



# Ivinghoe Beacon Magazine

Issue 124 70 pence where sold



## Inside this Issue:

- Mentmore Arts Festival
- Tribute to the Late Christine Harrison
- Repair Cafe



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 all the distributors across the parish, the Ivinghoe Beacon Magazine wouldn't happen without you!

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



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## BEACON COPY AND ADVERT DEADLINES

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



August 2023 Edition – 4 July 2023  
November 2023 – 4 October 2023  
February 2024 Edition – 4 January 2024  
May 2024 Edition – 4 April 2024

# Welcome from the Chair

## Welcome to the May issue of the Ivinghoe Beacon Magazine.

Firstly I would like to mention the late Mrs Lorna Harvey, who has recently passed away. Lorna was Ivinghoe Parish Clerk for many years and her work made a difference within the community and her contribution over the years to the parish was greatly appreciated. On behalf of the Parish I would like to send condolences to Lorna's family.

## Ivinghoe Parish Annual Meetings – 15th May 2023

The annual meetings will be held on Monday 15th May 2023 in Ivinghoe Town Hall at 7pm. During the evening there will be an opportunity to talk to both Ivinghoe and Buckinghamshire Councillors on local matters and future plans, and an ideal opportunity to raise any ideas you may have or any issues you would like to highlight. Refreshments will be freely available, and we do hope you attend this sociable evening.

## Ivinghoe Aston Litter Picking

Thank you to Alex Razak and the team for sterling work collecting litter and for planting up of the Bus stop lay-by at the Beacon.

## HM The King Charles III Coronation

Ivinghoe Parish Council will be commemorating the event by placing a plaque in Ivinghoe.



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

## Ivinghoe Aston Play Area Improvements

Ivinghoe Aston play area has a new accessible entrance and pathway creating wheelchair and pushchair access to the play equipment. The project was partly funded by the Wing and Ivinghoe Community Board of Buckinghamshire Council.



## Ivinghoe Fete and Beaconlit Festival

We are delighted the Ivinghoe Fete and Beaconlit Festival are both planned for the 8th July.

As always, please follow us on **Facebook** and the website [www.ivinghoepc.org.uk](http://www.ivinghoepc.org.uk) for news alerts and updates for the parish.

**Karen Groom**

## Calling all Ivinghoe and Ivinghoe Aston Ex-Pats



We know from our website stats that the online version of the Beacon Magazine is read in many far flung places, for example Australia, Canada, USA, mainland Europe and numerous places around the UK.

We are looking to see if any of our ex-pats have any interesting articles that they may want to impart with the readership of the Beacon Magazine. Could be anything such as:

- Articles about places you now live
- Memories of Ivinghoe and Ivinghoe Aston
- Family ties with Ivinghoe and Ivinghoe Aston

Articles can be submitted via the our website [www.ivinghoe.org.uk](http://www.ivinghoe.org.uk) or via email to the editor at [ivinghoeparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:ivinghoeparishclerk@gmail.com)

## Are you struggling with food, fuel, bills and finances?



If you or your family are in need of support, on low income or experiencing a financial emergency or crisis, find out what help is available.

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### Get in touch

- 📍 [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/helping-hand](http://buckinghamshire.gov.uk/helping-hand)
- ☎ 01296 531 151

Our phone lines are open:

- Monday to Thursday (9am - 5.30pm)
- Friday (9am - 5pm)

In an emergency our out-of-hours team can be contacted on 0800 999 7677.



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# Ivinghoe Town Hall & Beacon Villages Community Library

(Charity No. 300287)

## Greetings from your Town Hall Management Committee!

In 2023 we will be making the Library available for small meetings of up to 6 people, at a rate of £10 per hour. For bookings please contact the Library direct.

We are considering setting up a monthly play reading group to make use of the library service's little used cache of scripts. Anyone interested please leave your email address at the Library, together with any preference for daytime, evening or weekend meetings.

The County library service has an online survey of users to find out what the library service means to them. There are paper copies of the survey available in the library for visitors to complete anonymously, so we can find out how our library can meet the needs of 21st Century life.

## Ivinghoe Town Hall – Regular Classes March 2023:

**Monday:** 3.30pm – 6.30pm – **Ballet**  
Lisa Sabitini (07834 281434)

**Monday:** 6.45pm – 9.30pm – **Parish Council** (First Monday each month)  
Bridget Knight (07960 605393)

**Tuesday:** 10am – 12 noon – **Beacon Art Group** Marion Jackson (01296 668429)

**Tuesday:** 6.45pm – 8.15pm – **Zumba**  
Carolyn Syme (07941 092673)

**Tuesday:** 8.15pm – 10.15pm –  
**New Moon Morris** Daryl Jones  
(07946 150380)

**Wednesday:** 9.15am – 10.15am **Pilates**  
Andrea Hall (07855 138005)

**Thursday:** 7.00pm – 10.00pm  
**W.I.** (Second Thursday of each month)  
Annette Hutchinson (01296 6621????)

To hire Ivinghoe Town Hall, contact:  
Julie Fretwell **07469 016745** or email:  
**ivinghoetownhallbookings@gmail.com**  
Our website: **www.ivinghoetownhall.org.uk** where you can see Hall availability dates.

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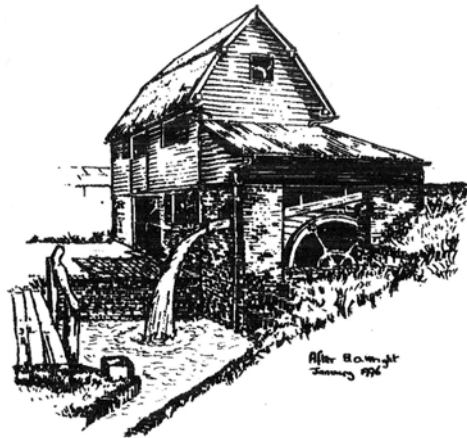
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- Go to [www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk](http://www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk)  
Click on the 'download' icon

This opens a new dialogue 'install this website as an app on your Apps screen'

*May be slightly different between iPhone and Android*

## Ford End Watermill



Ford End Watermill, for those not familiar with it, is a small farm mill, which has produced flour and animal feed for centuries. On Station Road, just a short distance from the centre of Ivinghoe, it is run today entirely by volunteers. The mill is fully operational and we mill at each opening to the public. Our wholemeal flour is much sought after.

### Would you like to join our team of volunteers?

We would welcome volunteers who can

- help maintain the mill through the Autumn, Winter and Spring in readiness for our openings.
- help us welcome our visitors as they arrive for one of our openings each Summer – on Sundays and Bank Holidays; and/or
- guide visitors around the mill describing how we use the power of water from our millpond on the Whistle Brook to drive our waterwheel, our gears and our millstones to produce our sought-after wholemeal flour.

There are opportunities for individuals with a variety of skills. So whether your preference is to meet our visitors, to explain all about the mill to visitors or to get to grips with the mill building and its machinery – the choice is yours. We can provide you with the necessary training and we have all the relevant information about the mill – how it works, its history and how it has been restored.

We are a friendly group. All of us are committed to conserving this priceless resource for future generations. We can provide new volunteers with the satisfaction that comes from showing how the sustainable power of water can be used to produce flour for the baking of bread.

If you are interested, please telephone:

**John Wallis** on **01296 661997**;  
**Chris Tugby** on **01442 825421**; or  
**Stephen Booth** on **01296 661745**.

You can also contact us by email at [millman@fordendwatermill.co.uk](mailto:millman@fordendwatermill.co.uk)

**Stephen Booth**, Chairman,  
 Ford End Watermill Society

## Tribute to the late Christine Harrison



Christine (Chris) Harrison died on the 26th January this year at Stoke Mandeville Hospital.

She had lived in Wellcroft in Ivinghoe for nearly fifty years with husband Bert and her three son's, Michael, Roy and Lee.

She had worked at the Tunnel Cement canteen, Brookmead School, The Post Office in Ivinghoe and Pitstone Surgery.

When the funeral was held on the 28th February at Bierton Crematorium we were expecting about 70 people.

We were overwhelmed with the fact 220 actually turned up and many of them old friends and acquaintances from the village.

We took a collection on the day for Cancer Research UK and raised £800 in her memory.

Her ashes were laid to rest in Saint Mary's church yard on what would have been her 77th birthday in March.

**Mike Harrison**



## Collection for Ukraine

Thank you for the huge response to my request for food and sanitary items to help those affected by the conflict in Ukraine. I am humbled that so many people have given so much; **thank you to each and every one of you.**

I am pleased to say that your contributions have already arrived in Kyiv and are being distributed by Hope and Aid Direct's trusted charity partner there, Ukraine on Palms. ([www.hopeandaiddirect.org.uk](http://www.hopeandaiddirect.org.uk); Charitable Foundation "Ukraine on Palms")

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank the many people who knit or crochet squares for blankets, these make such a big difference, both by keeping people warm and knowing we are caring for them.

I shall continue to collect aid, since there is no end in sight to the need in Ukraine. If you'd like any more information, please get in touch.

On behalf of the people of Ukraine I send you my heartfelt thanks.

**Janet Page**

**07714 294486/01296 668341**

# Ivinghoe Old School Community Hub

Looking for a community space?

Ivinghoe Old School Community Hub has a large hall for hire for private events, clubs, classes or simply for a get-together - the room can be divided into two smaller rooms.

Enquire via email:  
[secretary@ivinghoehub.co.uk](mailto:secretary@ivinghoehub.co.uk)





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# The vllAge Hack

Back at last! I had wanted to pop in a little piece on who used to live in the village and where. Just thought I would be a nice bit of village history and the most obvious route (or so I thought) was via old census records. So, for the modest investment of £11.30 I bought a copy of the Buckinghamshire census records for 1851 thinking 'ahaa, all I have to do is search for Ivinghoe Aston and hey presto...'. Until that is I find out after much research that whilst 1851 was the first census that recorded house addresses alongside names, that did not apply to hamlets like Ivinghoe Aston. So, not a single person on the 1851 census can be easily linked to a specific home in the village. I can though search and find individuals that were born in the village but not where they lived. Back to the drawing board.

## Detectorists

Just 9 years behind its release my wife and I have recently binged watched the very enjoyable TV series Detectorists which led me to wondering what little treasures have been discovered in our village. I touched on this some time ago on the IA Facebook page and with a few quick further conversations and a rummage in our own 'lets dump it here' drawer these have turned up in village gardens. In the first picture the item of interest is the left most. Could it be some



form of tool? The middle one is of two spherical balls, the larger appears to be non-metallic (its not magnetic for a start) but very hard whilst the smaller one is about the size of a musket ball. The last picture is from my garden and is metallic and quite intricate.

## Ivinghoe and Pitstone Repair Cafe

Hats off to Alex Razak for her great idea and to the team of willing volunteers in launching the Ivinghoe and Pitstone Repair Cafe which I hope by now all will be aware of. Basically if you have any items you would like to have repaired why not pop along to repair cafe which is located in Pitstone Pavilion once a month on a Saturday. Keep your eyes peeled for dates either via village emails or on the Facebook page.



## Time to Boogie



That wonderful trio of ladies Sam, Sarah and Sharon (plus their willing helpers) have gone and done it again and organised another evening a merriment for one and all to enjoy.

Saturday 22nd July at 7pm will see 'Saturday Night at the Oscars' take place on Ivinghoe Aston Village Green.

Entertainment will be provided by the ever popular McVicar and DJ Steve Kite. There's a fully stocked bar and hog roast stand or you are welcome to bring your own food.

Dress up for the occasion because there are competitions for the best dressed person and best dressed table. ▶



Tickets are available at £25 per person from Sam, Sarah or Sharon or from your friendly local The Village Swan (and whilst you're there getting your tickets why not have a tippie).

If it hasn't happened by the time you read this then it's sure to be a fun night. Whats not to enjoy!

### Scourge of the Village

As you will all know the usual has been happening, pile of dumped rubbish, speeding motorists and those ruddy

potholes have been breeding again. As always keep your eyes open and keep reporting. Word of caution though, don't be tempted to tidy up any fly tipping or ironically you could be the one in trouble.

No doubt there will have been a few litter picks going on and more to come.

If anyone would like to see something mentioned or an article submitted in the villAge hack then please let me know.

**Phil Jones**  
**pajones58@googlemail.com**



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## WI News...

# Ivinghoe & Pitstone Women's Institute



Our first meeting of the year was attended by around 20 members who braved the blustery wind and rain to meet in Ivinghoe Town Hall. Our speaker was Roger Mason who gave an informative talk about "Prime Ministers' Extra Marital Affairs 1721 – 1945. We heard about Gladstone's mission to save prostitutes in West London and the Duke of Wellington who shared a mistress with his arch enemy Napoleon Bonaparte. Mr Mason explained he never went further than 1945 as dead people can't sue!

Our February meeting's speaker was by Mervyn Edwards on "Walking the beat to Nirvana ". Mervyn went from being a bus driver in Banbury to a well respected Commander of Public Order over a 30 year career span with Thames Valley Police Force including 15 years experience in the Specialist Fire Arms Unit. Mervyn told us about Idi Amin's planned visit to attend the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting and how this was aborted just after takeoff. How he just missed by seconds being blown up in the IRA bombing campaign in 1984 at Greenpark bus station. He also dealt with incidents and queries from stars like Cilla Black, Sir John Mills and Paul Daniels whilst stationed at Gerard's Cross. It was a very humorous and informative talk which was

enjoyed by all the members present.

In March we held our AGM, 6 months earlier than usual due to the change agreed by our members that this meeting should be brought in line with our membership year. We had one member step down from the Committee but as there were no further nominations to join the Committee the existing members were voted en bloc. The vote for President took place and Annette was voted back in as President for the year April 2023 and March 2024. The business part of the meeting was followed with much laughter as members played Beetle Drive on tables of 6.

Our interest groups have been going well over the last 3 months. Members of the Supper Club who meet monthly on the third Thursday have enjoyed the taster menu at the Haldi, and meals at the White Horse at Bourne End and the Alford Arms in Frithstone. Random Readers met up for the first time this year in February and our meeting in members' houses due to the noise factor in their previous location. The Craft Group have been extremely busy making beautiful items including bread and trinket baskets, pretty cord strings and exquisite Iris paper folding for cards. In January the Walking Group completed the Chiltern Heritage Walk and start the North Bucks Way on **31st March**. The Knit and Natter Group

continue to meet weekly.

With the new membership year starting in April, two of our interest groups will be having a makeover. The Supper Club will become The Social Club and will no longer just offer a meal experience and Random Readers are looking into meeting in the Library. Further details will be revealed in April's meeting and members can register their interest for these groups in the Green Book.

In February we entered a team in the Federation Jigsaw Challenge which according to the team was indeed a challenge. Donations for items to go to Ukraine were also requested and this was followed up by a letter of Thanks in March. One of our members is now running a monthly raffle to raise funds which is drawn when members enjoy their beverage, cake and chat at the end of the meeting.

We have 2 events organised in March and members are looking forward to a day trip to **Burleigh House** and an evening **10 pin bowling** trip. We also have 2 events organised to raise funds and would welcome villagers to participate in these events. The Spring Lunch will be held on **16th April** in the Pavillion Hall at Pitstone. The 2 course lunch looks delicious and tickets can be bought from Sue Jones Telephone **01296 660436**. The lunch is offered at a bargain

price of £15 per ticket. Please can you mention any dietary requirements when purchasing tickets. Our Quiz night will be back on the **14th October**. Please save the date and more details will follow..

The speaker for our April meeting is Chris Beech who will give a talk on acupuncture. We look forward to welcoming members as our new membership year starts and would like to welcome any new members who would like to try out our WI. Our WI is a friendly group and membership offers the opportunity to meet women in the local area in person, to make friends, to make a difference in the community and have some fun. If anyone wishes to come to a meeting to see what we are all about please email our President, Annette at [annetteipwi@btinternet.com](mailto:annetteipwi@btinternet.com)



# BeaconLit Book Lovers

## Headlining this Year!

### Dear Book Lover,

BeaconLit is back! The 2023 Festival will be taking place on Saturday 8th July, at Brookmead School.

See below for a taster of some of the events on offer and biographies of the authors who are set to attend. It will be a fantastic literary day out for all you bibliophiles! So do come and join us!

## Beaconlit 2023 Events

### New Voices

Aiden Cottrell-Boyce, Jacqueline Crooks and Natasha Hastings are some of the hottest debut authors around. BeaconLit co-founder Dave Sivers talks to them about their stories, their books and what's coming next.

### Laura Shepherd-Robinson in Conversation

Meet the bestselling, multi-award winning historical fiction author.



### Doctor! Doctor!

Medical thrillers come in all shapes and sizes. Candy Denman, Eve Smith and Participating Moderator Heather J Fitt



discuss their very different approaches.

### Cara Hunter in Conversation

The Sunday Times bestseller chats to fellow crime fiction author Dave Sivers.



### Rebecca Wait in Conversation

Rebecca's novel, I'm Sorry You Feel that way was one of the big hits of Summer 2022.



We will be adding more names to this impressive list and will keep you updated on the programme and plans for ticket sales.

Best wishes,  
**Avril, Dave, Emma, Jacquie and Rachel**  
 BeaconLit Festival Committee  
[www.beaconlit.co.uk](http://www.beaconlit.co.uk)



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# Giving Broken Things a New Lease of Life

We've all got items gathering dust in our homes that we can't bear to throw away, but which we wouldn't know how to start repairing. If that sounds familiar, then the new Ivinghoe and Pitstone Repair Café may be what you need.

The café launched in Pitstone Pavilion on Saturday 25 February. After a second Pavilion outing on 25 March, it will run every fourth Saturday of the month from 9am to 12 noon, alternating between Ivinghoe Community Hub and the Pitstone Pavilion.

Repair Cafés first appeared on the UK scene in 2008. They are a community-run venture in which volunteers with a variety of skills come together for local people to bring along broken items for volunteers to try and fix. The main aims behind the idea include promoting sustainability, looking after the environment, and looking to reuse or fix items instead of throwing them away.

It was an idea that struck a chord with local garden designer Alex Razak.

"In our own home, we have needed to repair many items over the years," she said, "including a kettle that was leaking water and is now into its tenth year of life, a vacuum cleaner that had been clogged up with hairs and dust. There is a long list of items we have mended, given a new lease of life, and avoided the journey to the ever-increasing landfill

mountain. Britain is worse than any of our European neighbours for the amount of landfill we produce every year

"Our repairs have been possible as my husband is an electronic engineer and I am a general 'Fixer'. This is not the case in many households. Manufacturers make household items and technology difficult to take apart and repair, and make parts expensive, difficult to purchase and costly to repair. As a result, we have come to believe that these items do not have a lifespan beyond five years, encouraging us to throw away, despite the CO2 footprint involved in manufacturing new items."

Alex wanted to revitalise the old 'make do and mend' concept, and heard about the repair café concept in December 2022.

"I discovered the worldwide foundation started in 2008 in Amsterdam, with lots of invaluable templates and guidance on their website. I visited a couple of local repair cafés and gained advice from a trustee of the Bath Repair Cafés. They now run 13 in Bath and operate a 'Library of Things' shop. I approached the Parish Councils to test out my idea and they were very supportive.

"I received in-house help to design the digital graphics logo for our Repair Cafe and the advertising, and put out a request on Facebook for Volunteer Repairers/



Fixers. The response was fantastic."

The project now needed funding and a team of co-ordinators. Alex was alerted to the Community Board small funds grants with less than twenty-four hours to the deadline for submissions. The Board provided two thirds of the start-up costs, with Ivinghoe and Pitstone Parish Councils making up the rest. Alex expressed thanks to both Board and the councils, especially Peter Brazier and Karen Groom (Chair of Ivinghoe Parish Council), Dave Nicholls (Chair of Pitstone Parish Council) and the clerks to the Councils.

The new Repair Café covers Ivinghoe, Pitstone and surrounding areas, run by five co-ordinators and offering around 22 highly skilled 'Fixers' from a wide range of disciplines, including engineering, seamstresses, woodworkers and generalists. The volunteers come from across all the local villages and range in age from 18 to 80.

Eighteen people brought items for repair to the launch event.

The café is aiming for a relaxed community feel, with tea, coffee, cake and bacon rolls available for people to enjoy while they wait for their repairs. The cafe is not for profit, but visitors are encouraged to give a donation for their repair and for the refreshments.

If an item requires a new part before it can be repaired, the owner is given help in ordering the correct part, which can then be fitted the following month. Some repairers take items home by agreement, if more time is need.

Everyone who attends fills out a form with their contact details, information about the item needing repair and their signature agreeing to the 'House Rules'. Further information is filled in by the Repairer. The information is then uploaded to the Worldwide Foundation database, so that the

café has a record of how many kg of items have been saved from landfill and the volume of CO2 emissions prevented.

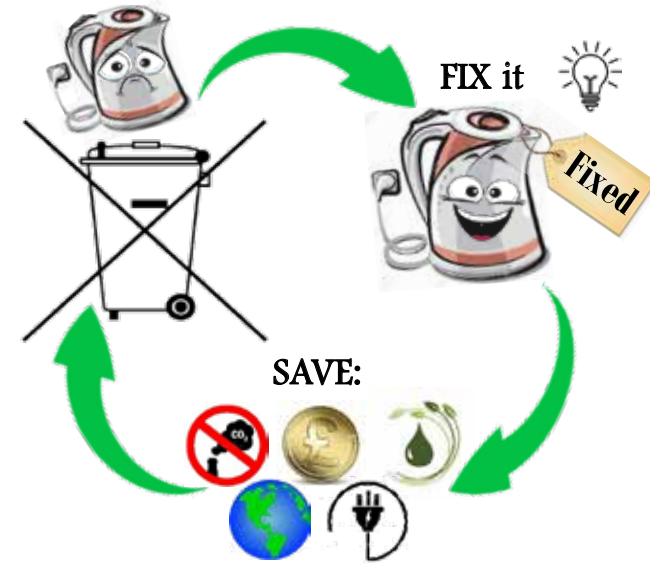
For more information, email: [ivinghoerepaircafe@gmail.com](mailto:ivinghoerepaircafe@gmail.com) or visit the Facebook page: **Ivinghoe and Pitstone Repair Cafe**



## Volunteers Wanted!

Email Alex for info: [ivinghoerepaircafe@gmail.com](mailto:ivinghoerepaircafe@gmail.com)

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Would you enjoy fixing things to stop them going to landfill?

If so, come and be part of our group of **volunteer repairers** fixing:

- Electrical goods and electronic devices (phones/tablets/laptops)
- Clothing, fabrics, jewellery
- Tools and equipment
- Household items
- Toys and games
- Wooden items
- Bicycles

Come and join a Not-For-Profit Worldwide community movement!



LOCATION: Ivinghoe for a few hours, one Saturday per month.

# Mentmore Arts Festival

**M**entmore Arts Festival 2023 will take place from **Saturday May 27th – Bank Holiday Monday May 29th 2023**. The doors will be open from 11am – 5pm every day.

We will be showcasing over 60 artists including painters, photographers, ceramicists, jewellers and more and their work will be displayed in the Village Hall and St Mary's Church in Mentmore and is available to buy.

We will be raising money for Bucks Mind and Leighton Buzzard Mencap.

This will be our 13th Festival and over the years we have donated a total of over £90,000 to a variety of local charities. Last year we donated £5000 each to Leukaemia UK and WheelPower.

The Festival provides a wonderful family day out with refreshments available, including light lunches, tea, coffee and cakes and a bar.

We will have a rare with some great prizes.

Put it in your diaries now and we look forward to seeing you there.

## THE BEACON ART GROUP

We are an informal group who meet on Tuesday mornings in Ivinghoe Town Hall. We'd love a few more people to join us who like to dabble in painting and drawing. Beginners welcome. If you think you would be interested please call me: **Marion Jackson on 01296 668429.**



# MENTMORE Arts FESTIVAL

The 13th Mentmore Arts Festival will be held in Mentmore Church and Mentmore Village Hall. We're raising funds for Mind UK (Buckinghamshire), Leighton Buzzard Mencap & St Mary's Church Mentmore.

**MENTMORE CHURCH &  
MENTMORE VILLAGE HALL  
– LU7 0QF**

**SATURDAY 27 MAY  
TO BANK HOLIDAY  
MONDAY 29 MAY**

**For more information visit:  
[www.mentmore-arts-festival.co.uk](http://www.mentmore-arts-festival.co.uk)**

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FREE**

**CAN YOU HELP?**

**CONTACT**

**DEBORAH HALL:**

**07831 707023**

[deborahhall58@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:deborahhall58@yahoo.co.uk)

# Pitstone Church

The church will be **open** from 2.30 – 5.30pm every Sunday and Bank Holiday from May till September except for Coronation weekend. We welcome all who would like to spend time in the most peaceful part of Pitstone.

We have planned a programme of events this year. We hope everybody can find something that they can enjoy in our beautiful church.

**Thursday 1st June** This is my Theatre are bringing Wuthering Heights to Pitstone. The performance will start at 7pm in the churchyard or indoors if wet. Please bring your own chairs. Picnics are welcome. Tickets are available from: [www.thisismytheatre.com](http://www.thisismytheatre.com) and cost: adults £15, under 16 £10, under 4 free.

**Saturday 8th July** The Icknield 16 will be coming for their annual concert at 7.30pm. Their programme is always varied and very popular.

**Monday 28th August** Tea with music. Katharine Arney will be here with her harp to entertain visitors enjoying tea and home made cakes. This is a chance to catch up as the holidays end.

**Sunday 10th September** Morning service in the church to celebrate Heritage week.

**Sunday 24th September** Oxford Fiddle Group will be playing in the afternoon. More details later.

We are always looking for volunteers to help on on Sundays and at our events. If you would like to join us please contact Jean Booth **01296 661745**.

Pitstone Church is vested in the Churches Conservation Trust who look after redundant churches and keep them alive as part of their community.

## *Tots Praise at St. Mary's* *Fun for under 5's and their parents* *and carers*



*Fridays:*

*28<sup>th</sup> April*

*12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> May*

*9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> June*

*7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> July*

*The sessions will be flexible. Drop in any time you like between 10 and 11.30am for the children to play, and for the adults to have a cuppa and a chat.*

*For more details contact Sandra on*

**01296 668648**

**The Ecclesiastical Parish of Ivinghoe with Pitstone**  
**The Church of St. Mary the Virgin**

**Vicar**

Rev. James Grainger-Smith 01296 297915  
 (Please call to arrange Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals or Burials)

**Licensed Lay Ministers**

Mrs Barbara De Butts 01525 221080  
 Mrs Sandra Green 01296 668648

**Churchwardens**

Mrs Babs Byrom 07860 780127  
 Mr David Green 01262 668648

**Our Usual Pattern of Services is:-**

<b>Every Wednesday</b>	10:15am Holy Communion (BCP)
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month</b>	10.00am Worshipping Together (All Ages)
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Month</b>	10.00am Holy Communion
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Month</b>	10.00am Morning Praise
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Month</b>	10:00am Holy Communion
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Month</b>	10.00am Benefice Communion

Because the Parish of Ivinghoe with Pitstone is part of a Benefice (i.e. shares a vicar) with the Parishes of Slapton and Marsworth, the venue for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Benefice Communion rotates between the three Parish Churches.

For the most up-to-date information please go to our website:-

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/162/>

At the major festivals of the Church Year (e.g. Holy Week, Easter Day, Remembrance Sunday & Christmas) there may well be special services instead of the above pattern - again, the website is the best place to find up-to-date information.

# Exhibition of art and crafts

**Saturday, 14th October,**  
10.30am to 4.30pm  
**Sunday, 15th October,**  
10:30am to 3:30pm

**ST MARY'S CHURCH,  
IVINGHOE,  
LU7 9EW**

**ADMISSION  
FREE**

**LIVE MUSIC**

**REFRESHMENTS  
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DAY**

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RESTORATION PROJECTS.**

**ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT:  
BARBARACUMMINGS@HOTMAIL.CO.UK**





## Ivinghoe & Pitstone Chapel Fellowship

Sunday Services are held on the **third Sunday** of each month, at 12 Church Rd unless otherwise specified, and start at 10.30 a.m. followed by refreshments

\*\*\*

### 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, Pitstone Hall

\*\*\*

### PITSTONE OVER 60s' CLUB

We are a small and friendly group of local men and women who meet together for a varied programme of Speakers, Entertainment and Quizes etc., plus Refreshments.

We meet at the Yardley Centre, Yardley Avenue,  
on the **third Thursday** of each month: 2.00 – 4.00 p.m.

Interested? Need more information?

**01296 668005**

## IVINGHOE HANDBELL RINGERS

Ivinghoe handbell ringers will restart their Monday afternoon practices on Monday 5th September at 1.30pm. New members are welcome. They will be playing in St. Mary's Church Ivinghoe on 15th October at the Musicathon so come and see if it may be something you would like to join. We are a friendly group and hope to be able to brush up our skills in order to be able to resume our ability to entertain others from time to time. Please contact Eilish on **01296 668122** if you would like to come for a taster session.



## BEACON COMMUNITY CHOIR SUMMER CONCERT

### SATURDAY 17TH & SUNDAY 18TH JUNE

For our summer concert, the Beacon Community Choir will perform two joyful works, perfect entertainment for a summer's evening.

### CAPTAIN NOAH AND HIS FLOATING ZOO

Captain Noah and his floating zoo is the first collaboration of Michael Flanders (of Flanders and Swan) and Joseph Horowitz in 1970. It is a lighthearted look at the old testament story and has been popular with adults and children since its creation. It has been performed in many different versions and adaptations, most notably by The Kings Singers. Although originally intended to be sung in schools, in unison or two parts, our version has been prepared by the composer for mixed chorus. The musical style of the cantata is unashamedly eclectic and exploits all well-known types of popular music to tell this ever-green story in a tuneful and amusing way.

### FEEL THE SPIRIT

Feel the Spirit, written in 2016, is a cycle of seven familiar spirituals expertly arranged by John Rutter. These vivid and expressive arrangements can be performed individually, or as a complete cycle that showcases the rich heritage of the spiritual. The work brings new life to such well-loved titles as Steal Away, I Got A Robe, and When The Saints Go Marching In and is designed to raise your spirits and set your toes tapping.

Venue: **St. Mary's Church, Ivinghoe. Tickets are: £12.50**

Dates and times: **Saturday 17th June at 7pm and Sunday 18th June at 4pm**

For further details, please visit our website: [www.beaconcommunitychoir.co.uk](http://www.beaconcommunitychoir.co.uk)

## LOCAL FOODBANK

We offer an emergency foodbank service covering the villages of Ivinghoe, Pitstone,

Marsworth, Slapton, Ivinghoe Aston, Horton and Cheddington.

Supported by your local churches in Ivinghoe, Marsworth and Slapton and residents of

all the above villages and further afield. We are also supported by our local businesses

in Ivinghoe and Pitstone.

Please contact Babs on **07860 780127** or Sue on **07742 138955** for further information.

All enquiries will be treated in strictest confidence.



## Beacon Community Choir

### *Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo*

Michael Flanders and Joseph Horowitz

A lighthearted look at the old testament story

### *Feel the Spirit*

John Rutter

Vivid and expressive arrangements of familiar spirituals

Saturday 17th June 2023, 7pm

Sunday 18th June 2023, 4pm

St Mary the Virgin, Ivinghoe

Gaye Boggan *soprano* ★ Craig Nathan *piano*

Judith Sheridan *musical director*

Tickets £12.50 (children free) from Lindsay Hewlett  
07986 009157 beaconcommunitychoir@gmail.com  
www.beaconcommunitychoir.co.uk or cash on the door

Beacon  
community  
choir  
President: John Cameron



## Brookmead School seeks two Partnership Governors

At Brookmead we strive to work closely with families and the wider community to bring learning to life and life to learning.

Partnership Governors are drawn from the wider community and play a special role in representing the interests of the school with the community. Could you share your expertise and learn and grow with us?

Prior experience is not required. As a governor, you can expect to:

- Support children and young people locally
- Use and build on your local networks and connections
- Share and develop your skills in areas valued by employers
- Support your career development, adding to your CV

Governors work in partnership with school leaders to shape the future of the school, agree on the key issues to help staff to raise standards, and determine how budget will be spent to achieve these aims.

Now is an exciting time to join. We recently welcomed a new headteacher and are building on the school's strengths to enhance opportunities for our children.

Express an interest or find out more: [office@brookmead.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@brookmead.bucks.sch.uk)



## A love of reading at Brookmead School

At Brookmead School, we absolutely love to read. Our children are taught to read using the Read, Write, Inc phonics scheme. This is supplemented through reading books to develop phonetic knowledge during foundation and year 1. From year 2 onwards, our children have a love of reading book and a reading book band book.

We have an incredibly creative group of staff who have worked together to develop our library area at Brookmead School. The children select their love of reading book from the library and get to have a weekly library slot to enjoy perusing our wide range of fiction and non-fiction texts. We also have a themed area within our library which highlights a range of texts for children to read. We have had a Magical Tales themed area and we currently have a 'Diversity' themed area. Every year group has a shared reading area where the children can cosy up and enjoy reading a good book!

Brookmead celebrated a love of reading through World Book Day this year. Staff and children dressed up as their favourite book character. Little Red Riding Hood made an appearance in each class and asked the children to help her keep an eye out for the wolf throughout the day – wanted posters were displayed everywhere!

If you too have a love of reading and would like to enjoy this alongside our children, contact the school as we have applications for volunteer readers opening in the summer term.

*(All volunteers will be subject to a DBS check.)*



Brookmead Library – themed area

Brookmead – shared reading area



## Under 5s Football Taster Sessions

Saturday 22nd, 29th April & 13th May 2023



**Open to all boys and girls currently  
in Reception year at school**

**For 3 weeks our FA qualified coaches  
will run a series of free, fun football  
related coaching sessions for this group  
of budding footballers!**

**To register your interest please email  
development@pandifootball.net  
for more information**



### 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 6:30-8pm (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 7-8:30pm Andrew as Troop Leader

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

on [ivinghoe.pitstone.scouts@gmail.com](mailto:ivinghoe.pitstone.scouts@gmail.com)

Or our Group Scout Leader, Andrew Woods on [ivinghoe.pitstone.scouts@gmail.com](mailto:ivinghoe.pitstone.scouts@gmail.com)

or 07768 980311

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.

# Ivinghoe Allotments

## News from the Allotment



Every so often (certainly, more often than he'd prefer) my husband hears me utter the phrase "I need compost!". He typically greets this with a loud sigh and an exasperated "not again!". That's not only because of the expense, but also due to the heavy lifting required for him to get it from the point of purchase via the car to my shed. However, my firm and consistent retort is that compost is one of the key components for my allotment.

Compost is simply decayed organic matter, full of nutrients that will enrich soil where your plants are to grow. The odd bag of compost here and there is affordable but when you have whole beds to fill then the cost can be prohibitive. Though not an immediate fix, the answer, if you can, is to make your own. According to Sarah Raven, the way to make good and speedy compost is to 'keep the whole decomposition process aerobic requiring oxygen to allow the microbes to thrive.'

If you saw my compost bins at the allotment last year you would remark that I do not practice what I preach or even know much about composting. You would be correct for upon digging into the heap I realised that all was not well and decided to do something about it – namely reading and watching YouTubes.

Huw Richards in his book 'Veg in One

Bed' states that to make compost one must use two types of materials: green and brown. Green compost material is rich in nitrogen and includes such things as horse or cow manure, grass clippings, coffee grounds (you can pick up a bag of this for free just outside Waitrose in Berkhamsted), vegetable plants or spent plants and young weeds. Brown compost materials are rich in carbon. Examples are autumn leaves, small pruning branches, shredded paper or newspaper and cardboard.

The ratio of brown to green is two to one ie; add two buckets of browns to your pile for each bucketful of green material, but do it in layers, like a lasagne. If left to its own devices this method will take time. If you want to speed matters up you should turn over the pile with a garden fork, every month or two. This will help oxygenate and speed up the rate at which the microorganisms break down the material. Another easy way to turn the pile is to line up a series of different bins, so that you can empty one into the other. If the compost starts to dry out give it a good soaking with a hose or watering can.

If you haven't the room for compost bins or the time to make or care for them then you can make your own in a raised bed using The Hugelkultur Method.



I have written about the this before but here's a brief recap to save you the trouble of flipping through my previous articles, which you will no doubt have filed away for future reference.

In his book 'Grow Food for Free', Huw Richards uses this method to produce compost, preferably using deep raised beds. It relies on the slow break down of matter to provide a gradual release of nutrients and retain moisture, especially in a period of dry weather.

To do this, spread out newspaper or cardboard over the bottom of the bed (this prevents weeds or grass growing through). Fill the bottom with branches roughly 3-5cm thick, add a thick layer of woodchips, followed by another layer of straw, grass clippings and autumn leaves. These can be in whatever proportions are readily available until the bed is two-thirds full. These materials will shrink down. Finally fill the rest of the bed with a 50/50 mix of compost and top soil, or entirely compost if you have it. Then you need to allow the bed to settle for a minimum of a week, but three weeks is better. You will probably have to top up with at least a 5cm layer

of compost. I recommend watching Huw Richard's YouTube presentation on 'The easiest compost method for small spaces.' Happy growing!

While we're touching on the subject of saving money, we can always look to the land to provide food such as nettles, sticky grass, dandelions, wild garlic, etc. In this vein, I came across a book entitled 'Eat Weeds' by Diego Bonetto at the Tate Modern bookshop. I can confirm that my allotment is a brilliant weed producer and while perusing the book I came across 'Plantain' or 'Englishman's Foot'. This plant (quite different from the banana-like fruit) is a common and prolific weed. Fellow allotment holders, Alastair and Ran have mentioned that they use the leaves in their cooking and the book states that the plant is extremely adaptable. It develops as a low-lying herb in lawns but grows taller among high grass with a flowering spike. It is also highly adaptable, grows wherever there is space and can withstand poor soil and full sun. It survives foot traffic and is most likely to grow where other plants cannot. It is abundant at the allotments.

Thus for this edition's recipe I ▶

decided to look at how to cook Plantain. First comment is to avoid older leaves and they can be coarse and fibrous. Select some young leaves, blanch them, then either stir fry or cook them thoroughly. Enjoy them with other vegetables or in soup. The tiny seed can also be harvested and ground up to add to soup or bread or soaked in water to create a porridge. Apart from cooking it can also be used medicinally and the most useful would be as an emergency plaster by crushing the leaf and applying it directly to the wound as it quickly stems blood flow and encourages tissue repair. Just be careful when foraging and only pick what you are confident about. As a forager on 'Saturday Morning Kitchen Live' said **"Don't munch on a hunch!"**.

#### Ran's Korean Recipe for using Plantain or Englishman's Foot



**Ingredients:** 2 large handful clumps of the plantain leaves, 1 cucumber, ¼ onion, 1 spring onion, 1 clove of garlic, 2tbs sesame oil, 1 tbs sesame seeds, ½ tsp fish sauce (or salt), 1 tsp bean paste or miso paste, drizzle of vinegar, ½ tsp chilli powder.

**Method:** Washed the leaves well and then blanch in boiling water with a small amount of salt and vinegar for about 2-3 minutes. Drain and dry the leaves thoroughly. Very thinly slice the quarter of onion. Thinly slice the cucumber. Chop the spring onion into very thin rings. Finely chop the garlic clove. Put all the ingredients into a mixing bowl and add the rest of the ingredients. Mix all the ingredients thoroughly by hand. Check the seasoning and serve warm or cold as a side dish.

Also delicious if you mix in dandelion leaves (also blanched, put into the water 1 minute earlier than the plantain leaves).

**Bon Appetit.**

**PS – Don't forget to email your entry forms for the Ivinghoe, Ivinghoe Aston and Pitstone Horticultural Show to be held on Saturday 19 August 2023.**

# Show Programme

## 19 August 2023



## Classes

### Children's Section

#### Age 16 and Under: (judged according to age)

1. A miniature garden in a seed tray.
2. Decorate a wooden spoon.
3. 4 fairy cakes judged on decoration.

#### These Sections are open

#### to ALL ages:

#### Vegetable Fruit & Produce Section:

#### Vegetables

4. 5 coloured or white potatoes.
5. 3 onions - tops tied.
6. 5 shallots - tops tied.
7. 5 French beans -dwarf or climbing.
8. 3 carrots – tops trimmed to 75mm (3").
9. 3 beetroot – tops trimmed to 75mm (3").
10. 5 tomatoes.
11. 3 courgettes – 150mm-200mm (6"-8") optimum length
12. 5 radishes – as pulled, roots washed.
13. A bunch of 9 spring onions.
14. 5 runner beans
15. Longest runner bean
16. A pair of any other vegetable not listed above.
17. Collection of vegetables. No

limit on kinds or numbers, displayed in a box, basket or trug (maximum size 50cm (20") in any dimension.

18. Bunch of culinary herbs.

#### Fruit

19. A dish of black currents, red currants or white currents, can be a single kind or mixed, displayed on a paper plate.
20. 3 sticks of Rhubarb – leaves trimmed.
21. A dish of raspberries displayed on a paper plate.
22. Any other fruit not listed above.
23. A collection of fruit. No limit on kinds or numbers displayed in a box, basket or trug maximum size 50cm (20") in any dimension.

#### Plants and Flowers Section:

#### Grown Flowers (see rules)

24. A specimen rose.
25. 5 sweet peas.
26. 5 Dahlias.
27. Sunflowers – 3 stems.

#### Flower Arranging

28. An arrangement in a jam jar.

#### Cookery and Produce Section:

#### Cookery

29. A Victoria sandwich with

raspberry jam. (see recipe overleaf)

30. 6 savoury muffins, own recipe to be cooked in muffin cases.

31. Shortbread - see recipe overleaf.

32 Fruit cake - see recipe overleaf.

#### Produce

33. 6 eggs.
34. 3 tasty tomatoes.
35. 5 cooked homegrown salad potatoes.
36. Ugliest vegetable
37. A bottle of flavoured gin or vodka - max 500mls.
38. A jar of jam - see rules.
39. A jar of lemon curd - see rules.
40. A jar of marmalade - see rules.
41. A jar of savoury jelly - see rules.
42. A jar of chutney - see rules.

#### Craft Section:

42. Knit a fabulously original pair of fingerless gloves.
43. Sketch or paint your own self portrait.
44. Crochet a striking beanie hat.
45. String a necklace with 'nature's natural beads'.
46. Construct a pet animal – any medium.

47. Make an attractive wreath – using only rags.

48. Make a greeting card with a fun difference.

49. Safely Craft a sporting figure in motion out of wire – mounted on a base.

**Parking will be open on the  
Lawn**

**Good Luck  
with your entries**



**Prizes:**

Certificates will be awarded in all classes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. Winner Cups awarded for highest points gained in each section. Cups engraved with winner's name and awarded for one year. The Onion Cup is only for Class No. 5 (3 Onions – tops tied),.

**Rules**

- All entrants to take note of MAXIMUM measurements for relevant classes.
- Cookery classes to follow recipes where specified.
- All craft items to have been produced in the 36 months preceding the date of the show.
- All vegetable, fruit and produce classes to have been grown by the entrant and presented on approximately 25cms (10”) plates where applicable.
- Eggs from own poultry.
- Plants and grown flower entries to have been grown by the entrant.
- Flowers for arrangements can be freely sourced.
- Jars of preserves can be any size but must not have screw top lids - cloth or cellophane lids only.

**The Judge's decision is Final!**

.....

**Cookery - Set Recipes**

**Victoria Sandwich**

6 eggs; 340g/12oz caster sugar plus extra for dusting; 340g/12oz self-raising flour; 3 tsp baking powder;

340g/12oz margarine or soft butter; raspberry jam to fill.

**Method:** Preheat the oven to 180C/350F/Gas4. Grease and line 2 x 20cm/8in sandwich tins. Break the eggs into a mixing bowl, add the sugar, flour, baking powder and butter. Mix with an electric mixer or wooden spoon. Divide the mixture evenly between the tins and bake for 25 minutes. Leave to cool on wire rack. Spread the jam on one cake, placing the second sponge on top. Sprinkle with a little caster sugar.

**Shortbread**

125g/4oz unsalted butter, softened; 180g/6oz plain flour; 55g/2oz caster sugar plus extra for dusting.

**Method:** Heat oven to 190C/170C fan/gas mark 5. Beat together butter and sugar until smooth. Stir in the flour to get a smooth paste. Turn onto a worktop and gently roll out to a 1cm/1/2” thickness. Cut the shortbread into rounds with 8cm/3” cutter. Place on lined baking tray. Chill for 20 minutes. Bake for 15-20 mins or until golden brown. Sprinkle with caster sugar and leave to cool.

**Everyday Fruit Cake**

400g mixed fruit  
125g unsalted butter at room temp  
3 large eggs  
60ml (4 tbsps) jam  
1 rounded tbsps jam  
125g soft brown sugar  
250g self-raising flour  
2 tsp mixed spice

**Method:** Preheat oven to 170C/150C fan/ gas mark 3. Line a 2lb loaf tin. Weigh fruit and put to one side. Put all ingredients, except the fruit, into a large bowl. Beat together well, but do not over do it. Mix in the dried fruit by hand. Put mix into tin and bake for 1hr 15 min. Check after this time and if knife is not coming out, clean and check again after 10 mins, repeat until cooked.

**Schedule and Entry Form**

This form can be emailed or posted (no charge for advanced entries) at any time up until Thursday 17 August 2023 (postal address is : John Lowe, 22 Yardley Avenue, Pitstone, LU7 9AL or email : johnglowe2@gmail.com. Late entries, including those on the day, will be accepted but will be charged 50p per entry.

Name.....

Email.....Telephone .....

I wish to enter the class(es) marked with an 'x' below and I agree to abide by the rules.

Signature .....

**Children's Section:** 1  2  3

**Vegetables:** 4  5  6  7  8  9  10  11  12  13  14  15  16  17  18

**Fruit:** 19  20  21  22  23

**Grown Flowers:** 24  25  26  27

**Flower Arranging:** 28

**Cookery:** 29  30  31  32

**Produce:** 33  34  35  36  37  38  39  40  41  42

**Craft:** 43  44  45  46  47  48  49

**Total Number of Entries**

**Total Entry Fee**



**R.M.L.**  
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Ivinghoe, LU7 9EA

**Ivinghoe Golf Club**

Looking to Learn to Play or Improve your Golf?  
Book 6 lessons with our Pro Mark Flitney for £85.00, and if you decide to join we will refund the cost of your lessons.

- Various Adult Membership schemes available starting from less than £8.00 per week.
- Junior Membership £99.00 or only £20.00 with a Parent holding 7 day Membership.
- Turn up and play Green Fees from £10.00 for 9 holes.

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Clubhouse: Tel: 01296 668696  
E-mail: [info@ivinghoegolfclub.co.uk](mailto:info@ivinghoegolfclub.co.uk)  
[www.ivinghoegolfclub.co.uk](http://www.ivinghoegolfclub.co.uk)

Looking for a local Venue for a Party?



Our Clubhouse is available for private hire for birthdays and celebrations.

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




**TOWN FARM**  
*Campsite & Rental Accommodation*

Are you desperate to get back to basics, roast marshmallows over the campfire and spend a night under the stars?

Or maybe you're in need of a charming fully furnished rental property to give you that home-from-home feeling?

Town Farm is a family-run working farm with stunning views of Ivinghoe Beacon. Get in touch with our friendly team to find out more!



[www.townfarmcamping.co.uk](http://www.townfarmcamping.co.uk)  
[www.townfarmcottages.co.uk](http://www.townfarmcottages.co.uk)

## A note from the Editor...

I very much hope that you are still enjoying reading the Ivinghoe Beacon magazine, it has changed a little since the Parish Council took over the production of the magazine.

We really want the magazine to be something you get pleasure from reading as well as a useful reference tool for local events and advertising.

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

*Many thanks and happy reading.*

**Bridget Knight** The Editor  
[ivinghoeparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:ivinghoeparishclerk@gmail.com)

## TIME TO GET WALKING AGAIN!

With Spring on its way we start to think about getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Bucks <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/bucks> has loads of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (who maintains the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Bucks (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

John Harris [www.walkinginengland.co.uk](http://www.walkinginengland.co.uk)

Email: [john@walkinginengland.co.uk](mailto:john@walkinginengland.co.uk)

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Have you ever thought about 'growing your own'? Growing your own fruit and vegetables can be a very satisfying experience and in Ivinghoe we are very lucky to have some beautiful allotments just off Church Road, overlooking St Mary's Church. If you are an Ivinghoe resident and would like some more information about availability of plots - we have them in a range of sizes - please contact the Parish Clerk at [ivinghoeparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:ivinghoeparishclerk@gmail.com)

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





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**Need help with your project?**

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Contact me, Jo Evans on  
[joevanspm@gmail.com](mailto:joevanspm@gmail.com)

# Dementia Awareness Training

**16 May**

Pitstone Pavillion  
*Dementia Action Week*

**30 May**

Watermead Village Hall

**07 June**

Wing Sports and Social Club  
*Carers Week*

**Two sessions a day**

16 delegates per session

96 spaces in total

- 10am - 1pm
- 1.30pm - 4.30pm

**How to book**

Scan the QR Code to book online or email:  
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# Ashridge Ramblings

## Ancient Secrets – and how you can help to unlock them

Everybody loves bluebells. They are associated particularly with ancient woodlands (i.e., woodlands that date back to at least 1600). They are, however, not alone in this. Many less well-known woodland flowers, such as a sweet woodruff, dog violet and wood anemone, are also regarded as indicators of a woodland's ancient status. They make use of the spring sunshine to flower before tree leaves cast their shade. They are rarely found in newly planted woodlands because they do not disperse across great distances. In fact, in one study, wood anemone was found to spread by just 6 metres in 100 years! Many spread via vegetative growth (e.g., roots or bulbs), rather than by seed – another reason for the slow spread and colonisation of new areas. Ashridge is an important home to much ancient woodland, so watch out for the indicator flower species and you can be pretty confident that the trees around you began their life before Elizabeth 1st's ended.



This is around the time that Pitstone Windmill is thought to have been built. The huge oak post on which it pivots was about 200 years old when commandeered. This iconic landmark is looked after by the National Trust and harbours extraordinarily clever and intricate workings and a truly fascinating social history. To unlock the windmill's stories for visitors to enjoy, volunteers are needed. The team is full of inspiring people from all walks of life who get a real buzz from working and learning together.

**Are you looking for a new adventure? Would you like to join them?** If so, please get in touch.

The Ashridge team would be thrilled to hear from you, so please email: [ashridge@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:ashridge@nationaltrust.org.uk) or ring **01442 851227**.

### Rikki Harrington

(Ashridge Estate Committee Member)  
[harrington.rikki@gmail.com](mailto:harrington.rikki@gmail.com)



### Are you taking part in the Big Help Out?

Launched to mark The King's Coronation, the **Big Help Out** campaign <https://thebighelpout.org.uk/> gives everyone the chance to try volunteering and help out in their local communities. The campaign starts on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May but volunteering opportunities are available at any time during the Summer and beyond.

Whatever your interests, skills or the amount of time you can give, the Buckinghamshire Volunteer Matching Service has a wide range of local volunteer roles to choose from. If you are 16 years and over, **simply register with the Buckinghamshire Volunteer Matching Service and the team will look for a local role that matches your preferences.**

<https://communityimpactbucks.org.uk/buckinghamshire-volunteer-matching-service>

If you are part of Buckinghamshire volunteer-involving group and would like to benefit from the national momentum around volunteering, **register your local roles with Buckinghamshire Volunteer Matching Service to tap into the pool of volunteers in the county.** [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd8XKORtZtpXRNc\\_a36GNQFzACXAGfzFj0p-DjTf3--GfizMCg/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd8XKORtZtpXRNc_a36GNQFzACXAGfzFj0p-DjTf3--GfizMCg/viewform)

# Buckinghamshire Councillors Report

## Report from Buckinghamshire Councillor Derek Town



### Buckinghamshire Council announces new highways contractors

Buckinghamshire Council has today announced the 12 approved contractors who will be working on highways, maintenance and infrastructure projects within the county from 1 April 2023.

The announcement completes all elements of the transition of the council's highways and maintenance contract work to new partners, as part of a planned move as the contract with current partner, Ringway Jacobs, comes to a close at the end of this month.

Last year Balfour Beatty Living Places (BBLP) were awarded the council's Term Maintenance Contract and the Term Consultancy Contract was awarded to Atkins, starting from 1 April 2023. The 12 newly-appointed contractors will work alongside BBLP and Atkins to carry out the works needed, under new Framework 1 and Framework 2 contracts which will run for a period of four years.

The 12 contractors have been appointed following a procurement process and will operate as follows:

### Buckinghamshire Highways Framework One – Minor Works

#### Lot 1: Conventional Surfacing Work

- Balfour Beatty Living Places Limited

- Eurovia Infrastructure Limited
- O'Hara Bros Surfacing Limited

#### Lot 2: Surface Treatments including Surface Dressing

- Colas Limited
- Eurovia Infrastructure Limited
- Kier Highways Limited

#### Lot 3: Minor Works (under £500K)

- Balfour Beatty Living Places Limited
- J McCann and Co Limited
- O'Hara Bros Surfacing Limited

### Buckinghamshire Highways Framework Two – Major Works (over £500K)

- Balfour Beatty Living Places Limited
- Keltbray Highways Limited
- Tilbury Douglas Construction Limited

The frameworks have been set up in this way to deliver value for money and to allow the council to align delivery of highways and regeneration infrastructure projects under a new delivery model. The new model will mean other council services such as Flooding and Development, Transport Strategy and Rights of Way teams can benefit from the wide range of expertise and experience provided by the range of contractors.

### Support available for Bucks residents struggling with Council Tax payments

Buckinghamshire residents are reminded that annual Council Tax bills will start being posted from Monday 13 March. Residents worried about their ability to pay their Council Tax are urged to contact Buckinghamshire Council as soon as possible. The council offers several options to help ease financial pressures, including checking for discounts or exemptions, switching payment dates, and spreading payments over 12 months.

The council is encouraging residents to sign up for a **Customer Access online account**, which provides people with 24/7 access to manage their Council Tax account – including checking balances, payments, bills, and setting up or amending their Direct Debit. To sign up for a Customer Access account, residents need their account number and online key, both of which can be found on their Council Tax bill.

For information and help with any money-related issues, residents should visit **Buckinghamshire Council's website** or contact the **Helping Hand team** on **01296 531151**.

**Citizen's Advice** also offers **free**, independent advice and support around Council Tax payments.

### Council joins forces with Forestry England to create new woodland in Wing

Plans to plant a brand-new woodland in Wing have been given the green light in a joint project between Forestry England and Buckinghamshire Council. The new Wing Wood will see 132,000 trees planted on land owned by

Buckinghamshire Council, creating an inspiring green space for local people, a valuable habitat for wildlife and a sustainable source of timber.

The decision to create the new woodland on the 51-hectare site follows a public consultation last year and local and national organisations were also involved in discussions over the woodland plan. Wing Wood will include a mix of tree species suited to the locality, five new wildlife ponds and a community orchard as well as accessible paths for walking and cycling. As part of the woodland design, Forestry England hope to link the new Wing Wood with Long Spinney Wood, creating clear paths and an easy connection between the two areas.

Forestry England will begin planting this year and aim to get most of the trees in the ground before the end of April with the rest planted in the autumn and winter. The 132,000 trees will form part of the council's pledge to plant 543,000 trees, one for every resident in Buckinghamshire by 2031, as part of its Climate Change Strategy.

### Vision for future of Buckinghamshire Libraries is agreed

Buckinghamshire Council's Cabinet has today reviewed and agreed a vision and strategy for Buckinghamshire's library service.

As well as traditional reading and book-borrowing, Buckinghamshire's library service has transformed to offer many more services including free computer classes, health checks, loanable tablets and a broad range of educational, social and cultural activities for all ages. ►

Over this winter our libraries have also become important welcoming spaces for anyone who needs a warm, free and safe space to visit during the colder months.

The strategy for Buckinghamshire's libraries adopted today has been developed after extensive consultation with users, staff, volunteers and stakeholders. It outlines the priorities for the service and agrees a clear vision for the future – which is that Buckinghamshire libraries “provide welcoming and safe spaces for everyone to access reading, culture and the information and services they need to learn, discover, imagine and thrive.”

With reading and book-borrowing still at the heart of our libraries, the new strategy reflects the growing use of libraries as community hubs accommodating other services too, for example, registrars and the Junction Youth Club in partnership with **Action4Youth** at High Wycombe library. Many libraries also now operate as Council Access Points, helping residents with information on wider council services.

### **New parking charges to come in across Buckinghamshire**

New charges for on and off-street parking across Buckinghamshire will come into force from Monday 3 April. The changes are being introduced following a review by the council's budget scrutiny committee.

The changes will see an increase of 20p per tariff for on street parking and 10p per tariff for off street parking.

Where applicable, free parking periods are expected to remain unchanged.

### **Buckinghamshire Council awarded £576k to provide energy efficiency and clean heating upgrades to low-income households in the county**

Buckinghamshire Council has been awarded £576,000 from the government's Home Upgrade Grant to provide energy efficiency and clean heating upgrades to owner occupied and private rented properties in the county. The upgrades are aimed at tackling fuel poverty and reducing carbon emissions.

The scheme enables eligible households to benefit from a range of energy and cost saving upgrades, depending on the specific circumstances such as the fuel source, energy efficiency and EPC rating of the home. The majority of the funding will be made available for the least efficient homes heated by the most polluting fuel sources.

### **New partnership is designed to further improve Buckinghamshire's highways**

The newly formed 'Buckinghamshire Highways' is an alliance between Buckinghamshire Council and two highly experienced and industry-leading organisations – Balfour Beatty Living Places and Atkins, as well as a number of specialist framework contractors.

Covering all elements of highways maintenance and repair, including pothole repairs, gully cleansing, street

lighting, winter gritting and resurfacing works, as well as larger improvement and development programmes, the new arrangements allow the council to take back greater control and increase accountability in effectively maintaining the county's network of almost 2,100 miles of highways and 1,500 miles of footways. Buckinghamshire Highways replaces Transport for Buckinghamshire, which for the previous 13 years managed highways in the county.

The three main partners marked the start of their alliance at a brand-new operational hub at the Griffin Lane

depot in Aylesbury. The hub uses the latest technology and has eight 55” screens to monitor activities as they happen, track the progress of works on roads and footways and identify where further efficiencies can be made. It allows operational teams to prioritise work based on the location of vehicles and operatives and intervene where required to keep outstanding work on track or where reports from the public mean urgent action is needed.

**Councillor Derek Town**

## **Ivinghoe Freight Zone**

The purpose of the Freight Zone is to restrict HGV access to the area.

Those HGVs that DO NOT have a business reason to be there, entering the area as a cut-through to somewhere else will be in breach of the order. This traffic should be encouraged to follow more suitable roads around the zone. HGVs for businesses based within the zone and trucks entering the zone to service commercial and residential properties in the zone will have exception and be allowed.

The result of surveys made during the last few years indicate that the majority of HGVs are using this part of Buckinghamshire as a cut through to other parts of the UK.

**Phase 1** covers the installation of signage around the zone making the 7.5 tonne environmental traffic regulation order restricting HGV traffic with exception for

local access legal. This started in February and is now complete.

**Phase 2** which covers the more bespoke advance notice signage on key routes around the zone, including Central Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire, to alert drivers and operators about the restriction enabling them to avoid breaching the order and follow the more appropriate routes is continuing and I will update when more concrete details are available.

A further traffic survey will be conducted to measure the change in flows around one month after the phase 2 install. The data captured will help measure the effectiveness of the zone and impact on the preferred routes around the area. The results of the post implementation surveys will be shared with local members, parish councils and the public. It must not be forgotten that the Ivinghoe scheme ►

is first intervention of this type within Buckinghamshire and as such there is no previous experience to utilise.

**Who will enforce?**

Currently powers for the enforcement of traffic regulation orders (TROs) sit with the police and the trading standards, the later not actually having powers to stop vehicles.

Under the Traffic Management Act (2022), Part VI it was enabled so that local authorities outside of London may have powers to enforce certain moving traffic offences. The council is presently introducing the first batch of locations for enforcement of Moving Traffic Offences. Requests for future locations can be made through the council website. All locations and associated processes do have to be approved by the Secretary of State for Transport.

**How will enforcement be implemented?**

The priorities for TVP and Trading Standards have not changed, being ‘crimes against the person’ and ‘protecting the vulnerable’; Local Authority capability to offer effective moving traffic enforcement is some way of. As a result it was suggested that the communities could make use of sending letters of guidance to operators observed in the zone. These letters would advise of the potential breach of the order, the risk of prosecution and encourage the use of more appropriate routes around the area. This approach was devised taking advantage of experiences from Central Beds who suggested results in excess of 80% compliance without legal enforcement measures.

A process of enforcement similar to

the ‘speedwatch’ lines is envisaged and expected to evolve over the next 2 years. It will be wrong to expect an immediate change in the traffic flows, not only will the HGV drivers need to become acquainted the zone signage and alternative routes but also, devices such as ‘in-cab navigation aids’ and maps will require updates.

**What will be the penalties?**

The maximum fine for breach of a traffic regulation order is £1,000. The police are able to enforce by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice of £50. Based on what has been observed in Oxfordshire where they have an existing Structural TRO for the medieval Newbridge. They operate the use of warning letters. In a number of cases things can escalate to a prosecution through the Magistrates Court though fines are paid to the civic purse and costs allocated to the prosecuting authority. These don’t cover the real costs so every prosecution is expensive.

**Will the police be involved/active?**

The police are able to enforce these TROs but given their priorities and the fact that for these zonal orders they would have to see a vehicle enter the restricted area, follow it till it leaves the zone; if it doesn’t stop they can pull the vehicle over and prosecute the driver, getting police support will be a challenge.

At the moment we are in no-mans land (Pilot Scheme!); we need the LA (local Authority) enforcement of moving traffic offences to offer the solution but (Bucks Council) have to get all locations and detailed plans approved by the Secretary of State these can only submit twice a year.

**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 Helen Nash**

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**Cllr Claire Bamber**

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**Cllr Peter Brazier**

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**Cllr Sheena Bexson**

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**Cllr Clive Ketteridge (known as Ketts)**

Email: **ivinghoeparishclerk@gmail.com**



**Cllr Derek J Town**

Buckinghamshire Councillor  
 Tel: **01296 661637**  
 Email: **derek.town@buckinghamshire.gov.uk**







**Please save the date for this years'**

# Ivinghoe Summer Fete

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2023, Ivinghoe Lawn, 2-5pm**

**There'll be loads of stalls and fun activities for all the family.**

**If you are interested in running your own stall,**

**please call Russell on 01296 661213 or**

**email: [bertiegreen66@gmail.com](mailto:bertiegreen66@gmail.com)**

