



# Ivinghoe Beacon Magazine

Issue 121 70 pence where sold



*Credit: James Finnigan*

## Inside this Issue:

- The VIII Age Hack – Platinum Jubilee Celebrations
- Ivinghoe Speedwatch
- Ashridge Ramblings



The Quarterly Magazine  
of Ivinghoe Parish Council

# The Beacon Team...

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

Many thanks to them all; Gloria Snowdon, Les Hyde, Pat Roach, Rob and Ann Cattle, Keith Haynes, Sharon Stewart – 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:



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May 2023 Edition – 4 April 2023  
August 2023 Edition – 4 July 2023

# Welcome from the Chair

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

### HM The Queen Platinum Jubilee

On Thursday 2nd June 2022 we gathered at Ivinghoe Lawn to celebrate the Jubilee. The event started at 9.30 with Jackie Barnett playing the special music Dui Regnare on the small pipes, there was a reading by Ivinghoe Parish Councillor Claire Bamber and the official Beacon was lit by Ivinghoe Parish Councillor Stephen Lott, after a toast by the Chairman Karen Groom.

This event was part of the official nationwide beacon's event and was organised very last minute due to the disappointment of the National Trust banning an event on Ivinghoe Beacon. Although we advertised the event on the parish noticeboards and on social media we know a few people were unable to join in.



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

It was lovely to see the celebrations throughout the parish with the street parties and the Jubilee Event held in Ivinghoe Aston. Thank you to the WI for the colourful bunting and the residents who decorated their properties to make the long weekend even more enjoyable. ▶



## Ivinghoe Traffic Calming

As I write this in June, we are expecting the traffic calming work in Ivinghoe to start at the end of July. Ivinghoe Parish Council is also investigating options for traffic calming in Ivinghoe Aston.

Ivinghoe Parish Council met with Councillor Steven Broadbent – Cabinet Member for Transport at Buckinghamshire Council and Buckinghamshire Councillor Peter Brazier where we were able to show him the outstanding issues through the parish including the footpath conditions and road surfaces. The decision on the Ivinghoe Freight Strategy is expected within the next few weeks.

## Ivinghoe Aston Layby

The layby in Ivinghoe Aston has been planted with native hedging, this is following guidance from Bucks Council Fly-tipping Enforcement Offices, we do hope the improvement in the layby will discourage fly-tippers. Thank you to Alex Razak and the team of volunteers who undertook the planting.

## Speedwatch

This issue contains the annual report from the Community Speedwatch Co-Ordinators.

As always please follow us on social media and our website [www.ivinghoeipc.org.uk](http://www.ivinghoeipc.org.uk) for updates.

## 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 – [ivinghoeiparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:ivinghoeiparishclerk@gmail.com)

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*May be slightly different between iPhone and Android*



# The vllAge Hack

Ok, so last time I said nothing much had happened. This time much more took place, not the least of which was the jubilee festivities. If I've missed things my apologies but here goes:

## Festival Time

Now in its 2nd year and with a larger audience we must applaud the organisers for again holding an event that had almost zero impact on village life. I say almost zero because a small raiding party of villagers (with tickets I might add) went along to experience the atmosphere and 'get down' with the kids. Marginally older than most attendees, they danced the night away to a bit of electronic music and whatever it is you do to transcendental music.

By all accounts it was really well organised, very friendly and with the added bonus of a huge bar! I did a quick google search and located a fuller review of the event at [www.leafie.co.uk/articles/above-below-review-grassroots-festival](http://www.leafie.co.uk/articles/above-below-review-grassroots-festival) go give it a read – you'll be pleasantly surprised. I do suspect that next years average attendee age will rise.



## Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Rightly, Sam, Sarah and Sharon have been widely applauded for organising a brilliant evening of entertainment on Saturday 4 June. On the field opposite The Village Swan they not only laid out a large marquee for a 'bring your own picnic' style dining experience, an open sided trailer as a performance stage, a few fire pits with seating under gazebos, a hot food stall and a pop up bar run by our new incumbents at the pub (more later on that) but also some great entertainment. It was a fantastic night of singing and dancing interspersed with laughter and natter. A great time where family, friends and neighbours got together in celebration.



Festivities started with a rousing rendition of our national anthem led on stage by Ketts (who was almost note perfect) alongside her majesty who'd made her way down from the royal balcony overlooking the proceeds. We then had a some wonderful renditions of well known songs by Taira Foo, some cheeky poetry from our resident poet Clare Pasquale, super vocals from Ella and Charlie, a blast of great tunes from the ever popular Booby Trap (whose bassist is Nicole now running the pub) with the evening rounded off by the outstanding McVicar (whose lead guitarist is Matt husband to Nicole). Our Liz again popped up on stage, this time with McVicar and who knew she too was a bassist!

## Street Name

It cannot be often that a village gets to name the road on which it stands but as villagers in Ivinghoe Aston know – we have. Basically, the stretch of road from

the junction with the B489 to roughly the entrance to Grove Farm has lacked a proper name and the village via the PC has been asked to propose something suitable.

No doubt the process will take time but get thinking about you'll need to notify and to the inevitable 'No, I haven't moved house. We've just named the road on which I live. Why's that, because...'

Of course, the battle afterwards might be to get some proper street name signs put up.

## The Village Swan

It cannot by now be news to anyone that The Village Swan is now being run by Nicole Johns ably assisted by her husband Matt and their family – after all I'm writing this on 12 June and you're reading it in August probably. First though a warm welcome to Nicole and Matt along with our best wishes as they take on running the pub.

Shortly after the jubilee celebration I popped in the pub for a quick chat with Nicole and her mum about plans for the future. Nicole and Matt were married just four days before they picked up the keys for the pub and can call upon 50+ years of experience in hospitality within the family. The first task, refurbishment, has been greatly helped because Nicole's mum spends her working life building and refurbishing pubs.

As for the future, Nicole is bringing in an experienced chef and plans on using local produce as far as possible to offer classic pub meals from a varied menu. As added variety they are planning on having 'kitchen takeovers' where guest chefs are bought in to offer additional

variety and give their own chef time off. Given their musical talents Nicole is keen to bring live music back to The Village Swan so keep your eyes peeled and your ears open

### Litter Bugs won't Win and Hedge Planting!

Even more thanks to Alex Razak for organising not one but two litter picks plus the planting of a whole bunch of hedgerow plants.

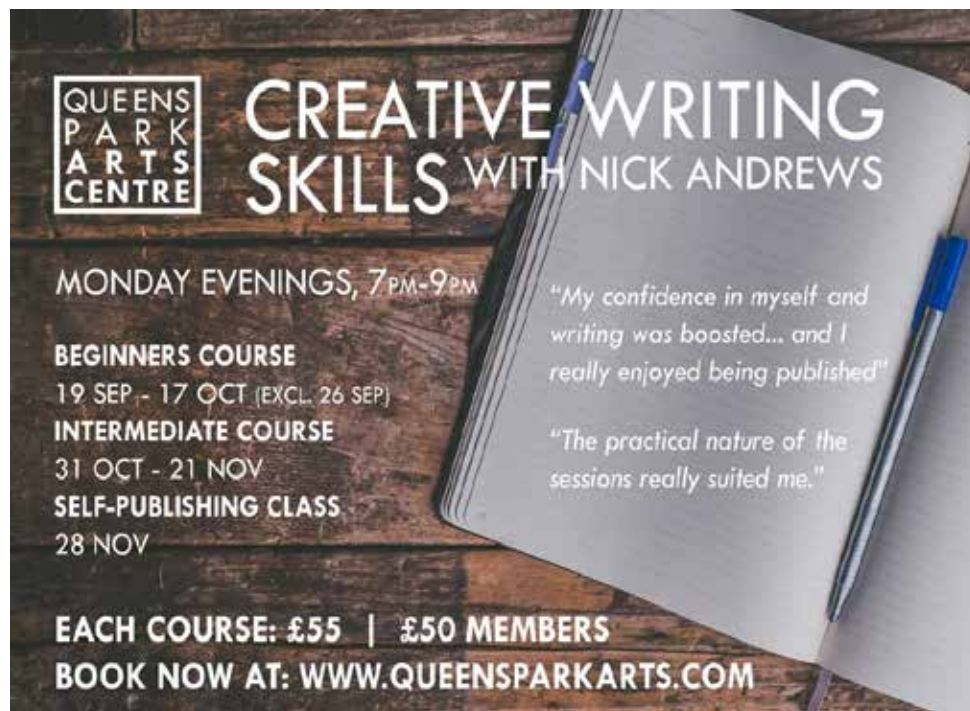
### Pot Holes

So, the obstacle course that was the collapsed sections of road and multitude of pot holes all along the length of the

road (the one with various names) has been patched. I say patched as fixed might be an over exaggeration! Anything that improves safety in negotiating the ruts and divots is a help but its only a matter of time before we're back to square one.

What I don't get though is that the road was 'top and tailed' with the stretches through housing areas completely left alone. Oh, and pot holes that at the time were full of water must have been deemed 'filled'!!

**Phil Jones** (2 Ashby Villas)  
**pajones58@googlemail.com**



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# "REFLECTIONS"

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Take care everyone and enjoy these long awaited days of summer.

### To Hire Ivinghoe Town Hall:

Stephen Swinbank  
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Or email: [spswinbank@gmail.com](mailto:spswinbank@gmail.com)

Web: [www.ivinghoetownhall.org.uk](http://www.ivinghoetownhall.org.uk)

To view contact either Stephen or myself  
**07742138955.**

OR Book online:  
[ivinghoetownhall.org.uk](http://ivinghoetownhall.org.uk)

## FORD END WATERMILL IVINGHOE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

The mill, recorded in 1616 but probably much older, Restored by volunteers and run by Ford End Watermill Society, it retains all the atmosphere of a small farm mill of the late 1800s. Stoneground wholemeal flour is for sale on milling days.

### OPENING TIMES 2022

Afternoons 2.00–5.00pm 3rd April - Sunday, 18th April - Easter Monday, 2nd May BH Monday, 8th May - National Mills Sunday, 5th June Sunday, 17th June - Sunday, 3rd July - Sunday, 24th July - Sunday, 14th August - Sunday, 29th August - BH Monday, 11th September - Sunday, 9th October - Sunday as part of Tring Apple Fayre.

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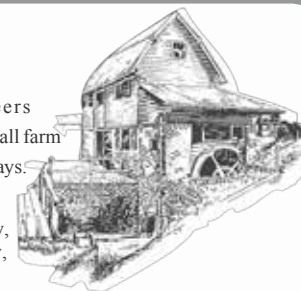
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Contact: Mill Manager - Chris Tugby, [millman@fordendwatermill.co.uk](mailto:millman@fordendwatermill.co.uk)  
or Telephone: 01442 825421. [www.fordendwatermill.co.uk](http://www.fordendwatermill.co.uk)

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## Hub News...



**We are now taking rental bookings for the old village School built in 1865 in the newly situated and refurbished Community Room at Ivinghoe Old School Community Hub.**

The new Community Room is situated at the rear of the building with its own private entrance via the rear school door and a dedicated outside patio/seating area. Rental also includes use of an adjoining fully equipped kitchen for self-catering in addition to the padded stackable chairs, fold-away tables and ambient lighting.

Speaker and projection facilities will also shortly be available in this space.

This is a great space for family and children's Birthday parties as well as other community activities.

Approx: 48.40 sq m (not including kitchen area).

Price: £12 for the first hour and £10 per hour thereafter.

**Ivinghoe Old School Community Hub**

Website: [www.ivinghoeoldschool.com](http://www.ivinghoeoldschool.com)

Email: [secretary@ivinghoehub.co.uk](mailto:secretary@ivinghoehub.co.uk)

Facebook: **Ivinghoe Old School Hub**

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## 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)



# Thinking of selling? How to get your home market ready



**M**oving house can seem like a daunting thing, but it's just a matter of taking it one step at a time, according to local independent estate agent Jon-Paul Brampton.

One of the first steps is thinking about how to get your home market ready, so that when it comes to moving forward with listing your house it is ready to make a great first impression with prospective buyers. Planning ahead is key, so the more time you give yourself the better positioned you'll be.

Buyers make up their minds very quickly and any job that needs doing will be seen as a cost to them, so here are five key areas to focus on first:

1. Redecorate key areas. This may sound obvious, but it's more a case of putting some elbow grease in over expensive kitchen and bathroom renovations. Focus instead on things like scuffed paintwork, filling in any cracks and redoing bathroom tiling grout. Simple but very effective tactics will save you a fortune.
2. Clean the house! Again, an obvious one, but you want people to imagine your house as their home, so having a good tidy and lighting some candles is a cheap and easy way of creating an inviting atmosphere.
3. Increase your kerb appeal with simple changes. Power wash your drive,

introduce or refresh your plant pots and hanging baskets. Not only do things like this look good in the flesh but they also work wonders in photos for marketing your home.

4. Declutter but don't depersonalise. People buy into lifestyles as much as homes, and a happy family home filled with photos and personal touches says a lot about the way you love the home you live in, which transmits to buyers' perceptions.
5. Go the extra step to make a big impact. While they're not legal requirements, getting your boiler serviced and electric signed off helps to show that your home is well cared for and you have everything in order, which is a great impression to give!

As well as getting your house ready, there are steps you can take to get yourself ready that will save time once you're in a position to move forward. This includes choosing a conveyancing solicitor – this will save you two weeks at the start of a sales process if you have already filled in the initial conveyancing paperwork.

Having a good estate agent that you can trust makes a world of difference to the whole moving experience. If you're thinking of moving and would like advice on getting your house market ready I'd love to help. Get in touch at **Jon-Paul.brampton@exp.uk.com** or **07359 015 020**.

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# WI News...

## Ivinghoe & Pitstone Women's Institute



Ivinghoe and Pitstone's WI has started its new membership year with 50 members. A great start to the year. The new Officers of the Committee have completed their training and familiarised themselves with the running of the WI and events have been running smoothly.

Our April meeting was our final meeting on Zoom as our speaker, Jane Napier lived too far away to convert to a face to face meeting. Jane is a Chocolatier who discovered the art of tempering chocolate when she attended a course run by Mark Tilling, award winning Chocolatier and Pastry Chef. Jane has been tempering chocolate and giving demonstrations and talks ever since. The talk was interesting and very informative. The Easter eggs and filled mini eggs that Jane made looked beautiful and delicious. We now have plenty of time to practise making our own eggs for next Easter.

Our May meeting was all about celebrating our 105th birthday in Pitstone Pavilion Hall. We had a bring and share meal with every member bringing either a savoury or sweet dish to the table. this resulted in a lot of different tastes and options for our members to enjoy. This was followed by a Birthday toast and a slice of the beautiful cake made by 2 of our members.

We then enjoyed some entertaining games which brought laughter to our tables. Our President announced that one of our members, Fran Booth, won an award to recognise her outstanding community contribution from the Proud of Bucks Awards – Wing and Ivinghoe. Well done Fran!

June was all about celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Our Knit and Natter group of ladies have been spending the last few months planning and making bunting and red, white and blue decorations that adorn our two villages fluttering in the breeze. We have received many positive comments from the villagers. Our meeting was a lovely celebration of the Queen's 70 years on the throne. It was a great pleasure to invite members from surrounding WIs to join us and included members from Marsworth, Long Marston and Puttenham, Edlesborough and Buckland, Drayton Beauchamp and Aston Clinton WIs. A comment by one of our visitors summed up what we were all felt. "It is really lovely to do something different and meet other members in our group. We have missed getting together".

Everyone enjoyed a tea party with finger sandwiches and a selection of cakes which included both vegan and gluten free options. The Queen was of course, too busy to attend our party but we did raise our glasses to toast her health and give our thanks for the marvellous job and sacrifice she has made for us all over the last 70 years. The fun continued with our competition for the best decorated hat which was a hard job to decide as there were so many beautifully decorated hats in red, white and blue and a quiz which tested our knowledge about the Queen and Royal Family.

Our clubs continue to meet up. Supper club meets up once a month on the third Thursday evening of the month and participants have enjoyed meals at The Bell in Aston Clinton, The

King's Arms in Tring and The Greyhound in Aldbury. Our Craft group members meet at the Hub on the last Wednesday of the month and over the last 3 months have made beautiful Easter Wreaths, painted tea light holders and fabulous flower arrangements. Random Readers meet at the Hub on the first Wednesday of the month between 19:30pm and 21:00pm while our popular Board Games club have moved location to Pitstone Pavilion and meet twice a month on the second and fourth afternoons in the Hub from 13.30pm to 15.30pm.

The Walking Group have now completed 3 stages of Greensand Ridge Walk with the final walk being completed in July. The walkers have enjoyed the beautiful scenery of Bedfordshire and the weather has mostly been good which has been an added bonus. The Knit and Natter group also meet once a month and are responsible for the beautiful bunting and decorations around the village.

We have lots of exciting events planned for the rest of the year. In July we are discussing the possibility of a venue change. In August we have our summer outing and are looking forward to an evening of fun at Tring Bowling Club. In September our guest speaker will be Dr Chris Beach who will inform us all about acupuncture.

Further details of these events and if anyone is interested in joining our Group and would like a trial or further information, please contact Annette Hutchinson email:

**[annetteipw@btinternet.com](mailto:annetteipw@btinternet.com)**

**Kay Ison**



# Ivinghoe Speedwatch

Speeding Vehicles in Ivinghoe Aston... or, **what we have found out and our thinking on what to do about it.**

This black box does more than tell drivers to slow down when they are speeding past it. It also counts the vehicles, records their speed, date and time (even when it is not flashing) and the whole lot is downloaded into a statistics package that give us a clear indication of what is going on.



**For the first time ever, we have a years' worth of information from various sites within Ivinghoe Aston.**

What it tells us is very revealing and puts a figure on what everyone has suspected, and in some cases witnessed, of the vehicles speeding through the village.

Over the last year we have been monitoring the traffic at the following locations:

- Village Centre (6 Acres), traffic travelling towards Slapton
- By Ivinghoe Aston Farm, traffic travelling towards the Beacon
- Opposite Hartop Close, traffic travelling towards Slapton
- Opposite Hartop Close, traffic travelling towards the Beacon



The following information is from each site.

Site	Village Centre (6 Acres) > Slapton
Speed Limit	30mph
Max Speed Recorded	80mph @ 08.45
85th Percentile Speed	34.2mph
Average Daily Vehicle Count	806
% Vehicles over Limit (Speeding)	35.1%
Average Speeder	35.1mph

Site	IA Farm > Beacon
Speed Limit	30mph
Max Speed Recorded	65mph @ 00:15
85th Percentile Speed	37.2mph
Average Daily Vehicle Count	400
% Vehicles over Limit (Speeding)	50.1%
Average Speeder	36.2mph

Site	Hartop Close > Slapton
Speed Limit	40mph
Max Speed Recorded	90mph @ 18.15
85th Percentile Speed	38.6mph
Average Daily Vehicle Count	587
% Vehicles over Limit (Speeding)	11.8%
Average Speeder	45mph

Site	Hartop Close > Beacon
Speed Limit	40mph
Max Speed Recorded	80mph @ 17.15
85th Percentile Speed	40.2mph
Average Daily Vehicle Count	462
% Vehicles over Limit (Speeding)	15.8%
Average Speeder	45.2mph

If we look at traffic coming down the hill from the Beacon travelling through the village in the direction of Slapton, there is a daily count difference of 230 vehicles, so that means at least 230 vehicles per day

are coming down the hill and terminating their journey within the village before they reach Hartop Close. If the same percentage is calculated of those speeding at this point then that equates to 80 vehicles a day are passing this point that could be speeding that are possibly terminating their journey within the village. It is also possible that none of those 230 are speeding and that it is all through traffic.

Similarly if we look at the traffic in the opposite direction, there is a difference in the counts of 62 vehicles, suggesting that those 62 are terminating their journeys by the time they reach Ivinghoe Aston Farm. By the same argument above that would mean that 10 vehicles terminating their journey before IA Farm are possibly speeding, but by the same argument they could all be through traffic.

None of the above does not negate the fact that there are possibly 550 vehicles per day that are speeding at some point in the village.

**Conclusion.** Although it is highly likely that most, if not all, speeding traffic passing through the village is the cause, there is a possibility with the difference in figures that some of the speeding traffic is being generated from within. This may not be entirely down to residents themselves but could be down to them unwittingly causing others to speed, e.g. home deliveries, visitors, etc.

**Can the Police do anything about the speeding?** Possibly but probably not.

**Why?** The police look at the 85th percentile speed, this is the speed at which 85% of the traffic is travelling at or below.

They use this figure to determine if a site warrants special attention. You will note that at both the Hartop sites, this figure is at or below the speed limit, so they will almost certainly discount these sites for special attention.

The other two sites the 85th percentile figure is between 10% and 20% over and would qualify for police attention, but these sites are either in the centre of the village or less than 300m from a speed limit change. The police speed guns need to be at least 300m clear to ensure that they are not catching drivers travelling legally within another higher speed limit. Both sites would probably be ruled out as not acceptable for further action due to the restraints.

Having said all this we are intent on sending in these figures to TVP to get their take on them. The figures have been given over to Ivinghoe Parish Council (IPC) to bring this situation to their attention

## What's next

Speedwatch is very much an educational tool, but there is a percentage of drivers that refuse to be educated. There follows a carrot and stick approach in which TVP could possibly set up the use of police operated speed cameras, but that will lead to fines and points.

Regardless of police action IPC are already looking into the possibility of traffic calming along with the Buckinghamshire Council Highways. However this will bring a cost to the parish to which if required IPC may be able to partly reclaim through the Bucks Community Board.

There will be more on the subject of traffic calming in future editions.

**Ivinghoe Parish Council Speedwatch Co-Ordinators**





## CAN YOU HELP?

We are looking for more volunteers to help at the lovely and ancient church of St Mary's in Pitstone.

We particularly need people willing to run or help run events in the church. These are usually held during our normal opening times (May to September Sunday and Bank Holiday afternoons) but are occasionally in the evening or on Saturdays. The funds raised go to the maintenance of the church either directly or through the Churches Conservation Trust in which the church is vested.

We also need people who are willing to open and sit in the church on Sunday and Bank Holiday afternoons between the beginning of May and the end of September (virus permitting). Even one afternoon would help.

For more information please contact either:

**Jean Booth 01296 661745**  
[jean.g.booth@btinternet.com](mailto:jean.g.booth@btinternet.com)

or

**Annie Stack 01296 668020**  
[annie.stack12@gmail.com](mailto:annie.stack12@gmail.com)



## Music-a-thon

A day of continuous singing and music  
 At St Mary's Church Ivinghoe

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October 9.30am to 5pm**

**Raising funds for the oldest building in Ivinghoe village**

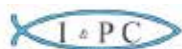
Refreshments available throughout the day

Lunches available 12noon to 2pm

If you would like to take part or come and support us we would love to see you.

For further information please email or telephone **Sandra Green:**

[sandragreen20@hotmail.com](mailto:sandragreen20@hotmail.com) 01296 668648



## 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 Quizzes 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.



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## 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





**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 Ivinghoe Old School Village Hub,  
High Street, Ivinghoe Hall. Guider: Rebecca Capron **07545 347787**  
Email: [beckylonghurst@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:beckylonghurst@hotmail.co.uk)

**To join us,** please visit our website at [Girlguiding.org.uk](http://Girlguiding.org.uk)



**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.



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by popular demand

**Ivinghoe, Ivinghoe Aston and Pitstone  
Horticultural Show**

is back, and the committee send all who wish to  
contribute their own entries a very warm  
**welcome!**

**Saturday 3rd September 2022**

**The Show Schedule with all details of entering our  
Flower, Vegetable, Craft and Cookery challenges,  
and rules of entry will be published widely  
by mid-July**

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!



## Pitstone & Ivinghoe Football Club

Hi, I am Bob Beesley, chairman of Pitstone and Ivinghoe FC. A football club currently plying its trade in Division 2 of the Spartan South Midlands League. We are on a journey to enter the football pyramid proper, but we really really need your support and help!

In order for the football club to progress from Division 2 to Division 1 and beyond, our facilities must be upgraded, with the introduction of floodlights, barriers, walkways etc. With these upgrades the club will then no longer be recognised as being 'grassroots' instead entering the football pyramid. It's hugely exciting and all involved with the club are working tirelessly to make this dream a reality.

Last season was a success, we finished 3rd in the league, just six points off top of the table. However, this season coming is probably the most important in the clubs history, and we want as many people and businesses to be a part of this journey.

As a club we run very hand to mouth, and without the contributions of a few select individuals we would not be on this

journey today. We need this to change and are now openly asking for businesses, individuals, whoever you may be, to come along on the ride with us and look at the many options for sponsorship, support, donations etc. that you may be able to offer to us. It's all about helping us kick on and make our way into the football pyramid proper, imagine the possibility of Pitstone competing in FA Cup Qualifying!

We are extremely excited about next season but we want all of Pitstone, Ivinghoe, and the surrounding villages to be as excited as we are, so if anybody can offer us financial backing, donations of food and drink for matchdays, their voluntary services on matchdays, please get in touch and get involved.

We are all on a journey here at the club and we want you along on that journey with us, I can't wait to hear and speak to so many more local people over the coming weeks, months and into next season.

Best Wishes, **Bob Beesley**




**\*\*RELAUNCH\*\***



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# Ivinghoe Allotments

## News from the Allotment



**D**o you have a happy place? Somewhere you love, yearn to visit regularly? What a silly question, I hear you say, "it's the Bahamas/Bordeaux/(feel free to complete as appropriate) of course".

My sister-in-law declares her greenhouse is where she is happiest, planting seeds and potting on seedlings. Her radio is playing, the rain's lashing down, but she is warm and dry and feels the earth and a connection. I feel the same way about my allotment (perhaps not the rainy bit).

I am sure I have previously referred to it as my happy place or if not, told anyone who will listen that it is. For us 'allotmenters' our patches are our escape from the everyday. It's where hours seem like minutes, where one barely cares that all the digging and weed pulling has left you with sore shoulders and an achy back. It is a tonic for positive physical and mental health.

That sense of happiness doesn't apply just to my own allotment. I love watching Alastair prune and tend to his vines. These will eventually, by September, produce the most delicious grapes which Alastair will turn into wine and vinegar. Alex has the most beautiful flowers running through her beds. Others have a plethora of scrumptious looking, tempting raspberries which shout 'eat me!', especially Sam's yellow variety. It is a real pleasure to see the progress, at whatever pace, of new

allotments being worked. All of us share in the excitement of evolving plots which, from experience, take a number of years to really take shape and of their first and subsequent new growths.

At the moment my joy is Russell's new pond. I have a tiny pond, currently a rather pathetic thing in need of research and intensive work. Russell's, in contrast, is a thing of beauty. He worked diligently to build and line it and to populate it with the appropriate plants and landscape it with repurposed grass and other vegetation.



Traditionally, ponds were not part of the allotment landscape. Over time our thinking has changed as we've got to know more about how they can support biodiversity. Water is a calming influence, good for our mental health, but ponds primarily create spaces where wildlife, often under severe pressure from our industrial society, can regroup and help gardeners in the process.

Wildlife ponds provide a crucible for

life. They enable the natural migration of species including amphibians, reptiles, mammals, and survival of many invertebrates and insects. They are natural food and water sources for many animals that are part of our vital ecosystem. These include invertebrates such as pond skaters, water snails, beetles, and boatmen. Dragonflies and damselflies start their existence as nymphs underwater, then prey on other insects and tadpoles until they climb out of the water from tall aquatic plants with their wings ready to fly.

Amphibians, such as frogs, toads, and newts also benefit. The birds who thrive on them can target slugs or snails, both of which are a constant menace for allotment holders and gardeners. It is part of the ecosystem that supports many of our pollinators for fruit, vegetables and flowers.

The RHS concurs. In its view 'a pond is an attractive feature and can also be a haven for wildlife. During the past century, nearly 70% of ponds have been lost from the UK countryside.' That gives ponds and water features an increasingly important role for wildlife, from a simple drinking source to a thriving habitat for multiple species, its own ecosystem. Monty Don in 'Down to Earth' comments 'that a pond will instantly attract every kind of wildlife, including frogs, newts, insects, birds and bats. All of these actively contribute to the environmental health of your plants'. 'Without a varied insect population, the whole food chain of birds, mammals and flowers starts to fall apart. Not only do we want more insects – we need them'. So Russell's pond is not only beneficial to his produce but also to the rest of the allotments. Alastair grows watercress in his!

When you read these musings it will be August and hopefully the days will be bathed in warmth and sunshine, conducive

to the production of delicious homegrown tomatoes. My optimistic outlook encouraged me to include a recipe for that glut of tomatoes, which will work just as well with shop bought or even easier, good quality tinned tomatoes. This has been my 'go to' Gazpacho recipe for many years, originally adapted from the Good Housekeeping Cookery Book. It serves 6-8 people and if you use a liquidiser or food processor, you only need to roughly chop the ingredients.

**Ingredients:** 700g ripe tomatoes or 2 tins of chopped tomatoes, 1 carton of V8 juice, ½ red onion, 1 cucumber roughly chopped, 1 red pepper and 1 green pepper deseeded and roughly chopped, 3 garlic cloves peeled and chopped, 2 slices of bread or 225g of breadcrumbs, 4tbs wine vinegar, 6tbs olive oil, salt and pepper. Garnishes: finely chopped cucumber, red peppers and croutons.

**Method:** (1) If using fresh tomatoes, immerse in a bowl of boiling water for ten seconds, drain and refresh under cold water. Peel the tomatoes. (2) Put everything into a large bowl except the V8 and season with the salt and pepper. (3) Stir thoroughly. (4) Transfer in batches to a liquidiser or food processor and puree with the V8. (5) Adjust the seasoning and chill in the fridge until needed (it is best made the day before as this allows the flavours to mature). (6) To serve, set out the garnishes in small bowls to accompany the soup.

Serve chilled. For years my husband struggled with the notion of cold tomato soup, but now greets Gazpacho with relish.

### Bon Appetit

Take care **Simone** – Ivinghoe Plot Holder



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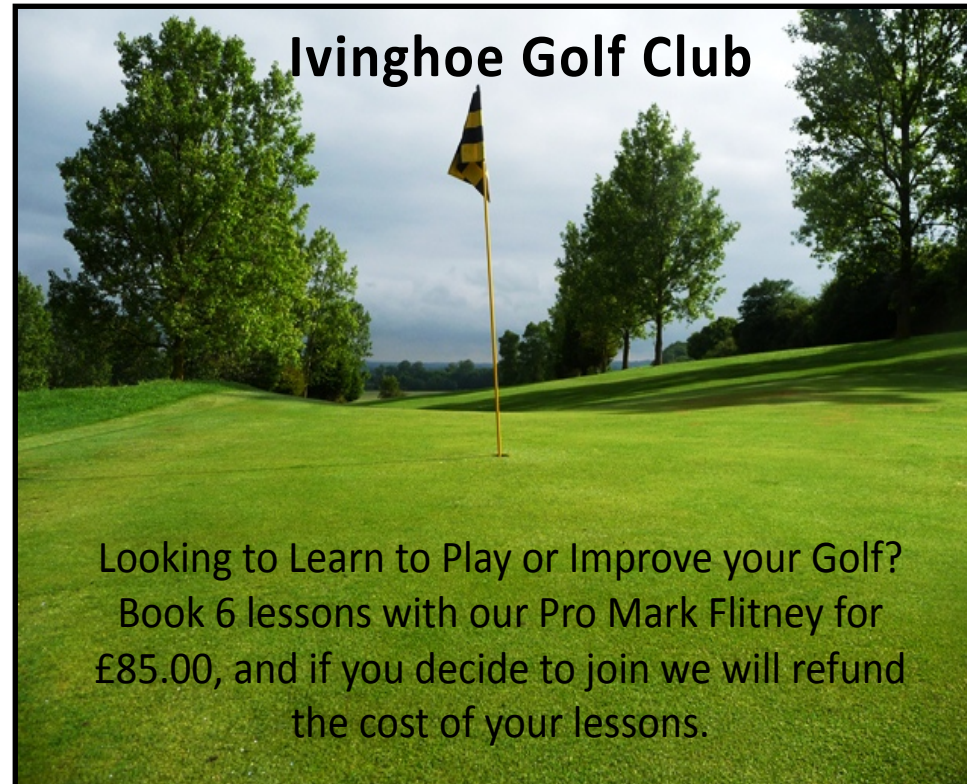
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## National Allotments Week

A National Allotment Society initiative

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2022**

### Allotments Open Day

Ivinghoe Allotments will be open to the public  
in conjunction with  
**St Mary's Church, Ivinghoe**

Allotments open 2pm – 4:30pm  
Teas at the Church 3pm – 5pm

Allotments are located in Church Road, Ivinghoe  
Opposite the church, all welcome.

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## Need help with your project?

I'm a project manager with 20+ years experience managing studios, projects and supporting Founders and CEOs.

Based in the Ivinghoe area and having worked in industries as diverse as architecture, theatre and retail design, I can turn my hand to most things and get it done with haste (and taste!).

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



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# Ashridge Ramblings – Location, Location... and Designation

I heard recently that all building applications in the area are on hold whilst potential impacts on a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) are considered. The SAC concerned is the Chilterns Beechwoods SAC, specifically the Ashridge Commons and Woods area which forms 50% of the Chilterns Beechwoods SAC.

An ecology report undertaken on behalf of Dacorum Borough Council has identified that additional residential development around Ashridge will lead to more visitors and an increase in adverse activities such as trampling, mountain biking and dog fouling. The circular so-called “zone of influence” reaches Leighton Buzzard in the north, Harpenden in the east, Amersham in the south and Aylesbury in the west. This does not mean that residential development in this area cannot ever happen, but it does mean that mitigation measures must be agreed in consultation with Natural England and the National Trust. These measures might include provision of green spaces that will divert people away from Ashridge.

It is good to know that Ashridge is thus protected, but the various designations can be quite tricky to get one’s head round, so here is a brief summary of those found on the Ashridge Estate.

## Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

This is the only designation in the UK which is based on European law, transferred to UK legislation since we left the EU. Sites covered by this designation are recognised as being of such importance for wildlife that they are significant in the context of Europe, not just within the UK, and they are afforded the highest level of protection in planning law, as seen from the example above.

## Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, SSSIs are notified by the government for areas of special interest because of flora, fauna or geology. In England, it is the responsibility of Natural England to designate these areas. The designation recognises that a site has significance at a national level within the UK and affords some planning protection and protection against operations that may cause damage. Ashridge Estate contains six different SSSIs.

## Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

AONBs are designated by Natural England for their scenic beauty. They have equal status with National Parks

when it comes to planning applications. National Parks and AONBS are part of a network of more than 100,000 sites worldwide that are designated by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as protected areas.

## Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest

The Historic England ‘Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England’ covers over 1,600 sites, including the area around Ashridge House which is registered as a Grade II\* Park and Garden. This offers no official statutory protection, but the advice of Historic England will always be considered extremely important.

## Ancient Woodland

Ancient Woodland is defined as an area of land where there have been trees since 1600. This is only 2% of UK woodland, and includes much of Ashridge. Much of the rare wildlife in ancient woodland is related to the soil which contains specialised woodland flowers and fungi. The categorisation does not provide any statutory protection.

## County Wildlife Sites (CWS)

These sites are designated for their important wildlife value. Although not

conferring any statutory protection, this designation does affirm a site’s importance for wildlife at a county level, and they are often exceptionally rich in wildlife.

Various other designations such as BAP (Biodiversity Action Plan) Priority Habitats, Green Belt, Scheduled Monuments and Listed Buildings, all of which are present at Ashridge, help to preserve wildlife, archaeology, and geological and architectural assets.

It is clear that Ashridge has massive protection against damage to its many wonders. These can sometimes be challenging to navigate and can make it very complex to carry out improvements to car parking facilities, for example. As always, there is a delicate balance to be struck between conserving our natural and manmade treasures and making them accessible to visitors.

## Rikki Harrington

(Ashridge Estate Committee Member)  
harrington.rikki@gmail.com

## Buckinghamshire Councillors Report – June 22 (Councillor Derek Town)

# Senior political appointments confirmed at Buckinghamshire Council

Senior political appointments have been confirmed by Buckinghamshire Council following its Annual General Meeting today (18 May) held at The Gateway offices in Aylesbury.

Martin Tett continues as Leader of the Council with his own set of portfolio responsibilities covering financial strategy, economic development, skills and employability, strategic infrastructure, policy and communications and the recovery plan for Buckinghamshire.

Two deputy leaders, Angela Macpherson and Gareth Williams, will continue to provide support in addition to their own cabinet responsibilities.

Taking up the important ceremonial position of Chairman of the Council for the forthcoming year is Dev Dhillon, with Patricia Birchley supporting him as Vice-Chairman of the Council.

Martin also announced his new Cabinet appointments, together with deputy cabinet member positions. The full list is:

### Health and Wellbeing Portfolio

**Angela Macpherson** – Cabinet Member and Deputy Leader

**Zahir Mohammed** – Deputy Cabinet Member (Public Health)

### Climate Change and Environment Portfolio

**Gareth Williams** – Cabinet Member and Deputy Leader

**Jilly Jordan** – Deputy Cabinet Member (Environment)

Planning and Regeneration Portfolio

**Peter Strachan** – Cabinet Member

**Rachael Matthews** – Deputy Cabinet Member (Town Centre Regeneration)

**Gary Hall** – Deputy Cabinet Member (Enforcement)

### Homelessness and Regulatory Services Portfolio

**Mark Winn** – Cabinet Member

**Carl Jackson** – Deputy Cabinet Member (Regulatory Services)

### Education and Children's Services Portfolio

**Anita Cranmer** – Cabinet Member

**Joe Baum** – Deputy Cabinet Member (Skills)

### Transport Portfolio

**Steven Broadbent** – Cabinet Member

**Peter Martin** – Deputy Cabinet Member (HS2/EWR)

**David King** – Deputy Cabinet Member (Transport Delivery)

### Accessible Housing and Resources Portfolio

**John Chilver** – Cabinet Member

**Tim Butcher** – Deputy Cabinet Member (Resources and HR)

Culture and Leisure Portfolio

**Clive Harriss** – Cabinet Member Communities Portfolio

**Steve Bowles** – Cabinet Member

**Arif Hussain** – Deputy Cabinet Member (Community Safety)

### Please remember the right way to Recycle Electricals

Buckinghamshire residents are being given a timely reminder to take note of the right and responsible way to recycle electrical items, following a recent fire on one of the council's refuse vehicles.

The recycling collection truck was on rounds in Amersham when it caught fire last week. Luckily the quick-thinking crew spotted the fire and acted promptly to contain it, calling on the Fire Service to attend. Once the fire was extinguished, the vehicle returned straight to the depot where the contents were tipped out and monitored to ensure no further fires broke out. The cause of the fire was found to be a laptop and battery, which had been placed in a recycling bin for collection. No-one was hurt in the incident and the vehicle was undamaged.

Across Buckinghamshire, batteries can be recycled at the kerbside if placed inside a standard carrier bag and left on top of the resident's recycling bin. They will then be collected by council crews on the day they normally empty the bin.

Small electrical items (broadly categorised as anything with a plug, battery or charger) should be taken to a local household recycling centre. These items include:

- Hair dryers
- Hair straighteners
- Electric toothbrushes
- Games controllers
- Mobile phones and chargers
- Small electrical power tools

If an electrical item is larger than a shoe box (for example, microwave ovens and car batteries) it will need to be taken to a local Household Recycling Centre. Alternatively, residents can arrange for items to be collected, for a fee, using the council's bulky waste collection services.

For more information visit the **Recycle for Buckinghamshire website**.

### Buckinghamshire Council brings two more Fly-Tippers to Justice

Two more criminals caught fly-tipping in Buckinghamshire have been brought to justice thanks to efforts by Buckinghamshire Council's enforcement team. In both cases the offenders could have brought the majority of their waste to one of the council's Household Recycling Centres free of charge, but instead chose to break the law and paid the price. ►



## Council gives Green Light to outline plan to create more Affordable Housing

Buckinghamshire Council has agreed to proceed with preparing an outline planning application to redevelop land at the site of the former Buckinghamshire County Council Sports & Social Club at Stoke Mandeville.

The aspiration of the outline planning application is to use Council-owned land to help deliver housing that is affordable and accessible to benefit the community. The potential development would include a minimum of 30% of affordable housing.

Using council land provides an opportunity to provide affordable housing in excess of the levels that are set out in planning requirements. The aspiration is the development will also include a number of homes for clients of adults and children's services. If an outline planning application is successful, a detailed development scheme will be considered by Cabinet at a future date and a detailed planning application will follow.

A recent consultation showing how the land might be developed received mixed feedback from local people. Green space and sports facilities at the site were key themes which emerged. Future proposals will seek to address this.

## It's a win-win situation when you play Buckinghamshire Lottery

Sign up and support a good cause today – not only will you be in with the chance of winning weekly cash prizes of up to £25,000, but if you enter before Saturday 25 June, you will be in with the chance of winning a £1,000 Staycation with Forest Holidays, all for just £1 a week!

Buckinghamshire Lottery is a lottery for the people, by the people. It's a fun way to help good causes without giving up precious time.

Tickets are just £1 in the weekly draw, and you can choose exactly which cause you would like your money to go to. More of your money goes to your chosen cause than with any other major lottery – you can see the exact breakdown of where every penny goes on Buckinghamshire Council's website. If you enter before 25 June and are in a need of a summer getaway, you can also enter to win a luxurious cabin escape in the forest, where you can kick back and relax in your very own bubbling hot tub!

Since its launch, the Buckinghamshire Lottery has raised thousands of pounds for small charities - so why not join in? Unlike larger lotteries, the majority of your ticket purchase comes back into the community and the odds of winning a prize are much better, at an amazing 50:1. It really is a win-win: even if you don't win a cash prize, you can be content in knowing that you are making a real difference! Visit the council's website to see which good causes you can support, and buy a ticket today.

If you are a local charity or community group looking to boost your fundraising and are interested at joining Buckinghamshire Lottery, further information can be found on the website. There's no risk, no admin, and best of all, there are no fees. You'll also receive year-round, free marketing materials and support to help you in your quest for fundraising.

Sign up today at:  
**[www.buckinghamshirelottery.co.uk](http://www.buckinghamshirelottery.co.uk)**

## Your local Councillors:

### Cllr Karen Groom

Chairman – Ivinghoe Parish Council  
Add: Willowdene Farm, Ivinghoe, LU7 9EA  
Tel: 01296 668326 or Mob: 07882 3562411  
Email: [karengroom@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:karengroom@hotmail.co.uk)



### Cllr Claire Bamber

Vice Chairman – Ivinghoe Parish Council  
Add: Bruce Grove House, Great Gap, Ivinghoe, LU7 9DZ  
Tel: 01296 668134 or Mob: 07711 107 114  
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### Cllr Paul Jellis

Email: [ivinghoeishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:ivinghoeishclerk@gmail.com)



### Cllr Stephen Lott

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### Cllr Sheena Bexson

Email: [SBexson@automotive-property.com](mailto:SBexson@automotive-property.com)



### Cllr Clive Ketteridge (known as Ketts)

Email: [ivinghoeishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:ivinghoeishclerk@gmail.com)



### Cllr Pat Roach

Add: Church View, Church Road, Ivinghoe LU7 9EU  
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### Mrs Bridget Knight

Clerk to Ivinghoe Parish Council  
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### Cllr Peter Brazier

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### Cllr Chris Poll

Buckinghamshire Councillor  
Edlesborough Ward  
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Tel: 01296 663 737  
Email: [chris.poll@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:chris.poll@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)



### Cllr Derek J Town

Buckinghamshire Councillor  
Tel: 01296 661637  
Email: [derek.town@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:derek.town@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)



## This is an increasing problem at Ivinghoe Lawn

If you witness a dog owner not clearing up after their dog please report to Ivinghoe Parish Council who will pass this to the authorities.

There is a £1,000 fine.

Tel: 07960 605393 Email: [ivinghoeparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:ivinghoeparishclerk@gmail.com)



Thoughtless dog owners

We're watching you!

9 out of 10 dog owners  
clean up after their dog.  
Are you the one who doesn't?

Bag that poo, any rubbish bin will do

