

Ivinghoe Beacon Magazine

Issue 108

70 pence where sold



Inside this Issue:

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- RikklAbout
- Ageing Well Together



The **Beacon** Team...

he 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, Rob and Ann Cattle, Wendy Farrington, Keith Haynes – it couldn't be done without you!

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



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BEACON COPY AND ADVERT DEADLINES

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



May 2019 Edition – 4 April 2019 August 2019 Edition – 4 July 2019 November 2019 – 4 October 2019 February 2020 Edition – 4 January 2020

BEACON MAGAZINE ADVERTISING RATES:

1/4 page £58 per year 1/3 page £65 per year 1/2 page £95 per year Full page £130 per year

NB: Rates are for 4 editions.

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

Welcome from the Chair

irstly, can I wish everyone a Happy
New Year. I would like to take this
opportunity to say how much we
appreciate the work all the volunteers do
and the Councillors in keeping the parish
a great place to life, work and visit.

Ivinghoe Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan

Thank you to everybody who voted in December's referendum we are very pleased for the community that the Ivinghoe Neighbourhood Plan has been adopted by AVDC. The Neighbourhood Development Team worked hard for several years in preparing the plan and we would like to take the opportunity to thank them all.

Brownlow Bridge

Following studies by the Canal and Rivers Trust and Bucks County Council a weight limit of 18 tonnes has been proposed by Bucks CC. We understand members of the community have different opinions on this matter and we will keep you updated through our website.

Dog Mess

Sorry to write this again, but please remember to clear up after your dog. We have seen an increase in dog mess on the footpaths. There is a £1,000 fine for not clearing up after your dog and this is very anti-social

Ivinghoe Lawn Trees

Following the tree survey, we have undertaken the work recommended to preserve the welfare of the trees. If you're



Karen Groom, Chair, Ivinghoe Parish Council

interested in reading survey, we would be happy to share this with you.

Ivinghoe Parish Road Safety Scheme

Ivinghoe Parish Council will be having a joint meeting with Pitstone Parish Council and Bucks County Council to continue with the Ben Hamilton Bailey Project (Ivinghoe Parish Road Safety Scheme).

Local Area Forum Meeting

The Local Area Forum meeting is being held in Ivinghoe Town Hall at 7pm on 28th February, this is open to the public and a good opportunity for you to talk directly to your Bucks County Councillor, AVDC Councillor(s) and there will be a guest speaker. The LAF covers very local issues including traffic, social services, local public transport and other matters. The agenda will be on our website in early February.

Hedges

Within the parish overgrown hedges are becoming a problem. Please report to the Parish Council any hedges that need cutting back so that we can address this with the property owners.

Website

Please check the website for regular updates: **www.ivinghoepc.org.uk**

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BEACON COMMUNITY CHOIR

10TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

In order to celebrate the Beacon Community Choir's 10th anniversary year, they will be performing two exciting works by two well known and loved composers.

ZIMBE! COME SING THE SONGS OF AFRICA

Alexander L'Estrange's phenomenal fusion of traditional African song and jazz, Zimbe! is at times touching and moving, at other times funky and grooving but always incredibly up-lifting.

PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION

With Lyrics and Music newly written and Composed by John Cameron, Pictures at an Exhibition 2018 is a new take on the well-loved Mussorgsky Suite, taking inspiration from an eclectic choice of 19th, and 20th Century works. The variety of artistic styles is matched with a kaleidoscope of musical genres, from ethnic to rock, jazz to rap to a capella choir. As Mussorgsky's composition, some movements are linked by "Promenades", but this time jazz flavoured, with increasingly unsettling time signatures.

Both works will be performed by Beacon Community Choir, will feature the Children's Choir from Brookmead School, and will be accompanied by Jazz Quintet.

If you would like further details, please contact: judithclaresheridan@gmail.com

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

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

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





1st Ivinghoe and Pitstone Beavers (5 3/4 -8 year olds)

Monday 6-7pm with Tom as Watermill Coloney leader Tuesday 6-7pm with Jakki as Windmill Coloney leader

1st Ivinghoe and Pitstone Cubs (8-10 year olds)

Wednesday 7-8:30pm (Dan) Akela as Windmill Pack leader Thursday 6:30-8pm (Rob) Shere Khan as Watermill Pack leader

1st Ivinghoe and Pitstone Scouts (10 1/2 -14 1/2 year olds)

Friday 7:30-9pm Andrew as Troop Leader

For any enquiries or to join the waiting list please contact us

on ivinghoe.pitstone.scouts@gmail.com

Or our Group Scout Leader, Keith Steers on Keithsteers@gmail.com or 07899 696722

We are also raising money to rebuild the village a purpose built scout hut and are selling bricks to supporters for £10 each. Please email the above address for details.



Rainbows: Monday 4.30 – 5.30pm Pitstone Memorial Hall

Guider: Elaine Thorogood 01296 661540

Brownies: Monday 5.45 – 7.15pm Pitstone Memorial Hall

Guider: Elaine Thorogood 01296 661540

Girl Guides: Tuesday 7.00 – 8.30pm Millennium Room,

Pitstone Memorial Hall Guider: Yvonne Ashton 01296 660044

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

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Rikk IA bout

Nobody expects the IA inquisition

And, indeed, nobody was surprised by it this time. I know there are loads more interesting people out there, so please do let me know if you'd be willing, or can suggest a target. Rather than put this at the bottom like I usually do, let me ask now if you would tell me the sort of thing vou'd like to see in this column. A ladv who was walking past my gate reckons that the doggy doodah problem is on the up again. Cars still whizz by and shake the house. Father Christmas came, bless his cotton beard, for a 20th time. All the usual stuff. Happy things and unhappy things have happened in the village since we last met. But what should appear herein? With a quarterly publication, it can't be urgent stuff – the accompanying picture of IA's Christmas tree proves that. Facebook, or even talking, can deal with matters of the moment. Perhaps here we should be thinking about things we'd like to record for posterity, weighty or trivial. Even those who have been around forever won't be around forever, and unwritten memories will be lost. Incidentally, when walking back from photographing the tree, it occurred to me that one day, when we have fast broadband and other mod cons. the wires photographed will look incredibly dated. One day! On which subject, The Ivinghoe Aston Broadband Group is marching ahead with both Openreach and Voneus, to deliver multiple internet solutions to the village. At the time of writing, the Openreach project to deliver ultrafast broadband has formally started but it is likely to be a year before we are up and running. Voneus is continuing to search

for alternative routes to deliver its wireless internet solution.

Village Hall

Welcome to the Plymouth
Brethren Christian Church (www.
plymouthbrethrenchristianchurch.org),
which has bought the lvinghoe Aston
Village Hall. They will be carrying out some
minor improvements inside the hall, and
hope to start using it later in the year. They
will use the hall two or three times a week
for around an hour at a time for prayer
meetings, bible readings, etc. If anyone
would like more information please call
Barry Newton on 07825 798578 or email
barry.newton@mail.com.

We have a cunning plan

Just over four years ago, a call went out for volunteers to form a steering group to develop a neighbourhood plan. Why not? I thought. It will only take a year, maybe two, and it will help me get to know people and the parish. Fourteen others signed up, none of us having more than the faintest notion as to how to go about it, but willing to learn. The point of it all was to give the community a say in development, as an adopted neighbourhood plan has legal force alongside local (AVDC) and national plans. Having said that, higher level policies take precedence, as do regulations around protection of the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Green Belt, Sites of Special Scientific Interest and other designations, with which we are blessed (and I don't mean that sarcastically). Furthermore, it couldn't include highways, which are a County



matter. But that still left plenty of scope for influence.

The steering group's prime concern was that the plan, which runs to 2033, should reflect the majority wishes of the residents. There were several consultations and anybody who was paying attention had the chance to contribute views and ideas. National and local directives moved the goalposts on more than one occasion. delaying proceedings considerably and rendering some efforts obsolete but, 34 meetings and many sachets of Sheena's coffee and packets of her biscuits later, the plan materialised, went to referendum and passed with a majority that would have had Mrs May dancing to more Abba songs, heaven forbid.

So, for the sake of the aforementioned posterity, here is the result: for the plan 137; against 42; spoilt paper 1; turn-out 24.5%. Thus, it seems, the majority of the populous wasn't that bothered but, to quote the mission of the plan, our community will now be able to "grow sympathetically, conserving and enhancing the special character, landscape and historical qualities of the parish". Even though it took twice as long as expected, I really do think it was worth the effort. Thanks to those who voted and

participated in any way. Thanks also to AVDC, who gave great support throughout the process.

Inevitably, for a range of reasons, the committee gradually dwindled in size, ending up with four: the "New Tricks" team – and there's no doubting who played Sandra. I should add that, whereas many parish councils have bought in consultants to handle pretty much the whole shebang, we did it all ourselves, and the independent examiner liked the result. Thus, I will sum up the process in the words of Ol' Blue Eyes.

Regrets, we had a few
And maybe not too few to mention.
We did what we must do
And saw it through without exemption.
We planned each charted course
But this could not include the highway
And more, much more than this,
We did it our way.

Yes, there were times, we surely knew When we bit off more than we could chew But through it all, when there was doubt, We cursed a bit and spat it out. We faced it all and we stood tall And did it our way.

Rikki Harrington

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

Please get in touch if you have any news, views or ideas!

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Rikki Harrington

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WI News...

Ivinghoe & Pitstone Branch

e send our best wishes for the New Year to everyone!
Our year ended with a change of Committee and a new President. We also enjoyed a Christmas meal at the Kings Head. A huge thank you to Annie, George and Jonathan for making it such a memorable evening and to Annette for organising the event for us.

Our new President is Sue Eyres and along with a new Committee our W.I. will go onto new challenges and ideas over the next three years.

A date for your diary is our Valentine's Lunch on Sunday 10th February 2019 at the Town Hall. The cost is £12 for a two course meal. Please contact Sue Eyres

on **01296 709281** or Tessa Smith on **07702 598197** for tickets.

My thanks to all our wonderful W.I. ladies who helped make my three years truly memorable. 'A good W.I. is only as good as it's supportive members,' and I think we have a very good W.I.!

Please contact Sue Jones for any further information or if you are interested in joining the W.I. on **01296 660436**

Sue Jones, President



Enjoy Home cooked food at the

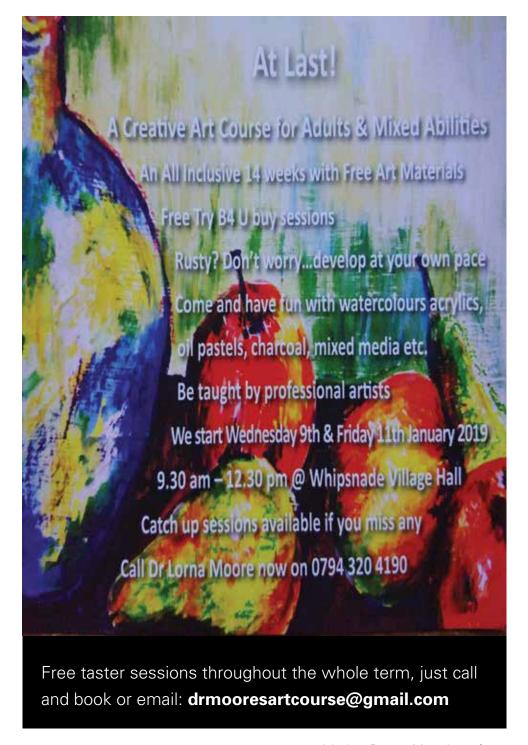
Waterside Café

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BANK HOLIDAYS
10am to 3pm

On request for group bookings we can offer seating for 36people. Email: café@pitstonewharf.co.uk <u>www.pitstonewharf.co.uk</u>



Ivinghoe Town Hall... News!

de still need new committee members to help run this valuable village asset. If you would like to join then please contact Andy Beezer on 01296 660960 or email andy.beezer@bardecode.com.

Ivinghoe Town Hall regular events:

The Town hall is an ideal location for family parties or weddings so don't forget to book early.

Also, have a look at the regular Weekly events held at the Ivinghoe Town Hall.

Why not try one of these regular weekly events?

Monday: 4pm – 8pm – **Ballet** Lisa (07834 281434)

Tuesday: 9.45am – 12pm – **Beacon Art** Marion (01296 668429)

Tuesday: 7pm – 8pm – **Zumba** Carolyn (07941 092673)

(07803-149490)

Tuesday: 8.15pm – 10.15pm – **Morris** 'New Moon' Dancers Martin Lindridge

Wednesday: 8:30am and 11am Natural Pilates Andrea (07855 138005)

Wednesday: 7pm – 8:30pm **Yoga** Sally Craig (07753-985155)

Thursday: 7.00pm – 10.00pm W.I. 2nd Thursday of each month Sue Jones (01296 660436)

NOTE: We have 'slot availability', on Monday AM's, Tuesday and Wednesday PM's, Thursday AM/PM's and Friday PM's.

Also, please try the web site at **www.ivinghoetownhall.org.uk** where you can see regular activities and search for Hall availability dates, and make a Booking enquiry on-line.

If you prefer to enquire in person then call Stephen Swinbank (The Booking Secretary) on **01296 660680**. Or emai: **spswinbank@gmail.com**

The Post Office and Shop direct telephone number is: **01296 660682**.

Andy Beezer





Historic user-friendly Hall with awards for Best Used and Managed Small Hall in the County. Sited in the centre of the Village, the Town Hall provides modern facilities for local groups, parties and fundraising activities.

IVINGHOE TOWN HALL

www.ivinghoetownhall.org

Planning a party or meeting?

Facilities include:

- Music options including a quality electronic piano
- Stage with specialised lighting, curtains & dressing room
- Kitchen with microwave, oven, hob, fridge, comprehensive crockery and glassware
- Chair lift/wheelchair for those with mobility problems.

If you would like further information, contact Stephen Swinbank on 01296 660680 or spswinbank@qmail.com

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 volunteers and run by Ford End Watermill 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 2019

Open between 2pm and 5pm on the following dates with milling demonstrations between 2-30pm and 4-30pm approx Water level permitting

Last Admission 4-30pm. Admission: Adults: £3 children (5–15) £1 31st March - Sunday • 22nd April-Easter Monday • 6th May-BH Monday 12th May-National Mills Sunday • 27th May-BH Monday

16th June - Sunday • 14th July - Sunday • 29th July - Sunday 11th August - Sunday • 26th August - BH Monday • 8th September - Sunday 13th October - Sunday as part of Tring's Own Apple Fayre.

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.



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Hub News...

ayhey for 2019! Perhaps now a little too late to wish everyone a Happy New Year, but certainly good wishes everyone – we can do it together, whatever 'it' is!

We continue to go from strength to strength as a venue and a destination, to hire for all sorts of flat access needs like celebration parties, fitness via Pilates, Boxercise and the grant funded Exercise Class, Music, Crochet and other creative workshops, Guides, clubs, meetings and exhibitions. Do remember that on the 2nd Saturday of the month, from 11.00am 'till 1.00pm, Table Top sales are now a regular feature of the Hub calendar - to combine with a breakfast or brunch Café choice..... brightening up those dull cold Pre-Spring Saturdays and making them something for local families to look forward to. Laden tables of affordable delight will only keep coming if you do too! After our sparkly, welcoming and successful Winterv Market in November, we had an outside Christmas Table Sale in December – a lovely morning, despite a bit of a cold wind - including a stall for 'Child Only Buyers' selling previously loved toys at a maximum of £1 per toy. the toys disappearing like sweets - to be wrapped up for siblings and friends.

Watch for the Spring Market which will feature a celebration of anything fresh, new born and sprouting – with an Easter Bunny Egg Hunt!

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Do recognise and show support for our Community Hub in the Old School Building - saved by this community, restored and offering its welcome within the wider communities midst for five whole years now! We are a Registered Charity and are completely independent and self-funded, yet committed to supporting the wellbeing of this wider rural community. We are happy to embrace offers of support in terms of time given to task tackling - or even becoming a Trustee, which is also fun when shared. The Hub celebrated its 5th Birthday by the designing, making and unveiling of a new PLAQUE for the Building this winter - so if you have not yet seen it, please feel free to join the rest of the community in beating a path to our cloakroom door and coming in to enjoy events in the hall or scrumptious refreshments in the cosy CuriosiTEA Rooms Café – run by our tenant Hayley Wesley and her new Team, who along with our volunteer back room trusty trustees, keep the Hub Lights burning bright - mostly seven days a week! To book space – see elsewhere within this magazine, or find us at www.

ivinghoeoldschool.com

Carol Tarrant. Chair of Trustees

Our Hub run by this community for all

HOW TO BOOK HUB SPACE: Booking space within the Hub is easy but needs to follow through by the Hirer who:

- 1. Approaches café team who man the Hub Diary 7 days a week at café counter or the Hirer approaches Trustee team via phone 01296-661666 or email lvinghoeoldschoolcommunityhub@btconnect.com Half space £9/£7 per hour or whole hall £12/£10 per hour. (or an element of the IT Room after negotiation)
- 2. The process is explained by obtaining from either source a **vital Booking Form** which includes the extra special options bookable, the insurance cover and awareness of the hirers cleaning up obligations to be filled in and returned within 7 days and the fee paid if not then no later than 3 days before the date booked.
- 3. By this returned form and fee, the booking is made **formal** and then penned into diary which means it cannot be over-ridden or double booked This booking then translates to our 'digital diary' graphically charted monthly by Bob to ensure visual awareness of all bookings- posted on Facebook Page, web-site and email data-base, hard copy on Notice Board for Public viewing.

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Join in with your DIY skills please! You are all so welcome to join in!

LED street light replacement

vinghoe Parish Council has started on a programme to replace all our existing streetlights with new LED ones.

This has come about as the one last remaining manufacturer of the existing orange sodium light bulbs that we currently use will cease production by April 2020 and after that date we will not be able to maintain our existing lights.

Other benefits include a saving in the cost of energy used as well as helping the environment.

Ivinghoe Parish Council are responsible for 29 streetlights in Ivinghoe, Ivinghoe Aston, Ford End and Great Gap. There are a further 10 or so that are the responsibility of Bucks CC.

This article only refers to the Ivinghoe PC lights and the ones owned by Bucks County Council are subject to a separate program of works.

The work is planned to be completed before the April 2020 deadline. The first phase of the work will start in February 2019 and residents may see our contractors around the area doing





physical checks on all our streetlights. They will be checking for electrical safety as well as physical condition. Subject to their report a decision will be made as to what will be required for each individual street light, which could include

- A simple replacement bulb
- A completely new light head
- A new or replacement streetlight
- Replacement ornate work
 It is our intention to only upgrade or replace the existing streetlights.

Further information will be made available through the Parish Council website and in future editions of The Beacon

Ivinghoe Parish Council



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PITSTONE VILLAGE HEALTH CENTRE

YARDLEY AVENUE, PITSTONE, LEIGHTON BUZZARD, BEDS, LU7 9BE 01525 223211

www.pitstonesurgery.co.uk

DR J R BELL, DR HEATHER WHITE, DR STEPHANIE JOHNSTON, DR KIRSTEN RIEMER, DR CHARLOTTE FISHER, DR LEE MITCHELL, & DR SHIV KORIA

We welcome patients from Marsworth & Cheddington as well as the 'Ivinghoes' and Pitstone including Castlemead estate.

We also offer a medication dispensing service to our patients who live in Cheddington and surrounding villages.

We are a dispensing practice offering a full range of health services at our surgery including Family planning, Midwifery, In-house blood tests, Travel and Minor surgery, Weekly visiting hearing aid service and ear wax microsuction.

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E-mail: info@jameschadburn.com

FIRST THURSDAY FRIENDS

Friendly chat, board games for those who wish and a choice of cake with endless tea or coffee at just £2.

ALL WELCOME

On the first Thursday of each month at 2p.m. in the Millennium Room at Pitstone Memorial Hall

We plan to reintroduce film shows on alternate months as soon as possible.

Want more information? 01296 668005



BELLOWS MILL EATON BRAY

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Small meeting room.

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St Mary's Church, Ivinghoe major stonework repairs needed to west window and clerestory walls

fter a successful Christmas season at St. Mary's Church in Ivinghoe with very good attendances at the many services and a wedding held over the Christmas period, and also lots of use of the church by the local community such as the Beacon Community Choir Christmas concert, the W.I. Carol Service, the Windmill Pre-School Christmas production and the visit by Ivinghoe and Pitstone childminders group, we start the New Year faced with the reality of needing major stonework repairs during 2019.

Our architect has identified stonework repairs to the west window and repairs to its stained glass, and also stonework repairs round both the north-side and south-side clerestory windows, as being urgently needed in 2019. She is in the process of drawing up detailed plans so that we can seek more accurate estimates from stonework repairers, but



the cost is likely to be at least £60,000. Some photos showing the work required are displayed on a board just to the left as you enter the church and anybody who is interested is welcome to look at these. This vital repair work will in fact be another stage in the long process of restoration of the village church (and many villagers will remember the nave roof being covered in scaffolding during late 2011/ early 2012 while the nave roof had major, and very effective, attention).

The west window is the window which everybody sees as they walk or drive up Ivinghoe High Street from Pitstone and it overlooks the War Memorial at the entrance to the churchyard, so no villager from Ivinghoe or Pitstone will miss the repairs when they start, it is hoped, in late-2019. In the meantime we have to raise a lot of money to get this urgent work done! What is clear is that whether for religious or community or historic building reasons, preserving in good order this Grade One listed mediaeval building for the future is vital.

David Green 01296 668648



Ivinghoe & Pitstone Chapel Fellowship

We are a small and friendly group of local Christians who meet to worship God in a fairly informal way, in song, in prayer, and with messages brought by a variety of local preachers. We meet on Sunday mornings at 10.30am in the Millennium Room at Pitstone Memorial Hall for services that last about an hour, followed by social chat over a cup of tea or coffee.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Why not come and join us?

FIRST THURSDAY FRIENDS

Come and enjoy a family film on the first Thursday of each month.

Time 2pm (approx) 4.15pm in the millennium room

INTERESTED?

If you would like more information please call:

01296 668005

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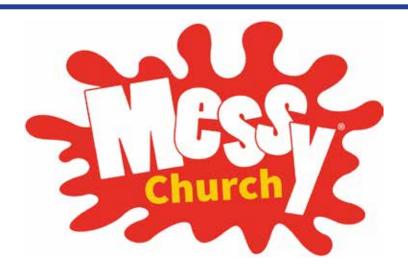
IVINGHOE HAND-BELLS

We have a beginners group meeting fortnightly in the church ringing the beautiful hand-bells that belong to St. Mary's Church Ivinghoe.

If you missed the taster evening, and would like to have a go, or see and hear what happens it is not too late so please get in touch or come along to a Monday evening meeting. We have fun, a break for refreshments and experience the very special sound of our 139 year old bells.

Alex Wynne **01296 668336**





Dates for 2019

17th March
19th May
21st July
15th September
8th December

From 2.30-4pm at St. Mary's
Ivinghoe
Come and join us!
For more details contact Sandra
on: 01296 668648

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WORLD PREMIERE!!

BEACON COMMUNITY CHOIR

PERFORM A NEW PIECE BY JOHN CAMERON WITH

BROOKMEAD SCHOOL CHOIR BEACON CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

With lyrics and music newly written and composed by John Cameron, Pictures at an Exhibition 2018 is a new take on the well-loved Mussorgsky Suite, but this time taking inspiration from an eclectic choice of more contemporary works. These cover a panoply of styles ranging from Abstract Expressionism, to Surrealism, Oriental to Op-Art to Graffiti Art, with male and female artists from Europe, the Americas and Asia. And of course the huge difference is that they are choral works, with some lyrics reflecting the feeling of the picture and others telling a back-story. The variety of artistic styles is matched with a kaleidoscope of musical genres, from ethnic to rock, jazz to rap to acapella choir. A children's choir adds to the textures, singing, providing vocal sound effects, even rapping at times. As with the Mussorgsky, some movements are linked by "Promenades", but this time they are jazz flavoured, with increasingly unsettling time signatures.

The performance will be accompanied by a visual display using film, stills and animation of the pictures selected.

Pictures at an Exhibition 2018 will be complemented by a performance of John's universally appealing "Kes Suite" woven from themes from his 1969 score.

THURSDAY 28TH MARCH @ BROOKMEAD SCHOOL SATURDAY 30TH MARCH @ ST MARY'S IVINGHOE

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Ivinghoe Allotments

Tales from the **Plot**



irstly, I do hope you all had a very good Christmas and I wish you a very happy and healthy New Year. I visited my plot on the morning of the 1st January 2019 as I had not been up for a few weeks due to one reason or another, mainly because it has been too wet, and on removing the black plastic from the beds I was pleasantly surprised at how weed free the ground was making it very workable.

Normally, this time of year is a very quiet time on the plot. However, if you have a greenhouse or electric propagators then they can be put to use. Produce like tomatoes, leeks and onions for exhibiting can be sown. A small paraffin heater can create sufficient heat in your average sized greenhouse. Alternatively, you can place your seeded plants on a window sill in your home.

This winter has been overall quite pleasant (so far!). Some weeks have been topsy-turvy – it was 85f at 10am on the 1st of January and even the daffodils are starting to poke through in some areas. According to the Royal Horticultural Society it has been going on for a few



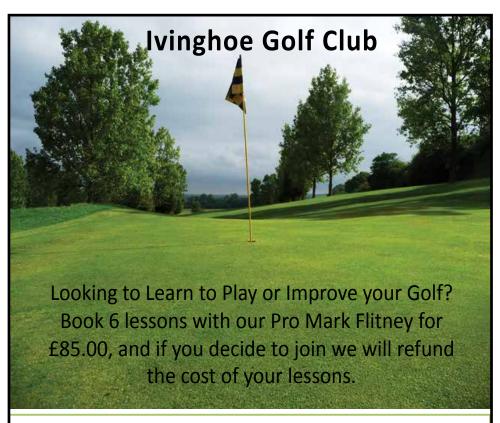
years and even song thrushes have been heard in the woods which normally occurs in March. The variable weather, cold snaps, warm snaps is causing chaos for Mother Nature. Plants do not have calendars and react to their environment. If you cast your mind back to last year we were in the grip of a deep freeze!

Unfortunately, we have lost two couples from our site for various reasons – they were always pleasant and friendly and I understand that the plots have already been taken up.

May I wish plot holders and gardeners alike a very good growing season in 2019. If any reader is interested in taking on an allotment then please contact Bridget Knight (clerk to the Parish Council). Just think when you buy your seed potatoes, onion sets and shallots you will also be able to buy your Easter Eggs! How ridiculous! But look on the bright side you will only have one journey to make – save petrol, save time!

Mind how you go...
Ernie Ivinghoe Allotmenteer





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Ivinghoe Golf Club, Wellcroft, Ivinghoe, Nr. Leighton Buzzard, Beds, LU7 9EF

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- Tree Surgery & Felling
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Brookmead School is a Foundation Primary School for children aged 4 - 11 and serves the communities of lvinghoe, 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

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Ashridge Ramblings – Battle's over...

ith Ashridge itself, and the people of the surrounding parishes, having played vital roles in both world wars, it was appropriate to commemorate the centenary of the First World War armistice with an event on Ashridge land. Thus, on the evening of 11th November, crowds gathered in the Beacon car park, where they joined the Beacon Community Choir singing well-known wartime songs, and enjoyed refreshments provided by the Brownlow Café team.

The more energetic set off to the Beacon on a trail that passed painted stones commemorating locals who lost their lives in battle. At the summit, a bugler played the Last Post, and a "Tribute to the Millions" was read there and in the car park, followed by a minute's silence. At 7pm, a beacon was lit. It could be seen from miles around, including by those who remained in the car park to enjoy more singing. Far away, the beacon on Dunstable Downs was clearly visible and throughout the Country similar events were taking place. Slowly, a long, impressive snake of torches, carried by hundreds of people, descended to the car park.

The event, conceived by the National Trust's Emily Smith, was a fitting, poignant and atmospheric act of remembrance, researched and crafted to perfection by many staff and volunteers.

Rikki Harrington







www.mbbka.org.uk

Your HELP! Honey Bee Swarms Are Very Important

Following the long winter of 2017-2018 and the late Spring, colonies of honeybees are under tremendous stress. In the wild the survival chance of a honeybee swarm is about 20%. Collected, and housed in a hive by a beekeeper, the survival rate triples. The MBBKA needs the help of everyone in the area to ensure we collect as many swarms this year as possible. If you see a swarm of bees please contact the MBKA on the swarm-line number below. We will send a beekeeper to collect the swarm and provide it with a new home.

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 around 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. Before Honey Bees swarm they gorge themselves with honey before leaving the hive. This makes it very hard for them to double over and sting.



What Causes Honey Bees to Swarm: Honey Bees have a natural instinct to create new colonies by swarming. 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 number of swarms in a particular year. MBBKA members attended nearly 100 calls to swarms last year and are on standby to collect throughout our area in 2018

If You See a Swarm: The collection of swarms an important part of the work of bee keepers. You should never interfere with a swarm and pest control companies will not kill a swarm unless absolutely necessary.

Please contact:

MBBKA Swarm Hotline 07770370132

Brian Bush – Mid Bucks Beekeepers and BBKA Swarm Officer BBKA British Bee Keepers Association website http://www.bbka.org.uk



www.bbka.org.uk

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Pitstone & Ivinghoe Girls Football Teams

n December 19 members of the Pitstone & Ivinghoe U12 and U14 Girls Football Teams had a special training session run by Charlotte Phillips. Charlotte is a professional football coach who works as Director of Football in Boston, USA. Charlotte attended Cheddington and Tring Schools, undertook her degree at Loughborough University and worked previously for Arsenal FC setting up their academy in Bahrain before moving to the USA.

Charlotte's enthusiasm and professional coaching skills encouraged the girls and taught them some new skills, the players enjoyed meeting Charlotte and hearing about her career. The girls had great fun and we plan to have future training sessions with Charlotte when she's back in the UK.



If you fancy joining the football teams, we have FA qualified coaches and we welcome all abilities from school years 6-7 or 8-9. We play or matches locally on Saturday's and train mid-week. Come along to meet new friends, keep fit and have fun.

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Any questions? Contact Abi or Olivia: bouncepitstone@gmail.com



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	7.00pm	Cheddington Village Hall	Dance Mixx
Tuesday	9.30am	Cheddington Village Hall	Dance Mixx
	6.00pm	Wilstone Village Hall	Lo
	7.30pm	Goldfield School, Tring	Dance Mixx
Wednesday	9.30am	Wilstone Village Hall	Strength45
	11,30am	Nora Grace Hall, Tring	Lo
	7.30pm	Pitstone Memorial Hall	Express
	8.00pm	Pitstone Memorial Hall	Strength45
Thursday	9.45am	Wilstone Village Hall	Lo
	7.30pm	Goldfield School, Tring	Dance Mixx
Friday	9.45am	Wilstone Village Hall	Dance Mixx
Saturday	9.30am	Wilstone Village Hall	Dance Mixx

www.jazzercise.net/uk-aylesbury/tring-wilstone/
Contact Keri on 07900 987230 or email jazzercisebbh@jazzercise.net





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Ageing well together campaign

et's age well together We want to help residents like you to live long, happy and healthy lives. That's why we're working with Active Bucks and other partners to encourage older residents across Buckinghamshire to try a new physical activity or sport session.

Keeping active as we age is really important for our physical and mental health. It can help us keep up with the grandkids, provide a way to regularly see friends, ensure our minds stay sharp by learning new skills and ward off many preventable diseases.

Current guidelines recommend that people aged 65 and over should aim to be moderately active for 150 minutes each week, that means an activity which raises your heart rate and makes you breathe faster and feel warmer.

Government recommendations also include two sessions of activity each week which strengthens the major muscles, like digging the garden, Pilates or carrying heavy shopping bags.

There are hundreds of activities taking place across the county to help you achieve these guidelines, and through Active Bucks, your first session is free.

Try your hand at activities like nordic walking, gym, swimming, dance, martial arts, badminton, tennis, and yoga.

lan 67, a retired graphic designer from Steeple Claydon tried Nordic Walking last year and has been hooked ever since.

"From the first session in the cold wind and pouring rain, I loved it! I knew it was doing me good. I feel fitter than I have



done for years, I have less aches and pains and I have lost significant weight without any change to my diet. I am racing up hills and inclines where before I would be puffing and panting. It feels exhilarating to get the heart rate up."

According to lan, it's the social which makes it enjoyable with feeling fitter and healthier an added bonus. However, with only two other men in the group, lan is keen to get more men involved.

"It was the social thing more than anything; we have grown together as a group of people. We didn't know each other before and now we all look forward to the session. My wife Val will tell you that I get really annoyed if I have to miss a session of this. So the big message as far as I'm concerned is lets get more men doing it."

Like lan, you can feel the social and physical benefits of being more active. Sign up for an activity session today.

www.activebucks.co.uk



Keeping active is a fantastic way to make new friends and help keep our health in check.

Active Bucks has a collection of fun, introductory physical activity sessions available to help us age well together.

For hundreds of activities to keep fit and healthy visit:

www.activebucks.co.uk or call 01296 585842

Councillor News from **Anne Wight**

■ hope everyone had a very happy Christmas and I wish all my residents all the best for the coming year.

Local Government Reorganisation

As you may have heard, Buckinghamshire County Council and all four district councils are going to be reorganized into a single unitary authority. While there are quite a few details to be finalized. the new council will be simpler, better value and more local to Buckinghamshire communities than the current two-tier system, ultimately moving to a more sustainable future for the county. It is envisaged that services which complement one another but are currently divided between the district and county councils such as bin collections, waste disposal, planning and roads, will be brought together under the single unitary council, resulting in more efficient, joined-up services for residents.

The new council will take effect in April 2020, with elections of councillors to follow in May 2020. The district council elections, which were due to take place in May 2019, will be delayed by a year, while county councillors will serve a 3 year term instead of the usual 4 year term to allow for May 2020 elections. I hope to be able to provide further information for my residents on these developments as more details emerge over the coming months.



Anne Wight Bucks County Councillor Ivinahoe Division



Remembrance Sunday

I hope everyone was able to participate in some of the many local events to commemorate the Centenary of the Armistice. I was deeply honoured to have been asked to lay the wreaths in Ivinghoe and Pitstone this year to remember the Fallen of Buckinghamshire. It was a moving tribute to all those who laid down their lives in wars and conflicts, and especially to those who made the ultimate sacrifice in the Great War. The photo opposite

includes (from left to right) the lyinghoe Parish Councillors Claire Bamber and Karen Groom, me next to Major Owen Wynne of the Welsh Guards, Ivinghoe Parish Councillor Anna Stone and Ivinghoe Parish Clerk Bridget Knight.

Anne Wight



Dear Dog Walkers of the Parish The walks round here are nice, we think you'll all agree, And many people comment, on the views being so pretty. But sometimes on the path you walk, you look and you do see, A squidgy thing you stepped on, is something that's sh***v. So we kindly ask you, when Rover needs a poop, You make a little effort; you simply bend and scoop, And have a thought for fellow (wo)man, do not commit a sin, You know you need to pick it up, and put it in the bin! (The Dog Warden can be contacted on 01296 555605)

Ivinghoe Beacon Magazine

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Your local **Councillors**:

Cllr Karen Groom

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Add: Willowdene Farm, Ivinghoe, LU7 9EA Tel: 01296 668326 or Mob: 07882 3562411 Email: karengroom@hotmail.co.uk



Cllr Pat Roach

Areas of Responsibility: Health, Community Impact Bucks Liaison, General Parish Maintenance, Lawn and Trees. Local Area Forum Add: Church View, Church Road, Ivinghoe LU7 9EU Tel: 01296 668482 Email: p.g.roach@hotmail.com



CIIr Claire Bamber

Areas of Responsibility: Conservation Area, Human Resources (Clerks employment and training), IPC Website and Social Media (inc Facebook and Twitter). Planning Sub-Committee, Police Liaison, Streets, Street Lights and Highways (inc Traffic Calming), Grants and Fundraising Add: Bruce Grove House, Great Gap. Ivinghoe. LU7 9DZ Tel: 01296 668134 or Mob: 07711 107 114

Email: claire.bamber@btinternet.com



Mrs Bridget Knight

Clerk to Ivinghoe Parish Council Add: Parish Office, Ivinghoe Town Hall, High Street, Ivinghoe, Bucks LU7 9EP Tel: 07960 605393 Email: ivinghoeparishclerk@gmail.com



CIIr Andrew Dicker

Areas of Responsibility: Allotments, Finance Add: The Old House, 38 Station Road, Ivinghoe, LU7 9EB. Tel: 01296 668444

Email: andrew.dicker31@gmail.com



Cllr Anne Wight

Bucks County Councillor Ivinghoe Division Add: 31 Redwood Drive, Wing, LU7 0TA Tel: 01296 682955 Email: awight@buckscc.gov.uk



Cllr Stephen Lott

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



Cllr Sandra Jenkins Tel: 01296 668587

Email: sjenkins@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk



Cllr Anna Stone

Areas of Responsibility: Education, Footpaths and Bridleways, Town Hall Committee, Grants and Fundraising Add: Willowdene Farm, Ivinghoe, LU7 9EA Tel: 01296 668326

Email: annastone92@hotmail.co.uk



Cllr Chris Poll

District Cllr Edlesborough Ward Add: 43 Gooseacre, Cheddington LU7 OSR Tel: 01296 663 737 Email: cpoll@avlesburvvaledc.gov.uk



Cllr Sheena Bexson

Areas of Responsibility: Community Impact Bucks Liaison, Planning sub-committee, Play Areas (Ivinghoe Aston & Ivinghoe), Streets, Street Lights and Highways (inc Traffic

Email: SBexson@automotive-property.com



Cllr Derek J Town Tel: 01296 661637 Email: dvtown@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk



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