the fridge. In your heap there are billions of microorganisms who know no other home. It is they who do the work of processing your brown and green kitchen waste into compost, along with their collaborators the worms. Apparently they do best when moisture levels are around 40 to 60% – in other words, when the contents of your bin are as damp as a wrung-out cloth.

Deprive the poor creatures of enough moisture, and they slow down. Deprive them of most of the moisture they should have – that is, when moisture content drops to below 15% and they give up altogether. Maybe this is when mummification begins.

Luckily there are steps you can take to avoid this population crash in your heap, and to make sure that your heap chugs away even in drier weather.

First in the list of things to do is to add water; ideally your heap should be damp throughout – not just the top layer – so water each layer as you go, and if needs be get the hose pipe into the middle of your container. Should you be concerned about the over-use of tap water, there

are alternatives – dishwasher will do, as will (in Bob Flowerdew's words) recycled beer or cider – or perhaps sauvignon blanc, depending on your tastes.

Other things will also help – such as siting your heap in a shady spot, although this takes a bit of forward planning. Putting a lid of some sort on your bin or heap will reduce condensation – and a bin of solid construction, such a plastic "robot", will fare better than the sort with slatted sides. Adding more "greens" than "browns" to your heap will help to redress the balance.

So, if the weather stays dry and hot, keep an eye on your bin – stroll out to your heap, glass of beer in hand, and remember the fact that, just as you like a drink, so does your heap.

**Barbara Cummings**

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**Brownies:** Monday 5.45 – 7.15pm  
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Guider: Elaine Thorogood  
**01296 661540**

**Girl Guides:** Tuesday 7.00 – 8.30pm  
Millennium Room, Pitstone  
Memorial Hall Guider: Yvonne  
Ashton **01296 660044**

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# Brookmead School

## A Sense of Place

During the summer term Brookmead pupils have been involved in learning about the local area. We were delighted to share the outcomes of this work with our parents and wider community through a whole-school exhibition A Sense of Place, which we put on in the New Hall in July. If you were unable to attend the exhibition yourself I hope we can give you a flavour of the children's achievements now – it was a wonderful example of outstanding learning across the whole school.

Sense of Place can be defined as stopping, observing and listening to what is around you, as it's through this experience that we really learn about the place we live in. How fortunate we are then, to be in the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty with our very own Ivinghoe Beacon, chalk downlands, medieval villages, beechwoods, chalkhill butterflies, Iron Age hill forts, iconic red kites, a working 18th century water mill and of course our very own Pitstone Windmill. These are just some of the local treasures the children have spent time exploring and capturing their experiences through sketches, poetry, mapping, elderflower cordial making, designing a game and a sculpture using local materials to represent the landscape that included snail shells, chalk, bark, twigs and leaves. So creative!

What I particularly enjoyed was the careful presentation by the children and pride in their collective work, which is encouraged at Brookmead. Right across the school, our children have risen to the challenge of enquiring, exploring and discovering their environment, heritage and natural history

which I hope they will share with you on a walk this summer holiday.

I know that if we are given the opportunity to explore, wonder and be amazed by our location and place in the Chilterns landscape, we discover our own sense of place, are more likely to care for our local environment; to take litter home, to pick up dog waste and to be a considerate and thoughtful member of the community.

I must declare a professional interest in sharing what makes the Chilterns such a beautiful and unusual place to inspire and delight visitors and locals alike, and it is with great pleasure to share with you some of the many comments we received from our local visitors who were invited in to enjoy the splendid exhibition.

*"An excellent reflection of the work of our local school. I particularly liked the models of the buildings along the Marsworth Rd and High Street. Please thank all the children for contributing to an excellent exhibition."*

*"Thank you so much for allowing me to visit your school to enjoy the work you have done. You seemed to have learnt so much about the community."*

*"I wanted to stay and enjoy it for much longer! It was all so interesting and to have come from a naturally organic way of teaching, which is lovely for you all. We want you to please go on telling us how it is to be a child growing up in our community."*

*"What a fabulous exhibition. Thank you so much for asking us to see your amazing work – we discovered new facts about our village."*

*"As a visitor to the area, I am so impressed with the amount of information*

*on display that has given me new knowledge to make me go and learn more."*

Hopefully your children can be your Chiltern's guide this summer holiday!


Meanwhile the school is archiving much of the work which will be made available to view online.

### Mary Tebje

Interim Vice Chair of Governors  
Brookmead School

<http://www.Brookmead.bucks.sch.uk>





## Brookmead School

Headteacher: Katherine Douglas

### Bringing Learning to Life and Life to Learning

**Our school is located in the beautiful Chiltern hills, which is something to be celebrated and shared. Established in 1967, Brookmead School provides a happy and stimulating environment that promotes an enjoyment and love of learning. We aim to enable all our children to reach their full potential, both as learners and as valuable members of our school and wider community.**

**Brookmead School is a Foundation Primary School for children aged 4 - 11 and serves the communities of Ivinghoe, Pitstone (including Castlemead) and Marsworth.**

**For further information or to arrange a visit please contact Mrs Kerr on 01296 668543 or email [office@brookmead.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@brookmead.bucks.sch.uk).**

**Brookmead School, High Street, Ivinghoe, LU7 9EX**  
[www.brookmead.bucks.sch.uk](http://www.brookmead.bucks.sch.uk)

# Windmill Pre-School



As this edition of the newsletter goes to print we have just closed our doors as yet another academic has finished. This seems a perfect time to reflect on the year as well as look forward to the next.

## Staff changes

Over the last year we've been pleased to welcome a number of new staff members to both permanent and 'bank' staff – Melissa, Louise, Donna and Lianne. Everyone has settled in well and have become very popular editions to the team. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff for all their hard work and commitment over the last 12 months and in particular Kate, our very committed Manager who really goes 'above and beyond' what is expected of her. We hope you all have a relaxing and restful summer holiday.

## Vacancy

We are currently looking to recruit a Level 3 Practitioner for a one year contract. If you know anyone that may be interested in this vacancy, please point them in our direction.

## Outdoor space

During the summer holidays last year, members of staff and the Voluntary Management Committee worked hard transforming the front garden in to a quiet nature space that has been used a lot by the children at Windmill over the last year. We've also invested a significant amount of money on new outdoor equipment to help enhance their outdoor enjoyment

both at the front and rear of the building. To accompany this, an agreement was made with Miss Douglas, Head at Brookmead School that allowed us to make use of their playing fields every morning between 9.15am and 10.15am – weather permitting.

## Fundraising review

As you know, fundraising is an important role for the Voluntary Management Committee as it allows us to invest in additional new equipment and fund various fun sessions run by outside organisations that other settings may otherwise have to ask parents to pay for. This year we have raised over £2500 with various initiatives including textile recycling (October and March), a quiz night (November), family photo sessions (October and May), Christmas Cards (December), Christmas Nativity photos and raffle (December), Easter Extravaganza (March), Annual Sponsored Walk (April), Sports Day raffle (July), Leavers Graduation Frames (July). Through our successful fundraising we have continued to have Football Fever as well as Michaela's Mini Music sessions organised for the children to enjoy and we have also purchased a fabulous wooden kitchen furniture set for the role play area.

In February, we opened our doors to lots of prospective parents for our bi-annual Open Morning. The Voluntary Management Committee leafleted Pitstone and Ivinghoe and we were very pleased with the number of people that were able to come and look round our setting as well as meet the staff.

Many parents were surprised that we have to operate a waiting list, so it really is never too early to put your child's name on the list.

In March, to mark World Book Day, we encouraged our pre-schoolers to come in wearing their pyjamas and bring along their favourite books. It was great to see so many taking part as well as see the staff in their pj's, slippers and dressing gowns!!

At the end of March, we held an Easter fun session over at The Pitstone Memorial Hall and this was open to all our children and their parents or carers. We held an Easter themed tombola and asked people to donate an Easter related item (so not just chocolate!!) as well as themed crafts like biscuit decorating and basket making. Along with the tombola we also raised some funds by face painting and serving up lots of yummy refreshments!

Slightly earlier than usual in April, we held our annual sponsored walk around the villages and windmill field. This was open to all the children at Pre-School and we also invited parents and carers to join us. Although it was a little grey, chilly and windy, all the children completed the walk and the rain held off for the morning which was a massive bonus!

To mark the end of term, we held our annual sports day followed by a graduation ceremony for the children that have left to go on to the next level of their educational journeys. There were over 30 children in total and we wish them all best wishes for the future. It's always a sad moment to say 'goodbye' to the children, many of which have been with us for a number of years and are the younger siblings of children

that have attended and gone on to Brookmead, so they have been around the setting for a long time. However, we look forward to welcoming many families back plus a number of new faces to the setting when we re-open on Thursday 3rd September.

**We'd like to say a massive THANK YOU to everyone that has supported our fundraising initiatives over the last 12 months. Your support and generosity has been very much appreciated by everyone at Windmill Pre-School.**

## Voluntary Management Committee

The Annual General Meeting was held in May and we were pleased to welcome Carolyn, Linda, Jenni and Anne to our friendly team of volunteers. We hope that you enjoy your time on the committee and find it a rewarding experience. We also saw Co-Chair Christina Reilly and former Chair Gail Dodsworth both step down. We'd like to thank them both for their time, commitment and enthusiasm and wish them both well in all their future endeavours.

## Transitions

For the large number of children that were leaving us at the end of the summer term to move on to the next level of their education, we continued with our Transition Sessions. These daily sessions were designed to help prepare the children for increased independence with focused activities and were run in small groups of 6-7 each morning. The children enjoyed the group sessions and

particularly enjoyed meeting their new teachers from Brookmead. They have also spent time in their new Reception class over at Brookmead School and have shared their experiences very positively.

### Looking forward

We look forward to welcoming lots of new children to the setting over the next academic year. Doors will re-open on Thursday 3rd September at 9.00am and we have lots of great indoor and outdoor activities planned for the children to enjoy as well as fundraising events for parents, carers and the community to get involved with. In October and May we have Photography by Carrie booked to take beautiful family photos, October and March will be great opportunities to have a clear out and donate bags for our Textile Recycling initiatives, in November we will have our regular quiz night which always proves to be a really fun night out and December will see our annual Christmas Nativity, the children designing their own festive cards and the return of our festive raffle.

### Parent partnership

Do you have an interesting job? Do you wear a well-known uniform to work? Or maybe you have an interesting hobby? We would love to hear from anyone that could come in and talk to the children about their job or hobby.

Also, could any parents spare a couple of hours to come and help out at Pre-School – either on a regular basis or just as a one off? Would you like to come and help out with some baking, messy play or gardening? Or maybe do some singing or reading with the children? We would love to hear from dads as well, so please do get in touch and speak to Kate.

**Thank you to everyone for your continued support.**



**Lara Rutherford** Chair,  
Voluntary Management  
Committee

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Ivinghoe &amp; Pitstone Scouts Group.</b> <b>Group Scout Leader. Keith Steers</b> Email; <a href="mailto:ksteers@aol.com">ksteers@aol.com</a> Telephone; 0789-9696722			
<b>WaterMill Beavers, Monday</b> <b>Leader Andrew Broad</b>	<b>6 pm – 7 pm.</b>	<b>Windmill Beavers Tuesday</b> <b>Leader Keith Steers</b>	
<b>Windmill Cubs, Wednesday</b> <b>Leader Rob Haddock</b>	<b>6.30 pm – 8.00pm</b>	<b>Watermill Cubs Thursday</b> <b>Leader, Rob Mercel</b>	
<b>Scouts Meet Fridays at 7.30 pm – 9.00 pm</b>			<b>Leader, Andrew Woods.</b>

## Marsworth Pre School



Marsworth Millennium Hall, Vicarage Road, Marsworth HP23 4LR  
Tel: 07506 179658 Email: [enquiries@marsworthpreschool.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@marsworthpreschool.org.uk)

Marsworth Pre-School, held at Marsworth Millennium Hall, is a very popular village pre-school with an outstanding reputation, attracting children from a wide area.

**Sessions available for ages 2 to 5 years, FULL or PART days:-**

**Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday**

**Morning Session:- 9.00am - 11.30am**

**Lunch Club:- 11.30am - 12.30pm**

**Afternoon Session:- 12.30pm - 3.00pm**

For further information, details of funding, session availability or to arrange a visit, please call 07506 179658 or visit our website  
[www.marsworthpreschool.org.uk](http://www.marsworthpreschool.org.uk)

## Ivinghoe & Pitstone's Windmill Pre-School

Windmill Pre-School in Ivinghoe is one of the top pre-schools nationally and highest rated locally

*"Children make excellent progress in all areas of their learning and development because staff plan an outstanding range of activities..."*

*"Children have fun and are purposefully engaged in all areas of this dynamic setting. They make excellent progress as staff recognise them as unique individuals..."*

Source: Ofsted report June 2011

**Morning session: 9am-12pm**

**Afternoon session: 12pm-3pm** (includes Lunch Club)

**Lunch Club: 12pm-1pm** (subject to availability)

We welcome all children between 2 and 5 years from Pitstone, Ivinghoe & surrounding areas to our purpose-built premises behind Brookmead School five full days per week

**IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD**

For further info and to arrange a visit for you and your child please contact us:  
[admin@windmillpreschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@windmillpreschool.co.uk) or 01296 661031 (during sessions)

**[www.windmillpreschool.co.uk](http://www.windmillpreschool.co.uk)**

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- ✓ Interview
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- Wheelchair friendly transport
- Legal services
- Daytime activity operators
- Any other care & support in the community

Contact: [chwalton@bucksc.gov.uk](mailto:chwalton@bucksc.gov.uk) or 01296 382298 or [www.bucksc.gov.uk](http://www.bucksc.gov.uk) (search 'Support With Confidence').

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## Nuffield Place is typical of the Chilterns: modest, intriguing and tucked away in a beautiful place you have probably near heard of.



The William Morris of the British Arts and Crafts Movement fame casts a huge shadow on this William Morris who brought affordable motoring to Britain, and this is his story.

Born in 1877 in Worcester, William Morris moved with his family to Oxfordshire where his mother had been born and raised. Due to financial pressures, he had to leave school at an early age to become apprenticed to a local cycle repair shop. A natural mechanic and 'a tinkerer of things' he saved £4 over a mere nine months and opened his own business repairing bicycles from a shed in

his parents garden, labelling his product with a gilt cycle wheel and The Morris. He met his wife Elizabeth Anstey whilst both members of the local cycling club. Despite going on a tandem-cycling holiday across some vast distance, they still decided to get married! They had no children.

His stratospheric rise to the heights of motor car designer, manufacturer, wealthiest self-made industrialist of his age and philanthropist seems almost unreal as you wonder around his house. A slightly shabby, down at heel 1930's house, I was there for an altogether different reason: the launch of the

Ridgeway Partnership that is taking a new look at how this ancient pathway is being promoted and used. Nuffield Place just happens to be en-route, tucked away in a secluded woodland above Henley-on-Thames. There is an ever-so slightly unkempt feel here, which I love. No sharp edges, ropes and bossy signs. The gardens are full of wildflowers and so many foxgloves! A pair of kites wheeled lazily overhead, and I was tempted to get a game of croquet underway on the lawn. Designed by Oswald Partridge Milne, this Arts and Crafts house was completed in 1914 and originally named Merrow Mount, which explains the ship on the weather vane. When Lord and Lady Nuffield purchased the house in 1933, they renamed it Nuffield Place after the nearby village. Refreshingly unpretentious, very personal and seems to have escaped being 'done over' to appeal to the historic house visitor demographic who needs tips on lifestyle enhancement and all-round heritage self-help. This is a recent acquisition by the National Trust and came very close to being sold, when at the 11th hour, Nuffield College (the college he founded), handed the house to the nation in 2011. We are grateful.

This great philanthropist who gave upwards of £600 million in today's money to big medical research projects, also gave quite touching donations including buying a supply of wedding dresses that he kept in one of his shops, that wartime brides who, for whatever reason, could borrow to wear for their often hasty-arranged wartime wedding. There are still letters from these grateful couples who told of what would have been an otherwise drab day had been sprinkled

with some much-needed glamour.

Overheard inside the house: 'Everyone says it's so modest... but it isn't is it?'

Not much has changed from when they lived here and all sorts of personal touches are to be found on dressers, hangers, tables and beds; books including 'Rheumatism and you – a handbook', the 'Book of Etiquette' by Lady Troubridge and 'The Scottish Terrier' by D.A. Casperz. The 'Cries of London' picture series that shows the different street sellers, took me back to my childhood! I am not sure which two or three we had in our modest dining room, but am sure were only cheap prints compared to the entire wall-full of images here.

There is no great car collection either, only a modest Wolseley in the garage, which he saw no reason to upgrade. His wife was a terrible driver, but we are not told of his driving skills, only that he didn't much like the Morris Minor.

To the many volunteers who were working so hard in the gardens and inside the house, ready to share delightful stories, this special house would not be open without you – thank you!

Naturally I recommend a visit, and if you are a NT member, the splendid *Greys Court* is nearby so can be enjoyed in a day.

For information on opening times and location: and what else there is to explore and enjoy in the naturally outstanding Chilterns.

**Mary Tebje**

Chilterns Tourism Network

@VisitChilterns



# Pitstone Church News

The Pitstone church festival on the May bank holiday weekend was a great success and raised over £1000 for the upkeep of the church from the sale of pictures and refreshments and from donations.

The weekend was a feast for the senses, beautiful works of art and crafts, amazing flower arrangements, a variety of music throughout and a constant supply of tasty refreshments.

None of this happens without a lot of hard work and over 80 people were involved in making the event so popular and enjoyable as well as the many people who visited and supported this very special event.

The Ivinghoe Church Choir came to lead the evensong at 6pm on the Sunday, always a popular service in this beautiful building.

If you missed it this year make a note to come next year, on the 2nd May Bank holiday weekend when the Medieval Church will come alive again for your enjoyment.

The Church is managed by the Churches Conservation Trust (CCT) with the help of a group of local Friends of Pitstone Church who welcome new Friends. If you would like to find out more please contact **Gill Arney** on **01296 668123**.

**Alex Wynne**

## A Devious Mind and a lot of Determination

A new crime writer has arrived in our community. Sue Nicholls, known to many of her fellow Pitstone residents as Editor of the Pitstone Parish Post and through her work at Brookmead School, has published her debut novel **Be Careful What You Wish For**.

'This novel has taken years to write. I had to fit it in between my jobs and, more recently, running a B & B. I can't quite believe it is finished.'

Sue says she has been thrilled by the response to her writing.

'You send your "baby" out into the world and you can never be sure how people will treat it.' She jokes.

The book was inspired by events in her life. 'I met two women, now great friends, when we were all in unhappy marriages. We fantasised about the idea of forming a commune, but the rest is pure fantasy'.

The book follows the fortunes of three women and their husbands as they battle to adjust to separation and childcare. When the second woman dies, we begin to wonder if something sinister is going on.

Sue has started work on the sequel and hopes it will not take as long to complete. 'I'm still battling to find the time, but I learned so much while writing the first book that I hope the process will be slicker this time.'

**Be Careful What You Wish For** is published by Mardibooks, and is available as an e-book from Amazon UK or US, or the Mardibooks website.

**Sue Nicholls**



## PITSTONE MEMORIAL HALL & MILLENNIUM EXTENSION

The large Millennium Extension consists of a generous room with a capacity for 70-80 people and a smaller room with a capacity for 50 people



Bar facilities are available by arrangement with the booking clerk

For further details and revised prices please contact the Booking Clerk, Mrs Sue Gregory, 4 The Crescent, Pitstone. 01296 661609

## A new website on the Ashridge Estate

I recently launched a website on the Ashridge Estate in collaboration with the National Trust, see [www.ashridgetimeline.co.uk](http://www.ashridgetimeline.co.uk)

There are a number of events covering Ivinghoe Common, which are not generally known. There was a horse course in the Coombe before 1762, and Piccadilly Hill was named by the Welsh cattle drovers! There was a white horse hill figure on Pitstone Hill dating from Tudor times, probably cut by the Welsh drovers as a way-mark sign.

Please see the website for details of the upcoming events.

**John Trimmer**



The King's Head, Ivinghoe 01296 668388

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Ivinghoe Church  
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Alex Wynne - 668336  
Mary Cook - 662530  
Slapton Church  
Bridget Lewis - 01525 220790



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Pastor Dave Clifford

"The Chapel Fellowship"

Tel:- 01296 668906 Mob:- 07737 350183

Email: davidclifford954@btinternet.com



## Pitstone Car Scheme



DO YOU have difficulty travelling to hospital or other healthcare appointments?

CAN WE help?

Pitstone Community Car Scheme is a new scheme offering a service for residents who have difficulty travelling to healthcare appointments.

The scheme is run by volunteers who use their own cars to drive residents to local hospitals or other healthcare appointments (for example, the opticians, dentist or physiotherapist).

There is a small charge for the service to cover the volunteer's petrol and car parking expenses. To make it easier, a set tariff has been worked out in advance for typical journeys to local hospitals. If you need to access healthcare in another town, eg Hemel Hempstead, the cost will be advised at the time of booking the trip.

Example costs (excluding car parking):

DESTINATION	COST £
TRING	£3.00
STOKE MANDEVILLE	£7.00
CHESHAM	£6.50
L & D HOSPITAL	£7.00
AMERSHAM	£8.50
HIGH WYCOMBE	£14.00
JOHN RADCLIFFE	£17.50
NUFFIELD, OXFORD	£17.50

**COORDINATOR  
NEEDED!**

**DRIVERS  
NEEDED!**

In some circumstances, we may be able to undertake hospital trips to the John Radcliffe or Nuffield hospitals. Please contact the number below if you are having difficulty accessing transport to these hospitals.

The volunteer will usually wait while the appointment is taking place, and then take the resident home. However, there may be circumstances where the return trip is much later or another day. In this case, each journey will be classed as return – as the volunteer will need to return to Pitstone using their own vehicle and petrol.

These charges are exceptionally good. The trips are being undertaken by volunteers so, at present, these cannot be extended to include appointments other than healthcare. Also, there is no guarantee of an available volunteer driver, but we will do all we can with the volunteer resources we have. Please give as much notice as you can.

If you have difficulty travelling and would like to use this service to help you get to a hospital or other healthcare appointment, please telephone

Dave Clifford on 01296 668906.



# From District Councillor Avril Davies

## Ivinghoe Conservation Area

I am elated and extremely relieved that the revised Ivinghoe conservation area policy has passed all the hurdles and been agreed at Aylesbury Vale District Council. This is an excellent piece of work and well worth investing in a copy if you are interested in the history of the village. Ivinghoe was one of the first villages in Aylesbury Vale to be designated a conservation area because of its outstanding merits, but being an early prototype, did not benefit from the scholarship, architectural expertise and planning policies that informed later conservation areas. The revision was long overdue and thanks are due to Karen Groom, chairman of Ivinghoe Parish Council, who left nothing to chance and attended the final decision making cabinet meeting to leave the Councillors in no doubt of the importance and value of the conservation area to residents.

### Roads

On Wednesday July 8th I gave the new cabinet member for transportation at Bucks County Council a personal guided tour of the Ivinghoe Division. Not only had I pleaded with him at Council, only half in jest, for the whole of the £3M released from council reserves for highway maintenance, to be spent in Ivinghoe Division, but also as a new broom his interest had been sparked by his meeting with Edlesborough Northall and Dagnall campaign group to downgrade the A4146



**Avril Davies**

County and District Councillor  
<http://avrildavies.mycouncillor.org>

to a B road, who raised all the HGV routing issues that beset this corner of the County.

The downgrade is being pursued by Hertfordshire county council, but the officers at Bucks, although sympathetic, are adamant that such a step must not divert traffic on to other roads, particularly the B488. There would be an opportunity, with the opening of the A505 link from Leighton Buzzard to the M1 – the Dunstable North bypass – but it would need co-ordinate signage and changing the designation of the Stoke Hammond Bypass from the A4146 to the A505. The three counties involved are working on this to see how this could be implemented.

As a member I have a small say in road maintenance, and my first priority scheme, but not the first to be carried out, is the repair of the B488 through Ivinghoe, but I don't want this to happen without due consideration to the proposals put to Ivinghoe parish Council by Ben Hamilton Baillie to improve the Station Road Junction to make it not least more compatible with the centre of a conservation area. Prior to the Local area Forum on 9th July I am

bringing all parties round the table to see if these schemes could be moved forward jointly, but my main concern is to find ways of turning talk into action.

There is a considerable programme of road maintenance going on in the area. Coordinating other schemes such as the B489 Marsworth road with the proposed footway for example are difficult.

### Preventing Child Sexual Exploitation

Happens everywhere. I am participating by special invitation from the chair of the Education, Skills and Children's Services Select Committee review of this hot topic.

**Are You Safe?** and **RUWise2it?** are not campaign slogans operating in a vacuum. The police have told us that two children out of three from pre school onwards are vulnerable to this through the use of social media and on line games. The job of the select committee is to see if the Council is taking every action it can to make people aware, and protect children and young people by whatever means appropriate. There are many opportunities on offer to learn about internet safety, so take them if you can.

### Bucks County Council Annual Debate

The debate, postponed from May when the Parliamentary Select Committee was visiting the route of HS2 in Bucks, hosted on July 16th by Professor Tony Travers speaking on the theme of challenges and opportunities facing local government, followed by a debate on the Bucks Strategic Plan. As leader of the opposition I decided to respond to the leader from a presentation I made on behalf of Bucks CC at the Local Government Association

Conference, on the findings of the national scrutiny development project in which Buckinghamshire participated, looking at the challenges for transparency and accountability in a council that commissions services from external providers, and the high risks councils need to manage where local government has been taking and continues to take nearly three quarters of government spending cuts, along with a five year and ongoing freeze in council tax.

### Beacon Villages Community Library

Everyone involved in the library was very sorry but quite understanding that Emma Huxley decided to stand down as chair after more years than she had bargained for setting the library on a successful course for the future. Emma has done an amazing job with competence and charm, but with a two year old and a full time job in London there are limits! Thank you for everything Emma, and don't forget us. Meanwhile I have taken over the reins as chair, and new members have joined the management committee. My next challenge is to remember to put all the news and activity on the Facebook and Twitter accounts – or better still find someone else to.

The library plays a central role in our villages. As well as books don't forget you can use expensive software free of charge such as ancestry.com for family history, the driving test theory practice, and Which? The VE fun day garden party was a lovely addition to our events calendar, the Library Lunches (in Cheddington) are a regular feature, and BeaconLit literary festival day had an amazing third year at Brookmead school, with participants still tweeting and blogging about it.



THE ROYAL BRITISH  
LEGION



Please make a note of the date of this popular event and look for more details on the notice boards in September

**The Ivinghoe and Pitstone Branch  
THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**

**Annual Sunday Lunch (bring your  
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**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2015**

**12.30pm for 1pm**

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Batcheler 01296 661 449**

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Members of The Ivinghoe and Pitstone Branch of the Royal British Legion now meet at the small Pitstone Hall at 11am on the first Wednesday in the month.

New members will be made welcome.

Ring Margaret Johnson, Secretary on 01296 661 280

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# From District Councillors Sandra Jenkins and Derek Town



As a result of boundary changes Ivinghoe, Pitstone, Marsworth and Cheddington were combined and became one ward and represented by two District Councillors. In May this year we were privileged to be elected with a large majority as your District Councillors for the next four years.

We are both retired but have had considerable experience in the business world and dealing with local authorities. We are very impressed with the dedication and enthusiasm of the local Parish Councils and the work they do to ensure that the villages are sustainable and to continue to promote the excellent community spirit and we will endeavour to work with them.

Both the parish councils and AVDC face a challenging future particularly where new and aggressive development

applications are not locally favoured and differ from the Local Neighbourhood Plan. The LNP is in the view of this ward's district councillors the clear and concise mandate of how the residents expect and want the future to unfold to provide for both current villages and future ones.

We are only two months into our tenure but we are looking forward to the next four years and meeting as many residents as possible and if you have any issues please do contact us and we will do our best to help.

**Cllr Derek Town and Sandra Jenkins,**  
Aylesbury Vale District Councillors for  
Cheddington and Pitstone

## Your local Councillors:

### Cllr Karen Groom

Areas of Responsibility: Allotments, Beacon Magazine, Beacon Villages Library, Conservation Area, Footpaths and Bridleways, Parish Maintenance, Ivinghoe Aston Village Hall, Lawn Hire, Lawn & Trees, National Trust/Chiltern Soc., Planning  
Add: Willowdene Farm, Ivinghoe, LU7 9EA  
Tel: 01296 668 326  
Email: karengroom@hotmail.co.uk



### Cllr Christabel Boersma

Areas of Responsibility: Beacon Magazine, Beacon Villages Library, Education Liaison, IPC Communications (inc website, social media), Local Area Forum, Neighbourhood Development Plan, Planning, Streets, Street Lights and Highways (including Traffic Calming)  
Add: The Old Vicarage, Church Road, Ivinghoe, LU7 9EH  
Tel: 01296 661 532  
Email: christabelboersma@hotmail.com



### Ruth Benton

Areas of Responsibility: Education Liaison, Local Area Forum, Planning, Playgrounds (Ivinghoe Aston), Neighbourhood Development Plan, Police Liaison, Streets, Street Lights and Highways (including Traffic Calming)  
Add: Ty Cyngor, 10 High Street, Ivinghoe Aston, LU7 9DP  
Tel: 01525 222730  
Email: TyCyngor@gmail.com



### Andrew Dicker

Areas of Responsibility: Allotments, Finance, Town Hall Committee  
Add: The Old House, 38 Station Road, Ivinghoe, LU7 9EB.  
Tel: 01296 668444  
Email: andrew.dicker31@gmail.com



### Stephen Lott

Areas of Responsibility: Footpaths and Bridleways, Ivinghoe Aston Village Hall, Local Area Forum, Playgrounds (Ivinghoe), Police Liaison, Town Hall Committee  
Add: 2 Yew Tree Close, Ivinghoe, LU7 9ET.  
Tel: 01296 668897  
Email: sjl@linley-lott.me



### Maxine Hayes

Clerk to the Council  
**Ivinghoe Parish Council Clerk is no longer holding sessions in the library each month. If you would like to meet her to discuss anything please contact her on ivinghoeaparishclerk@gmail.com**  
Tel: 07960 605393  
Email: ivinghoeaparishclerk@gmail.com



### Avril Davies

County and District Cllr Ivinghoe Division  
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