



Ivinghoe Beacon Magazine

Issue 89

70 pence where sold



Inside this Issue:

Ivinghoe Summer Fete

Ivinghoe Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting

Beacon Lit Returns

Walks in and Around the Parish

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 MAGAZINE ADVERTISING RATES:

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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.

Deadline for articles for the Summer edition is 11 July 2014.
Please send contributions to christabelboersma@hotmail.com
Don't forget you can view this magazine in colour at:
www.ivinghoe.org.uk

Welcome from the Chair



Karen Groom,
Chair, Ivinghoe
Parish Council

Welcome to our Spring edition of **The Ivinghoe Beacon**. We all welcome the warmer temperatures and glimpses of sunshine that Spring brings and for the Parish Council this heralds one of our busier times of the year. The glorious new life, lush plant life and gambolling lambs in the fields are a wonderful sight in our beautiful parish. All this lovely activity means that there will be many things keeping us busy this season, mowing and strimming the footpaths in the parish, managing our next round of playground inspections and preparing for our Annual Parish Meeting.

The footpaths and bridleways in our parish are a valuable amenity for our residents, and although we are not responsible for personally maintaining all of them, we are responsible for ensuring that the correct authorities maintain those outside of our remit. As you take advantage of the weather, rambling around the parish this season do keep our Parish Clerk, Maxine Hayes, informed of any paths that need attending to.

Our playgrounds are also one of our most valuable amenities, as they bring so much pleasure to so many within the parish and visitors from further afield alike. To ensure that our playgrounds meet the very stringent safety standards required today, we employ Wickstead to annually inspect and report on the condition of our recreation grounds,

subsequently dealing with any issues highlighted from the inspection. It is not only the equipment itself that we are required to maintain to a very high standard but the grounds in which the equipment is situated. The recreation grounds in Ivinghoe and Ivinghoe Aston are public spaces and must be regarded as such. We greatly value your contribution in helping us to keep the recreation grounds safe and enjoyable spaces for all, so whilst you are enjoying a picnic or walking your dog, do take away with you anything that wasn't there already! If you are concerned about any piece of equipment or the condition of the lawns, again please contact the Clerk.

Our Annual Parish Meeting will take place this year on Wednesday 21 May at Ivinghoe Town Hall and will commence at 7.30pm with an opportunity for you to meet your parish councillors and ask any questions you may have. We have a small number of engaging speakers this year, along with reports from you councillors on their particular areas of responsibility. We would really like to encourage you to come along and join us.

We are not the only group busy this Spring, there are lots of groups out in the parish organising events for the benefit of our community; Art Fairs and Photography Exhibitions at The Hub at Ivinghoe Old School, comedy and dancing on The Lawn courtesy of Ivinghoe Entertainments, The BeaconLit Festival and not least of all our traditional ►

Church Fair. The fair this year takes place on Saturday 14 June and has a World War I Centenary theme, to tie in with the European wide commemorations taking place. We will be enjoying the day, and we hope that you will 'pack up your troubles in your old kit bag' for a super fun day out with your family.

This brief list doesn't even come close to all of the other activities that take place in your parish, most of them

run by volunteers, with activities and entertainments to suit everyone in the parish. I urge you to embrace and support the fantastic range and variety of fun to be had by turning out on the day with your families and friends for what will be a very busy spring and summer indeed!

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 would like to have a feature this year on commemorating World War I, we have many connections to that war, so I would like to invite you to submit to the magazine, your story or the story of a grandparent, a photograph or other related piece that we can use to mark the centenary of the war, particularly if that story or picture has a local flavour.

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

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

FORD END WATERMILL IVINGHOE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

The only working watermill to survive intact in the county. The mill, recorded in 1616 but probably much older, was in use until 1963. Now restored by members of the Pitstone & Ivinghoe Museum Society, it retains all the atmosphere of a small farm mill of the late 1800s. Visitors can work the sack hoist and mill wheat on a rotary hand quern. Stoneground wholemeal flour for sale on milling days.

OPENING TIMES 2013

Afternoons 2.00-5.00pm. 1st April - Easter Bank Holiday Monday (M), 14th April - Sunday, 6th May - Bank Holiday Monday (M), 12th May - Sunday National Mills Weekend (M), 27th May - Bank Holiday Monday (M), 9th June - Sunday, 23rd June - Sunday (M), 7th July - Sunday, 21st July - Sunday (M), 4th August - Sunday, 26th August - Bank Holiday Monday (M), 8th September - Sunday, 22nd September - Sunday (M), 13th October - Sunday (M) as part of Tring Apple Fair

MILLING DEMONSTRATIONS (water level permitting)

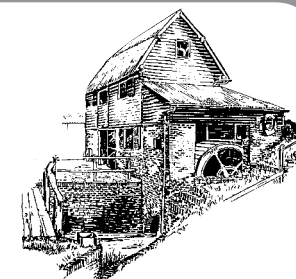
on dates marked with an (M) 2.30pm-4.30pm approx

Last admission 4.30pm. Admission: Adults: £3 children (5-15) 50p

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
or Telephone: 01442 825421. www.fordendwatermill.co.uk



LOCATION

Station Rd, Ivinghoe, Bucks LU7 9EA
600 metres from the church along
Station Road.

The B488 to Leighton Buzzard.



St Mary's Ivinghoe Church Summer Fete

If you are looking for something to entertain you this summer, look no further than St Mary's annual summer fete, taking place this year on Saturday 14 June! Look out for bunting, poppies, military vehicles and the Royal British Legion!

The fete this year is themed in its entirety, commemorating World War I and it will kick off at 1.30pm with a big fun filled procession starting in Pitstone and working its traditional route up to Ivinghoe.

A huge team of volunteers and community groups will be putting on a spectacular fete to provide you with a wonderful afternoon's entertainment.

There will be plenty of stalls and games, barbecue and bar and your chance to demonstrate your sporting (or lucky) prowess at a range of races, welly wanging and the infamous tug of war! If you are feeling really lucky the raffle this year has some truly fantastic prizes, so


look out locally to buy your tickets before the fete itself or just buy a wad on the day!

Also taking place will be a fabulous fancy dress for 0-5's, 6-10's and 11-16's, so your little or not so little one's fancy their chances get those WWI style uniforms on or anything linked or connected to WWI and march them over to the Lawn for 2pm!

The organising committee have really pulled out all the stops this year and are hopeful that to tie in with the WWI commemorations, a large range of military vehicles will be on display which link beautifully with the WWI exhibition at The Hub.

So whether rain or shine (or hail and wind like last year!) or put your right foot forward, pack up your troubles and make Saturday 14 June your D-Day!

Christabel Boersma Editor



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.

Brookmead School, High Street, Ivinghoe, LU7 9EX
www.brookmead.bucks.sch.uk

First Thursday Friends

New 2014 dates for your diary!



CREAM TEAS

DATE: Thursdays - 3 April, 5 June, 7 August

WHERE: The Millennium Room at Pitstone Memorial Hall

TIME: From 2 p.m.

Do come and join us for friendly chat and cream teas from £2.



FILM MATINEES

DATE: Thursdays - 1 May, 3 July, 4 September

WHERE: The Millennium Room at Pitstone Memorial Hall

TIME: 2 p.m. tea / coffee then film

Film free - contribution for refreshments and venue welcome.

'First Thursday Friends' events are open to everyone and are organised by the Chapel Fellowship - a Christian group who meet in the Millennium Room each Sunday at 10.30.

Old School News 2014!

Thanks to all of our visitors and villagers for their ongoing support. We've seen a number of fantastic events take place over the last few months, from birthday parties, yoga lessons and soft play sessions to themed restaurant nights and table top sales. The huge range of events has helped make the Ivinghoe Old School a real community hub, enjoyed by all.

How you can help...

Two upcoming historical exhibitions in need of community contributions are:

- **Photography exhibition** – celebrating the history of the school and its place in the heart of Ivinghoe – do come in and visit during the Church Fete weekend taking place over Father's Day weekend on the 14th and 15th June.
- **WW1 exhibition** – we will start to collect community memorabilia which will be displayed from July to late November.

Why not...

- Dig out any photos or memorabilia to share.
- Join one of our community groups to help out. Use your skills to provide for the village, contact us to find out how you could help.
- Take advantage of the longer days... spring towards summer with a variety of options to enjoy at our community Hub or even buy a picnic basket from CuriosiTEA Rooms to take out on the lawn... *Croquet anyone?*

Spring Highlights

Artists and Makers Fairs 2014 10-11th May

Ivinghoe Old School Community Hub and Town Hall

Come and see local artists selling their beautiful and affordable work including painting, ceramics, textiles and much more.

There is also interest in another such event in September to showcase Bedfordshire Artists. The After School Club is also in development and closer to becoming a reality... as is some village theatre to help brighten up the late summer afternoons. Join our database to get the earliest nudges about such things!

Regular Events

Mondays 9.30am – Time to shine – children's drama club

Tuesdays 11am – Jo Jingles

Wednesdays 8pm – Yoga

First Tuesdays (except Sept) 7.30pm – Ivinghoe Parish Council

CuriosiTEA Rooms

CuriosiTEA Rooms continue to provide delicious and affordable meals and refreshments to all our visitors and villagers. Hayley can also provide catering for any events in the hub, just pop in to discuss your plans.

Ongoing Hire

As always the community space can be yours for hire from as little as £9 per hour.

The IT Suite is also available for hire

either single computers or the suite as a whole. Personal IT tuition will be starting at the hub soon.

For more details on any of the above or to make a booking please contact us. Booking forms are also available from the hub. Why not pop in to have a look round, partake of some refreshments and pick one up! Join our database, by signing the list

in the cloakroom of the Hub, to be kept informed of special events or send an email to the address below.

Phone: 01296-661666, Email: ivinghoeoldschool@btconnect.com, Join our Facebook group Ivinghoe Old School Hub or visit our website www.ivinghoeoldschool.com

Kate Mackie



Do you recognise any of these children?

Please help us to identify these 50's children. The pictures have been supplied by Helen Minster, an ex teacher at Ivinghoe from 1953.

Contact: ivinghoeoldschool@btinternet.com



Community space for hire - of great Victorian character, recently refurbished by our Community for this Community's use.

Old School Community Hub , Ivinghoe

www.ivinghoeoldschool.com 01296- 661666

Email : ivinghoeoldschool@btconnect.com

Ivinghoe Community Hub on Facebook



Venue run with financial transparency by our 'not for private profit' local voluntary trustees for Community benefit and increased Community wellbeing.

Space is at ground level for easy access, is warm, and with restored Victorian varnished floorboards, and new comfy modern padded stackable chairs, fold away tables and ambient new lighting - can swiftly adapt to all activities for all generations.

£9 for first hour in 37.65 sq.m room with piano or 31.61 sq.m room with sink and £7 per hour thereafter.

69.26 sq.m room with retractable screen midway. £12 for first hour and £10 thereafter per hour.

Contact us or come in for a booking form and our support for your plan.

CuriosiTEA Rooms is our pivotally important permanent tenant within our building and serves home-made affordable refreshments and hot meals seven days a week. Special arrangements for space hirers who do not wish to self-cater for their own events can be arranged with Hayley Wesley on – 07775-831153 Facebook Curiositea Rooms

IT Suite

Software includes Microsoft Office 2013 Suite; Photoshop C6; Skype with webcam and microphone;

£2 per PC....one with 40" wall mounted monitor and speakers.

10p A4 b/w photocopy

50p A4 colour scan and print

50p A4 lamination

Booking whole space for small conference or meetings etc. £15 an hour.

Personal tuition starting soon!

The Village Health Centre

Yardley Avenue, Pitstone LU7 9BE

www.pitstonesurgery.co.uk

Dr J R Bell, Dr Tisha Patel

Dr Stephanie Johnston, Dr Kirsten Riemer, Dr Heather Counsell

Opening hours 9.00am-12.00pm 2.00pm-6.00pm (Fri 2-5pm)

The Village Health Centre serves Pitstone, Ivinghoe and surrounding villages.

Friendly, modern and spacious dispensing village Practice offering a wide range of health services including coils/implants, minor surgery, travel advice, in house blood tests, on-line appointments and repeat prescription ordering. Four nurse Practitioners offering acute clinics with same day appointments. Also, midwife, health visitors in attendance. Local District Nurse Service.

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Ivinghoe Entertainments



The clocks have changed and spring marches on and hopefully the temperature has risen above double digits!

Summer Ball

Saturday 21-June 2014

We have changed the day for the Summer Ball to Saturday – we have tickets available - this will be the only event of the festival weekend where fine dining and dancing are the order of the evening! A booking form and further details can be downloaded from <http://ivinghoeentertainments.org.uk/>

Featuring:

- **NEW** – The Collection (<http://www.thecollectionlive.co.uk/>)

- **NEW** – Catering by “Hansons the Caterers” including pre-selection of Starter and Main course
- Hosted in the marquee on Ivinghoe Lawn
- Bar by The Rose & Crown
- Doors 7pm
- Dinner 7:45pm
- Dancing until 1am

Laughter-on-the-Lawn

Friday 20-June 2014

An evening of First Class stand-up comedy, in association with the Get Stuffed Comedy Club.

The evening will be compared by **Kevin**

Day. Kevin Day is a stand-up and TV writer, with credits including ‘Have I Got News For You’, ‘8 Out Of 10 Cats’ and the British Comedy Awards. He has co-written a history of the Old Vic with Kevin Spacey and directed Arthur Smith’s ‘Dante’s Inferno’. But he is probably best known presenting the filmed inserts on ‘Match Of The Day 2’.

The headline act is **Mick Ferry**. Mick Ferry is renowned as a fine purveyor of lugubrious surrealism and has quickly established himself as one of the most sought after comics on the British and International comedy circuit. One of the finest comperes around, Mick Ferry performs regularly at The Comedy Store in London and Manchester as well as headlining at comedy venues nationwide. He is also a regular member of the prestigious topical Cutting Edge Team at the Comedy Store.

On our TV screens, Mick has recently starred in BBC One’s ‘Michael McIntyre’s Comedy Roadshow’ as well as Comedy Blue and The Comedy Store for Comedy Central. He made his big screen debut in 2009 in Ken Loach’s ‘Looking For Eric’ – a hit feature film at the Cannes film festival where it was nominated for the prestigious Palm D’Or. A prolific writer, Mick was a writer on John Bishop’s ‘Britain’.

Mick Ferry will be joined by **John Maloney**. John Moloney has been a professional comedian for over twenty years – and headlines at all the major Comedy Clubs around the world, including the prestigious London Comedy Store. John has TWICE won ‘Best Live Performer’ at The London Comedy Festival, and was nominated as ‘Best Live Stand-Up’ at The British Comedy Awards. John Moloney is a world-travelled comedian, who has delighted thousands

at Festivals, Theatres, and Clubs. From Melbourne to Edinburgh, from the prestigious Just For Laughs and Halifax Festivals in Canada to The Liffey Laughs in Dublin – John has been recognized as a true multi-award-winning comic talent.

More information about our final performer will be released soon make sure you can say you saw them in Ivinghoe!

Featuring:

- An evening of comedy entertainment
- Please note that this is likely to be targeted at the 18+ age group
- Hosted in the marquee on Ivinghoe Lawn
- Bar by The Rose & Crown
- Doors 7pm
- Comedy from approx. 8pm
- Event conclusion midnight

Tickets just £15 are available from the end of April from: Pitstone: Masons, Ivinghoe: Post Office, Rose & Crown, and Grooms in case of difficulty Penny **01296-668017** (email: enquiries@ivinghoeentertainments.org.uk)

Get the News

To ensure that you have the latest updates from Ivinghoe Entertainments sign up at <http://ivinghoeentertainments.org.uk>, follow us on **Twitter @ivinghoeEnts** or Facebook www.facebook.com/ivinghoeents.



Graham Hollands

Chair – Ivinghoe Entertainments
ivinghoeentertainments@gmail.com

Library Lunch



Nearly 50 people gathered in Cheddington Village Hall to hear Jane Waller, author, artist and social historian speak about her research into vintage knitting of the 40's and 50's and see her colourful display of articles she has made. Her talk followed an excellent two course lunch served by volunteers of the Beacon Villages Community Library.

A visitor remarked that it was an interesting and informative talk which followed an excellent lunch and that she

hoped to attend future events.

This lunch was part of a series of events being planned to support the running of the Beacon Villages Community Library.

The picture shows a small selection of Jane's display.

If you would like to help in any way, please call into the Library for a chat.

Janet Page Secretary, BVCL

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Rose & Crown News...

We'd like to start our news with a big thank you to all of you that continue to support your local pub and restaurant. It's great to see so many committees, clubs, photographers, cyclists and regular customers continuing to come back and enjoy our hospitality.

Recently we introduced our new website, along with other social media, and it's important that we give a special mention to our local photography group, that meet on Monday evenings in the pub, and our friends at babybadger.co.uk for their tireless work in producing the website.

Over the last few weeks signs of spring have at last appeared and so now we are turning our attention to the busy months ahead.

We shall shortly be introducing our summer menu, although our popular pub classics will remain, along with our fantastic range of gourmet burgers. During

the holiday periods we will be extending our food service hours to include Sunday afternoons and Monday and Tuesday evenings. You can keep up to date with all our news by logging on to our website and subscribing to our emails.

During the hot weekends, hopefully there'll be plenty, we'll be serving food from the garden. This will be in addition to our normal kitchen hours and means food will be available throughout the afternoon on these occasions.

Over the last few weeks we have featured a number of local musicians performing acoustic sets on a Sunday afternoon. These have been a great success and we shall be continuing with this feature. They are not every week so please sign up for our emails to make sure you don't miss out.


Thanks once again to all, we look forward to seeing you.

Gary and Kirk



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Saturday 8.30 - 12.30

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Sunday 9am – 1pm (last entry 12.15pm)

For more information visit www.grovetfarmpyo.co.uk or ring **01296 668175** in June



Rainbows:

Monday 4.30 – 5.30p.m. Pitstone Memorial Hall
Guider Elaine Thorogood

01296 661540

Brownies:

Monday 5.45 – 7.15p.m. Pitstone Memorial Hall
Guider Elaine Thorogood

01296 661540

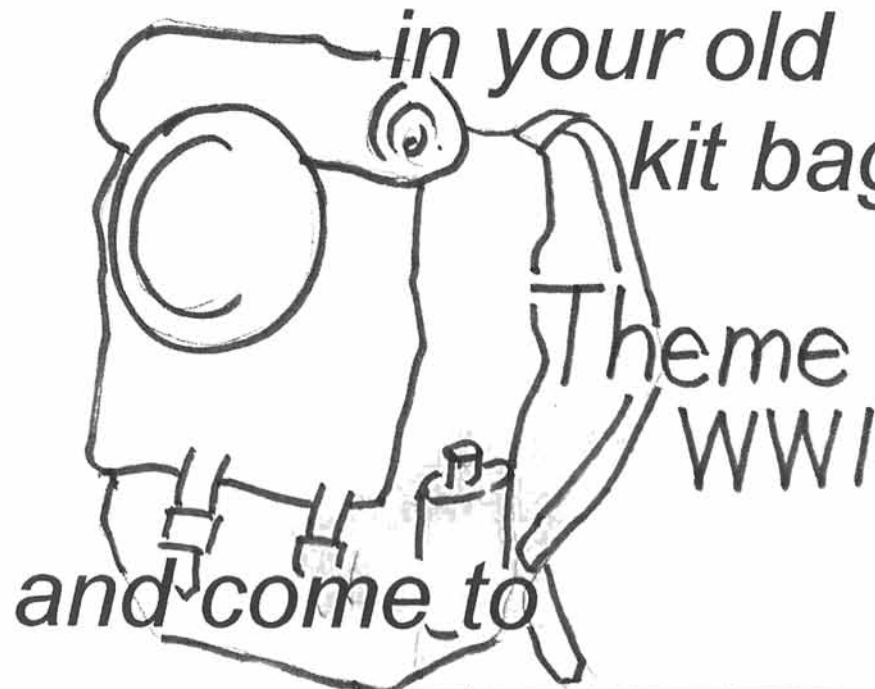
Girl Guides:

Tuesday 7.00 – 8.30p.m. Millennium Room,
Pitstone Memorial Hall
Guider Yvonne Ashton

01296 660044

To join us, please visit our website at
Girlguiding.org.uk

*Pack up
Your troubles
in your old
kit bag*



THE FETE

***Saturday 14th June
Pitstone 1.30***

Ivinghoe Lawn 2p.m.

Not a lot happens in Ivinghoe Aston

Flooding brings the fire brigade to I.A.

Our girl on the ground 44 year old Sharon Stewart spent a day helping out the fire brigade as they pumped hundreds of gallons of water from the gardens and pub car park.



New management at The Village Swan

A familiar headline, this time we part ways with Steve and Sharon after their venture proved too much for them. After a fantastic start their success petered out and they left the village owing money. Strange how the scales always balance against the pub owners when the final count-up is done. The usual suspects were on hand to clean the place up and to welcome our honest reliable stand in team of Alan and Norma. The prices were reduced on day one leading to an instant acceleration in trade and what's more 100% of the takings will get where they are supposed to, thereby insuring the longevity of the only pub in I.A.

A Dutch family has signed a three year lease and will begin mid May. This sounds promising and will provide a much needed period of stability. Also changing is the management of HOL,

owners of The Village Swan. We say thanks to Dave Harris and Jon Oliver for their many years of voluntary work in keeping the business going. A thankless



task at times but hopefully they both can feel pride in their efforts. Jill Dickinson will remain in place under a new structure; Jill has already given several years of voluntary time to the cause, thanks Jill! If you would like to get involved and help Jill then step forward, it's voluntary management work that helps the pub stay alive. With the three year lease signed up there is little to do compared to the previous structure but still it seems somewhat unfair to leave Jill alone in her efforts.

The planning issue discussed in the last issue is being discussed at the AGM in April. I would like to thank all of those that gave me feedback following my communication earlier in the year. The message was clear that everyone wants the pub to stay.

Goodbye

We said goodbye to Eric "Plump" Mitchell and Frank Cottam, two long standing residents that sadly passed away this March. Our thoughts go to the

friends and families of Eric and Frank. Eric is pictured below as part of the team who raised over £6,000 for Breast Cancer Research back in 2005/6.



Meet Harry born in IA a few weeks ago

IA welcomes a new addition to the village Harry, son of Neil and Katey Sharma who live at Waterside in Ivinghoe Aston.



Health and Safety gone mad

We recently had an excellent fence built around the playground. The barbed wire was deemed a safety risk. Fair enough and the kids that have had over 20 footballs punctured will not miss the spikey wire. However two comments regarding a den some kids had built with stuff adults had left hanging around and a goal and net have left me somewhat flabbergasted and left wondering why we citizens put up with Health and Safety gone wrong.

How can a net be deemed a danger! Are we saying "ok kids play rugby (no nets) and bash each other to hell and back but do not go near that dangerous nasty net!" If this was taken up across the world the sport played by more than any other sport would come to a halt. If you are involved in Health and Safety and are reading this then I have some advice from many adults and kids – APPLY COMMON SENSE or leave your position.

The people of Ivinghoe Aston will not fall in line when the interpretation is clearly petty and incorrect in the extreme. These comments are aimed ►



at those making the stupid rules not those carrying the message. We should not allow such rules we should fight back – enough of the nanny state rubbish being inflicted upon us!

“Dangerous” net waiting to harm someone.

Sarah remembered two years on...

Some of Sarah's friends make a toast on the 2nd anniversary of her parting. But wait what is that? Oh my word they are eating dangerously sharp crisps should the authorities be alerted! Dangerous sharp food – surely a Health and Safety abuse.



What's that coming over the hill is it...?

A metal detector club came to IA over the Easter weekend and found a myriad of 'treasure' some mentioned bracelets and coins from Roman times and a King Charles I coin. Residents get a bit

nervous around here when they see 20 or so 'caravans' appear on the hillside. This time all is well and the detectives will be coming back, if you want you land searched get in touch with me and I'll put you in touch. A harmless hobby, let's hope they don't find anything sharp else it will be on the list of dangerous sports!

Keep Vigilant

Two people have been arrested following attempts to rob locals. Their excuse was that they were in the area and noticed some work needed doing. If allowed they would enter the house and thief. Luckily the elderly I.A. resident that was approached was onto them and told them to jog on!

My mailing list is used to warn of such goings on and this serves as a useful tool. The police are also copied and always respond. If you are not on this list, email your name and I'll add you **ketts999@hotmail.com**.

A load of Tweets

Thames Valley Police are on twitter and this is potentially a much better form of communication than my e-mail list. It's real-time and everyone with internet access can have access directly. Follow them on twitter their name is **@ThamesVP** and tweet them if you see/hear of something you do not like.

Have YOUR say...

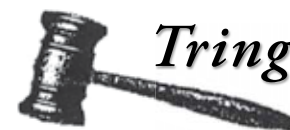
Would you like to mention something about Ivinghoe Aston in the next issue of the Beacon? Email **Ketts999@hotmail.com** or the beacon directly. **It's your village have YOUR say.**

Clive Ketteridge

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**



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J H Emlyn Jones



The truly amazing life of Emlyn Jones late of the Manor Ivinghoe received a fulsome obituary in both the Times and Telegraph.

The Times: Bomb disposal officer who blew up the Nazi super gun, and was later selected for the 1953 Everest Team.

The Telegraph: Fearless mountaineer who was one of the crucial back up team of the historic conquest of Everest in 1953.

His bomb disposal exploits with the Royal Engineers reached what could be described as a high point on his successful removal of an extremely dangerous fuze, the ZuS40 from an unexploded bomb. On presenting it to the high ranking officers at the war office they took cover under their mahogany desks shouting "Get out, get out". On asking what would happen if it went off, he replied "Oh it would blow your hand off". Such was the calibre of Emlyn. For this he was awarded the M.B.E.

After D-Day he continued with the Royal Engineers clearing mines and booby traps in Normandy. He took part in the destruction of the V3 launch site, fortunately for London, never deployed, greatly upsetting General De Gaulle who wanted a hand in its destruction being on French soil. Emlyn said "somehow the message from De Gaulle managed to reach us just a bit too late" accompanied by a mischievous chuckle.

To add to his many accomplishments he was tutored by what he describes "as old lags" in the genteel art of safe-cracking and lock picking required in the search for demolition charges.

In 1952 Emlyn being a member of the Climbers Club and the Alpine Club, later becoming President of both, was selected

to form a backup team should the initial assault of Everest fail.

Sadly for Emlyn the 1953 team succeeded in no small part on account of his preliminary work. For this he received unstinting praise from the leader Sir John Hunt. Well into his nineties Emlyn continued to frequent his London club 'the Garrick club' being driven there on a regular basis by the Ivinghoe based London cabbie.

In civilian life he worked as a surveyor becoming an authority on land valuation and appeals. For his work in this field he was awarded the C.B.E. The professional surveyor exams would often include questions based on his decisions. During his long service his judgements were never once reversed. For this he was justly proud.

Having a keen interest in music resulted in the formation of a 60 piece orchestra in which he was the conductor although he played the cello when at home. The orchestra was rather delightfully termed 'The Holiday Orchestra' since the participants were not always to hand necessitating a good deal of improvisation. He also formed a choir the 'Icknield 16'.

Surrounded by his family, daughter Eiluned his sons Tom and William, and his wonderful wife Louise, no mean mountaineer herself, nursed Emlyn to the very end at home in the Manor where he died peacefully at the age of 98.

A true gentleman, a great man, and an example to us all.

Nigel Thompson Reporter




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BeaconLit Returns Bigger and better

BeaconLit
The Beacon Villages
festival of books & writing

BeaconLit, the small literary festival with big ambitions, returns on Saturday June 28 with a new venue, a full-day's programme, and a dazzling array of authors.

The festival aims to raise interest in books and writing within the 'Beacon Villages' – Ivinghoe, Pitstone, Ivinghoe Aston, Slapton, Marsworth, Cheddington and other communities close to Ivinghoe Beacon in the beautiful Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Last year's inaugural half-day event attracted visitors from far and wide, and the organisers are hoping to grow their audience this year.

The full-day festival runs from 10am to 5.30pm in Brookmead School, Ivinghoe, which has recently been extended with an impressive new hall that will provide the centre stage for the event.

"There's something for everyone in BeaconLit 2014," said local crime novelist Dave Sivers, who will again chair author discussion panels. "We think of it as a live chat show. The morning offers an a la carte selection of sessions on getting published, talks on writing craft, and hands-on creative writing workshops.

"In the afternoon, there are two discussion panels – one on young adult fiction with Hilary Freeman, Caroline Green and Teri Terry, and we also have another of our already popular crime fiction panels, this year featuring Stephen Booth, Jane Isaac and Anya Lipska. It's a chance to hear successful authors chatting about their genre and also to ask questions.

"The afternoon will also include an 'in conversation' session with Mandy Kirkby, talking about and reading from her book, *Love Letters of the Great War*, which will be especially poignant in this the centenary year of the outbreak of World War One."

The morning's activities include the return of crime writer Alison Bruce, who will run a session entitled 'CSI Ivinghoe: Getting Away with Murder?', in which she takes a look at novel ways of killing people. Women's fiction author Rowan Coleman will be talking about 'Three Reasons why First Novels Fail, and How to Avoid Them'. And local author and creative writing tutor Claire Steele will run two writing workshops, whilst Dave Sivers talks about his experience with self-publishing eBooks, and Martin Godleman and Belinda Hunt uncover pathways to traditional publication.

A 'BeaconKidz' programme for youngsters to enjoy on the day is in development, and all visitors can enter a free 150-word flash fiction competition with the chance to win a day pass for BeaconLit 2015. There will be stalls to browse, opportunities to chat to the authors, buy books and get them signed, and refreshments to enjoy.

A day pass costs £13.50, but early birds can buy them for just £12 before May 17 – a saving of more than 11%. For those who only want to attend for half a day, there are morning and afternoon passes. Generous concessions are available for young people in full time education.

"BeaconLit 2014 offers an exciting day out for both readers and writers, at outstanding value compared to many other literary festivals," said Dave Sivers.

For more information, and to buy tickets, visit the website at www.beaconlit.co.uk.

Notes for Editors:

- The inaugural BeaconLit festival took place in June 2013 in a marquee on Ivinghoe Lawn as part of the annual Ivinghoe Summer Festival. BeaconLit 2014 is a standalone event.
- The participating authors include a galaxy of best sellers and award winners:
- **Stephen Booth** has won awards on both sides of the Atlantic for his 'Fry and Cooper' detective series.
- **Rowan Coleman's** *Dearest Rose* won The Festival of Romance Best Romantic Read 2012, The RoNA Epic Romance novel of 2013 and was shortlisted for the RNA Romantic Novel of the Year 2013.

- **Caroline Green's** first novel, *Dark Ride*, won the RONA Young Adult Book of the Year and the Waverton Good Read Award. *Cracks and Hold Your Breath* were shortlisted for 9 awards.
- **Jane Isaac's** debut novel, *An Unfamiliar Murder*, was nominated as best mystery in the 'eFestival of Words Best of the Independent eBook awards 2013.'
- Buckinghamshire author **Teri Terry's** *Slated* has been short listed for fourteen awards and won nine, including the North East, Leeds, Portsmouth and Angus Book Awards. ▶

Dave Sivers Beacon Lit Festival



Left: Stephen Booth
Middle: Teri Terry
Above: Rowan Coleman



BeaconLit

The Beacon Villages
festival of books & writing



Festival 2014

Brookmead School
Ivinghoe, Buckinghamshire
28 June 2014: 10am to 5.30pm

Live Chat Show: Meet the Authors, Discuss Their Books and Ask Them Questions

Young Adult Fiction Panel
Crime and Thrillers Panel
WW1 Special: Love Letters from the Trenches
Children's Festival
Talks and Workshops

Featured Authors include:
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Hilary Freeman Caroline Green Jane Isaac
Mandy Kirkby Anya Lipska Dave Sivers
Claire Steele Teri Terry

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What a waste of MONEY!



These white lines have recently been applied at the edge of the B488/Station Road through Great Gap – and they may be elsewhere too. According to the Highway Code these are “Edge Lines” and have no function other than to mark the edge of the road. Fortunately as I am a driver I make sure that my eyesight is such that I can see the edge of the road simply by looking.

So... while the council tell us that there are insufficient resources to maintain services we now suffer the indignity of our money being wasted on painting the road to no purpose. At the same time for some reason we can't have double white lines down the centre of the road to prevent overtaking in the 30mph limit.

Nor are the numerous potholes properly filled, and I don't mean by one man and his dog pouring black stuff in the holes and jumping up and down on it. In this particular case the white lines go through the unfilled potholes! There's an example in the photo.

It would be laughable were it not such an extraordinary waste of resources. You couldn't make it up!

If you feel, like me, that this is an example of total waste pick up your pen and write to **Chris Williams, Chief Executive at Bucks CC, County Hall, Aylesbury, HP20 1YU.**

Brian Dale

Water 2014



They are at it again, Anglian Water's favourite place, Church Road, Ivinghoe. It could be likened to a watering hole in Africa where large beasts turn up at night, growling, snorting and grubbing up the ground in search of their quarry, water pipes, as well as keeping the locals awake into the small hours.

To separate the facts from fantasy, another burst. Water cascading down the street and supplies cut off, but this

time mercifully, for a fairly short period.

The road being closed the antics of the thwarted motorists was entertaining. Innumerable three point turns performed as if it were some mechanised ballet. Some motorists refused to join in and instead took to moving the road signs! It seems a part of Ivinghoe life. Maybe a fete could be organised round this annual event, monies raised to help the water babies.

Nigel Thompson Reporter

Have you ever thought about 'growing your own'?

Growing your own fruit and vegetables can be 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 ivinghoechurchclerk@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!



- Hedge & Grass Cutting
- Tree Felling & Shaping
- Garden Maintenance
 - Stump Grinding
 - Rubbish Clearance
- Fencing
- Logs



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email: rmlservices@outlook.com

Pitstone & Ivinghoe Museum Society Programme 2014

All meetings are held in the Meeting Room in the Pitstone Green Museum at 8pm. PLEASE NOTE: we now meet on the fourth Thursday of the month. All visitors are welcome.

Thursday 22nd May '14* Another Evening of Music**

After the success of last year's May Meeting Ron and Barbara Hartwell will once again be hosting this event in their home (16, Ridgeway Road, Chesham HP5 2EG). It will need to be pre-booked using my email Sue.Lipscomb@btopenworld.com. Those attending will see a unique collection of Player Pianos and a Roll playing Reed Organ. After a brief talk on the history of these instruments and how they work they will be demonstrated, after which you will be encouraged to have a go yourself. **Please note the start time will be 7.30pm.**

Thursday 26th June '14* Bygone Implements of Home and Farm**

A light-hearted look at a Buckinghamshire family's collection of rural bygones, both domestic and agricultural. Sara Oliver is our speaker this evening.

Thursday 24th July '14* Cheese Wine and Antiques**

Our very popular evening at the museum with Stephen Hearn is appearing once again in our programme. The museum will be open from 6.45pm

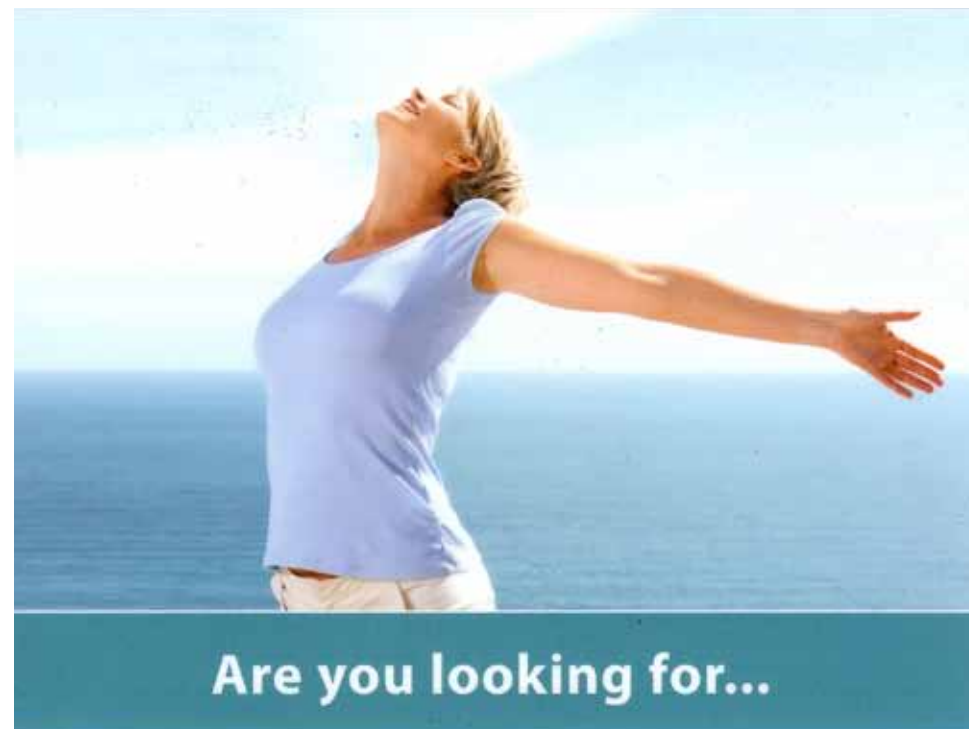
to allow members and their friends to walk around the exhibits, and then the refreshments will be served at 7.15pm. The evening will cost £6.00 for members and £8.00 for non-members and will include a ploughman's platter and complimentary glass of wine. Please do not bring more than two items for Stephen's comments and valuations. We hope you will park in the orchard. You will need a ticket for this event and a booking form will appear in our newsletter nearer the time.

Thursday 28th August '14* Hobbies Evening**

This is a great occasion for putting yourself and your hobby on display! All are welcome however quirky and unusual your collection (nothing has been censored yet!). If you have brought a display to a previous hobbies evening, please don't let that stop you from coming again and if you truly have nothing to bring, then do 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, details of which will appear in a newsletter nearer the time.

For additional information or for tickets for the events which need them please email Sue.Lipscomb@btopenworld.com

Sue Lipscomb Programme Secretary



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Call Philippa Taylor on 07866 480700 for more information or visit: www.healthyindependence.co.uk

Ivinghoe Town Hall... News!

On 26th February the Town Hall Committee were sorry to have to say goodbye to Terry Jennings who has done a fantastic job acting as a Trustee and Chair of the Town Hall Committee over the last 15+ years.

Terry, always jovial, kept us moving forward in good spirit and one of his last significant positive actions was to encourage us to embrace the idea of setting up a web site for the Town Hall ~ and who better to lead this effort than Andy Beezer, who has also been unanimously appointed as Chair of the Committee.

If you haven't already tried it please try the web site at **www.ivinghoetownhall.org.uk** where you can see regular activities and search for Hall availability dates, or if you prefer to enquire in person then call The Booking Secretary on **01296-660344**.

You may also have noticed a new Town Hall advertisement is appearing in both The Beacon and The PPP publications for which

we are indebted to Jaqui Adams.

The Committee has purchased a new Yamaha Keyboard, a quality instrument which a number of our regular hirer's will appreciate after struggling for a couple of years with our old one which finally had a mind of it's own!

On May 10th and 11th The Ivinghoe PCC, Old School (HUB), Cafe and the Town Hall have all pulled together to enable both Hall's and The Green for parking to support an "Artists and Makers Fair" which we hope will also raise the profile of our beautiful Village and it's facilities.

Wednesday 28th May The Town Hall AGM is being held at 8pm, to which all are invited.

To View or Book contact Janet or Stephen on **01296 660344** or visit **www.ivinghoetownhall.org.uk**

Stephen Swinbank Secretary



Located in the centre of the village, with local shop, Post Office & Library. The Town Hall provides modern facilities for: Local groups, parties, and fund raising.

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Facilities include:

- Improved lighting, heating and newly upholstered chairs
- Music options including a quality electric piano
- Stage with specialised lighting, curtains & dressing room
- New kitchen with microwave, oven, hob, fridge, crockery etc.
- Chair lift & wheelchair for those with mobility problem

To View or Book contact Janet or Stephen 01296 660344

Dog fouling is not acceptable!



Dog fouling has been spotted on a regular basis along our footpaths (especially Marsworth Road, Cheddington Road and Queen Street), on our recreation ground, along the permissive footpaths and in the open field off Westfield Road (which is not common ground as it is in private ownership and all dog fouling should be cleared). This inconsiderate behaviour from a minority of dog owners is completely unacceptable and causes particular problems on the approach to Brookmead School and Windmill Pre-School where it gets onto the wheels of pushchairs, onto children's shoes and then onto the carpets in the schools, where children then have to sit and touch the flooring with their hands.

How serious is this?

Dog mess is not only unpleasant it is a risk to health. The biggest threat to public health from dog excrement is toxocariasis, an infection of the roundworm *toxocara canis*. The eggs of the parasite can be found in soil or sand contaminated with faeces and if swallowed, result in infection that lasts between six and 24 months. Symptoms include eye disorders, vague ache, dizziness, nausea, asthma and, in extremely rare cases, seizures/fits. Toxocariasis most commonly affects small children as they tend to put their hands in their mouths after crawling around.

It is an offence for dog owners to fail to clear up any dog foul left by their dogs.

Offenders can be issued with a fixed penalty notice or a fine of up to £1,000 if the case goes to court. Being unaware that your dog has fouled or not having a suitable means of clearing up after your dog is no excuse – you should carry poop scoop bags whenever you are out with your dog.

Where do I have to clear up after my dog?

You should clean up after your dog wherever you are. Kicking dog waste into the gutters is not acceptable. Nor is kicking it under a hedge.

Where can I dispose of my dog's waste?

There are currently 16 dog waste bins in Pitstone alone. However, you can dispose of dog waste in suitable bags in any public litter bin, of which there are 19 in Pitstone, so there are 35 opportunities for you to dispose of your waste as you walk through our village. You can also take your dog waste home and dispose of it in your green general household waste bin.

What else can I do to help keep Pitstone clear of dog waste?

Please report all incidents of dog fouling on our footpaths, particularly between Glebe Close and Brookmead school, to the Aylesbury Vale District Council dog warden service on **01296 585605** / e-mail **envhealth@aylesburyvale.gov.uk** and to PCSO Jackie Dodson on 101. AVDC can implement more frequent cleansing visits or patrols by the dog warden if they are aware of a large scale problem and Thames Valley Police has the power to enforce fines and prosecute.

If you witness someone allowing their dog to foul, please report them to both the AVDC dog warden service and PCSO J Dodson using the contact details above. Photographic evidence on your mobile phone would be very helpful in securing a prosecution.

Let's work together to prove that dog fouling in our public open spaces and on our footpaths will not be tolerated and culprits will be reported and fined.

Laurie Eagling Pitstone Parish Clerk

Womens Institue News!

Hello I'm Tessa Smith, President of your local W.I. You may be wondering what has been going on in the W.I. for the last few months. We have had an interesting time.

In January we had the pleasure of meeting Widget, the field spaniel with her handler, Lyn Young and her husband. This marvellous dog was an instant hit with our members and aids the police in their efforts to crack down on drugs. We were given a fascinating insight into her training and finally a demonstration of how they work with drug samples hidden around the Town Hall. Whilst Lyn answered questions Widget amused herself playing fetch just like any other dog. What a great night.

February we had Dave Short talking about the 'Disappearing habitat of the barn owl', and some of us managed to hold on a very stout leather glove a beautiful example of the species. Their feathers are like cloud, they are so soft.

Quite a few piccies were taken that night.

Tim Amsden came to talk to us about the History of Tring in March. What a very knowledgeable man he turned out to be. Full marks to Lynn, who planned our programme for this year.

In between all this, the supper club on the Thursday after our meeting continues to support local 'hostelries'.

We have lots more planned, along with a mystery outing in July and not to mention all the other trips and outings our members get offered.

If you fancy coming along to try us out, we meet the 2nd Thursday in every month at 7.30pm in Ivinghoe Town Hall. I or one of our committee members would love to bring you along or meet you so that you don't feel shy about coming in. We have a diverse range of ages so there's sure to be someone you can pal up with.

Give me a ring on **01296-661562**.



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Call **07769 961196** or Email: café@canalsidecafe.co.uk

Dear Knitters!

Another **BIG** thank you to all the knitters and crochet workers who continue to keep the scarves, hats, gloves, teddies and blankets coming. I received them from Cumbria, Northampton, Dunstable, Leighton Buzzard, Stony Stratford, Wing, Ivinghoe and Pitstone and take large sacks of items to be distributed to Eastern Europe by **SMILE** or **Teddies to India** or Africa by **HOPE for Children**. They are all greatly appreciated and much admired when I take them in.

So please keep knitting and I will make sure the teddies continue to cheer the

children who are visited by HOPE and the warming comforts that go to SMILE!

Last year you made:-

- 211 teddies
- 135 hats
- 18 sets of hats, scarf and gloves
- 18 pairs of gloves
- 35 scarves
- 45 blankets and
- 180 bags

Thank you for such an amazing effort.

Alex Wynne



The Miller's Tale...

I mentioned in the last Miller's Tale that David Lindsey, my predecessor as mill manager, had been steadily renovating our old Kell, Meats and Co, Winnowing machine (A machine used to remove contaminants from the wheat so it is ready for milling) over the winter and during the last few weeks he has been putting it all back together with my help when needed, usually for the lifting/moving of heavy parts. I had a bit of a swear when I was using an electric plane to shape a piece of wood we had replaced and a section of it split and broke off, but David managed to repair it with a little careful fettling. Once it was all back together we filled it with wheat and tested it out.

It's a really simple machine and turning a handle on the side is all that is needed to operate it, the turning motion is transformed into a back and forth motion by gears and levers which causes the wheat to drop down through a series of mesh sieves, as it drops through the sieves a fan blows air through/across it blowing away any straw, grass, leaves and lighter material. As the wheat drops through the sieves the mesh gets finer in each one and collects any mud, sticks and stones which fall into a separate compartment. The last mesh sieve is too fine for the wheat to pass through so it is jogged along the screen and falls off the back edge into a compartment as clean wheat.

Well that is the theory anyway, but as the winnowing machine originally came to us with the wrong mesh sieves fitted we have had to try and find out the correct size we needed by experiment,

we thought we had it all worked out but during our first proper test after all the work on it we realised we needed to reduce the mesh size slightly as some of the clean wheat was falling through the final sieve instead of jogging along it and falling off the back edge. If the wheat falls through this final sieve it ends up in the wrong compartment with all the contaminants that the first sieves removed, which defeats the work you are trying to do as the wheat which is almost finished being cleaned ends up back in with all the stuff you have just sieved out!

I'm confident that we can change the sieve mesh sizes and get it working 100% as it should do, and apart from having the wrong sized sieves it works extremely well for a machine that is over a hundred years old. It is interesting to note that the internal mechanism in modern machines for cleaning wheat is an almost identical layout to our old winnowing machine except steel now replaces wood for the main construction, otherwise nothing has changed in the design of winnowers for hundreds of years.

We have spent the last few weeks down at the mill getting prepared for the opening season and checking everything is ready to receive visitors and to start milling again.

It can be quite hard work at times and none of us are getting any younger, so I would like to publicly thank John Wallis, Keith Russell, Nigel Thompson and David Lindsey for turning up, almost without fail, each and every Sunday and freely volunteering their time and energy to keeping the mill going for future generations to enjoy.



We're looking forward to another good open season and hope to see some of you visiting the mill on one of our open days, or milling days when our lovely stoneground wholemeal flour is available for sale.

Cheers all!

Chug (Chris Tugby) Mill Manager

2014 Opening Times:

Open between 2pm and 5pm on the following dates with milling demonstrations, between 2-30pm and 4-30pm approx on the nine dates indicated by (M). Water level permitting.

Last Admission 4-30pm.

21st April – Easter Bank Holiday Monday (M)

5th May – Bank Holiday Monday (M)

11th May – National Mills W/end (M)

26th May – Sunday

Bank Holiday Monday (M)

8th June – Sunday

22nd June – Sunday (M)

6th July – Sunday

27th July – Sunday (M)

10th August – Sunday

25th August – Bank Holiday Monday (M)

7th September – Sunday

21st September – Sunday (M)

5th Oct – as part of Tring's Own Apple Fayre (M)

Admission Prices:

Adults – £3.00 Children (5-15) – £0.50

For further information please visit
www.fordendwatermill.co.uk

News from the Parishes

Family Friendly Informal Worship at:

Ivinghoe: 10am Sunday 4th May
'Worshipping Together' – an informal service with music group and activities for the children

Slapton: 10am on Sunday 18th May
'Messy Church' and breakfast in the Village Hall

Marsworth: 10am. Sunday 25th May
'Messy Church' and breakfast at All Saints

Bible study groups

Our evening study meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 1 Queen Street, Pitstone at 8pm; our daytime study is on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 5 Windmill Close, Ivinghoe at 10am. Everyone is welcome no matter what age or stage you are on your Christian journey.

Special Services for May: Sunday 25th May 6pm at St. Mary's Pitstone: Festival Evensong

Thursday 29th May 8pm at St. Mary's Ivinghoe: A Service of Holy Communion for Ascension Day

Not Sunday, Not School After School Club – Thursdays at Ivinghoe Church

These sessions are held fortnightly from 3.30pm – 5pm. The children will be provided with refreshments and the sessions generally include craft activities, games and cookery. This club is for children aged 3-11 years. Parents, why not come along, relax and have a cuppa

and a chat while your children enjoy themselves under friendly supervision. If you would like to know more information please contact Sandra Green on **01296 668648**

After School Club dates for May: Thursdays 1st and 15th May

Messy Church at Marsworth

Messy Church is a fresh new way of experiencing church. It's for all ages, it's fun and it's family friendly. Every session is built around a theme with activities, celebration and breakfast. The next one will be held on: **Sunday 25th May at All Saints Church at 10am**

Everyone is welcome and it's free.

Contact: Sandra 01296 668648, John 01296 662252 or Richard 01296 661725

Messy Church at Slapton

Slapton Church family would like to invite you to join them on the 3rd Sunday of each month in Slapton village hall at 10am for messy church. This includes bacon butties, croissants and beverages; craft activities for everyone concluding with a short act of worship.

Our next messy church will be on **Sunday 18th May**

Other messy activities at Slapton

Alternate Tuesdays:

Tots and Tiddlers for the under 5's.
Crafts, stories, action songs and refreshments at 3pm followed by:
After School Club for 3-11 years –



Crafts, cooking, games and refreshments. 3.30-5pm

Dates for messy activities in May:

Tuesdays 29th April and 13th May

Contact Barbara on **01525 221080** or speak to David or Wendy Mann on **01525 221202**.

Men's Group

Events for the next few months are as follows:

May – A possible visit to Ashridge House and Gardens

June – Green Bowling at Cheddington.

A Friday evening visit

Detailed information on events is circulated by email; please contact **charles.e.thorogood@btinternet.com** to be included in the circulation.

New members and new ideas are always welcome.

Food Bank

We have a regular collection for a food bank. There is a box at the entrance of

each church to place gifts of food. There will be a list of items that are needed for your guidance. Please give generously.

If you, or someone you know, would benefit from a helping hand, please get in touch with Barbara de Butts on **01525 221080** or Sandra Green on **01296 668648**.

After a strictly confidential chat we will arrange for a box of groceries to be delivered to your door.

St Mary's Music Group New members always welcome

At the 'Worshipping Together' Service each month a friendly collection of musicians play the worship songs. The group also play for a few other events; we even played at a wedding by special request.

The group includes violin, clarinet, saxophone, flute, trumpet, piano and oboe; we would be very happy to welcome any new musicians of any age and ability and any instrument.

If you would like to know more, ring Jeanette on **01296 660194**. ►

	1 st Sunday 4 th May 3 rd Sunday after Easter	2 nd Sunday 11 th May 4 th Sunday after Easter	3 rd Sunday 18 th May 5 th Sunday after Easter	4 th Sunday 25 th May 6 th Sunday after Easter
Marsworth	8 am BCP Holy Communion	6pm BCP Evensong	10am Holy Communion	10am Messy Church
Ivinghoe	10am Worshipping Together	9.15 am Holy Communion	9.15am Morning Praise	9.15 am Holy Communion
Slapton	10.30am Morning Praise	10.30am Holy Communion	10am Messy church in the village hall.	10.30am Holy Communion

* Benefice service rotating round the three parishes

Regular Events:

Sundays	9.15am	Children's Church	Ivinghoe
Mondays	7.30pm	Bell Practice	Ivinghoe
	8.00pm	Bible Study	Pitstone
	8.00pm	Choir Practice	Marsworth
Tuesdays	2.30pm	Tots and Tiddlers	Slapton
	3.30pm	After School Club	Slapton
Wednesdays	9.15am	Holy Communion	Ivinghoe
Thursdays	10.00am	Bible Study	Ivinghoe
	3.30pm	After School Club	Ivinghoe
	7.00pm	Choir Practice	Ivinghoe
Fridays	10.30am	Benefice prayer group	Ivinghoe
	9.45pm	Tots Praise	Ivinghoe

Special Events:

Monday 5 th	3-5pm Tea and Cakes	Pitstone
Sunday 25 th	May 6pm Festival Evensong	Ivinghoe
Thursday 29 th	8pm Holy Communion for Ascension Day	Ivinghoe
Wednesday 4 th	June 10.30am Coffee Morning	Ivinghoe



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Pitstone

Mob:- 07737 350183

Leighton Buzzard

BEDS. LU7 9AY

Email; davidclifford954@sky.com



ST. MARY'S CHURCH, PITSTONE

The historic Church at Pitstone will be Spring cleaned at the end of April ready for the summer Sunday visitors. Thanks to a great team of volunteer stewards we are again able to open the Church every Sunday and Bank holiday afternoon 2.30-5.30pm from May–October. The Church can be visited at other times by contacting the key holder at 01296 661968.

There is a new colourful and informative leaflet in the church which will enrich your visit so why not take a walk to this beautiful little Church and explore the heritage on our doorstep during the summer.?

The Churches Conservation Trust is keen for Pitstone Church to be the focus of interest in the locality and we are being encouraged to make the church a starting point for a few more events during the year as well as the Festival which takes place at the end of May (and for which cakes will be needed!)

We have the annual concert on Saturday July 12th at 7.30pm which this year will be a special Memorial Concert for Emlyn Jones who established these inspiring concerts 15 years ago and raise money for both Ivinghoe and Pitstone Churches.

We hope to arrange a walk from the Church with a picnic afterwards later this year.

The group of Friends welcome new members, if you would like help in anyway or need to know more, ring Gill Arney on 01296 668123.



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Pastor Dave Calling...

Well here we are almost half way through 2014 (by the time you read this) and where has the time gone? Last time I called it was to wish you a Happy New Year and now I'm praying for restful and peaceful summer holidays! It's a strange thing this time lark. When I was a kid I longed for the 6 week summer break, but by the end of the second week you were so bored it seemed like school was a lifetime away. In my middle years I still looked forward to the six week holiday (teachers know what I mean) but no sooner had I got used to the freedom it seemed like we were back at the chalk face again. Now I've reached my 'Autumn' as they say, I see my grandchildren growing up in fast forward and wonder where the time goes so quickly.

Einstein said, *"The only reason for time is so that everything doesn't happen at once."*

He also said, *"When you are courting a nice girl an hour seems like a second. When you sit on a red-hot cinder a second seems like an hour. That's relativity."*

For us 2014 has brought a little more stability in knowing that God has provided the finance we prayed for to help us continue our ministry in Pitstone for another year, for which we are grateful. The last five years seem to have flown by. Pitstone must be one of Einstein's 'nice girls'. We have enjoyed our time here despite personal situations with health and missing the family we left in the Midlands. Sadly, the Chapel building is looking worse for the ravages of time, but unfortunately that is not our responsibility any longer and we feel sad

to see it in such a state as, I imagine, do its neighbours. We always wanted to sell to someone who would keep the integrity of the frontage as it is since it has been a village landmark for so many people over so many years. It would be nice to see it spruced up and looking as it did in the 'Summer' of its years. Unfortunately, time does not treat all of us kindly and it is not so easy to renovate the human body or the body of the Christ, His church.

Last night we went to see 'Noah' the new movie with Russell Crowe. Not impressed – more script than scripture. But I did come away with a couple of interesting thoughts about 'time'. Firstly, how Noah kept his focus on his task over the long period of time it would have taken to prepare an ark (place of safety not just a boat) for his family and the future of Creation – in our 21st Century society commitment for the long haul seems to almost disappeared with all of our 'instant' commodities and relationships.

Secondly, how easy it is to have a 'MAÑANA' attitude to our spiritual wellbeing. Tomorrow, as my Dad used to say, is the day that never comes. He also used to say that procrastination is the thief of all time. Easter is a significant time for Christians, perhaps more than Christmas in some ways. Yes He came down to earth from Heaven, but look what it was for. His words are remembered but His actions spoke even louder than His words. Perhaps you might mull over your spiritual health while you are getting your tan this summer, I hope the sun will do your

physical person good – why not let the Son do the spiritual you some good too.

Look out for – **First Thursday Friends** dates. It's a good time for a chat and cream tea, and a good matinee film with free popcorn and ices!

Harvest Festival: October 3rd with Leighton Linslade Band, put the date in your diary.

Every blessing for 2014. From the Fellowship. **Pastor Dave Clifford: 01296 668906.**

2014 SOUPER LENT LUNCHES

A BIG THANK YOU

to all who supported our 12th series of Churches Together Lent Lunches.

During the Christian season of Lent it is customary to give things up, but we are very pleased to be able to give to others at this time and thanks to your generosity the two lunches made a total of £953.73 which has been shared between the following worthwhile charities:

Iain Rennie/ Grove Hospice at Home

Save the Children Fund

Home Start Dacorum

Bucks Young Carers

Next Year we are looking for a new group to run the Ivinghoe Souper Lunch so please give this some thought. One of the most enjoyable aspects of these events is the experience of getting together with people from all the different churches and faith groups. It also provides a popular social activity for people to come to during a chilly time of year. If you think you could be part of the new team next year please let Dave Clifford on 01296 668 906 or Alex Wynne on 01296 668 336 know.

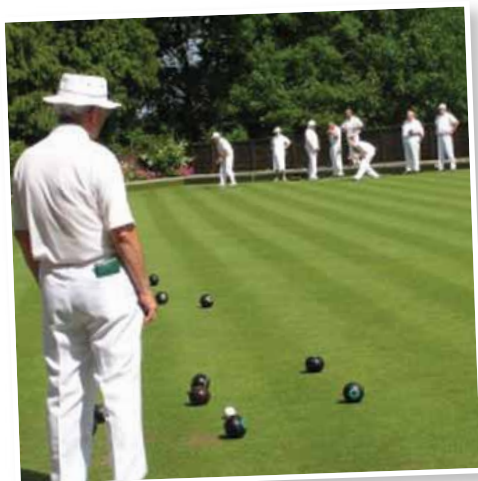
Cryptic Clue: **Jack** on the grass in the woods!

2012 was wet, but even rain could not kill the fun and games at your local **Cheddington Bowls Club** located at The Recreation Ground in Cheddington High Street.

League and Cup success was on a par with last years. Celebrations included **Pete Rowling (Leighton Buzzard)** representing the County at the National Championships and a great victory over the very strong Chesham Club. **Steve and Sue Molnar (Pitstone)** won the new Nominated Pairs competition and **Richard Jacob (Pitstone)** was Match Player of the Year.

2012 was fun. Ours is a friendly and social Club. FAD Friday evenings were a great success welcoming new comers to **GIVE BOWLS A GO** with a bite to eat and a drink from the bar. On Tuesday afternoons it was tea and biscuits. The famed Molnar BBQs, Race Night, Beetle Drive, Bingo, Christmas Party and Short Mat Monday evening's tasty treats all went down well.

We are especially appreciative of **Geof Roberts (Cheddington)** for his devotion to, and the plaudits received, for running our Men's Gala so successfully over many years; 2012 being his last. We too are in debt to our great team of grounds men, which includes **Dave Skip (Pitstone)** and **Ted Bateman (Ivinghoe)**. The team work through the year; mowing two or three times a week, top



dressings to level, repairing boundary ditches etc. to produce a green that meets the highest standards and is a joy to the eye – you should come see.

2013 PROMISES MORE. Time for you to **GIVE BOWLS A GO?** A Tuesday afternoon or Friday evening in May would be an ideal time to start. Or come and enjoy a tea or drink from the bar and watch a game or two. Bowls is a truly great game to play. You will make new friends, be exercising without really noticing it and, importantly, you will be having fun in the fresh air. I look forward to meeting you at the Club.

Chairman of Cheddington Bowls Club:
Tony Duke 01525 220644

Answer: Bowls: Aim your bowls (woods) over the grass to be nearest the jack (*target ball*).

Give Bowls a Go!

Open sessions for you

Every Tuesday at 2pm
Every Friday at 6pm

May to September

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Bucks Historic Churches Trust – Ride & Stride 2014

On Saturday 13th September, sponsored cyclists, walkers and horse riders all over the country will be visiting as many beautiful churches and chapels as they can between 10am and 6pm to raise money for the repair and restoration of these lovely buildings. Half the money raised will go to a chosen church or chapel and the other half will go into a fund that the Bucks Historic Churches Trust (an organisation run largely by volunteers) is able to distribute to churches and chapels of any Christian denomination that need help. Over the last 15 years, Bucks Historic Churches Trust has helped Ivinghoe Church four times with restoration projects and since 2006, Holy Cross, Slapton has received a number of grants to help with the considerable cost of restoring the tower, the clerestory walls and windows, the aisle roofs, north and south aisle walls, some redecoration and improved drainage.

Last year our walkers and riders raised an amazing £817 for Ivinghoe and £210

(plus gift aid) for Slapton and the two churches each received a cheque for half that money. We are now on the lookout for people who could take part in the sponsored event this year to raise money for our churches and for the Bucks Historic Churches Trust. As this is a country-wide event, churches in neighbouring Herts and Beds will be open and information on these churches can be found on-line at www.bedshertshct.org.uk. Many of the manned churches offer refreshments, toilet facilities and information about the church. If you don't fancy riding or walking but can spare an hour of your time on Saturday 13th September, we also need volunteers to welcome people to our local churches and offer refreshments.

If you would like to ride, walk or volunteer your time to help in a church, please contact the relevant person below:

For Ivinghoe Church: Izzy Robinson on **01296 660724**; Alex Wynne on **01296 668336**; or Mary Cook on **01296 662530**.



SPONSORED "RIDE & STRIDE" BICYCLE RIDE, HORSE RIDE and WALK

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2014
10.00 am – 6.00 pm



WINGRAVE, St Peter and St Paul

MONEY RAISED GOES HALF TO THE CHURCH OF
YOUR CHOICE AND HALF TO THE TRUST FOR REPAIR
OF CHURCHES

Details from your Local Organiser:

Izzy Robinson - 660724



Registered Charity Number 206471

Walks in and out of the Parish

Continuing our series of **Walks in and around the Villages**, Sylvia Piggott has kindly shared the details of this beautiful walk to Aldbury. If you have a walk, in and out or around Ivinghoe or Ivinghoe Aston that you would like to share with your fellow residents please do get in touch with the Editor.

A round trip Ivinghoe to Aldbury (approximately 3hours 7miles)

From Ivinghoe church head along the B488 towards Tring, cross the Dunstable road and take the first footpath on your left through a gate.

Follow this path through another gate, go straight on through another gate, straight on up the hill you will come to a well marked crossroads (crosspath). This is the Ridgeway, go straight across on up the hill through yet another gate, across another path and straight on up the hill until you come to a track. Go right.

Follow this track through a gate past a house on your left and stay on this track (Duncombes Terrace) until you get to The Bridgewater Monument. Here you'll find the N.T. café, shop and loo and most likely an ice cream van. (Any stops not included in 3hrs).

Walk past the monument across the green stay right of the buildings ahead of you and when you get to the track turn right. There are two forks on this track go right at both on down the hill until you come to the road. Now you're in Aldbury.

At the road turn right you'll come to the village pond on your right, The Greyhound Inn also on your right. On your left the post office and shop. (Again any stops not included in 3hrs).

Take the road straight on towards Tring

Station past the church on your right and take the first footpath on your right just past the church.

Through a gate across a field, through another gate along the edge of this field, through a gate and follow the path with a big barn/farm building on your left. Go straight on through a couple of gates, straight on, cross a path and go through a gate onto Stocks Golf Course.

Go straight on across the golf course, cross the perimeter track the other side and go through a gate into the wood.

Follow this path, at the next path turn left, shortly you hit the Ridgeway path turn right onto the Ridgeway and go up the steps.

Follow the Ridgeway right through the woods through a gate and out onto Pitstone Hill.

Stay on the Ridgeway in a dip there's a crosspath go straight on. The next Ridgeway sign goes to the right stay straight on, on the stronger looking path. This path bears left, to your right car park, cattle pens and ahead right a water trough. To the left of the trough (you guessed it) yet another gate.

Through the gate follow this path until you reach a stile on your right. Cross the stile come out on the road, turn left then cross the main road into the windmill field.

Turn right and go round the edge of the field straight past the path that leads to the windmill until you reach another footpath. Here go right through a gate and follow this path until you reach the road.

Turn right and follow the road through the village back to Ivinghoe church.

Boring to read but lovely to walk. Follow the arrows and read the signs you can't go wrong. *Happy Hiking, Sylvia Piggott*

Vinghoe Velo's:

Every time I see an adult on a bicycle,
I no longer despair for the future of the
human race (H. G. Wells)

Had Herbert George Wells been in Aylesbury town center on the morning of 23rd March he would have been beside himself with joy as he would have been able to see over 500 people from the local area take part in the Iain Rennie Chiltern Cycle Challenge.

We are happy to report that amongst the 500 were over 20 Vinghoe Velos who were prepared to brave cool weather, strong winds and tackle difficult hills for this great local cause. There were a number of routes available 75 miles, 35 miles and a 10km fun route for families all starting in Aylesbury town center.

Some drove to Aylesbury and others rode there increasing the distance for

the day. Groups of Velos rode together for their chosen ride, a good opportunity to have a chat and give much needed support as they tackled some tricky hills.

We rode to support Iain Rennie Hospice at Home. They provide 24 hour responsive hospice at home service plus support services for patients and families in Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire. We rode to support one of our stalwart members who was able to smash the sponsorship target that he'd set himself.

So to sum up, on the 23rd March HG Wells would have seen lots of locals from Ivinghoe and Pitstone on their bicycles to support a fabulous local charity; indeed he would not despair for the future of the human race.

Jose Hetherington



Aylesbury and district ramblers walk programme May 2014

Date & Start time	Brief description (for more details see our website or contact leader)	Start gridref	Miles Grade	Contact
Thu 01/05/2014 10:00	Walk around Bledlow and Chinnor area	SP776020	7 M	Tricia 01296 624967 07762 204292
Sun 04/05/2014 10:00	Farmland and open countryside around Brill	SP654141	7 M	Ros 01296 434714
Tue 06/05/2014 10:30	Hidden bluebell woods near Grim's Ditch	SP868078	5 L	Joe Garver 01296 623868
Thu 08/05/2014 10:00	Undulating walk in Chilterns from Cadmore End	SU783927	8 M	John Docherty 01844 201336 07531 814198
Sun 11/05/2014 10:00	Outer Aylesbury Ring Walk 10 from Cublington	SP839221	7 M	John Taylor 07719 936463
Thu 15/05/2014 10:00	Canals & reservoirs near Bulbourne	SP933136	7.5 M	Helen & Keith 01296 631069 07759 420206
Sun 18/05/2014 10:00	North Bucks Way Part 2. Setting off from Winslow	SP770277	10 S	Vicki 01296 336890
Tue 20/05/2014 10:30	Field paths and estate drives in Stowe Park	SP684357	4.5 L	Adele 01296 748826 07933 752219
Thu 22/05/2014 10:00	Start at Woburn, taking in Aspley Guise and part of Safari Park	SP951333	8 M	Maurice Crump 01296 392569 07767 787413
Sun 25/05/2014 10:00	Lovely views and gentle hills Aldbury area	SP955149	6.25 M	David Lawrence 01296 482313 07950 088213
Thu 29/05/2014 10:00	Cross river at Mill End, on to Henley and back to start via Greenlands.	SU783865	7 M	Malcolm Paul 01844 290697 07526 222632

PLEASE NOTE – when taking part in any of the walks listed on this programme you do so entirely at your own risk.

Walk Grading Definitions:

Leisurely (L) Suitable for reasonably fit people with at least a little walking experience.

Moderate (M) Suitable for people with country walking experience and a good level of fitness.

Strenuous (S) Suitable for experienced country walkers with an above-average fitness level.

For all walks suitable boots and available warm waterproof clothing essential.

Please refer to
www.aylesbury-ramblers.org.uk
for full details.

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WheelPowers

British Wheelchair Sport

Stoke Mandeville Stadium – Sunday 8th June 2014



I am contacting you on behalf of the charity WheelPower. WheelPower is based at Stoke Mandeville, the birthplace of the Paralympic movement. WheelPower helps disabled children and adults improve their lives through sport.

On Sunday 8th June 2014

we have our biggest fundraiser, the Mix 96 Tour De Vale bike ride and was wondering if you would be kind enough to perhaps circulate and put some information on your website?

I have attached some details for you and also some information below should you require it.

Now into its 11th year, the Mix 96 Tour de Vale Bike Ride starts and finishes at Stoke Mandeville Stadium. Our three routes will take you through beautiful countryside and villages that offer something for everyone:

- 15 miles; perfect for families
- 35 miles; ideal for the leisure cyclist

but beware of the hills!

- 55 miles; the **challenge route**

The three routes are fully signed and there are safety marshals and mechanics in case of emergency. There are friendly water stops on each route plus refreshments and changing facilities at the start and finish.

Entry Fee: Adults £12.50; Under 16 FREE (must be accompanied by an adult).
Entry Fee on the day £25.

Start times:

- 55 mile – 9am
- 35 mile – 10am
- 15 mile – 10.30am

To download an entry form or enter online go to **www.tourdevale.com** or call WheelPower on **01296 395995**.

Many thanks for taking the time to read this and to hopefully support WheelPower.

Joyce Sheerd
WheelPower Volunteer

THIS YEAR:
CHIP TIMING



WheelPower

British Wheelchair Sport

mix96

96.2fm

Tour de Vale

Bike Ride



Sunday 8th June 2014

Stoke Mandeville Stadium

☎ 01296 395995 ☎ 01296 424171 ✉ info@wheelpower.org.uk

www.tourdevale.com

Supported by



Charity Registration No. 265498

Tales from the compost heap, the wonder of weeds!

Weeds – perennial ones in particular – are the bane of a gardener's life. Couch grass, ground elder, bindweed, celandine, dandelions, thistles, nettle roots and docks – to name but a few – are all possessed of an almost miraculous ability to keep going and prosper, no matter what. Most gardeners will have pondered at length how to get rid of them, solutions varying from curses and incantations to the prolific use of certain proprietary mixes.

In the majority of cases and assuming that the curses etc. turn out to be ineffective, the only solution is to dig them out carefully, bit by bit. This is wonderfully good exercise for those who wish to develop large biceps and possibly triceps also. Then, confronted by a heap of weeds, what should one do next? These weeds, added to the standard home compost heap, may well demonstrate their unique ability to survive by reappearing to live another day. This is because such a compost heap rarely reaches the temperatures necessary to kill the weeds off. A different strategy is called for – and in fact there is more than one way to go here.

Option one is to stuff the weeds, roots and all, into a black plastic sack; add some green material such as lawn clippings, secure the top and put the bag behind the shed, or some other out-of-the-way spot. After about 6 months, check the contents – which should have turned into a kind of black sludge, or weed soup if you prefer. All traces of

the original plant material should have disappeared. You can then add this to your compost heap. Option two is to create a separate heap, just for these perennial weeds; cover it completely with black plastic – not beautiful, but necessary for this job, to smother the weeds. Again, check the contents carefully after a few months. If no traces of the original material can be detected, add the material to your normal heap.

Either way, you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you have performed that marvellous alchemy of turning nuisance weeds into a valuable addition to your garden, and in the process have let nothing go to waste. Which is surely one of the greatest joys a gardener can have.

Barbara Cummings

www.recycleforbuckinghamshire.co.uk



Ivinghoe Allotments from the Plot



The other morning just before 8am, I was just about to drive off the second tee at our picturesque golf club, with the sun shining, everything looking lush and green, when I heard the lamb's bleating in the adjacent field. Fantastic sound, I paused and thought to myself Spring is here. Great time to be alive – this time of the year lifts people up after the really wet winter months and it is great to see so many people happy and smiling.

What is happening in the allotment world? Well, quite a lot it appears. In Nottinghamshire this week, a parish council's monthly meeting erupted when allotments were discussed and police had to be called and more than 20 villagers were ejected from the meeting. In the 'old days' it would have been 'pistols at dawn' but these days more like 'leeks at dawn'! When you think of all the troubles that are going on in the world and young people dying, something is fundamentally wrong that police had to be called to a parish council meeting discussing allotments!

By the time you read this, the new BBC 2 series 'The Big Allotment Challenge' will have been shown and, with what I have read, is set to show tantrums and tension in each episode (get a life!)

However, tantrums aside, if any local residents watch and feel inspired to grow their own then please contact Maxine Haynes, Clerk to Ivinghoe Parish Council to discuss the availability of an allotment plot.

I must admit that until very recently I did not know that allotments are also

known as victory gardens; a term dating back to the Great World Wars 1 and 2, hence the 'Dig for Victory' slogan.

This month is a busy period on the allotment. For now is the time to plant your broad beans, beetroot, peas, spinach. All of your potato varieties should by now already be tucked under earthed up mounds.

I start all my vegetables in an unheated greenhouse and about two weeks prior to planting in the allotment I leave them outside to harden off – this certainly gives them a good start.

Generally speaking, beetroot does not like to be transplanted. But you can get over this by getting a long piece of guttering about 12 to 16 inches long, drill some holes in the bottom, close both ends with tape, fill with compost, cover seeds and once they are big enough they can then be planted in your plot. Make a suitable space, remove the tape and slide the whole lot on to your plot and there we are! You will potentially have prize-winning beetroot!

The recent lovely warm weather certainly promotes growth for our vegetables but unfortunately, the weeds also relish the warm days. It is really frustrating that they grow so close to the veggie plant, as it means you spend a great deal of your time on your knees weeding the bed!

Watch this space, and any other space for the matter, as to whether Ivinghoe will have a Horticultural Show this year.

Hope you have a successful growing season – mind how you go.

Ernie Jones, Allotmenteer

Allotment up-date from the Parish Council

The Council have installed a new tap on the allotments which hopefully will make it easier for allotmenters to water their plots. Thanks to Mr. Leonard and Son of Pitstone for an excellent job. Although the allotment rush seems to have ceased there are plots available for rent. Site plan is available on the allotment web page on the Parish

Council's website along with terms and conditions and contact details.

Prospective allotmenters are welcome to come and have a look round the allotments at any time, there is usually someone working on their plot who will be quite happy to answer questions.

Gloria Snowdon



Honey Bee swarms are important



Honey Bee swarms:

Swarms such as the ones pictured are merely Colonies that are in transition. Normally these Swarms are found hanging from tree branch, fence post or any place where the swarm can gather close to the Queen while scouts are sent out to look for a more permanent home. A swarm left alone will only be in place from just a few minutes to a few hours and occasionally a few days. Generally these swarms are very docile and the swarming Bees usually will not sting. When Honey Bees swarm they gorge themselves with honey before leaving the hive which makes it very hard for them to double over and sting.

What causes Honey Bees to swarm:

Honey Bees have a natural instinct to survive by sending out new colonies. They may also swarm through overcrowding or because an old queen is thought to be failing and they wish to raise a new one. Honey Bees usually swarm in early spring just as the colony is building up numbers in anticipation of the upcoming honey flow but swarming can happen through to late summer. It is difficult to predict if weather conditions will lead to a large colony.

If you see a swarm:

Declining Honey Bee numbers make the collection of swarms an important part of the work of bee keepers. You should never interfere with a swarm as pest control companies will not kill a swarm

unless absolutely necessary.

Please contact: **Brian Bush** – Mid Bucks Beekeepers and BBKA Swarm Officer.

MBBKA Swarm Hotline: **07770370132** or **01844 292195** or **07767304067**

BBKA British Bee Keepers Association website: <http://www.bbka.org.uk>



Top left: Honey Bee swarms.

Top right: Honey Bee swarms in the hands of a professional.

Bottom left: Honey Bee colony.

Haddenham Honey

Brian Bush
Beekeeper



The Coach House
13A Station Road
Haddenham
Bucks
HP17 8AN

Phone: 07767304067
E-mail: brian.bush@btinternet.com

Scouts

be prepared...

Hello let me introduce myself. My name is Keith Steers and I am the New Group Scout Leader for 1st Ivinghoe and Pitstone scout group.

We are looking to recruit new leaders so who better to tell you about the various roles, than the leaders themselves.

Beaver Scouts is for all Children aged 5 up to 8

"I joined Scouting in July 2012 to support my Children who were Beavers at the time. When I first started I was showered with support and training to get me on my way and running (hopefully) a happy and successful Beaver Colony. I can honestly say I've enjoyed every single minute I've spent with the Beaver Colony and I've learnt an enormous amount. It's so much fun; I now volunteer and help out at I&P Camps whenever I can."

Andy Broad

Beaver Scout Leader, I&P Scouts

Cub Scouts is for all Children aged 8 up to 10

"There's never a dull moment being a cub leader! When I took on the role nearly 4 years ago, I had no background in cubs and only managed being a brownie for a year or so, but that didn't seem to matter. There's lots of support from the other leaders and from the Scouting organisation. It's great to see the cubs enjoying themselves and being



challenged to do something new from time to time. Same for me too! It can be hard work now and again but it's really worthwhile and there are loads of ways to get involved. Don't be shy give us a call."

Andrea Squires Cub Leader.

Scouts is for all Children aged 10 up to 14

"It's really rewarding being a scout leader. You get to work with a broad range of ages (from 10 – 14) and this can often be challenging. However, young people are very creative and great fun. We tend to spend as much time outside as we can; camping, cooking and exploring in all weathers. You really get out of it what you put in and the skills you can learn are almost endless. It's also a great excuse to do all the things you've always wanted to do like: sleep in a hammock or in Tring Museum, hold a Fish eagle. travel the world, cook with King's Head chefs and to learn how to MOT a car. There is no point in moaning about the 'youth of today'. This is your opportunity to interact with them and help them to become a valuable part of our community."

Russell, Rachel and Tony

1st Ivinghoe & Pitstone Scouts



The Group Executive Committee

Meet on average four times a year and their role is to support the Group Scout Leader on meeting the responsibilities of their appointments. Included within these are the following. Chair person / Secretary / Treasurer and Parents and supporters of our Scout Group.

- The maintenance of the Groups property and equipment.
- The raising of funds and the administration of the groups finances.
- The insurance of persons, property and equipment.

- The organization of Group public occasions.
- Assisting with the recruitment of leaders and other adult support.

If you are interested in finding out anymore about any of these positions or would like to go along and see for yourself

What we get up to, please give me a call or email me for more information.

Keith Steers (Group Scout Leader)

0789-9696722 or **01296-662781**.

Email **Ksteers@aol.com**

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Windmill Pre-School

It's the beginning of the final term and spring has finally sprung in the village. We'd like to welcome all our new parents, carers and children that started this term and hope you enjoy your time at Windmill Pre-School. This term will offer continued opportunities for parents to get involved with their pre-schoolers early education and we've got some great fundraising events planned to help raise additional funds for toys, equipment, games and crafts so we hope parents, friends and family members as well as the local community will continue to support us.

Staff update

As promised in the last edition, we are very pleased to announce the appointment of our new setting Leader Kate Wort, who started with us just before the Easter Break. Since completing an NNEB Diploma in Nursery Nursing in 2000, Kate's first role was as a Nursery Nurse. Since then she has worked as a Children's Representative in Cyprus, a Private Nanny and then in most recent times as a Nursery Manager for a committee run Nursery. Kate is qualified to Level 5 with a Foundation Degree in Early Years. She also has experience and qualifications in implementing the Early Years Foundation Stage, so she brings with her a wealth of knowledge and experience. Kate is also a parent with a two year old son, a very lively Chocolate Labrador and horses to add in to the mix, so her weekends are always spend outdoors come rain or shine. With Kate's appointment, we believe that a new and positive stage in Windmill Pre-School's growth has begun, putting behind us quite a challenging period.

At the end of last term, we were unfortunately sad to say goodbye to Lana Race and Tracey Spivey. Lana was previously our setting Leader before going off to have her baby, and she played a huge role in Windmill being awarded

'outstanding' by Ofsted in 2011. Both were very valued members of the team who will be missed greatly by the children and committee. We wish them both well in their new roles and in all their future endeavours.

We are delighted to announce Sharon Berry will be returning to Windmill after the Easter break. Her role will be as a Practitioner working as part of the team under our new Leader's management. Sharon will be taking on key children of her own and because she is such a cheerful, pro-active and positive individual, she will be a welcome addition to the Pre-School. Sharon is very excited at the prospect of returning and is looking forward to working in partnership with the parents and children. For those of you that don't know Sharon, she has previously been a member of the Windmill Team, who was very popular with the children and parents.

Changes within the setting

Existing parents will have noticed that there have been a lot of significant changes taking place within the setting over the last few months. We thank you for your continued patience and support during the periods of change but please rest assured that our 'learning through play' ethos continues to have a positive effect on the children in our care. If you have any questions relating to any of the changes, please feel free to speak to a member of staff or make an appointment to speak to me or the setting's new Leader Kate.

Session availability and admissions

It is never too early to get your child's name on the waiting list – don't forget we take children from the age of two – so we strongly recommend that you do this well in advance

of wanting a place – even if you don't plan to enrol your child until they become funded (the term after they turn three). This will prove favourable when there are children of the same age waiting for a place, especially when places will be offered to those who have been on the waiting list longer. To register your interest, please email our Administrator Claire Hose at: admin@windmillpreschool.co.uk

We start the Summer Term with a few places available on Friday afternoons. More sessions will become available in September when our older children leave us to start school. With the continuing expansion of the village, there is great demand for sessions and we strictly adhere to a policy on allocation of places. For parents with children at Pre-School, if your preferred sessions are not available you can request that your child's name be placed on a waiting list. As places become available they are offered to the child at the top of the waiting list. If the parent does not wish to take up the session offered, they remain at the top of the list and the next child is offered the place. This process continues until the place has been allocated. Priority is given to funded two year olds and children with Special Educational Needs if extra sessions are thought to be beneficial. These children are offered available places before those on the waiting list as are children of staff and committee members.

Fundraising and events

During the final term of this academic year, we have some great events planned, which we hope you will support us with:

- **May 10th:** Family photography session with Photography by Carrie
 - **May 13th:** Annual General Meeting
 - **June:** Ivinghoe church fete / annual sponsored walk around the villages
 - **July:** Textile Recycling
- Most of our events are open to everyone, so not just parents with children at Windmill and

we hope that we can count on your continued support throughout the year. Keep an eye out on our website for more information.

Also, just to let you know that we are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers. So, if you find yourself with any vouchers that you don't know what to do with, please feel free to donate them to Windmill Pre-School so we can gain some new equipment for the children to enjoy.

Annual General Meeting – Tuesday 13th May 8pm

We will be holding our AGM very shortly and everyone is welcome to attend. We will be running through administrative and financial reports from the last year and taking nominations for new members to join the Voluntary Management Committee as well as bidding farewell to those stepping down. After the AGM has concluded, we will be holding an 'open forum' for parents to ask questions. The meeting will be taking place in the Meeting Room at Pitstone Memorial Hall.

Getting involved

Part of our success as a pre-school is the role the parents play within the setting. We currently have a small number of enthusiastic volunteers that come in and help out. This can involve helping with crafts and messy play, reading stories, baking or helping with tidying and clearing up at the end of a session. We would like to invite members of the local community (you don't have to be a parent of a child currently attending, but you would need to undergo a CRB equivalent check if you volunteer on a regular basis), who is able to spare a couple of hours – either on a regular basis or an ad hoc basis, to get in touch by emailing admin@windmillpreschool.co.uk. Maybe you are a performer, entertainer, musician or dancer who could come in and spend some time with the children to offer ►

a little fun taster session. We also welcome dads, or people with interesting jobs to come in and get involved, so if you are good at sport, or are a fire fighter or you work in the police, maybe even a doctor, nurse or dentist and could spare some time to come in and talk about your job the children would love to meet you so please do get in touch.

Join the team

Windmill Pre-School is run by a voluntary Management Committee, mainly consisting of parents of Windmill pre-schoolers, but also members of the local community. Everyone on the committee brings a different set of professional skills, experience and enthusiasm to the team. Members of the elected Committee are the Trustees of the Charity and are responsible for all decision making relating to the running of the Pre-school. Some of the activities we are involved in include strategic management of the setting, e.g. staffing, premises, equipment and hours of opening,

grant applications, funding, marketing, PR and administration. Without this dedicated team, our pre-school would not be able to run.

We have vacancies for general committee members – enthusiastic individuals, who are able to spare a little time each month. Being a member of the Committee is an extremely worthwhile activity, enabling parents to have some influence over their child's early years' education, and also allows local people the opportunity to get involved in a focal point within the community. Both have a real and positive impact on the way in which Pre-school is run. We are a friendly group and we meet the first Tuesday of each month in the evening and we also have regular staff and Committee social events! If you are interested in joining our team, please get in contact – particularly if you aren't able to attend the formal AGM!

Thank you for your continued support.

Gail Dodsworth

Chair, Voluntary Management Committee

Give your child an outstanding start

Windmill Pre-School in Ivinghoe is rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted making us 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 (available on a term by term basis)

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 or 01296 661031 (during sessions)

www.windmillpreschool.co.uk



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Pitstone & Ivinghoe Baby & Toddler Group

Pitstone and Ivinghoe Baby and Toddler Group ended 2013 in style with a Christmas themed party. We even had a visit from Father Christmas which was met with mixed emotions from the children! Many thanks to Sarah Ella who gave up her time to come and take photos of the children meeting Santa and whether smiles or tears, they were moments to remember forever. Thanks too to Debbie Bolam who came and ran a Melody Movement session with the children at the party.

We also held a fun Halloween session at the end of October, just before we broke up for half term. Many of the children dressed up in costumes and they enjoyed spooky food at snack time including marshmallow ghosts, skeleton biscuits and bat biscuits. They also enjoyed Halloween crafts and games. Instead of apple bobbing, the children enjoyed trying to eat brioche hanging down on strings!

Other activities for last term included a photographic session by Carrie where parents had the opportunity to have photos taken of their children. We made sure messy play wasn't too messy that day! Our regular hairdresser, Lara came too, cutting the children's hair in a fun environment.

Everyone enjoyed tractor rides to see the Windmill during harvest celebrations, played with space rockets for National Space Week and made matchmaker fireworks and heard popping 'firework' popcorn for bonfire night celebrations.

At the end of last term we unfortunately had to say a sad farewell to a number of previous committee members as they

hand over their roles as their children have grown too old for toddler group. We want to say a big thank you to Julie Every, Clare Cleland and Jo Lucas who have already left a big hole at toddlers and will be a hard act to follow. The group has gone from strength to strength over the past few years particularly because of Julie and her team's hard work and enthusiasm and I know every member of the group will be sorry to see them go.

We have held our first committee meeting of the New Year and we're raring to go for the new term. We'll be trying our best to continue the great work of the previous committee. We are always looking for input from the wider community so if you are able to come and lend a hand helping us to set up or clear away or do some washing up we would love to hear from you. Also if you run a business that would appeal to our children, how about running a free taster session at our group? If this is something that interests you, please contact us.

We have welcomed a lot of new mums and carers to our group recently. If you were in any doubt as to the existence of a baby boom, you just need to see our thriving baby area! We look forward to these babies growing and developing at the group as they become toddlers and then preschoolers (we hope they don't grow up too fast though!).

There are some great activities planned for the coming weeks including lots of messy play – where better to let your children get messy than in the Memorial Hall rather than at home! The children will

be celebrating Chinese New Year as we enter the year of the horse in our 29th Jan session and Valentine's Day in our 12th Feb session with lots of themed craft and play. Lara the hairdresser will also be coming each term to toddler group as an easy way to get your child's hair cut.

About the group

The baby and toddler group is an integral part of life in the village and offers a wonderful opportunity for parents, grandparents and carers to meet and enjoy a cuppa together. There have been some good friendships formed amongst both the parents and our younger members. Many of the children form friendships with those they later go to pre-school and then school with therefore helping them settle into their new environments happily.

Each week we offer art, craft and messy play activities which allow the children to express themselves creatively. Our toddlers have access to a range of toys and activities such as dressing up,

train tracks, slides, trikes, trampolines etc. We are able to alternate these toys to keep everyone happy and entertained.

There is a safe soft area with a wide variety of toys for babies to explore and have fun with until they are ready to venture out into the larger area of the hall.

A snack and drink is provided for the children and tea, coffee, biscuits (sometimes cake!) for the adults at no extra cost.

The sessions either end with a story time or sing along session, which the children really love.

Our group runs every Wednesday during term time between 1.15 – 3.00pm in the Main Hall at Pitstone Memorial Hall, £2 per family per session (your first session is free).

For more information we use our facebook page to keep everyone up to date. Search for the group and you can request to join. **Facebook:** Pitstone and Ivinghoe baby and toddler group

Katrina Blunt Committee Member

Marsworth Pre School



Marsworth Millennium Hall, Vicarage Road, Marsworth HP23 4LR
Tel: 07506 179658 Email: 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

Calling all Green Homes in the Vale!

Are you or are you aware of a green homeowner within the Vale?

We need your help to identify Vale-based Eco-homes willing to join together to promote low carbon living. Basically, we want to inspire others and show them how it's done!

We already have a small network of refurbished lo-cost/carbon SuperHomes www.superhomes.org.uk but we want to expand that network, as we've just secured some funding for a one-off Eco-homes Opening Event on the weekend of 31st May/1st June 2014.

The goal is to increase the number and range of homes involved. We'd also like to hear from anyone with a

low-carbon new build. This will give those interested in home improvement, real examples of what and importantly real life experience of how it can be done.

We are aware several of you already lead the way but perhaps are not yet at the SuperHome standard achieving over 60% carbon reduction. We really encourage your involvement.

Please contact **SAVE** (Support Aylesbury Vale's Environment) on **01296 585147** (or **01280 815507** evenings) for more information or to suggest a possible eco homeowner in your community.

Robert Smart SAVE Secretary



St Mary's Church, PITSTONE

The 34th FESTIVAL of ART, CRAFT and FLOWERS

The Annual Pitstone Festival of Art, Crafts, Flowers and Music will take place over the **Late May Bank holiday weekend** at **St. Mary's Church Pitstone**.

The Church is being cared for by The Churches Conservation Trust and by a group of Local Friends.

Many volunteers arrange flowers and help run this popular festival and if you would like to join them or the Local Friends of the Church please make yourself known to any of the stewards who will be there over the whole weekend.

Cakes will be needed and people to serve the teas over the whole weekend as well.

If you are able to make a cake or spare a couple of hours to serve refreshments please ring Alex on **01296 668336**.

St Mary's Church PITSTONE

The 34th FESTIVAL of ART, CRAFT and FLOWERS

LATE SPRING BANK HOLIDAY
24–26 MAY

Saturday: 2–6

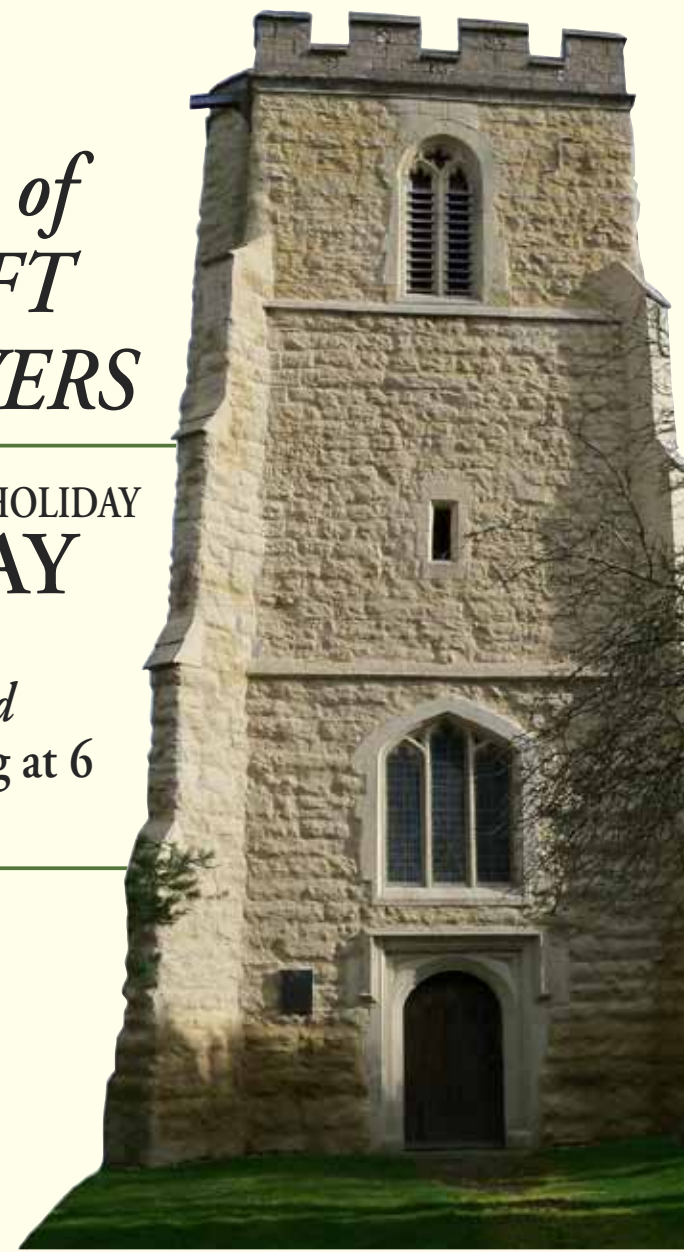
Sunday: 11–5 *and*
Evensong at 6

Monday: 11–6

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Spring News from the estate



Ivinghoe Hills

An area of two acres on the Ivinghoe Hills has been cut and raked to promote effective grazing by sheep and cattle. This has been achieved by 12 volunteer sessions including a combination group of staff and volunteers. The clearing of scrub has been carried out to help the survival of, amongst many other species, the rare and tiny Duke of Burgundy butterfly.

If you would like to join the Ashridge volunteers in practice conservation tasks please contact helpingashridge@nationaltrust.org.uk

Annual Deer count

Yes, we actually do count deer! In early March, at 6am, volunteers and staff were out on the estate counting fallow deer. The deer count at Ashridge has been running since the 1970's so we have deer population information that spans decades. The method of counting is simply to record numbers of deer within a given area. The counter notes the sighting time and the location of the deer marked on a map. We then gather all the count data together and add it up – easy.

Recent storms

We lost quite a few trees in the recent storms. The team have been busy clearing windblown trees from the more public areas. Apart from the damage caused by storms is might surprise you to know that they can have a positive effect on the Estate.

Head Forester Bob Davies explains "The beneficial effect of storms concerns nature itself. Firstly torn and ripped branches are quickly colonised by lots of different bugs and beasts.

Another benefit is the natural nursery that can occur when a large top has crashed down and not been cleared up. Lots of sapling use this as protection and within a couple of years quite a thicket can develop, especially with the extra light that is available for flora and fauna on the forest floor – this is especially so under trees that cast a lot of shade such as Beech.

Ashridge events this spring

Dawn Chorus: Sat 26th April or Sat 3rd May 5am – 7am.

Yes, we know it's early! But getting up to experience the dawn chorus should be on everyone's list of things to do. As a reward for your early start we will provide you with a cup of tea and a bacon sandwich at the end of the walk. £15 per adult, £10 for children.

Ashridge Uncovered: 29th March, 31st May, 26th July, 27th Sept, 29th November at 1 – 3pm.

Join us for a new series of walks, each taking a different trip through history, wildlife and landscapes of the Ashridge Estate. Refreshments are included at the end of the walk. Booking required. £15 adults, 10 child.

For our full list of events please visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ashridge or contact the Ashridge Visitor Centre on **01442 851227**.

Lauren Wise Visitor Services Officer

Chilterns villages and vineyards

It's all happening amongst unspoilt scenes of peace and beauty; on open hilltops with dramatic views across four counties, in woodlands glowing with bluebells, or deep in summer shade, down winding lanes of ancient hedgerows and wild flowers, in the intimate valleys of small chalk streams or on the broad waters of the River Thames. This is where you will find the pretty villages and vineyards of the Chilterns.

The Romans were the first to grow vines on the thin chalky soils of the Chiltern slopes. Vineyards and breweries still thrive here, producing a range of award-winning wines, liqueurs and ales. Enjoy their home-grown brews in local pubs and restaurants or try and buy them on the spot.

Our favourite is Frithsden Vineyard, tucked away in a little village near the historic market town of Berkhamsted. Owners Simon and Natalie have planted about 6,000 vines including Solaris, Rondo, and Phoenix varieties. These vines are specially developed in Northern Europe to thrive in our cooler climate. Their wine is grown, pressed and bottled on site and sold in the vineyard shop.

<http://frithsdenvineyard.co.uk>



Hambleden

Old Luxters is home to the Chilterns Valley Winery and Brewery situated in the picturesque **Hambledon village**, and recipient of scores of trophies and commendations with wines from its vineyard overlooking the lovely Hambledon Valley. The microbrewery is the first in the UK to hold a Royal Warrant. You can now enjoy B&B in the vineyard farmhouse too.

Nettlebed is in attractive wooded countryside on a ridge between Wallingford and Henley-on-Thames. The village is surrounded by large areas of common land and is the highest in the South Chilterns. Clay suitable for pottery and brick making was found locally and, as a result, Nettlebed was the most important brick and tile making centre in the Chilterns from the mid-14th century onwards. A disused lime kiln is prominent in the centre of the village which was in use until 1938 and was restored in 1972-4.



Stoke Row is at one of the highest points of the southern Chiltern hills between the Wallingford to Reading and the Wallingford to Henley roads. In the centre is a village store and an unusual Indian-style well and a cherry orchard. The 365-feet deep well is known as the Maharaja's Well and was dug in the C19 entirely by hand as a gift from the Maharajah of Benares due to his friendship with a prominent local landowner as he thought it important the locals had access to clean drinking water.

Little Missenden is the smaller neighbour of Great Missenden, and the village has been used in many films and television programmes over the years, particularly as one of the more frequent Midsomer Murders filming locations – "Missenden Murders" was considered as a possible title for the series. The Red Lion pub has appeared in three episodes, and despite being a small Chilterns village, it has hosted acclaimed comedy and arts festivals.

Turville

Five miles west of Wycombe, in a sleepy corner of the Chilterns, you will find the lovely village of Turville. Once home to Ellen Sadler, who fell asleep in 1871, aged eleven, and purportedly did not wake for nine years, becoming known as "The Sleeping Girl of Turville". The case attracted international attention from newspapers, medical professionals and the public. Rumours persist in the region that Sadler was visited by royalty for a "laying on of hands". These days more famous for a TV sitcom, The Vicar of Dibley with the local church renamed as St Barnabas.



Cobstone mill and cottage were purchased in 1971 by Hayley Mills and her first husband Roy Boulting, and extensive conversions and re-modeling of the interiors were completed as well as interior and exterior restoration and conversion of the mill. It has been in private possession ever since.

Ewelme is an interesting and attractive village and is a delight to visit. It lies in a small valley just south of the B4009 Benson to Watlington road about 5 miles east of Benson. The name means (place at) the river-source – the river being the small chalk stream, the Ewelme Brook. The Ewelme Brook was at one time used extensively for the cultivation of watercress, much of which was dispatched by train to London. However during the last quarter of the 1900s, regulations prevented the sale of watercress from Ewelme and this, together with greater competition ►

from other areas and countries, led to the industry's demise and production ceased in 1988. The Ewelme watercress beds are now owned and managed by the Chiltern Society as a local nature reserve. They run the whole length of the village and are accessible from the road in places. In the centre of the village is the source of the Ewelme Brook and an attractive pond. The almshouses are the oldest brick buildings in this part of the country, and is where scenes from the Les Misérables movie were filmed here too.

Built in 1688. **Jordans Village** was originally established and built by the Quakers, or Religious Society of Friends and Jordans Meeting House is the place of worship. It is one of Britain's

earliest purpose-built Quaker Meeting Houses, located in idyllic surroundings, near the village of Seer Green. William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania and other famous Quakers rest in the burial ground. It is a site with remarkable character and history, and the wonderful staff can show you around or answer any questions which you may have about the Meeting House, Jordans and the Quakers. Restored after the fire in 2005, visitors are very welcome every afternoon from 2–5pm between March and October inclusive. Popular with North American visitors, some of whom have reportedly wanted to re-inter William Penn back in North America!

www.newjordans.org



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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

**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.

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For further information Contact Pastor Dave Clifford on 01296 668906



Mentmore Arts Festival 2013 - art in St Mary's Church



Mentmore Arts Festival 2013 - Children's Art competition winners

MENTMORE ARTS FESTIVAL AIMING FOR MORE SUCCESS THIS YEAR!

The Mentmore Arts Festival is back for its sixth year and 2014 promises to be our best yet with new and interesting artists joining some of our regular favourites. You will find a full list of exhibiting artists on our website, www.mentmore-arts-festival.co.uk

In addition this year to our ever growing list of great local artists, we are delighted to include Peter Keegan who is an award-winning artist specialising in instant portraiture. Peter has appeared on national television and will be available for sittings on all three days.

In addition to viewing art in a variety of mediums by over 40 artists, a range of tasty refreshments will be available including a Pimms Bar, local real ale, teas, coffees and home made cakes. Live music will be performed in the Village Hall garden making this a truly great day out for all the family.

Children love the art corner where, under the inspiring guidance of one of our artists, they can express their inner Picasso. There is a Children's Art competition and last year we had over 40 entries with a presentation of prizes in several age categories.

As well as promoting local art, the Mentmore Arts Festival donates the funds raised to local charities and from the past five events a total of £25,000 has been donated. This year our chosen charities include the Florence Nightingale Hospice, St Mary's Church and other local charities.

The organisers look forward to welcoming you and your family on Saturday 24th, Sunday 25th and Monday 26th May, 11.00 am to 5.00 pm.

Venue: Mentmore Village Hall, St Mary's church and on the Village Green (LU7 0QF).

Date & time: May 24-26 Bank Holiday weekend Saturday to Monday 11 am to 5pm each day.

Admission: £2 per adult (including a catalogue). Children (under 16) attend free of charge.

Refreshments: Handmade cakes, sandwiches and beverages will be available in the Village Hall garden.

For more information visit www.mentmore-arts-festival.co.uk

Live Portrait sittings at Mentmore Arts festival in St Mary's Church

Come and watch an artist at work or have your own portrait done or buy this as a gift for someone special.

Peter Keegan Artist as seen on the BBC is at the Mentmore Arts Festival this year, May 24th, 25th and 26th.

The sittings take about 1½- 2 hours and if you look on Peter's website you will see lots of examples of his work. www.peterkeegan.co.uk

If you are interested or just want more information please contact Deborah Hall deborahhall58@yahoo.co.uk

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Ivinghoe Beacon May 2014

This is the time of year for annual reports. Looking back over the County Council year I would sum it up as being all about change.

Never have I been more inundated with so much information. Local, operational information embedded with the local, operational information for other far flung parts, and also with top level strategic information.

The County Council delivers services, often in partnerships with others, in the following areas:

- Transport and rights of way, some aspects of planning and environment including waste disposal
- Adult services, older people, some health and mental health
- Childrens services including education but not schools
- Community services such as libraries museums, and with others community safety
- Public health
- Economic Development

HS2 (high speed rail)

Much time, money and energy has gone in to the anti HS2 campaign this year and previous years, although all the judicial reviews brought by the 'M52' group of local authorities were lost. Recently the council voted unanimously to 'petition' for mitigation measures, which is really important, and where the County's legal and planning expertise can really make a difference.

Council Tax

All Councils have been permitted to raise council tax by up to 1.99%, without

going to prohibitively costly referendum, so the County Council decided to raise the tax to the maximum. My group made alliance with UKIP and voted against this. I strongly felt this was gesture politics, they raised the tax in tough times for people because they could, not because it was necessary.

By increasing the council tax they turned down £2M from the government in council tax freeze grant which would have been continued in future years, and took £3M from Buckinghamshire residents pockets instead. The differential, just under £1M, could have been found from unused contingencies, and the 'generous' reserves. The total County Council budget is more than £300M.

School Transport

The charges introduced two years ago are set to be increased. One of the largest 'savings' in the budget is from this area, with very few changes being made as a result of the recent consultations with parents.

Innovation and good practice

Since 2010 the county have cut a third of their budget without total collapse of services. Instead they have won new grant funding, for roads in particular, and made far reaching changes to how services are delivered. One approach is to 'demand manage' – prevent people from needing services in future. Three programmes led by the council but in partnership with others are proving very successful in this. Families First – working with 600 families identified as high service users, Prevention Matters – helping keep older people

independent, and a programme to reduce the impact of the welfare reforms on services and the users of those services.

Public Health

This year has been the first year that the Council has had full responsibility for the public health service. Although the Council was shortlisted by the Local Government Chronicle for how the service was being embedded in to service delivery, the Peer review singled the service out for criticism, saying it used its budget very much in the old medical model rather than on improving health outcomes for people through other services, such as education, economy and environment.

LGA (Local Government Association) Peer review

A recently completed review of BCC by a team officers and councillors from other similar local authorities, praised these innovative programmes, as well as the County's use of the Better Care Fund to provide joint community health and social care services.

Future Shape

In a programme called 'Future Shape' more and more functions will be transferred to independent or semi independent bodies like the new Bucks Learning Trust, Buckinghamshire Care, and Transport for Bucks, a new Museum Trust is being formed, a Country Park Trust. Not forgetting the majority of secondary schools are already Academies.

This new, indirect, method of service delivery, even if clear governance

structures are in place challenges the transparency and accountability of public services.

Roads and Potholes

Dissatisfaction with the state of the roads is constant. Over £500K has been spent in this division (Ivinghoe) on road repairs and improvements from the revenue budget, so that is in addition to any capital expenditure. Each member can nominate three roads for repair. I asked for a full breakdown for the county by member division and some of the biggest spend was in Ivinghoe, Wing, and Great Brickhill.

In January TfB repaired 4,431 potholes across the whole County, of which 2,381 were in need of urgent repair. In February all resources were diverted to flooding.

More money still has come in to the budget last week, for more piecemeal schemes, but at last the County are considering a more fundamental approach to upgrading the road network with capital spending – lessons learned from the success of the prevention programmes elsewhere I hope.

Grass Cutting comes under this area. Last year the verge cutting was distinctly unsatisfactory. This year the same contractors have been engaged for some reason, for 3 cuts outside village signs and 10 cuts within. Please be vigilant to see that happens. Parishes should consider taking this work on themselves.

Local Area Forum (LAF)

We have yet to see how our LAF will manage without Jackie Wesley to ensure things happen. She will be sorely missed and I thank her for the fantastic work

she has done for the three divisions of Wing, Great Brickhill and Ivinghoe. Paul Hodson has been assigned to our area and we will be working with him at the workshop now scheduled for April 26 in Edlesborough. We have also had a change in our Local Area Technician. We will miss Paul Foot, but his replacement Rob Anderson, is up for the challenge.

Community Leaders Fund

This year the fund was divided between the Ivinghoe Village centre, to complete the internal decorations, BBOWT at College Lake to support the publication and launch of Graham Atkins book on the creation of College Lake, and The Villager, Slapton's newsletter which is on line as well as on paper.

Beacon Villages Community Library

The library has had a successful year and has recently extended its opening hours to Wednesday morning. Many thanks to librarian Shelle, all the volunteers, the fudge makers, Frances who is running the DVD scheme, and the hard working committee

members under the leadership of Emma Huxley. I enjoy the time I can spend supporting them, and particularly want to mention how much I enjoyed the recent successful Library Lunch in Cheddington Village hall, and helping with BeaconLit Festival, running this year for a whole day on June 28th at Brookmead School.

Aylesbury Vale District Council

Equally important is the work I do on the district council. This year has been all about the impact of government changes to planning, and the inability of Aylesbury Vale to draw up a robust local plan. I will be covering this in the next edition of the Beacon.



Avril Davies

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

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Have your voice heard...

I wrote in my piece for the last Beacon magazine on planning matters. I still have ongoing issues with our planning appeal systems and am taking this up with AVDC. I hope to have more to report by the time of the next magazine.

Whilst I held a meeting at our offices with the leader and his deputy I picked up a report detailing our achievements over the last 5 years. Starting in 2009 the then leader set out his plans on various topics and it was good to see the results.

In all this report runs to some 50 pages and clearly demonstrates the achievements of your District Council over the last 5 years. Not only in attracting new business but also in transforming the way in which we work in order to drive down costs and increase efficiencies. Much of this concerns Aylesbury town itself. Whilst many of us in this part of the Vale travel to our County town rarely, development there is very important to us all. After the theatre opened there was an upsurge in retail letting and in particular the food offering. The night time economy is now quite vibrant and more development has been announced. There is an exhibition at present and details will be in the local press. A vibrant town centre will attract more businesses to settle across the Vale as a whole and hopefully reduce the amount of people travelling out of the area to work.

The Waterside theatre opened in 2010 and has since generated £2.3m added value to the economy. It has attracted 200,000 visitors every year.

The new Gateway council offices opened fully in 2012 and brought various office functions together for the first time. The covered open space has been used for various events including business shows and health commissioning presentations. Both this and the Oculus chamber are now used at vote counts locally and was

also used in the Police and Crime Commissioner election counts. The Oculus meeting chamber and other rooms have been hired out when not in use and have raised in excess of £100k.

The new recycling system has been rolled out to much acclaim and in fact won awards. A text alert system, covering this and other matters, was introduced at the same time.

AVDC have increased income from payroll services by exporting to 6 outside organisations including some neighbouring local authorities.

Arla have finally started operating from their Aston Clinton site and will eventually employ approximately 700 people directly. Naturally there will be many supporting industries serving this operation. I have already been there to work and can say that the whole operation is impressive in its scale and technology. There is an in house education facility for apprentices.

After the much heralded Enterprise and Innovation Centre in Partnership with Peter Jones of Dragons Den fame failed, AVDC have gone ahead with the development of this new education facility at the old canal basin site in Aylesbury. This promises to be a fantastic place for students of all ages to increase their educational and vocational qualifications.

Now we have a new leader whose background in business will, I feel, continue this great work. We are aware that the likelihood of a zero contribution to this authority from central government will happen in the next few years. This despite the fact that Buckinghamshire as a county is a net contributor to central government.

There is still much work to be done and I have confidence that we have a great team of politicians and civil servants dedicated to delivering the very best for Aylesbury Vale.

Chris Poll District Councillor, Edlesborough Ward (for Ivinghoe Aston)

NOTICE

Ivinghoe Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting 2014

The Clerk and members of Ivinghoe Parish Council warmly invite all parish residents to attend their Annual Parish Meeting on

Wednesday 21 May 2014

7.30pm

Ivinghoe Town Hall, High Street, Ivinghoe

Residents will have an opportunity to meet and chat to parish, district and county councillors as well as receive reports from these councillors

Refreshments will be provided

Your local Councillors:

Cllr Karen Groom

Chair of Ivinghoe Parish Council,
Planning and Liaison Cllr for:
Beacon Villages Library, Town
Hall, National Trust and Windmill,
Beacon Magazine, Lawn Hire
and Allotments
Add: Willowdene Farm,
Ivinghoe, LU7 9EA
Tel: 01296 668 326
Email: karengroom@hotmail.co.uk



Cllr Gloria Snowdon

Footpaths, Planning, Lawn and
Trees, Chiltern and Beacon Villages
Society, Beacon Villages Library,
Lawn Hire
Add: 5 Ladysmith,
Ivinghoe, LU7 9EE
Tel: 07946 884 416



Cllr Sheena Bexson

Planning, Allotments, Lawn and
Trees, Street Lights and Highways
(IA), Ivinghoe Aston Village Hall
Add: Crabtree Farmhouse,
Ivinghoe Aston, LU7 9DP
Tel: 01525 229 443
Email: sheenafoy@foyplanning.co.uk



Cllr Christabel Boersma

Vice Chair Ivinghoe Parish Council,
Planning Committee, Street Lights
and Highways, Schools, Local Area
Forum, Beacon Magazine and
Parish Council Website
Add: The Old Vicarage,
Church Road, Ivinghoe, LU7 9EH
Tel: 01296 661 532
Email: christabelboersma@hotmail.com



Cllr Carol Bennitt

Playgrounds, Footpaths (IA),
Local Area Forum, Ivinghoe Aston
Village Hall
Add: Beacon Farm Ivinghoe Aston
Tel: 01525 222 293
Email: carolbennitt@googlemail.com



Avril Davies

County and District Cllr
Ivinghoe Division
Add: The Old Bakehouse
Chequers Lane Pitstone LU7 9AG
Tel: 01296 668 152
Email: acdavies@buckscc.gov.uk



Chris Poll

District Cllr Eddlesborough Ward
Add: 43 Gooseacre
Cheddington LU7 0SR
Tel: 01296 663 737
Email: cpoll@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk



Cllr Peter Miles

Playgrounds, General Parish
Maintenance, Town Hall
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