

WELCOME TO BOVINGDON NEWS



It's mid-September and I sit here writing my editorial surrounded by the belongings of my youngest, who's all ready to set off on the great adventure that is university – having gone through this process once before, it all seems to have gone smoothly so far... boys definitely have less stuff though! I know he is looking forward to going but I also know he will enjoy coming back home for parental TLC and student loan top-ups! This will mean we are now a child-free zone: Josh moved out three years ago, followed by Mollie a year later, and now it's Lou's turn... it will be quite strange at first being in the house without them all! I know I won't be the only parent in the village going through this process, so I would like to wish all of the young men and women going off to university: good luck and have a great time... and to all the parents: enjoy the freedom!

We shall all have to keep ourselves busy with village life – and there's always lots going on in our village, with all our various clubs, groups and societies... just check out the Village Diary (pages 31 and 35).

One final thought: even if it is mid-September, may I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year (way too strange to write this in September, but here I am)!

Steph Farrer

Editor, Bovingdon News

07913 086477 / steph@farrspark.co.uk

Copy for the Next Edition of Bovingdon News

We welcome articles from any residents of the village – without your support the Bovingdon News would not be the interesting read it currently is! Any articles must be submitted by March 7th either by email (to steph@farrspark.co.uk) or post (to the Parish Clerk's office). For advertisers, payments and any changes to advertisements should be submitted by February 28th (BACS is preferable but if payment by cheque it should be made payable to Bovingdon Parish Council) to the Parish Clerk's office. Adverts may be supplied as complete files (preferably PDFs, black and white only) or can be created in-house (all b/w images and text to be supplied with a hard copy please). Please note, however, to avoid repetition within editorial copy the area code 01442 has been omitted from some local phone numbers.

Opinions

It should be noted that neither the Editor nor the Parish Council can accept responsibility or be held liable for any errors or claims made by the advertisers nor do they necessarily agree with the views expressed by the contributors.

Thanks

The Parish Council wish to thank all persons involved in producing, supporting and delivering the Bovingdon News.

Bovingdon News is designed and edited by Steph Farrer, Farrspark Ltd
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Miscellaneous

Memorial Hall Toilets

The public toilets are now open/closed as follows: Mon/Tue/Wed 8am-3:30pm, Thu CLOSED, Fri 8am-12:30pm, Sat 8am-6pm, and Sun CLOSED. The toilet for disabled users is accessed using a RADAR key available from Mike Kember, Parish Clerk.

Refuse Bank Holiday Collections

Details of Bank Holiday collection dates will be published in the local press and be available on the Dacorum website: <http://www.dacorum.gov.uk> (search under refuse collection). Dacorum Waste Centre is at Cupid Green Depot, 867858.

Scoop the Poop!

Bovingdon Parish Council supply dog poop bags to villagers at a cost of 50p/pack. Bags can be collected from the Parish Office during office hours; thank you for cleaning up after your dog.

Saturday Parking

Did you know that parking is available on Saturdays in the High Street at the rear of Batemans Solicitors and also in the School car park (from 8:30-18:30)?

Scout Christmas Tree Collection

Hemel Hempstead Scouts are once again collecting your old Christmas Trees over the weekend of 4th-5th January. We will be collecting in Bovingdon from approximately 4pm-9pm on Saturday 4th January. There will be a minimum donation of £5 for each tree collected and they will be recycled in conjunction with Dacorum Borough Council. If you would like to book a collection, please use the details below; bookings will also be taken via the Bovingdon Facebook page from Boxing Day.



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For further information, contact Deborah Fogden, Community Transport Manager, Community Transport Team on deborah@communityactiondacorum.org.uk or the booking co-ordinator on ctadmin@communityactiondacorum.org.uk

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Chairman's Report

Parish and Borough Elections

The Parish and Borough Council Elections were held on Thursday 2nd May, where the three existing Borough Ward Councillors were re-elected to serve for a further four years. In respect of the Parish Council, there were only nine candidates who put their names forward; since this was less than the ten places available they were all appointed without the need for an election. We are pleased to welcome Councillor Hugh Schneiders to the Council. Hugh has lived and worked in the village for over 40 years and I am sure his vast array of local knowledge will be a great asset to the Council. Subsequent to the election the Council called for further applications to fill the remaining vacancy and I am pleased to advise you that Philip Walker was unanimously nominated to join us on 3rd June. Phil has lived in the village for 26 years and has a wealth of knowledge particularly in the field of property working for a local firm of chartered surveyors for a number of years.



Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting took place on Monday 13th May: in excess of 50 people attended and refreshments were again kindly provided by Zeera and Ravi from Bovingdon Village Stores. The Council invited Keely Saddiqui Charlick, the CEO of Sunnyside Rural Trust, to speak at the meeting. She gave a most interesting presentation about the work of the Trust and the philosophy behind it. Matt Felix and some of the people who work for the Trust then gave us their views of how working with the Trust was of benefit both to them and the wider community. Sunnyside also had a stand at the back of the room selling produce from their nursery and garden sites in Hemel Hempstead and Northchurch. We also had a second speaker, Mrs. Sue Rose, Chair of the Hemel Hempstead Branch of the Royal British Legion, who gave a comprehensive talk about the work of the Legion nationally and also about the work of the local branches. Tom Morkill, Chair of the Chipperfield and Bovingdon Sub-Branch of the Legion also attended with a display of literature and posters detailing the work of the Legion.



Parish Events

The annual event organised by Friends of Bovingdon Green took place on Monday 26th August. This year, as well as the usual Dog Show, the event has developed more into a Village Fun Day with the addition of a number of stalls run by local community groups. The event was very successful with money being raised directly by the community groups attending and also by the Friends of Bovingdon Green who donate all of the profits to local groups and dog charities.



The following Sunday saw the third annual Bovingdon 10K and 3K Fun Run take place. This is a Parish Council event organised primarily by ex-Councillor Richard Taylor and Councillor Julie Steer, ably supported by the other members of the Parish

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Chairman's Report (cont'd)

Council team and many volunteers from the village. This year there was a record number of participants and several timing records were broken. Please see the separate report (pages 18 and 20) from Councillor Steer for more details.

Future Events

The Christmas Fayre will take place again this year on Sunday 1st December together with the second switch-on of the village Christmas Lights. The lights have been improved for this year and we are again hopeful that ITV Dancing on Ice will be able to supply a mystery celebratory to switch the lights on.

Village Environment

Since awarding the Village Warden contract to Sunnyside Rural Trust, the Council have been very pleased with their work, carrying out the general warden duties together with various projects. Since starting work they have painted and repaired the white railings around the Docks, installed new oak posts outside 48–52 High Street, and planted bedding plants at various locations around the village, all of which have been supplied from their own nursery in Northchuch. During the coming months they will be refurbishing all of the benches around the village together with various other project works.



In April the Council organised for contractors to create a tarmac walkway running from the area adjacent to the Bowls Club down to the play area, which has been well received by users of this area.

Finally on behalf of the Parish Council Team, I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Councillor Graham Barrett
Chairman, Bovingdon Parish Council

Planning Committee Report

Since my last report, planning consent has been granted by the Borough Council for the re-development of the Bobsleigh site into 60 residential units made up of 34 apartments and 24 houses, of which 35% will be designated as affordable.



There have been numerous planning applications to build two houses in the back garden of Greymantle, a house on the Hempstead Road, all of which have so far been refused. There is continuing pressure to build more homes generally and we expect further applications for new housing in the village to be made in the coming months.

Councillor Graham Barrett
Chairman, Planning Committee



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Bovingdon Neighbourhood Plan

By the time this is published, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group will have been going for just over a year. We have gathered a great deal of information about the Parish and its infrastructure, environment and transport. We have canvassed the views of the residents, business owners, young people and various other groups. The results of the two residents' surveys can be viewed on the Parish Council website, under Survey Results: http://www.bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk/Neighbourhood_Plan_22479.aspx



Unfortunately, we were not in a position to hold another Open Day in July as planned, but intend to do so soon. Once we have a confirmed date, we will advertise widely around the village and on the Bovingdon Parish Council website and Facebook page.

The working parties are now collating the data and using it to formulate policies and action plans based on our findings. The Neighbourhood Plan itself, is primarily about 'land use', whether as housing or designated 'green space', but it will also include an 'Action Plan', which will look at ways we can improve, protect and enhance our Parish.

As part of the Plan process we are trying to identify special places for wildlife within the Bovingdon Parish Boundary that need protecting.

We have details of woodlands, the Brickworks site along Green Lane and grasslands at Westbrook Hay. We also hope to include known ancient hedges along byways etc. Historical information at the Herts Environmental Records Centre is the basis for most of our work. What we do not have is information of special areas such as grasslands where rare plants, insects, birds or mammals are thriving, but have not been officially recorded.

One task is to identify and hopefully protect, wildlife corridors in the area that will continue to provide safe passage for all flora and fauna within our boundary and then on to special habitats outside our boundaries. Bovingdon is lucky to have lots of green space but there may be future pressures to build on some of that. Having information about special habitats in the Neighbourhood Plan will help to demonstrate that there is a community focus on protecting such sites. If you know a special place then do please let the Parish office know exactly where it is and which species need protecting. We can then consider the relative importance of that site, as part of our overview.

*Mike Kember, 833036 / neighbourhoodplan@bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk
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County Report



August is a quieter time for Councillors in terms of meetings and formal Council and then in September it's almost like a starting gun is fired with accelerated planning for the new budget, with meetings and decisions on virtually every aspect of life in the County.

September brings the Bovingdon 10K: what a great idea and fantastically well organised. Richard, Julie, the helpers and marshals' make for a great, safe challenge and charging down the High Street at the end is just a blast. The involvement of so many club runners, charity and fun runners, with plenty from Bovingdon and the villages, tells you just how highly regarded it is. I love it.

Some very good news: we now know that we are going to get more money from the Government for a range of council services including adult and children's social care. I am responsible for adult social care in Hertfordshire and since Christmas have been out and about visiting our day centres, care homes, sensory services, money advice unit, ambulance stations (NHS), hospital discharge teams, extra care housing schemes for older residents and supported living for those with physical and learning disabilities. In all, the County is involved with the care of about 20,000 adults. We also run 21 gypsy and traveller sites including Three Cherry Trees, which I visited recently; that was interesting. I went on the round that delivers meals-on-wheels in the village, across the County we support HILS to the tune of just under a million pounds. In total about £10 million (County and NHS) a year supports numerous smaller organisations who make such a difference across Hertfordshire.

I cannot thank enough the efforts of our care workers, carers and volunteers alike, who day-in/day-out look after our most vulnerable residents.

The campaign for a new hospital goes on but so does the need to upgrade what we have. To that end I have spoken with the Secretary of State and met with hospital managers. New buildings in Watford with new theatres and diagnostics in St. Albans are vital.

The High Street has consistently had problems with congestion, parking, street furniture and the interaction with the school and the children in a morning and afternoon. The top of the High street is problematic at best. What can be done? The Parish Council are building the case through the Village Plan and I have asked Highways officers to support the village by working with the Parish and Borough to see what the art of the possible is.

Box Lane gas main replacement: not the gas company's finest hour causing lots of disruption and angst but they have been hounded by Highways virtually daily. When they come back in the spring it is expected they will perform better.

Best wishes for the festive season and into 2020.

Cllr. Richard Roberts, Herts County Council
richard.roberts@hertfordshire.gov.uk / 07923 139092 / 01992 556557



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Neighbourhood Watch – Bovingdon Ward Update

As at 16th September we have 1,102 residents now registered in the Bovingdon area (which incorporates Box Lane, Bourne End, Felden, and surrounding areas), which is just over 46.6% coverage.



**PLEASE ENSURE THAT IF A CRIME IS
COMMITTED IT IS REPORTED TO THE POLICE**

CCTV Watch

As a valued member of Neighbourhood Watch you can now join our newly created CCTV and Doorbell Video Camera Watches. If an incident happens in your road, the Police investigating teams often call on neighbours who have CCTV or doorbell video camera to see if any images have been captured that can help with their investigations; in some cases this has been very successful and has led to arrests.

As you can imagine, timeliness is key if we are to arrest suspects quickly. Creating these new watches will help us create a map across the district of where we can locate these facilities. The investigation teams can then access the OWL system and contact the owner immediately without the need to carry out a survey of roads or adjoining roads thus saving valuable time in the investigation process. Quite often, any potential images are over-ridden after a short period, so hopefully this initiative will give us a head start in the investigation process.

If you are happy to assist the Police with this initiative, please let me know if you have a CCTV or Doorbell video camera and I will add you to the relevant new watch. As with the Neighbourhood Watch scheme on OWL, all the information stored is protected and will never be shared with other agencies or enterprises. Please respond with your name and contact details to wlo@herts.pnn.police.uk

OWL – Police alerts for Communities and Watch Schemes

Register for free to receive local, timely alerts regarding incidents, issues and events from your local policing team and partner agencies. If you do not have an email address you can still register on OWL and street co-ordinators will keep you updated on crimes in our area and current scams.

To join OWL: register at www.owl.co.uk or drop your details in to the Parish Clerk's office, or if you would like to become involved with Neighbourhood Watch, then please call/ email me.

REMEMBER, CRIME IS LOWER IN NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AREAS

Details will be kept securely in accordance with the Data Protection Act, will not be passed to third parties and will only be used to contact you for Police or Neighbourhood Watch matters.

*Julie Steer, NW Ward Co-ordinator for Bovingdon, Chipperfield and Flaunden
NW Deputy District Co-ordinator for Dacorum
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Yellow Line Parking – Parking Enforcement Update

In the last four months there have been over 25 Civil Enforcement Office visits to the village and one parking notice given. The Parish Council are working with Parking Operations at Dacorum Borough Council to focus more on Old Dean and the top of the High Street.



Increased car ownership has put added pressure on available kerb side parking opportunities in residential areas, especially where there is multiple ownership in some households, or where there is a school, local shopping area, or another local public facility. Inconsiderate or overcrowded parking is becoming a wide spread problem across the country and is not unique to this village.

Parking Operations Dacorum Borough Council are unable to remove vehicles parked in contravention at this stage, but can issue Penalty Charge Notices, which should act as a deterrent to the motorist doing so.

Yellow lines are enforceable from the centre of the road to the boundary of private land, and any vehicle seen parked on the carriageway, footpath, pavement or verge in these instances will be issued a Penalty Charge Notice. Dacorum Borough Council policy allows a blue disability badge holder to park on a single or double yellow line waiting restriction for up to three hours.

Please note: a Penalty Charge Notice to a vehicle cannot be issued based upon written correspondence or photographs.

If you notice a vehicle you believe to be in contravention of a waiting restriction, then please contact Parking Services on 01908 223505. Saba Park Services UK Ltd will try to get a Civil Enforcement Officer there as soon as possible. The phone line is available 08:45 to 17:15 Monday to Friday, there is a facility to leave a voice message at other times. If Saba Park Services are contacted with parking issues then it will raise the profile of yellow line parking in the village.

Bovingdon Brownies



VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED

Brownies is about getting together regularly – often each week – to work on badges, learn new skills, play games and see friends. It's about trying adventurous activities and going along to special events, day trips, sleepovers, camps and holidays. Bovingdon Brownies currently have only one leader: to enable the unit to continue we must have more adult volunteers. We meet once a week on a Tuesday (term-time only) in the Baptist Church at 6pm for 90 minutes. If you could be interested, or would just like more information, please contact me on the details below.

Please help to keep this valuable resource for young people going in our village.

Bekki Olah / bekki.olah@highwaysengland.co.uk

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Bovingdon 10K and 3K Fun Run

The third Annual Bovingdon 10K and 3K fun run went off again without a hitch in the gorgeous early September weather.



Thanks to the beautiful weather, which we have been very lucky with so far in the three years we have been holding this event, there was a wonderful atmosphere at the start line and all around the course. Following on from the success of the two prior races was no mean feat, but this year's event was bigger and better and we hope to yet again take this event to the next level with more participants and volunteers next year.

We had 286 registered runners in the 10K and 76 in the 3K fun run, which was a huge increase on last year for the 10K. But we had fewer runners in the 3K, so perhaps we need more advertising next year as this is a fantastic event for families to get stuck into together. All being well we hope to get to 350 participants in the 10K and 100 in the 3K next year.

Yet again we were so pleased to see the community come together to provide sponsorship, volunteers and encouragement on the course. We had monetary contributions, signage, granola bars, water and prizes donated by the following:

Wilson's of Bovingdon
Rough Stuff Oak
Zeera

Bovingdon Village Stores
Councillor Richard Roberts
Orbital Signs

A huge extra thank you to Bovingdon Village Stores who again stepped up and donated 300 granola bars to give out to the runners after the race; Ravi from Bovingdon Village Stores never fails to support our event and so we'd like to send our gratitude his way. Also a special thanks to Bovingdon Baptist Church who re-arranged their service hours again and ran a water station for our event, and to Geoff Allen and Caroline Bier-Allen who allowed us to use their front driveway in Flaunden and manned the water station there for the third year running. Special wishes for a speedy recovery to Matt Cannon of Rough Stuff Oak who was unable to run this year due to an injury and yet still provided prizes and support.

As many of you are aware, all profits from the race go to a village community fund run by the Parish Council for the benefit of local organisations (see the Parish website for details of how to apply for a grant). Many runners run to raise money for local charities including Team Krane for St Francis Hospice, and Zara's family and friends for the Air Ambulance; well done to all those who ran for a cause.

As ever the team of dedicated race organisers, led by Race Directors Julie Steer and Richard Taylor alongside the Parish Office, worked very hard to ensure the success of the event, volunteering hours of their time to make sure everything ran smoothly. Thanks to their efforts many of the participants commented on how well organised and fun the event was.

The 3K race set off first from under the gantry start line outside the Memorial Hall, there

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Bovingdon 10K and 3K Fun Run (cont'd)

were prizes for first male and first female and the best fancy dress, each receiving a £10 Amazon gift voucher. The 10K set off from the playing field behind the Memorial Hall. Chip timing was again in place and as the runners were ready to set off they were reminded of the course record of 34 minutes and 18 seconds. Wilsons of Bovingdon again provided the kilometre marker signs, which add a great quality of professionalism to the course.

Once again this year's event was chosen by Dacorum and Tring Athletic Club to be their 10K championship and we are grateful for their support, and for all their keen athletes on the start line. As well as this a number of other running clubs chose to use our course as part of a 10K running series, which meant we saw some great quality running in this year's race.

As well as record participation this year, the beautiful weather was a fantastic platform for both of the course records for men's winner and women's winner to be broken. The men's record was cut down to 34.06 minutes by Aran Davidson, Chiltern Harriers AC and female participant Kate Rennie, Dacorum & Tring AC slashed the women's record with a time of 37.28 minutes. Well done to all participants who completed the course this year.

Each winner received a cheque for £25 and an engraved oak cutting board provided by Rough Stuff Oak. Second place finishers received £15, and third place finishers £10 for their great efforts. There was also a new prize introduced this year for the first village finisher, which saw Chris Packard win a cutting board as well. So if you're a resident with a budding running talent get training for next year to claim the prize for yourself!

At the end of the race, planning begins for next year but it would be remiss of us not to once again focus on our amazing volunteers, from the Councillors who give their time and efforts, our sponsors who allow for a great race, our fantastic marshals with Cow Bells to encourage the runners, our lead and rear bike riders, our volunteers at the Memorial Hall and all the volunteers helping out at the water stations... thank you to each and every one of you no matter what you did or how long you helped for. In addition we would like to thank Councillor Stewart Riddick, the Deputy Mayor of Dacorum, for presenting the prizes

We already have runners signed up for next year and we will be asking for more volunteers throughout the year. Please let us know if you'd like to be involved; an extra pair of hands is always welcome and hugely helpful.

So make sure to mark your diaries for 6th September 2020 and ready your running shoes for another fantastic race.

Richard Taylor and Julie Steer, Co Race Directors.



NEWSFLASH – We have been awarded a grant of £300 by Dacorum Borough Council's small grants scheme. The monies will be used to purchase a portable PA system for use at 10K/3K runs and for other Community events.

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Bovingdon and District Horticultural Society



Gardening is often perceived as a gentle pursuit but in our spring talk on 25th April Russell Bowes, a gardening historian, showed us a darker side. His illustrated talk entitled *Say It With Poison* was really an imaginary walk with a guest around his garden. But this was a garden of poisonous plants. Russell played the role of guide with lots of information and anecdotes about the plants that were being viewed. Initially welcoming, the tone of the commentary became increasingly sinister with gruesome tales and barely veiled hints of murder. The fate of the unsuspecting guest was left to our imagination! This dramatic and highly entertaining talk was warmly received by our members and we hope to invite Russell back for another in the future.

In April we also held our Spring Show and AGM. Preparation for this show was difficult for exhibitors as the topsy-turvy weather meant that daffodils in particular were in short supply. Overall entries across all sections were down except for the children's section where there was a wonderful selection of scarecrow drawings from students at Bovingdon Academy.



Following the trials of preparing for the show we took a breather and had a visit to Wisley Gardens in Surrey. As our society is affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society our members are entitled to one free group visit a year. Considering that the entrance fee to Wisley is now £14.50 and annual membership

of Bovingdon Horticultural Society is a mere £5 our members had a bargain day out! It was also a sunny day out with lots to see as the gardens have had a major makeover in recent years. The spring flowering shrubs and drifts of Camassias were breath-taking.

In May our annual plant sale was very successful with a huge turnout of buyers. Perhaps the closure of Garden Scene in Chipperfield has meant gardeners are now looking for alternative places to buy plants. Our members sell a good variety of flowers, vegetables and shrubs at very reasonable prices accompanied by useful advice on growing. Why not come along next spring and give us a try?

May also saw the return of the hanging baskets in the High Street; this is one of the services that the society has provided for many years. The baskets are planted for us by Steve Foskett's nursery in Chipperfield and delivered to the businesses that have agreed to look after them for the duration of the summer. We run a competition to reward the best kept basket. The judging took place on 30th July and the winners were presented with a bottle of bubbly at the Autumn Show. This year there was a new winner, or should I say many winners? Bovingdon Community Library volunteers have not only coped with tricky computers and helping customers with a friendly smile but have also found time to tend their hanging basket with lots of TLC. Consequently they are the winners of this year's competition. Second were Pendley Estates and third Fyfe's Butchers. Well done and thank you to all those businesses who helped brighten up our High Street.



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Bovingdon and District Horticultural Society (cont'd)

Are there any weather records left unbroken? It seems that almost every month a new extreme occurs - the hottest, wettest, windiest, or coldest. Our society has a new record - the hottest Summer Show in living memory. Yes we unintentionally staged our show on the hottest day of the year! The pavements of Bovingdon were sizzling but there was welcome shade and a cool scented atmosphere inside the Memorial Hall. Despite some very tricky growing conditions in early summer our determined members put on a colourful show with fruit, vegetables and flowers. Understandably entries were fewer than normal but the quality was particularly high with some superb Sweet Peas. Floral art is always a beautiful section and shows amazing creativity and imagination. This was well illustrated by displays commemorating 50 years since the moon landing. Sadly floral art seems to be a disappearing art here in Bovingdon so if there are any of you out there who like saying it with flowers please enter in our spring show. The themes are not, as yet, chosen but they often reflect a newsworthy event; they will be put on our website in the winter.



A popular class in recent Summer Shows has been photography. It seems that with a smart phone in your pocket you are always ready to snap a winning shot. This summer the topics were very varied but *Lights* attracted many entries. The winning photo was an expertly composed shot of headlights on a car. We have already chosen the topics for summer 2020 so that you can have time to select your very best pictures

(our shows are open to all, not just members). They are *Happy Days* (a set of four photos), *Stones*, *Water* and *Sport* (all single photos maximum size 7"x 5"). Have fun searching for pictures and we look forward to seeing your results in the Summer Show. In the Spring Show we have a section for paintings produced by local amateur artists. The topics for the Spring Show 2020 are as follows: *Vintage*, *Seascape* and *Nature's Patterns*. The pictures can be in any medium and should be framed and mounted but measuring no more than 24" and ready for hanging.

As I write this we are preparing for our Autumn Show. Will the legacy of this summer of dramatic weather affect entries here too? Already there is a nip in the air and the shortening days are becoming more apparent. It will soon be time to browse the seed catalogues and reflect on this year's successes and failures but before we hang up the wellies and retreat to the warmth inside we have our annual social evening to enjoy. This year it is a quiz on 8th November so we will have to exercise our brains before sinking into hibernation. If you are interested in any of the activities featured in this article please become a member. You can find more information on our website or just give me a call.



Happy Gardening!

Doreen Woods, 833520 / www.bovingdonhortsoc.org

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News from St Lawrence Church



Those of you who walk in the churchyard, whether with a dog, a child in a buggy or some flowers or garden tools on your way to visit a grave, will have noticed something missing. First it was the pathway lights, which come on at dusk until midnight and help light the route from north to south. A combination of damp and ants' nests (yes, you read that correctly) played havoc with the lights over the winter and spring and we took the decision to completely replace them. The new lights not only look smart but will be easier to maintain and more resistant to our insect friends.

At the same time we have had a lot of trouble with the clock. Despite four visits from Smiths of Derby, who installed the current mechanism, it has so far resisted efforts to get it running. A number of people, particularly those who live in the immediate area or visit the church regularly, have remarked on how much they miss the chimes. At the time of writing we have just received a quotation for over £10,000 to have the mechanism dismantled, completely refurbished in Derby and reinstalled. Finally, the much loved bench, which sits near the church tower, was found to be rotten and was removed in the summer.

All of these problems – typical of a building which is 175 years old – require money to solve. We are very fortunate to have the Friends of St Lawrence who (as you can read elsewhere in Bovingdon News – page 28) are active in raising funds to maintain our church and churchyard. We have also benefited from the generosity of the Ladybirds Club who have made a significant contribution towards a new bench. We will continue to appeal for funds through the Friends and other organisations to keep our beautiful church and its surroundings in good repair.

Meanwhile we look largely to our own congregation, those who come regularly or occasionally, to contribute the bulk of our running costs. These amounted in 2018 to well over £100,000. Contrary to popular belief we receive no money from the national church! Roughly 20% of our income comes from fees (for weddings and funerals), endowments and fund-raising events; the rest –80% –comes from individual giving. During October we will be asking our congregations to increase their giving, if at all possible, to prevent us going into deficit. If anyone in the wider Bovingdon community would like to give towards the work of the church, either regularly or as a one-off, do please get in touch. And whether or not you give financially, come at Christmas and celebrate the greatest gift ever given to humankind – Jesus, God's only Son.

Rev Charles Burch, Vicar of Bovingdon
vicar@stlawrencebovingdon.com

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St. Lawrence Church
BOVINGDON



Friends of St Lawrence Trust

Registered Charity No. 1112950



The Friends of St. Lawrence Church Trust exists in order to help ensure the preservation of Bovingdon's Parish Church and Churchyard for current and future generations. We are a registered charity that is independent from the Church but we work closely with it in order to fulfil our objectives.

We have had a busy spring and summer...

First came the Vamp til Ready Review held in the Memorial Hall on 9th March. Just over 100 people attended, which was a bit of a squeeze. Despite sickness the troupe gave us a wonderful performance that was enjoyed by all and the event raised just over £1,400 for The Trust.

On 27th April we held our annual Safari Supper – only 32 people participated but generously contributed £430 to our funds.

On 8th May, we held the annual coffee morning hosted by Pauline Wright. This event usually heralds the start of summer fine weather but this year her luck ran out for the weather was awful. However 55 intrepid people attended and Pauline opened her house to us; despite the weather the event raised over £600, which was a splendid effort.

On 29th June St Lawrence Church hosted a Camerata Concert in which the orchestra, led by Philippa Burch, entertained a full church and this event raised almost £500 for the Trust.

Hardly drawing breath, Caroline Walker hosted an Open Garden at Long Meadow on the next day, 30th June. This time the heavens were kind for the day was beautiful and the temperature was perfect. 115 people came and tarried long enough to enjoy each other's company over tea and cake and to be entertained by Sounds Easy.

Our work to preserve our beautiful church and churchyard goes on and we are so grateful for the support of the people of Bovingdon and the surrounding area. Our work is geared towards the re-decoration of the interior of St Lawrence and this is a continuing commitment. At present we await, with some trepidation, a shopping list from St Lawrence arising from the five-year review of the church structure.

If you would like to know more about the Friends, or get involved, please do get in touch with us. Our Trustees are Pauline Wright, Jane Cayley, Charles Burch, Tom Morkill, Caroline Walker and me.

John Walker, Chairman, john@adaptainer.co.uk

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for details or to make a booking.

Please give as much notice as possible.

At other times, or if the number is busy or otherwise unavailable, please leave a message by voicemail or text message.



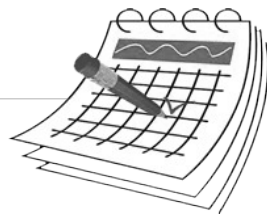
All our helpers are volunteers and there is no charge for our service but donations, based on 45p/mile to cover costs, would be most welcome and any extra would help to enable the service to continue.

We always need more volunteers!

Village Directory

Babies and Toddlers	Hayley	07957 663324
Beavers/Cubs/Scouts	Ross Dorras	07876 398392
Bovingdon Care	Richard Gardener / Careline	07376 832999
Bovingdon Evening WI	Shirley Hart / Jenny Thirlwell	380355 / 831491
Bovingdon Village Facebook	www.facebook.com/groups/bovingdon	
Bovingdon Players	Robert Peacock	info@bovingdonplayers.com
Bovingdon Primary Academy	School Office	406545
Bovingdon Village Market	Julie Steer	07803 141254
Bowls Club	Simon Johnson	07773 557723
Boxmoor Trust Office		253300
Brownies	Bekki Olah	bekki.olah @highwaysengland.co.uk
CAD Volunteer Centre	Kerry Armogie	kerry@communityactiondacorum.org.uk
Child Health Clinic	Health Visitor	0300 123 7572
Churches	Baptist – Rev Mary Moody	831756
	Catholic – Rector Michele du Saire	01923 264377
	St Lawrence – Rev Charles Burch	833298
	Mark Carine	bovingdoncc@hotmail.com
Cricket Club		0800 555111
Crimestoppers	Brenda Franklin	832006
Day Centre	Kathy Archer	01923 260528
Evergreens Club	Kevin Horwood	867116
Fire – Community Safety Officer		265028
Fire – Hemel Fire Station		
Fire – Home & Safety	www.hertsdirect.org/fire	0300 123 4046
Football Club		bovingdonfc@gmail.com
Friends of Bovingdon Green	Anne Barrett	07973 115056
Hatha Yoga	Jo Bain	jo@bain-family.org
HMP The Mount	Prison / Visitor Centre	836300 / 836516
Horticultural Society	Doreen Woods	833520
History Group	Sylvia McClelland	pandsmcc@mcclell.plus.com
Ladybirds	Anne Tavener	380405
Library	Enquiries & Mobile Service	0300 123 4049
Lunch Club (Over 60s)	Sue Miller	832569
Meals-on-Wheels	Michael Leon	833665
Neighbourhood Watch	Julie Steer	nwatch_julie@btinternet.com/07803 141254
Parish Clerk	Mike Kember	833036
Police – Hemel Hempstead	www.herts.police.uk	101
Pre-School	Shanna Walker	834188
Rainbows	Karen Dance	kdance66@gmail.com
Royal British Legion	Tom Morkhill	834268
Seishinkai Shotokan Karate Int'l	Jeff Carson	07855 958549
Shopmobility	Marlowes, Level A Blue Car Park	259259
St Lawrence Baptism Team	Karen Wright	baptism@stlawrencebovingdon.com
Tennis Club	Craig Blyth – Coaching	07941 550850
	Rebecca Rose – Membership	07903 849919

Village Diary



Key

B Bowls Club
 BG Bovingdon Green
 C Clubroom, MH
 MH Memorial Hall
 STLH St Lawrence Hall

BC Baptist Church
 BPA Primary Academy
 LIB Library
 STL St Lawrence Church
 T Tennis Club

November 2019

3	STL	Sun	16:00	St Lawrence: Bovingdon Memorial Service
4	C	Mon	18:30	BPC: Planning Committee Meeting
4	MH	Mon	19:30	BPC: Parish Council Meeting
5	STLH	Tue	15:30	St Lawrence: Tea Time
8	MH	Fri	19:30	Horticultural Society: Quiz
10	STL	Sun	10:30	St Lawrence: Remembrance Sunday Service
11	MH	Mon	19:30	Ladybirds
13	BC	Wed	20:00	Evening Wl: <i>Making Crime Pay</i>
16	MH	Sat	10:00	Bovingdon Village Market
16	STL	Sat	14:00	St Lawrence: Christmas Market
21	BC	Thu	20:00	History Group: <i>A Woman's Lot in the 18th Century</i>
25	C	Mon	18:30	BPC: Planning Committee Meeting
25	MH	Mon	19:30	Ladybirds
28	MH	Thu	19:45	Players: <i>Hangmen</i>
29	MH	Fri	19:45	Players: <i>Hangmen</i>
30	MH	Sat	19:45	Players: <i>Hangmen</i>

December 2019

1		Sun	16:00	Bovingdon Christmas Street Fayre
1	LIB	Sun	16:00	Book Sale (as part of Christmas Street Fayre)
1-9	LIB			Library: Letters to Santa – writing and collection
3	STLH	Tue	15:30	St Lawrence: Tea Time
11	BC	Wed	20:00	Evening Wl: <i>Aston Bellringers</i>
12	BC	Thu	20:00	History Group: <i>The Way We Were</i>
14	MH	Sat	10:00	Bovingdon Village Market
16	BC	Mon	10:15	Baptist Church: Coffee Morning Carols & Mince Pies
16	C	Mon	18:30	BPC: Planning Committee Meeting
16	MH	Mon	19:30	Ladybirds
22	STL	Sun	10:00	St Lawrence: Nativity Service
22	STL	Sun	18:30	St Lawrence: A Service of Carols by Candlelight
24	STL	Tue	15:00	St Lawrence: Crib Service
24	BC	Tue	16:30	Baptist Church: Christmas Eve Community Christingle
24	STL	Tue	23:00	St Lawrence: Christmas Eve Holy Communion
25	STL	Wed	10:00	St Lawrence: Christmas Day Family Communion
25	BC	Wed	10:30	Baptist Church: Christmas Day Celebration
29	BC	Sun	09:30	Baptist Church: Walk, Talk & Coffee

Trade Directory

<i>Page</i>	<i>Listing</i>	<i>Company, Name</i>	<i>Contact</i>
11	Accountant	Emma Stevens	07736 835167 / 831462
54	Beauty Therapy	Time 2 Relax, Gill Kedgley	832459
23	Butcher Shop	Meat Hook, Guy Coertze	832300
3	Caterer	Leon Catering	832277
49	Computer Tuition	Reeboot, Karen Cramer-Smer	388537
17	Dog Boarding Service	Barking Mad, Carole Chester	832594
63	Double Glazing	Jobling Windows	07985 656843 / 07944 399350
49	Driving Instructor	Peter Moore	07879 831750 / 832889
13	Education	Lockers Park School	251712
53	Electrician	J C Cooke	07905 356895 / 832153
41	Estate Agent	Pendley Estates	834834
45	Fuel Merchant	G C Parish & Sons	832224 / 832341
64	Funeral Directors	A & C Tadman	01923 264296
9	Garage Services	Bowron Motorcare	07860 882970 / 834634
25	Hair Dressing (Mobile)	Hair by Fiona	07885 491988
55	Hall Lettings	Baptist Church, Mr Brian Walker	832898
37	Hall Lettings	Memorial Hall	833036
27	Hall Lettings	St Lawrence Hall	07756 562722
19	Hardware & DIY	Jarmans	832141
25	Health & Beauty	Health Hub, Zandra Christie	07866 587117
45	Health & Beauty	Reflections Clinic	07711 846731 / 834236
39	Market	Bov. Village Market, Julie Steer	07803 141254
15	Martial Arts – Karate	SSKI, Jeff Carson	07855 958549
25	Oven Cleaning	Ovendazzle	07853 206193 / 01923 261567
7	Page Design	Farrspark, Steph Farrer	07913 086477
45	Painter/Decorator	Allan Brown	832103
17	Plumbing	AA Plumbing Solutions	07782 122555 / 831519
7	Plumbing & Heating	Manor Heating, Vic McDonald	07712 265034 / 834373
51	Pre-School	Bovingdon Pre-School	834188
49	Reflexologist	Ametrine Reflexology, Emily Laver	07717 783728
55	Reflexologist/Therapist	Nature's Touch, Sharon Coomber	07557 687042 / 831089
7	Secretarial Services	Farrspark, Steph Farrer	07913 086477
21	Solicitors	Underwoods	430900
3	Taxi Service	Murray Rogers	07710 470676
27	Taxi Service	Mark Humphrey	07973 470202 / 500750
13	Travel Agency	Tailor Made Holidays	737847
9	Veterinary Practice	Hope Vets	833198

Regular Events

MH Mon 09:00-13:00
 BC Mon 09:00-11:00
 STLH Mon 09:15-10:30
 BC Mon 10:30-12:00
 C Mon 13:30-16:00
 BPA Mon 17:00-18:00
 MH Mon 18:00-19:00
 BC Mon 18:00-19:00
 BPA Mon 18:00-19:30
 BC Mon 19:15-20:15
 BPA Mon 19:30-21:00
 MH Mon 19:30-21:30
 STLH Mon 19:30-20:30

MH Tue 09:00-13:00
 MH Tue 14:00-15:00
 C Tue 14:00-15:00
 BC Tue 16:30-17:30
 BC Tue 18:00-19:30
 MH Tue 18:00-20:30
 BC Tue 19:45-20:45

MH Wed 09:00-13:00
 STLH Wed 10:00-11:30
 FC Wed 10:30-15:30
 MH Wed 14:30-16:00
 T Wed 17:00
 MH Wed 18:00-19:00
 MH Wed 19:00-20:15
 BC Wed 20:00-22:00

MH Thu 09:00-13:00
 MH Thu 16:45-17:45
 MH Thu 18:45-20:15
 BPA Thu 19:30

MH Fri 09:00-13:00
 LIB Fri 09:15-09:45
 T Fri 09:15
 BC Fri 09:30-10:30
 LIB Fri 10:00-11:30
 BC Fri 11:30-1:30
 STLH Fri 18:00-19:30

T Sat 08:00
 BC Sat 08:15-09:15
 BC Sat 09:30-10:30
 MH Sat 10:00-11:00
 MH Sat 10:00-12:30
 STLH Sat 10:45-12:30
 T Sat 14:00

T Sun 11:00
 STL Sun 09:30
 BC Sun 10:30

Bovingdon Pre-School ^{TT}
 BBC: Baby & Toddler Group
 Hatha Yoga
 Coffee Morning (1st and 3rd Mon)
 The Art Group
 Beavers ^{TT}
 SSKI Karate
 Pilates (Lisa Giles)
 Cubs ^{TT}
 Pilates (Lisa Giles)
 Scouts ^{TT}
 Ladybirds (fortnightly)
 Beginners Yoga Class

Bovingdon Pre-School ^{TT}
 Baby Sing & Play (fortnightly)
 Child Health Clinic (fortnightly)
 Rainbows ^{TT}
 Brownies ^{TT}
 Kredible Kg (puppy/dog obedience classes)
 Pilates (Lisa Giles)

Bovingdon Pre-School ^{TT}
 St Lawrence Toddler Group
 Bovingdon Day Care
 Evergreens (fortnightly)
 Adult Social Tennis
 SSKI Karate
 Hatha Yoga
 Evening WI (monthly)

Bovingdon Pre-School ^{TT}
 Loko Dance (Freestyle and Street Dance – age 3+)
 Bovingdon Yoga Fitness
 Weight Watchers

Bovingdon Pre-School ^{TT}
 Toddler Tales
 Ladies Tennis
 Pilates (Lisa Giles)
 Knit 'n' Natter (NOT last Friday of the month)
 Bovingdon Lunch Club (Over 60s)
 Martial Arts

Tennis – Men's Practice
 Pilates (Lisa Giles)
 Pilates (Lisa Giles)
 Horticultural Society Supply Hut (rear of MH)
 Bovingdon Village Market (monthly – 3rd Saturday)
 Dancing
 Social Tennis

Social Tennis
 St Lawrence: Family Praise (not 1st Sunday)
 Baptist Church: Sunday Service

Key

B	Bowls Club
BC	Baptist Church
BG	Bovingdon Green
BPA	Primary Academy
C	Clubroom, MH
FC	Football Club
LIB	Library
MH	Memorial Hall
STL	St Lawrence Church
STLH	St Lawrence Hall
T	Tennis Club
^{TT}	Term time only

Useful Contacts

General

Dacorum BC	Civic Centre, Hemel Hempstead (www.dacorum.gov.uk)	228000
Dog Warden		228418
Drainage Problems	Council Tenants	228666
	Public Drains, Thames Water	0845 920 0800
Environmental Health		228455
Handy Person Scheme	Age Concern Dacorum	259049
Hertfordshire CC	County Hall, Hertford SG13 8DE	01992 555555
Mediation Hertfordshire	help@mediationherts.org.uk	268044
Pest Control		228275
Wasp Nests	Dacorum Call Centre	867867

Dacorum Fault Reporting – Self-help

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Herts Highways Fault Reporting – Self-help

You can report faults in Hertfordshire such as potholes, street light issues, traffic signal problems and more. You will get a reference number and can enter an email address to receive updates... see www.hertsdirect.org/services/transtreets/highways/hhonlineservices/hfr/ for more details.

Public Transport (Bus & Train Times)

Carousel Bus	01494 450151	www.carouselbuses.co.uk
Chiltern Railways	0845 600 5165	www.chilternrailways.co.uk
London Midland	0844 811 0133	www.londonmidland.com
London Underground	0845 330 9880	www.tfl.gov.uk/tube
National Rail Enquiries	08457 484950	www.nationalrail.co.uk
Red Rose (352)	01296 747926	www.redrosetravel.com
Traveline	0871 200 2233	www.traveline.info

Utilities

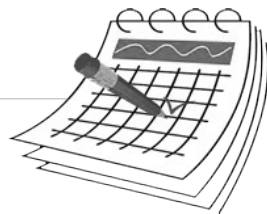
Electric Hazard		0800 404090
Power Failure (local provider)	www.nationalgrid.com/UK/Safety/Power-cut/	
Gas Leaks		0800 111999
Water Leaks	www.thameswater.co.uk/reportaleakonline	
Sewage Emergencies		0845 9200 800

Village Medical Services

Chemist	Manor Pharmacy	37 High Street	832127
Dentist	Simon Michaels	60 High Street	832212
	Laurel Cottage	57 High Street	833922
Doctor	Archway Surgery	52 High Street	833380
	Longmeadow Surgery	16 High Street	833295



Village Diary (cont'd)



Key

B Bowls Club
BG Bovingdon Green
C Clubroom, MH
MH Memorial Hall
STLH St Lawrence Hall

BC Baptist Church
BPA Primary Academy
LIB Library
STL St Lawrence Church
T Tennis Club

January 2020

4		Sat	16:00	Scouts: Christmas Tree Collection
7	STLH	Tue	15:30	St Lawrence: Tea Time
8	BC	Wed	20:00	Evening Wl: <i>Personal Safety Inside/Outside the Home</i>
16	MH	Thu	19:30	History Group: Annual Dinner
20	MH	Mon	19:30	Ladybirds
27	MH	Mon	19:30	Ladybirds

February 2020

4	STLH	Tue	15:30	St Lawrence: Tea Time
10	MH	Mon	19:30	Ladybirds
12	BC	Wed	20:00	Evening Wl: <i>Butser Ancient Farm</i>
15	MH	Sat	10:00	Bovingdon Village Market
20	BC	Thu	20:00	History Group: TBC
24	MH	Mon	19:30	Ladybirds

March 2020

5	STLH	Tue	15:30	St Lawrence: Tea Time
11	BC	Wed	20:00	Evening Wl: <i>Craft Meeting</i>
14	MH	Sat	10:00	Bovingdon Village Market
16	MH	Mon	19:30	Ladybirds
20	BC	Fri	19:30	History Group: AGM
30	MH	Mon	19:30	Ladybirds

April 2020

6	MH	Mon	19:30	Ladybirds
8	BC	Wed	20:00	Evening Wl: <i>Training Guide Dogs for the Blind</i>
18	MH	Sat	10:00	Bovingdon Village Market
27	MH	Mon	19:30	Ladybirds

Village Diary Entries



If you have any events you wish to publicise in the Village Diary, please send the details to me, and I will ensure their inclusion in the relevant issue – thank you.

Steph Farrer, Editor, Bovingdon News
steph@farrspark.co.uk / 07913 086477

News from Bovingdon Baptist Church

145 years of loving & serving God



'I am the Gate for the sheep... Anyone who goes through me will be cared for—will freely go in and out, and find pasture... I came so they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of... I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd puts the sheep before himself, sacrifices himself if necessary.' (John 10 vs 8-11)

As I write, the long, hot summer of 2019 is officially over and local children are gearing up to go back to school for the autumn term. I've also got that 'back to school' feeling, not just because I'm helping our kids to get ready, but because I'm starting some postgraduate studies myself – and my first day at college is fast approaching! Doing something new is a little daunting, but I'm certain that the experience and knowledge gained, and friendships forged with other students and tutors, will make it well worth the effort.

The choices that we make each day can open new doors of opportunity – or wedge them more firmly shut. At BBC we have begun a new season of openness to God and to others with various social activities in and around the village, including games nights, table tennis and coffee mornings. Remembering Jesus' words, that he came to bring abundant life, real and eternal, we're aiming to make wholesome and life-affirming choices at every level of our lives – and inviting others to join us. On the second Saturday (9th November, 14th December, Chipperfield) and last Thursday (28th November, Bovingdon) each month a group of us will be going for a leisurely morning walk followed by coffee at either the Two Brewers or Lily's (meet 9.30am for walk, 11am for coffee). You can pick up a flyer for 'Walk, Talk & Coffee' from BBC, Bovingdon Library or Lily's. In our Sunday services through the Autumn, we'll be learning about prayer, using ideas from a book called *How to Pray – A Simple Guide for Normal People* by Pete Greig, who describes himself as 'the bewildered founder of the 24-7 Prayer movement'. This will be an opportunity to grow in relationship with the Good Shepherd and discover 'pasture' for your soul. You are welcome to walk with us on our well-being journey in the months ahead.

CHRISTMAS 2019 @ BBC

Sun 1st December, 4-6pm

Mon 16th December, 10:15–11:30am

Tue 24th December, 4:30–6pm

Wed 25th December, 10:30–11:15am

Sun 29th December, 9:30am

Bovingdon Churches Nativity

(shepherds, kings and angels, real animals
storytelling and carol singing)

With thanks to Appreciating Animals, Bellingdon

Coffee Morning Carols & Mince Pies

Christmas Eve Community Christingle

A collection will be made for The Children's
Society's work with disadvantaged young people

Christmas Day Celebration

Walk, Talk & Coffee

Meet at church, 9.30am. Coffee at BBC follows
at 11am – also for those not wishing to walk

Rev Mary Moody, Minister

831756 / minister.bovingdonbaptist@gmail.com



Bovington Memorial Hall

Registered Charity No. 238850 / Gift Aid XR07748

The Memorial Hall is located in the heart of the village and is an ideal venue for parties, christenings, weddings or any other social gathering. The Hall, run by the Parish Council via the Hall Management Committee, is the centre of a wide variety of regular village activities, including a pre-school, dance and theatre groups, exercise classes, local clubs and dog training to name but a few. Horticultural shows, a monthly village market (selling homemade produce) and private functions also make full use of its many facilities.

Further information and hall hire charges can be found on the Parish Council website

www.bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Facilities include:

- Main Hall including Kitchen and Garden (maximum 130 seated) •
- Clubroom (maximum 30 seated) • Large production stage in Main Hall •
- Large enclosed rear garden • Internal and external toilets for the disabled •
- Loop system (for the benefit of the hard of hearing) in the Main Hall •
- A fully equipped kitchen • Projector screens in Main Hall and Clubroom •
- Projection stand • Table tennis table • PA system in the Main Hall •



Keep an eye out on the noticeboards for posters and updates on what is happening in the Hall

**To view the hall or to make a booking,
please contact Lisa or Mike at the Parish Office
833036 or email office@bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk**

Bovingdon Cricket Club



As I write this, we have just completed a good win against Great Missenden Pelicans in our last game of the season, played out on a wet late September Sunday. There will be no more cricket on the Green until April but we will be running indoor nets over the winter and anyone interested in joining would be welcome to come along.

Victory against the Pelicans meant that the Sunday side finished with eleven wins against ten defeats – our best season for years. We started playing limited overs rather than timed games on Sundays around five years ago and we finally seem to have worked it out...

After several retirements from the Saturday league side at the end of last season, we were delighted to welcome some new faces to the squad at the start of May. It was always going to take a while for the side to gel but there were some good performances, particularly in the second half of the season. We thought that we had done enough to keep us safe from the relegation zone but defeat in the very final match of the season saw us slip back down the table and next year we will be playing in Division 8A. Looking on the bright side, it does mean a more local set of fixtures with sides such as our neighbours Chipperfield Clarendon IIs also in the same division.

There were some fantastic individual performances during the season. Jack Blackburn struck 174 against Dunstable in the league. It is only the eighth 150+ score in the club's history and Jack has made two of those. For the Sunday side, Fred Rodwell made a century and took five wickets against Ley Hill in the same match. No one else has managed that feat for the Club and Fred has now done it twice. Remarkably, there were also three hatricks for our bowlers – one each for Billy Soden, Amit Vij and Raheel Khan.

Overshadowing the cricket at Bovingdon this year was the loss of John Abraham at the age of 87 in August. John joined the Club in 1953 and was an active member ever since, a remarkable period of 66 years. As a player, his career spanned 50 years and more than a thousand matches. After retiring from playing, he umpired and then scored for the League XI until just a couple of years ago.

But much of what John did for the Club was behind the scenes. He served on the Club's committee for all but four years between 1963 and 1999 and undertook a very wide range of roles at the club. It would be difficult to estimate just how many hours John put in over the years. Even this season, as getting around became more difficult, John was still at the pre-season work party and he was still out and about around the village selling raffle tickets and collecting 100 Club dues, making an important contribution to the Club's always finely-balanced finances.

John was a true club legend and for many in the village, he was synonymous with the Cricket Club.

*Mark Carine, Hon. Secretary, 07738 200297
Bovingdoncc@hotmail.com / www.facebook.com/BovingdonCC / @BovCricketClub*



Bovingdon Village Market

Third Saturday Monthly

10am-12:30pm

November 16th • December 14th

Home Produced Food – Soups, Pasties, Pies (sweet and savoury),
Quiches, Sausage Rolls, Scones, Cakes, Shortbread, Eccles,
Brownies, Jams, Curds, Marmalade, Chutneys and more

Vegetables and Plants (seasonal), Neal's Yard Remedies,
Crafts and Gifts, Cards for all occasions, Lavender Crafts and Bath Salts,
Paintings and Baby Knits, Bottle Lights, Candle Cups, Rag Wreaths and
Canvas Bags, Handmade Soaps and Candles, Jewellery and Clothes,
Watercolour Prints (buildings and views in Hemel Hempstead and
Dacorum, including Bovingdon and the surrounding villages)

From 2020 the market hours will change to 10am-12pm

February 15th • March 14th • April 18th

All Enquiries: contact Julie on 07803 141254



Bovingdon Bowls Club



It has been a year of unprecedented success at Bovingdon Bowls Club. The men's teams have progressed to the later stages of District, County and London & Southern Counties events, and are now viewed as one of the strongest teams in the area. Semi-final places were achieved in the Ray Cup (a District competition) and the (County) Top Ten Competition, along with the regional final of the County Eversley Cup competition.

The ladies teams have also shown strongly in their competitions, winning their regional group of the County League and so qualifying for the semi-final stage. With the vets also looking favourite to win promotion to the top division for next year the club can reflect on the all-round talent within the club. There is a real buzz around this club at the moment, which is evident on the social side and which is transferred to success on the green.

Our objective of providing a healthy outdoor activity for people of all ages (our current age range is 16-years-old to 91-years-young... well, he thinks he is!) and abilities is still our main concern, but that doesn't mean we can't strive for excellence in our competitive games.

In addition, the following members have reached the finals of District competitions, and we wish them all the best in these events:

Champion of Champions:	John Wheatley
Officer's Singles:	Simon Johnson
3-Wood Triples:	Clive Wheatley, John Wheatley, Declan Andrews and Wally South
Fours:	Steve Keenan, Clive Wheatley, Declan Andrews, Simon Johnson and Roger Fleet

Success on the green is complemented by an equally successful social programme and the club is noted for its hospitality. A full schedule of events to keep us entertained throughout the close season and a proposed tour to Cyprus for next year provide further opportunities for our members to enjoy life to the full.

If you are interested in joining a successful club, which offers bowls at all levels and much more besides, please contact me on the details below, or visit our Facebook page to out more about us.

Simon Johnson, 834121 / 07773 557723

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/448076568673546/>



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Ladybirds Club

Ladybirds has continued to grow in number this year, and we have welcomed several ladies from Mountbatten House as members.



We have had a full and varied programme over recent months of speakers, social evenings and events, including our summer barbeque, garden party, birthday meal and three fundraising evenings, at which we raised nearly £480 for three local charities – Sunnyside Rural Trust, Bovingdon Scouts and a bench for the churchyard. There were also occasional walks and lunches.

Our speakers have entertained and educated us on topics as varied as *Send a Cow to Africa*, *Life in a Care Home* and *The Funny Side of Working at M&S*. The knitting group have raised money from their seasonal items and are now busy making poppies again for the village display; donations of wool are always welcome. Before Christmas we will have our Christmas Dinner at Boxmoor Lodge, and some members will attend the annual NAWC Carol service in London, which is a lovely event.

Ladybirds meet twice a month on a Monday evening in the Memorial Hall. Up to 70 ladies come from Bovingdon and the surrounding area. For more information see the programme and dates outside the Memorial Hall or call me.

Anne Tavener, 380405

Bovingdon Day Centre

Our voluntary led friendly group has been meeting now for over 30 years and offers our elderly residents of Bovingdon a chance to independently socialise.



Our clients enjoy a wide variety of activities including gentle exercise with Margaret Horwood, quizzes and games, day trips and occasional visiting entertainers. Transport is provided and clients are served a hot, two-course lunch and refreshments throughout the day.

If you think you or your loved one would benefit from our service, if you would be interested in joining us as a volunteer or if you have an amazing talent you would like to share with our group please do not hesitate to contact us.

Brenda Franklin, Co-Ordinator, 832006

Bovingdon Community Library

Our library is a really important part of our community, whether you regularly borrow books, belong to a book club, pop in to use the photocopier or computer, read sadly our only newspaper or are just waiting for a shower to pass, there is always a warm welcome at Bovingdon Library.



Volunteers have been running the library for just over a year now, and we are beginning to see the changes. We have held several rock painting sessions and with a new active committee are hoping for more events to follow.

We are working on our local history section and hope to have old photographs on display in the New Year. If you would like to donate any old photographs of Bovingdon or the surrounding villages or a book on the area, please hand them in at the desk for the attention of Carole, Catherine or Jenny.

There is a noticeboard in the library that contains local volunteering opportunities; please come in and have a look as small groups need help and support to survive.

If you can spare two and a half hours a week or fortnightly and would like to be part of the library volunteer team, we would love for you to join us. There are many jobs and tasks: from putting the books on the shelves, display work, assigning and making reservations, to helping with the children when Bovingdon School are visiting. Get in touch: either pop into the library for more information or send an email to bovingdonlibraryvolunteers@outlook.com

If you have any good quality books, recent reads that are now just sitting on the shelf, please consider DONATING them to the library. We can only accept books in good condition published in the last five years and only a couple at a time. There is a donation bin just inside the main front doors of the library. Where possible we will add the books to library stock or if they can't be added we will sell them and any proceeds will go towards buying new books.

What's On at the Library...

Every Friday	9:15-9:45am	Toddler Tales (FREE session)
	10-11:30am	Knit 'n' Natter (except last Friday of the month)
1 st December	4-6pm	Christmas Street Fayre – the library will be open including a book sale, children's Christmas Card creation, the Horticultural Society and more
1 st -9 th December		Letters to Santa – Writing & Collection (opening hours)

We thank you for your continued support and we hope you will consider volunteering at your local library or with another local group.

*Julie Steer, Chair
Bovingdon Library Committee*

Bovingdon Green Fun Day and Dog Show 2019



Friends of Bovingdon Green is a small group of volunteers who organise an event on Bovingdon Green each year. The aim is to bring together the local community and highlight the wonderful green and surrounding area. The cricket club kindly allows us to use the area and the pavilion facilities for the event.

On August Bank Holiday Monday we held our fifth event: Bovingdon Fun Day and Dog Show on the Green. Our aim was to widen the event this year to attract more local residents, not just dog owners! We increased the number and variety of stalls and had fun activities for children: St Lawrence Church organised races; the Football Club ran Beat the Goalie; the Tennis Club had trial tennis, there was a Discovery Trail for the family; Have-a-Go archery with Berkhamsted Bowmen; Guess the Name of a VERY large toy dog, donated by Theravets, and many other activities. In addition, there were numerous charity and commercial stalls, a very popular BBQ (meat supplied by local butcher Fyfes), teas and homemade cakes and, on such a warm day, a much-needed ice-cream van.

Our previous year's dog shows have always been popular; therefore, we did not compromise on activities for our four-legged friends. Pro Dogs ran a wonderful display of obedience and agility and gave owners and their dogs an opportunity to have a go over the agility course. The dog show classes, judged by Pro-Dogs and Heather, a nurse from Hope Vets, were well subscribed. Prizes were awarded for Waggiest Tail, Prettiest Bitch, Handsomest Hound, Lovable Puppy, and Golden Oldie. The prizes were kindly donated by Hope Vets and the rosettes by Buddies Doggy Day Care.

Last year we had a small display of classic cars, which proved popular and this year we were able to increase our exhibition courtesy of local owners, local clubs, Gordon Wyles of Chiltern Aston and Bob Bowron of Bowron Motor Care.



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Bovingdon Green Fun Day and Dog Show 2019 (cont'd)

We also ran a successful tombola and raffle, with prizes kindly donated by residents and the local businesses as listed below, to whom we are very grateful for their generosity: Ameyzoo, Barbers of Bovingdon, Beauty Garden, Bovingdon Dry Cleaners, Bovingdon Kebab & Pizza, Bovingdon News, Bovingdon Village Store, Bricklayers Arms, Co-Op, Cutting Garden, Financial Resolutions, Gentlemen's Lounge, Jarman & Sons, K's Café, Lily's, Meat Hook, Mediterranean Nursery, Parishes, Pendley Estates, R A Fyfes & Son, Tesco Metro, The Bell, Time 2 Relax, Wyevale-Chipperfield Garden Centre and Zeera.

Since 2014 FOBG have donated £2,300 to local charities, which will increase to over £3,000 after this year's event.

Please visit the FoBG Facebook page to find out more and to register an interest in becoming involved, or email me; there are also some great photographs of the day to view, kindly taken by local resident/photographer Andrew Kimpton.

*Anne Barrett, annekathrynbarrett@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/BovingdonGreen/*

Bovingdon Evening WI

Our meetings are a relaxed affair where members are updated on forthcoming events in the Hertfordshire County WIs and National WI.



The Bovingdon WI have once again enjoyed hearing a programme of talks on varied topics. Lydia Carmichael told us of her life in a Foundling Hospital – actually this was in the buildings which are now Ashlyn's School in Berkhamsted. We had the opportunity to learn about Ikebana (Japanese Flower arranging) and to try this for ourselves with varying degrees of success! Quite a contrast to hearing about the work of the Friends of Mount Prison – so many of the inmates have had a rough start in life.

On a lighter note, we have all enjoyed the fabulous sunny summer weather but on the day of our summer garden party rain was forecast! So the party was held indoors in the Baptist Church Hall... nevertheless a good time was had by all with plenty of food and drink (non-alcoholic).

We also have a craft meeting, a darts evening, a spring meal at a local pub and various members host supper evenings with a 'pot-luck' supper. As well as our annual Spring meal we now enjoy a monthly lunch or afternoon tea in various local eating establishments. These are held on different days each month to accommodate all our members and are proving both very enjoyable and successful.

Do come along, as you will be most welcome.

Shirley Hart 380355 or Jenny Thirlwell 831491

**Children at school?
Retired and looking for
something to do?
Fed up with Day-Time TV?**



To find out what you can do, visit

The Volunteer Centre

www.volunteerdacorum.org

01442 247209

The Roundhouse, Marlowes HP1 1DT



Charity Number 288080

Support4Dacorum
Connecting & Developing Community

Bovingdon Lunch Club

We are a social club for elderly residents who meet up every Friday, in the Baptist Church Hall, for a coffee and chat followed by a two-course lunch. Catering for a mixture of newcomers to the village and lifelong Bovingdon residents, the lunch club is a great place to make new friends.



This summer we all participated in a trip out to Dunstable Downs. We enjoyed a homemade cream tea at the View Café in the National Trust Centre whilst watching the kite flying; a look around the shop also proved popular. Future outings include a Christmas Afternoon Tea with entertainment at the end of November and our annual post-Christmas lunch, which is planned for February when members diaries are not so full.



Our thanks to all our helpers without whom we would not be able to provide this valuable service to the village. The sole purpose of Bovingdon Lunch Club is to provide for the comfort and welfare of its members who are elderly residents of Bovingdon. So, if you, or your neighbour, would like a change of scene and company, please contact us for more details.

Sue Miller, 832569 or Sue Sturtivant, 833023

Bovingdon & Flaunden Tennis Club

www.bovingdontenniscub.co.uk

Massive Investment into Community Asset

We are part of the village community situated next to the Football Club in Green Lane. We offer beginner, social, intra Club and League tennis, dependent on your interest and spare time. Over the autumn we invested nearly £100,000 into improving our facilities. We have relaid three courts and added floodlights to another two courts; we have also relaid the access road in conjunction with the Football Club.



Try Before You Join Opportunities

- Rusty Racket and Adult Beginner/Intermediate groups
- Social tennis on Wednesday evenings or Saturday afternoons

Coaching

The junior courses at the club run on Saturday mornings (term time) throughout the year. We start at age 4 and run beginner, improver and advanced player courses. Details of courses are on the website. Individual and small group sessions can also be organised mid-week after school and in the holidays.

So if you play, used to play, or simply want to learn to play... COME AND JOIN US!

Gordon Bettis, 07850 783366 / www.bovingdontenniscub.co.uk



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Give People the Tools...



Remap Hertfordshire South is a local branch of a national charity. Our group of dedicated volunteers helps people with disabilities to overcome everyday challenges and improve their quality of life. We endeavour to design and make aids and equipment for people of all ages and disabilities to use in their homes, schools and their workplace using the skills of experienced mechanical, carpentry, electrical and computing engineers.



A school for blind children wanted something to teach everyday living skills. The device we made has lots of different things to try. It includes a door with various handles and locks, belts, straps, electrical plugs and switches; the children really enjoy using it.

A keen guitar player was unable to use an electronic guitar tuner because of vision problems. With a standard electronic tuner you pluck a string and a row of LEDs lights up to indicate if it is above or below the correct note. He needed something that would convert this visual display into an audio signal. An off-the-shelf guitar tuner was modified by connecting it to a small computer, and a specially written program converts the visual signals into a series of bleeps played via an earpiece, which indicate if the note is too high or too low.



Other clients need chairs, sofas or beds raised, or require custom access ramps or custom made electronic equipment; the list is long and varied. You can view some of our work on our websites:

- www.remap.org.uk
- www.makeability.org.uk
- hertfordshire-south.remap.org.uk/

Our devices are custom-made to meet the specific needs of individuals and are provided free of charge. That is why we need resourceful and inventive volunteers to come up with solutions. Could you help us? If you have metal or woodworking skills, electronic, electrical or computer skills or are just good with your hands please consider joining us as a volunteer. If you are not technically minded, but would still like to help we may have a place for you helping with our admin and PR.

Please contact us if you need our help or if you know someone who does, or you are interested in becoming a volunteer.

*Remap Hertfordshire South
01727 613177 or herts.s@remapgroups.org.uk*

BOVINGDON

pre-school

morning
sessions

close links
with
local
primary

Monday
to
Friday

breakfast
club
from
7.45am

SENCO
&
safe
-guarding

key person per child

30 free hours for eligible working parents

3 & 4-year olds' - 15 free hours entitlement offered

2-year-old Free Places Scheme for eligible 2-year olds

School Links

Bovingdon Pre-School, located in the heart of the village community, is a well-established centre of learning. On the doorstep of Bovingdon Primary Academy, close links have been forged between the two settings allowing a smooth transition from one to the other when the time comes. The children share in various annual celebrations with the Foundation Stage children and often preview many of their performances.

Staffing

The Pre-School work on the Ofsted ratio of 1 adult to every 4 children under the age of 2 years and 1 adult to every 8 children over the age of 3 years. Our staff have many years of experience between them and provide a friendly and supportive environment for learning.

Qualifications range from NVQ Level's 3 and 2 in Children's Care Learning and Development. We have a Dedicated Safeguarding person and a SENCO.

All contracted staff regularly attend the core care courses required for Early Years Practitioners including Paediatric First Aid

and Safeguarding Children, combined with various other training courses to enhance their continued professional development.

Parental involvement and Partners

Parents are invited to play a part in Pre-School life in a variety of ways - helping during a session, sharing stories with groups of children or even cutting out shapes at home.

The Pre-School is run and overseen by a voluntary committee enabling parents to maintain its core values and exceptional standard of care for the children first and foremost.

Sessions

Pre-School sessions are designed to be fun and educational with plenty of opportunities for free play as well as adult led activities in small groups.

The sessions are planned to help children with their all-round development and, due to our large sheltered area in the garden, the children are offered outdoor play time whatever the weather!

Royal British Legion Update

In 2018 the Poppy Appeal collection produced record results throughout the UK, driven by the commemoration of the ending of World War I. The Royal British Legion raised over £50 million, Hertfordshire contributed over £1 million, Hemel Hempstead exceeded £50,000, and the Chipperfield and Bovingdon Sub-Branch collected over £15,000. These figures will be hard to repeat or better, but the need for funds continues.



This year we shall be focusing on the Second World War. Both villages had their silent soldiers on parade in June for the 75th anniversary of D-Day. In Bovingdon the Sub-Branch supported the Church Fete, and collected over £154 for this year's appeal, and also attended the annual Dog Show on the August Bank Holiday collecting a further £118. Together these have given us an encouraging start to this year's effort. A big thank you to all those who have contributed to these results. I would encourage residents of both villages who are going to the fireworks display on Chipperfield Common on Saturday 2nd November to please give generously to our volunteers carrying the red Royal British Legion buckets throughout the evening.

When the British Legion was formed in 1921, it had three missions:

- to care for those in need as the result of war
- to raise funds to support this requirement
- to provide facilities for Old Comrades and their families to meet up and socialise.

The first two objectives continue to be vital today, adapting as required, but with a drastic reduction in the number of military personnel and the changes in social behaviour, entertainment in the home, and the Welfare state, Legion club facilities are no longer so important; this trend has been very noticeable in both our villages.

In spite of our best efforts to re-establish the Sub-Branch as an independent branch again, no one has volunteered to take on responsibility of being either the Secretary or Treasurer, and, as far as we know, no one has volunteered to become members of the Royal British Legion. While I find this disappointing, the good news is that we can continue to participate in the Poppy Appeal and the organisation of Remembrance Sunday services as a district of Hemel Hempstead. This gives us the opportunity to continue to try to increase our Poppy Appeal collections year on year, and thereby demonstrate that we do really care for those who risk their lives on our behalf.

In the meantime I thank all those who have supported our efforts over the years as we aim to continue to support local efforts under the Royal British Legion banner.

Tom Morkill, 834268
Sub-Branch Chairman

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All welcome!

The Bovingdon Players



The Bovingdon Players are fast coming up to our centenary, having been resident in the Memorial Hall since it was built in 1921. Over that time we have staged a staggering number of productions – almost every kind of play you can imagine from classic and contemporary dramas, to comedies, musicals, pantomimes, tragedies and farces.

Our last production, in March, was *Duets* – a heart-warming and sometimes hilarious collection of short comedies about couples – which was very well received and has been nominated for one of the regional National Operatic and Dramatic Association's awards this summer... we don't know whether we have won yet, so fingers crossed!

This autumn's production will be Martin McDonagh's brilliant dark comedy *Hangmen*. Set in the 1960s in a pub in Oldham, *Hangmen* tells the story of Harry, the 'second best Hangman in England' and how he copes with the abolition of hanging. When a mysterious stranger arrives at Harry's pub, with a dark motive behind his visit, things take a sinister turn and Harry's teenage daughter goes missing. This play has received enormous acclaim in the West End and was nominated for numerous awards including the Olivier Awards, Critics' Circle Theatre Awards and the Evening Standard Theatre Awards. This is literally gallows humour at its very best. Don't miss it!

Performances will be at 7:45pm on Thursday 28th, Friday 29th and Saturday 30th November. Don't forget to come early enough to take advantage of our very reasonably priced licensed bar!

We are pleased to have several new members taking part in *Hangmen*. If you are interested in performing or being a part of the backstage team in Bovingdon Players productions, we always welcome new members and would love to hear from anyone who fancies joining in.

Thanks to everyone in Bovingdon for coming along and supporting their local theatre group in the Memorial Hall! We look forward to seeing you again soon.

Robert Peacock, info@bovingdonplayers.com



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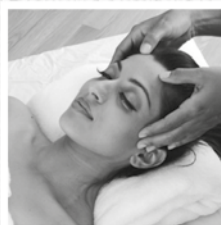
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The Parish Council, local Villagers and Businesses join together to bring Christmas Lights to Bovingdon High Street...

Thanks to the generous support of the Parish Council, local villagers and businesses, Bovingdon High Street will once again be sparkling this festive season, with Christmas lights from the top of the High Street down to the Ryder Memorial.

The switch-on ceremony, also marking the opening of the Bovingdon Christmas Street Fayre, will take place on:

Outside the Memorial Hall at 5pm on Sunday 1st December

A Dancing on Ice Special Guest Celebrity will be leading the countdown to the switch-on and there will be a prize raffle, carol singing, refreshments and fun for the whole family!

There is still time to contribute and help light up Bovingdon High Street for the next three years!

Local shops and businesses should contact the parish office on **833036** or email office@bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk to find out how they can help.

Villagers can make contributions at:

www.gofundme.com/christmas-lights-bovingdon

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Bovingdon Village Stores is your one-stop shop for groceries, bread, fruit & vegetables, fresh and frozen foods, newspapers, tobacco, wines & spirits and much, much more, helping to bring a sparkle to your Christmas.

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1st Bovingdon Rainbows

We are back! 1st Bovingdon Rainbows has re-opened. We have moved venue, date and time but still meet exclusively during the school term.



The Rainbows are the youngest members of the Girlguiding movement (5–7 years) and we enjoy an amazing array of activities within our programme. Our unit have recently had fun cooking biscuits, making sweets, going on a village penny hike, playing at the park, and embarking on a treasure hunt. While there was no hidden gold, there were delicious cakes and juice to stand in as treasure. We have also made father's day gifts, vases and flowers, completed a sweet challenge badge, Penguin Challenge, and much, much more. Our term ended with a Teddy Bear Picnic in the park.

We are about to embark on a new, exciting adventure: Girlguiding have introduced a new programme for Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers. This will include a lot of badge work, leading up to the girls being awarded a bronze, silver or gold medal. The activities are still all centred on the main principles of Guiding:

- Working together in small groups
- Encouraging self-government and decision making
- A balanced and varied programme which is girl-led
- Caring for the individual
- Sharing a commitment to a common standard.

Most recently, 1st Bovingdon Rainbows took part in the Village Show on the green. Our stand provided information about all the fantastic opportunities Girlguiding can offer to both young girls, and adult leaders. On our stall we also hosted a 'lucky dip' and 'pick a bag' game, this proved a fun game for all, while helping to raise money toward our unit's funds; funds that aid all the exciting activities we offer within our unit.

If you are interested in finding out more about us or thinking about enrolling your daughter in our unit please visit our website at: www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/... hope to hear from some of you soon.

Karen Dance (Redsquirrel), 1st Bovingdon Rainbows Leader
kdance66@gmail.com

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Scarlet Marks
Imogen Atkinson

Marriages

Tobias Giles & Laura Moore
Geoffrey Turner & Laura Taylor
Matthew Chappell & Kellie Mills
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Bovingdon History Group

Bovingdon
History Group



Bovingdon History Group is well supported at its monthly meetings and we have roughly 60 members this year. We are grateful to Bovingdon Baptist Church for making us welcome and for the excellent facilities they provide. Our meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month, except July and August, at 8pm. The meetings are open to members who pay an annual subscription of £12 and also to non-members who pay £3 per meeting.

Our lecture in March was given by Neill Sankey entitled *The Wicked Lady: Wicked for Need or Greed?* The lady in question was a member of a well-to-do family in Redbourn. The Royalist family fortunes were greatly diminished by the Parliamentarians in the Civil War. The family had a connection with a property near Wheathamsted on the road north from St Albans. This road was prone to attacks by highwaymen and it was alleged that the lady was involved, however no case was brought against her. The Wheathamsted property is now a gastro pub named The Wicked Lady...

At our next meeting in April, Gordon Rogers gave us a talk on *Churchill's Toyshop*. Early in the Second World War there was a requirement for the rapid production of a wide variety of small-scale specialised weapons. Churchill found that the procurement methods of the War Ministry were too cumbersome for the relatively small scale production needed. He therefore set up a department reporting directly to him. This was based on a factory in the Midlands, which manufactured some very unpleasant weapons and was known informally as 'Winston's Toyshop'.



In May, the lecture was given by Kate Harwood on the subject *The Capabilities of Hertfordshire Landscapes*. This was a most interesting lecture, illustrating the work of both Capability Brown and Humphrey Repton in the county in the 18th century. For the wealthy landowners they swept away the previous formal gardens and developed glorious vistas with sight lines lined with trees radiating out from the main house and framing a lake

in the distance. Many of the houses have been demolished and estates sold off but the vistas can still be traced and the lakes remain. A good local example of Capability Brown's work is the Golden Valley on the Ashridge estate.

Our lecture in June was given by Marion Hill. She spoke on the subject of *New Towns in Hertfordshire*. Strictly speaking, the phrase 'New Towns' only applies to towns built after the Second World War such as Hemel Hempstead and Stevenage. Marion spoke of the publicity efforts made in London to persuade people to move out into the very different environment of a new town set in the country.

In July we had a very interesting visit to the superb Verulamium Museum in St. Albans. This is a well deserved favourite visit for school children so we timed our visit to avoid this. The visit started with a ten-minute video describing the early history of Verulamium, which was built by the Romans as a walled city in





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Bovingdon History Group (cont'd)

the valley of the River Ver. Little remains as much of the material was used to build the St Albans Cathedral and other buildings. Two beautiful examples of mosaic flooring are shown in the central area of the museum. From there, a series of rooms show, with models and exhibits, the living areas and workshops in a typical Roman house. Many small household items and jewellery are displayed in cabinets. After the visit we had a very enjoyable fish and chip lunch at The Three Horseshoes pub in Winkwell.



In August we visited Ascott House, a National Trust property near Leighton Buzzard. This is one of the five houses built by the Rothschild family in the Chiltern area. It is a smaller version of Waddesdon and filled with treasures: the collection of Chinese ceramics is particularly memorable. The house has a 'lived-in' feel and is home to a member of the Rothschild family.

We always welcome new members at our meetings and you will be assured of friendly company and a stimulating evening. The meetings are advertised in the library and locally. Please see the Village Diary for details of our forthcoming programme. There is a copy of the programme in the library.

Sylvia McClelland, Secretary

Mind & Body – Yoga for all

Both classes are currently full (Monday morning and Wednesday evening); please contact me if you wish to join the waiting list.

This long-established and friendly village group enjoys a class that combines a total body workout with the opportunity to relax and unwind. Combining controlled and focused movement with mindful stillness and gentle but powerful breathing techniques allows individuals to become stronger, improve suppleness, and feel calmer and more in control.



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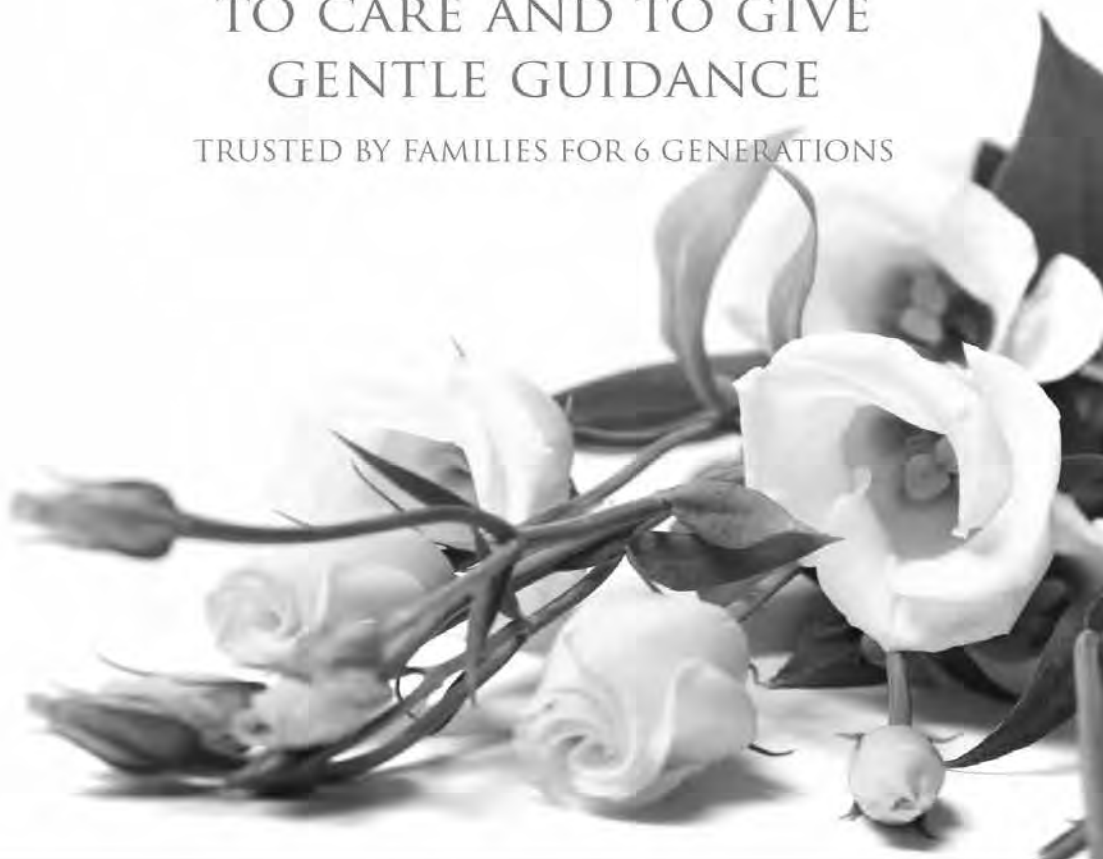
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