

Bovingdon News

No. 84

Nov 2024



BOVINGDON PARISH COUNCIL

Councillors	Specific Roles	Committee Chair in bold	Telephone	Email
Chairman				
Graham Barrett	Finance & General Purposes (F&GP), Outdoors, Planning	Committee Chair in bold	01442 833400	graham.barrett@councillor.bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Vice-Chairman				
David Stent	F&GP, Hall, Outdoors, Personnel, Planning		07748 652047	david.stent@councillor.bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Councillors				
Mike Foulds	F&GP, Hall, Personnel		07917 206816	mike.foulds@councillor.bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Nic Leon	F&GP, Planning		07876 033907	nic.leon@councillor.bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Hugh Schneiders	F&GP, Outdoors, Planning		01442 833070	hugh.schneiders@councillor.bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Julie Steer	F&GP, Hall , Personnel, Comm. Library Rep.		07803 141254	julie.steer@councillor.bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Phillip Walker	F&GP, Planning		07899 925779	phillip.walker@councillor.bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Adrian Watney	Outdoors, Personnel, Planning, Herts Rep (Chilterns Conservation)		07789 313019	adrian.watney@councillor.bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Pauline Wright	Hall, Outdoors , Planning		07876 563789	pauline.wright@councillor.bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Parish Office				
Gemma Coventry	Parish/Finance Clerk			Memorial Hall, High Street
Lisa Edwards	Asst. to Parish Clerk			Bovingdon HP3 0HJ
Village Warden Services	Paul Hartwell (Mon and Tue only)			01442 833036
				office@bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk

WELCOME TO BOVINGDON NEWS



As the saying goes: *time marches on*, but I feel that this year it has taken up sprint running... how did we get to October so quickly? Where did summer go? It's almost as if we jumped straight from May to October, and that I've not really done anything but sit at my desk and work.

So I went back and checked the photos on my phone and realised I haven't been glued to the computer all these past months, thankfully. There were trips to Sorrento for a wedding, Belgium for a music festival, a road-trip to Scotland and back, and various other outings with family and friends... which explains why the last few months have gone by so quickly for me; I do hope you've all had as much fun as I have had this summer.

Hopefully winter will be just as packed... I'll just need to remember to take photos of it all!

Steph Farrer
 Editor, Bovingdon News
 07913 086477 / steph.farrer@icloud.com

Copy for the Next Edition of Bovingdon News

As editor, I welcome advertising and articles from any residents of the village and beyond; without your support Bovingdon News would not be the interesting read it currently is!

Any articles must be submitted by 7th March by email to steph.farrer@icloud.com, and for advertisers the booking deadline is 28th February. Once the booking form has been submitted an invoice will be issued that will be payable within seven days of invoice date (via bank transfer). Adverts may be supplied as complete files (preferably PDFs, either 4C or B/W depending on the booking) or can be created in-house for a one-off cost of £25.

Opinions

It should be noted that the Editor cannot accept responsibility or be held liable for any errors or claims made by the advertisers, nor does the Editor necessarily agree with the views expressed by the contributors. Please note that to avoid repetition within editorial copy the area code 01442 has been omitted from some local phone numbers.

Bovingdon News is designed, edited and published by

Steph Farrer
 07913 086477 • steph.farrer@icloud.com

Miscellaneous

Memorial Hall Toilets

The public toilets are OPEN as follows: Monday to Wednesday 8am-3pm, Thursday and Friday 8am-12noon, but are CLOSED Saturday and Sunday. There is also a toilet for disabled users, which can be accessed using a RADAR key.



Scoop the Poop!

Bovingdon Parish Council supply dog poop bags to villagers at a cost of £1/pack, and can be bought from Jarmans on the High Street. 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 occasionally in the School car park (from 8:30am-6:30pm)?

Hertfordshire Hearing Advisory Service



Do You Wear NHS Hearing Aids?

We run a monthly walk-in clinic for hearing aid maintenance and replacement batteries on the first Tuesday of each month, from 2pm-3:30pm in Bovingdon Memorial Hall, and no appointment is necessary. HHAS is a charitable organisation working alongside the NHS offering a free service for NHS patients only.

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All our helpers are volunteers and there is no charge for our service but donations, based on 45p/mile (HMRC limit), to contribute to costs are welcome and any extra for good service helps to enable the service to continue.



Something's missing!
We need **U** to fill the gap!

Do you have a car and some spare time you could use to help the elderly or less-able people of Bovingdon attend hospitals, medical appointments, go to social clubs or just get out and about?

Currently, we need to expand our list of volunteer drivers. There are no set days, rosters or commitment; most drivers do one or two runs a month on days of their choosing. Requests are sent out using a WhatsApp group and you are under no obligation to accept a job - you can just say that you are not available when asked. We suggest that passengers give a donation to cover their driver's expenses but this does not affect your car insurance under current industry guidelines.

If you would like to help or find out more about it, please contact:
Dick Gardener on **01442 833674**, **07860 811154** (mobile)
or email rmgardener@gmail.com

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Chairman's Report

In March, I reported on the additional bulbs that we had planted along the Hempstead Road, adjacent to New Hall Close and in Old Dean. These were all successful and provided a magnificent display, which we hope was appreciated by all residents. We were also successful in getting agreement from HCC to place hanging flower baskets on most of the lamp posts along the High Street and these were also highly colourful. We are intending to continue with additional planting in the village during the winter months.



I am extremely pleased to report that our Neighbourhood Plan went to referendum on 13th June and was supported by over 90% of those voting. It was subsequently supported by Dacorum Council and the Plan was formally adopted on 17th July. This is a tremendous achievement for the planning team and the village, as it gives the Parish Council much greater influence on the future of the village. It will also bring

a significant increase in funding for many years to come that will be directly spent within the parish. We are very grateful to the small, dedicated team of volunteers who have persevered with working on the Plan for over five years and, in particular, to Julia Marshall and Clare Norton who chaired the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

Several hundred people attended the D-Day 80th Anniversary commemoration event on Bovingdon Green. It was heartening to see so many people of all ages attending. It was particularly poignant when the official poem was read, together with the lighting of the beacon. Our thanks, particularly, to Gary Cullum and all those who gave up their time to organise the event.



Consultation by Dacorum Council on proposed parking restrictions outside the High Street shops concluded on 11th September for which only seven objections were registered. The proposals would introduce two-hour waiting restrictions outside the main shops on both sides of the road, together with a dedicated disabled parking bay as well as additional double yellow lines on the corners of Old Dean and the High Street. It is hoped that the proposals will be introduced in the coming months.

Christmas is soon approaching but unfortunately for the first time in several years there will not be a village Christmas Fayre. This is primarily due to a lack of volunteers, as two of the leading organisers have now moved away from the village and there were not enough new villagers coming forward to support the organisation of the event. We are, however, pleased to report that the Christmas Lights will still be installed and, whilst there will be no formal ceremony, the lights will be switched on from 15th November.



Steph Farrer

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Chairman's Report (cont'd)



We currently have one vacancy on the Parish Council, and a further vacancy is expected shortly. We are very keen to get some new members on the Council and would ask anyone who might be interested to contact myself at graham.barrett@councillor.bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk or the Parish

Clerk at office@bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk, or alternatively call the Parish Office on 833036 where we would be delighted to chat through what would be involved and provide further information.

Finally, on behalf of all the Councillors and the Parish Office Team, I would like to wish you all early good wishes for Christmas and 2025.

*Councillor Graham Barrett
Chairman, Bovingdon Parish Council*



Planning Committee Update

In respect of planning and development, construction has now commenced on 43 residential units at Molyneux Avenue and we understand that the new homes will be marketed shortly. Planning permission has been granted, subject to conditions, on land at Grange Farm with detailed consent for 59 extra care units in a block facing Chesham Road and 57 residential units together with outline consent for a further 129 dwellings. The site will also deliver 1.8 hectares of community land on which will be provided new scout premises, new Bowls Club facilities, allotments, and a community orchard together with adjacent parking facilities. The level of community benefits that will be delivered through this scheme are unprecedented.

Planning has also been granted for re-development of the old Bovingdon brickworks site for over 8,000 square meters of new industrial units, a proportion of which we understand will be occupied by E H Smith who are the site owners. Consultation is also underway for a proposed solar farm on 150+ acres of land along the Ley Hill Road and a full planning application is expected to be made in the coming months.

*Councillor Graham Barrett
Chairman, Planning Committee*



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County Report

I write this knowing that more rain could repeat the downpour of last week. The good news is that measures put in place after the floods of September 2016, have made all the difference. One can never say never, but the big soak-aways, storm drains and bore-holes are getting water away and preventing flooding right across the village.



The Hempstead Road dip, where the water drains to, is being investigated in November and the drain in St Lawrence Close was unblocked earlier this summer. If the development on Grange Farm goes ahead, not only will there be a huge public benefit for the village, but it includes flood and drainage works that will deal with water coming off the Ley Hill Road. I have also been in Nye Way and Ryders Close meeting residents about the highway trees and was pleased to hear that the new storm system put in there is working well.

Highways have done a good resurfacing job on Long Lane, in November they will be tackling the pavements in Green Lane and next year I have asked for the Hempstead Road pavement to be resurfaced. We are also looking to make it easier to cross the top of the High Street, linking the two sides of the village; more discussion to follow. The Borough is sorting out the parking around the High Street shops, including putting a painted H bar in place to stop blocking of New Hall Close.

In other news, I know that losing the £300 winter fuel allowance has caused upset as has the announcement that no new hospitals will be built, so I am raising this with our MPs and Government. Watford, Harlow and Mount Vernon are all struggling with poor and dilapidated buildings: we cannot on the one hand worry about too many people on waiting lists and on the other have poor medical facilities. This is not to have a go at our local NHS, which does its absolute best to keep the show on the road, but we have to have health infrastructure fit for this century, not the last.

Financially the County Council is just about keeping its head above water although the pressures are significant. This year we will be making the biggest savings for a decade although not to the vital front line. I cannot thank our staff enough for the great work they do, which is probably why our County is recognised as having some of the best performing services in the country.

I visited Flaunden and Bovingdon village halls to better understand the solar farm application, off the far end of the Ley Hill Road. This is pretty big, generating 72MW of electricity eventually so I want a bigger financial reward, for hosting this power plant, to come back to the village and local area. Really important to get this straight now, as this is the first big array in the county.

As always, my thanks to Graham and all who do so much for the Parish and to Phil, Gbola and Stewart who are your Dacorum team. Do get in touch if you need me or to share in so much that is good in the village.

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



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News from St Lawrence



The scaffolding that covered the south-east corner of the church for over a year finally came down in August. We now have a new parapet, three metres of new roof and guttering and an outfall into the downpipe, which will prevent any rainwater seeping into the stonework. It has been a much more expensive project than we envisaged, costing over £40,000 in total, and the funds of the Friends of St Lawrence are now much depleted. We are hugely grateful to the Friends for funding this work, and to Chay Hedger and his team for carrying it out.

The Friends also helped with two other important maintenance projects: renewal of the path lights (which had become very unreliable due to a combination of damp and ants!) and trimming of the banded yew trees, which needs doing every four years or so. These projects cost several thousand pounds each; Paul Empson and his team did a great job on the trees.

Our Holy Week and Easter services were well supported. On Good Friday we joined with our friends at the Baptist Church to walk through the village, in silence, carrying a large cross, remembering the terrible events on the day that Jesus died. Then on Easter Sunday a full church rang to shouts of 'Alleluia!' as we celebrated Jesus' resurrection from the dead. Six weeks later at Pentecost we celebrated the birth of the church with the coming of the Holy Spirit. We believe that Jesus lives on in our lives through his Spirit, encouraging us to serve him by serving others.

Our Summer Fête was our best yet, with several hundred visitors enjoying a variety of stalls on the south lawn plus our own cream teas and local produce. New this year were rides behind a real steam train and a BBQ and bar, which all proved very popular. Our Christmas Market takes place on 16th November – do come and join us.

We are now in full fund-raising mode for our 'Patience' project, aiming to raise a total of £1.6m to build an annexe on the church (replacing the Hall in Vicarage Lane) and create a warm, flexible and welcoming space in the church itself. At the time of writing we have raised £900,000 and we are now appealing to the whole of Bovingdon to come out and support this exciting project, which will benefit church and community alike. Look out for publicity about fund-raising events and open days in church to explain what we are doing.

Whether you are new to Bovingdon or have lived here for decades, and whatever your beliefs, you are always welcome to join us for one of our services or simply to call in (the church is open every day) for a few moments of peaceful contemplation.

With prayers and best wishes

*Rev'd Charles Burch, Vicar of Bovingdon
833298 / vicar@stlawrencebovingdon.com*

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Bovingdon 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

The Bovingdon Players

The Bovingdon Players' ever-popular Murder Mystery evenings return with *Return to Talbot Manor* on Thursday 28th and Friday 29th November, starting at 7.45pm. Bring along your own picnic (and something to eat it with) to enjoy at your table, get drinks at the licensed bar and watch the drama unfold, then try and solve the mystery! You will even have a chance to question the suspects, examine clues and compete with the other teams to out-sleuth the detective on the scene and earn the winner's prize.



The scenario: Deep within the depths of Dartmoor, Talbot Manor is about to witness an unexpected homecoming. For Mason Talbot, the rightful heir to the Talbot estate, is to be released from the asylum and claim his inheritance. But is Mason completely cured? Or is he still capable of dreadful deeds in the middle of the night? Tickets are on sale now via bovingdonplayers.com. Seats at tables of 8 are £10 each, or £70 for a full table.

If you would like to get involved with our future productions, on stage or behind the scenes, get in touch at info@bovingdonplayers.com

Robert, info@bovingdonplayers.com

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

As this issue of Bovingdon News was about to go to press, Bovingdon and Chipperfield volunteers were preparing for this year's annual Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal that takes place between 24th October and Remembrance Sunday on 10th November.



The collecting team of David Wright, Mike Aylward, Mike Leon and Gary Cullum could really do with some help: either to help deliver collection tins to the pubs, shops, businesses, churches, The Mount, school etc or to stand in the High Street during the Poppy Appeal period.

The Royal British Legion has changed the way money can be collected for this year, doing away with costly contactless machines in favour of using QR codes for people to scan on their phones. As a result, the local team is appealing for those who regularly donate in the High Street to carry cash where possible.

Last year's joint collection raised £10,225.97 for the local branch of the Royal British Legion (Chipperfield residents contributing £6,749.20 with Bovingdon folk donating £3,476.77). If you are reading this before the end of the appeal and can spare some time to shake a tin, please make contact.

Lest We Forget

Gary Cullum, Bovingdon Poppy Appeal Team, 07768 774355

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Bovingdon Gardeners

An allotment... a word to conjure up images of neat rows of vegetables, perhaps with a colourful splash of flowers and a little tool shed at one end. They are a common sight all over the country and seem to have been around for ever. Their origins go back centuries but they became very popular after the Second World War, when there was a strong urge to grow your own food and have stayed with us since, although they are now in decline in some places.



So where did allotments begin? *The History Of Allotments* was the title of the talk in May given by Kate Harwood of The Hertfordshire Gardens Trust. In her illustrated talk she explained their evolution from the strips of land of medieval times to the familiar plots that we see today. Her interesting talk was illustrated with maps and photographs of the local area showing where allotments had existed and had now disappeared. Sadly we lost ours when HMP The Mount was built and we hope that one day we will be given an alternative site. It could be said that allotment societies are a British institution but in fact there are allotments in many countries around the world.



The next event in our 2024 calendar was the decorating of the High Street with hanging baskets. Each year Bovingdon Gardeners runs a competition for the best-kept basket with a prize given at our Autumn Show. This year 40 baskets, planted by Shantock Nurseries, were hung up by members of Bovingdon Gardeners in May. Businesses along the High Street who paid for a basket then have to care for them throughout the summer. This can be challenging and very much depends on the weather conditions. If you forget to water during a heatwave you are left with a hanging hay bale and if there is prolonged wet and windy weather the blooms can go brown and soggy. It is important to feed and deadhead too to get the best of them. This year the combination of vibrant fuchsias, geraniums and verbenas has produced a stunning display. The baskets were judged

in late August and the winners were 1st Bovingdon Barbers, 2nd The Cutting Garden and 3rd the Village Store, while Davis Dental Surgery was very highly commended. Well done to the winners and thank you to all who took part, taking the time and effort to care for their basket. A huge thank you to Shantock Nurseries for providing these colourful baskets, they make such a difference to the High Street.

In the past we have held a plant sale in the Memorial Hall in May. However, due to COVID restrictions and a falling attendance we abandoned this in 2022. We would like to reinstate this, so next May we are planning to hold a plant sale where anyone can sell their surplus plants. Details of this will be in the Bovingdon Gardeners handbook and on our website. This autumn you could pot up some perennials or take cuttings to produce plants for the sale. Details of the sale will be advertised in the new year.





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Bovingdon Gardeners (cont'd)

Despite the horrendous weather we encountered in the autumn and spring our Summer Show on 29th June was a success with 151 entries, similar to previous years. This year we have not only had to contend with bad weather but the armies of slugs and snails relishing the wet conditions. My vegetables suffered badly but judging by the ones on display at the show many gardeners seem more adept at dealing with these problems. Certainly Mike Leon is a seasoned vegetable grower and once again swept the board winning the National Vegetable Society medal. Flower entries were good, unlike the daffodil numbers which were halved for the Spring Show. The only section where entries were seriously down compared to recent years was in the sweet pea classes. We have lost one or two of our regular growers but a new queen has been crowned, Debbie Oastler. She won both the Darley Ash Sweet Pea Cup and the National Sweet Pea Society Rosette for her lovely flowers. Roses, herbaceous perennials and wild flowers were well represented and although there were few entries the standard of the floral art exhibits was high.



After what must have been quite a marathon in the kitchen Anne Tavener won the Crawley Cup for her many entries in the cookery section. It is good to have children entering exhibits, after all they are perhaps our future members. Decorated wooden spoons and jars of wild flowers attracted a number of entries. Well done to Zara and Sophie for your efforts. The photographic classes had a surge of entries with Lloyd Moore winning the Douglas King Cup.

Our annual trip to Wisley gardens on 18th August attracted 16 members for this free visit, and this year it went without a hitch. Last year owing to the closure of the A3 we had to reschedule. The weather was glorious, fine and sunny and the gardens looked spectacular. Over the last decade there have been many innovations and replanting here. We planned the visit to get the most from the herbaceous borders and the superb World Garden that features edible foods from around the globe. Here you can see all kinds of vegetables grown in beds and over arches and trellises. Some of these may be new and exotic to us but I am sure that due to the changing climate they may become everyday staples in the future.



Our next event is our annual social evening in November and then it is time to put away the gardening tools and order our seeds ready to start all over again next year. Why not come and join us? Contact our membership secretary Mike Leon on 833665.

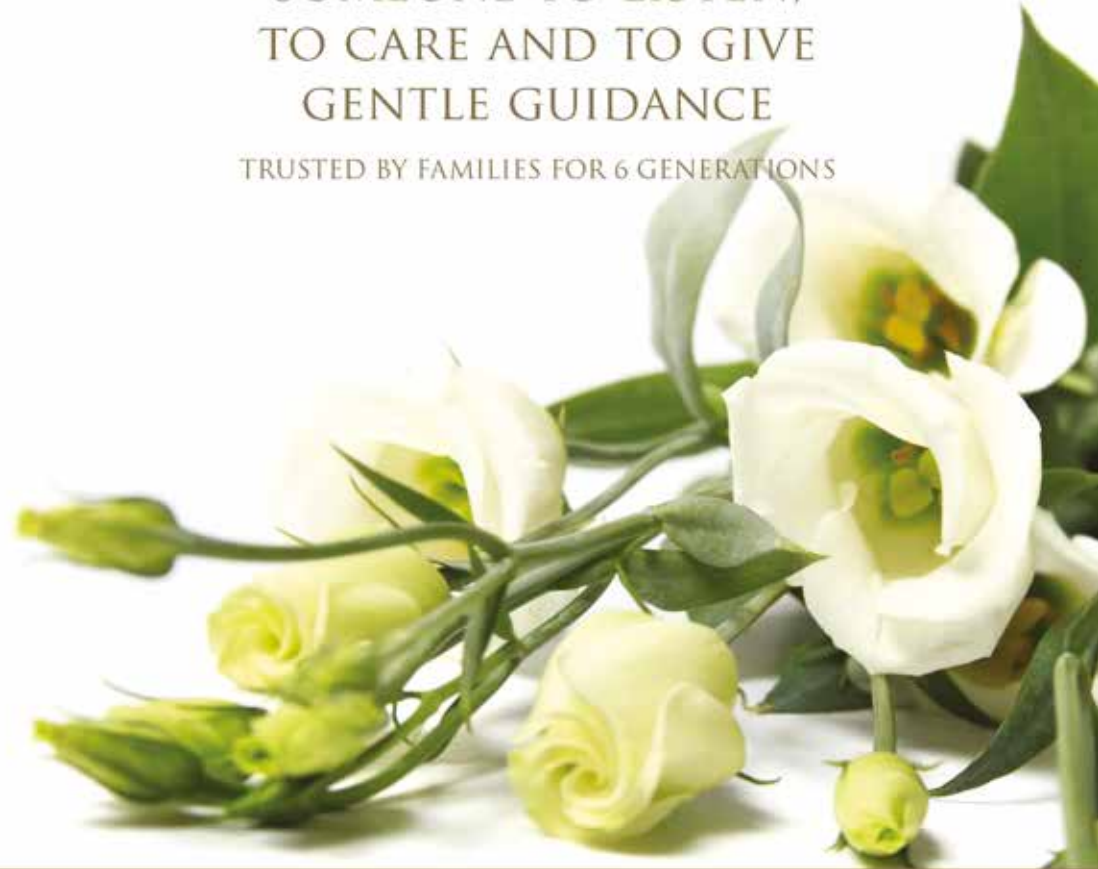
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Doreen Woods, 833520 / www.bovingdonhortsoc.org.uk

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A & C TADMAN FUNERALS WITH PEACE OF MIND AND STYLE

1st Bovingdon Rainbows and Brownies

Bovingdon Rainbows and Brownies have been enjoying lots of outdoor activities this term, including local walks, erecting tents, shopping with a budget and much more.

Rainbows had a great day out on the Leighton Buzzard Narrow Gauge Railway in May. We travelled to Stonehenge Station where we had lunch and enjoyed themed crafts before boarding the train again to head back to Leighton Buzzard. The girls had an amazing experience and we finished the day with an ice lolly and received a commemorative badge.



In July Rainbows and Brownies spent the morning on the canal. We all boarded the barge at Apsley and travelled at a calm 4mph towards B&Q in Hemel Hempstead. During our relaxing sail we needed to negotiate a number of locks. All the girls loved going into the lock on the board and watching the water drop us down or lift it up – depending on our direction. Brownies were able to help with the locks, opening and closing them, steering the boat and helping to tie it up.

Towards the end of the term the Brownies took part in a pack holiday: the theme this year was Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Some of the older girls camped out the first night; it was a very wet night but they all stayed out, which was impressive. The second night they stayed in the dormitory with the younger Brownies. A golden ticket was needed to come into the factory, and fortunately all the girls remembered their tickets. Brownies were able to take part in many games, crafts, and cooking, as well as carrying out duties throughout the weekend. The last morning we took part in an Escape Room, which was all created around Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.



Our final meeting was a joint meeting, and Rainbows and Brownies had a Teddy Bears picnic followed by our Presentation Evening. The parents were able to see their girls receive a range of Girlguiding Awards including two Bronze Awards, three Silver Awards and one Gold Award for our Rainbows, and two Bronze and two Silver Awards for our Brownies. All the girls achieved their Skills Builders badges for the theme 'Have Adventure', and some girls were awarded their Theme badge along with interest badges.

We would love to welcome more girls to join our Rainbow unit, so if you feel your daughter would like to be part of this amazing organisation please register them via the Girlguiding Website.

*Karen Dance
Bovingdon Rainbow & Brownie Leader*

20 Bovingdon News November 2024



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We are a small family owned veterinary practice in Shantock Hall Lane between Bovingdon and Flaunden (map and directions on our website). We are very proud of our custom built fully equipped surgery and our experienced animal mad staff who can help you with all aspects of pet ownership.

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**St. Lawrence Church
BOVINGDON**

Bovingdon Lunch Club

We are a social club for elderly residents who meet up every Friday, in St Lawrence Church Hall in Vicarage Lane, for a coffee and a chat followed by a two-course lunch. Consisting of a mixture of newcomers to the village and life-long Bovingdon residents, the Lunch Club is a great place to make new friends, have fun and enjoy good company.



As you can see from the photo, we enjoyed our special 'D' Day Lunch at the beginning of June. The Ration Book style menu brought back many memories and reminisces for members. Looking ahead, we are planning our annual Christmas Afternoon Tea plus a Christmas Lunch or two.

Sue Miller, 832569 / Sue Sturtivant, 833023

Bovingdon Bowls Club

What a great summer season Bovingdon Bowls Club have had so far. Having reached the Watford & District Griffin Cup semi-final, and losing to the eventual winners Berkhamsted, we also progressed to the semi-final of the Friday Night league and again narrowly missed out on a final appearance with a loss to Mill End. Our Ladies also reached the Watford & District League Final only to finish runners up to Tring Ladies. Next year they plan to go one better.



Our Reds and Blue's Vets Men's sides have had exceptional seasons in their respected leagues, with both teams finishing mid-table. In the cup competitions we have reached the final of the Watford Outdoor Vets Triples and the 4's finals, which are due to be played late-September.

With the summer season ending, and still in with the chance of grabbing some silverware, the club are preparing for the visiting teams who are taking part in our Thursday and Sunday Winter Leagues, which commence in October. Before the winter fixtures commence the club are touring Torremolinos with three matches in the Costa-Del-Sol sunshine.

The club's success and strength has been helped by the arrival of a host of new players whose contribution to the club both on and off the rink has been invaluable. Our thanks to Shirley Vincent, Dave Stent, Barry Bryant, Jim Dukes, Dave Greenwood, Chrissey and David Rawson, Dave Turner, Bernard Parker, Rob and Wendy Scott and John Kelleher (apologies if I've missed anybody out).

The Bowls Club doors are always open to villagers of any age looking to try bowls. In addition to the bowls our social events are not to be missed. If you are interested in joining, then please email Bovingdon Bowls Club bovingdonbowlsclub@hotmail.com.

Andy Smith, 07432 082299 / andy.ofc.smith@btinternet.com

Bovingdon Community Library



Run by volunteers and open for 30 hours a week, the library offers a wide range of services beyond just books including **Knitting Group** (Mon 10-12am), **Lego Club** (Mon 3:30-4:30pm), **Toddler Tales** (Tue 9-11am), **Scrabble Club** (1st/3rd Tue 6-8pm), **Coffee Morning** (1st/3rd Wed 10-12am), and **Singing for Fun** (Thu 7:30-8:45pm)

We are also hoping to organise some author visits and other activities in the library this year and into 2025, so if you have any suggestions please contact us on bovingdonlibraryvolunteers@outlook.com. In the meantime, pop in and visit us... check out our noticeboards (in the library itself and also at the corner of Hyde Meadows and on the Memorial Hall) for village-wide events, volunteering opportunities, village groups and clubs, and historic village photographs.

The Bovingdon Academy second-hand uniform clothes rail is still running; we just ask for a cash donation (all monies raised go to BAPA). Any donations can be handed into the library or the school.

Other facilities/services include photocopying, laminating, two-hour free internet use for library card holders, jigsaws, book sale trolley, daily newspaper, magazines available for one-week loan, audio books, activities for children during the holidays, plus a wide range of books for children, teenagers and adults for three-week loan.

Any changes to opening hours will be displayed at the front of the library, but our current opening times are as follows:

Monday – 9-6pm	Tuesday – 9-6pm	Wednesday – CLOSED
Thursday – 1-6pm	Friday – 9-1pm	Saturday – 10-1pm

We thank you all for your continued support of our library, and we hope you will consider volunteering with us or with another local group. I would also like to personally thank all the library volunteers for their support in keeping our library open, especially now we have no on-site support.

Julie Steer, Chair, Bovingdon Library Committee

DONATIONS

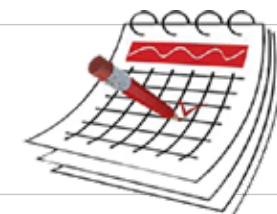
If you have any good quality books, recent releases, adult or child, which are now just sitting on the shelf, please consider donating them to the library. We can only accept books in good condition, recently published; there is a donation bin just inside the library. Where possible, we will add the books to library stock or, if they cannot be added, we will sell them, and any proceeds will go towards buying new books and supporting activities. If you have any jigsaws for adults or children, Duplo or Lego, these will also be gratefully accepted.



Babies and Toddlers	Hayley Miller	07957 663324
Bovingdon Connect	Careline	07376 832999
Bovingdon Gardeners	Doreen Woods	833520
Bovingdon Players	Robert Peacock	info@bovingdonplayers.com
Bovingdon Primary Academy	School Office	406545
Bovingdon Village Facebook		www.facebook.com/groups/bovingdon
Bovingdon Village Market	Julie Steer	07803 141254
Bovingdon Villager	Gary Cullum	927222 / 07768 774355
Bovingdon WI	Alison Walker	bovingdonwi@gmail.com
Bowls Club	Andy Smith	bovingdonbowlsclub@hotmail.com
Boxmoor Trust Office		253300
CAD Volunteer Centre	Matt Hatton	matt@communityactiondacorum.org.uk
Child Health Clinic	Health Visitor	0300 123 7572
Churches	Baptist	07368 322363
	Catholic – Rector Michele du Saire	01923 264377
	St Lawrence – Rev Charles Burch	833298
Cricket Club	Mark Carine	bovingdoncc@hotmail.com
Crimestoppers		0800 555111
Cubs and Scouts	Michelle Black	07713 741483
Fire – Community Safety Officer	Kevin Horwood	867116
Fire – Hemel Fire Station		265028
Fire – Home & Safety		www.hertsdirect.org/fire 0300 123 4046
Football Club		bovingdonfc@gmail.com
Friends of St Lawrence	John Walker	834025
Hatha Yoga	Jo Bain	jo@bain-family.org
Hearing Aid Clinic		831804
HMP The Mount	Prison / Visitor Centre	836300 / 836516
Ladybirds	Sue Baxter	831804 / 07547 579998
Library	Enquiries & Mobile Service	0300 123 4049
Lunch Club (Over 60s)	Sue Miller	832569
Neighbourhood Watch	Julie Steer	nwatch_bovingdon@outlook.com
Parish Clerk	Gemma Coventry	833036
Police – Hemel Hempstead		www.herts.police.uk 101
Pre-School	Pre-School Office	834188
Rainbows and Brownies	Karen Dance	07785 983775 / kdance66@gmail.com
Shopmobility	Marlowes, Level A Blue Car Park	259259
St Lawrence Baptism Team	Karen Wright	baptism@stlawrencebovingdon.com
Tennis Club	Andy Ferguson	07493 002596
	Membership Secretary	admin@bftc.club

Key

B	Bowls Club	LIB	Library
BC	Baptist Church	MH	Memorial Hall
BG	Bovingdon Green	STL	St Lawrence Church
BPA	Primary Academy	STLH	St Lawrence Hall
C	Clubroom, MH	T	Tennis Club



November 2024

3	STL	Sun	4pm	St Lawrence: Bovingdon Memorial Service
4	MH	Mon	7:30pm	BPC: Parish Council Meeting
10	STL	Sun	10:30am	St Lawrence: Remembrance Sunday Service
11	MH	Mon	7pm	Ladybirds
13	BC	Wed	7:30pm	Evening WI: <i>Autumn Hints</i> /Fish-&-Chip Supper (6:30pm)
15		Fri		Bovingdon Christmas Lights Switched On
16	STL	Sun	2pm	STL: Christmas Fayre
18	MH	Mon	7pm	Ladybirds
25	MH	Mon	7pm	Ladybirds
28	MH	Thu	7:45pm	Players: <i>Return to Talbot Manor</i> Murder Mystery
29	MH	Thu	7:45pm	Players: <i>Return to Talbot Manor</i> Murder Mystery
30	STL	Fri	TBC	St Lawrence: Lea Singers in Concert

December 2024

6	MH/BPA	Fri	5pm	Santa's Convoy and Christmas Craft Fair
9	MH	Mon	7pm	Ladybirds
11	BC	Wed	7:30pm	Evening WI: Festive Celebration with <i>Just Dave</i>
18	BC	Wed	10am	Baptist Church: Coffee Morning and Carols
22	STL	Sun	10am	St Lawrence: Nativity Service
22	STL	Sun	6:30pm	St Lawrence: Carols by Candlelight
24	STL	Sun	3pm	St Lawrence: Crib Service
24	BC	Tue	5pm	Baptist Church: Carols and Christingles Service
24	STL	Tue	11pm	St Lawrence: Midnight Communion
25	STL	Wed	10am	St Lawrence: Family Communion Service
25	BC	Wed	10:30am	Baptist Church: Christmas Day Service

January 2025

6	MH	Mon	7:30pm	BPC: Parish Council Meeting
8	BC	Wed	7:30pm	Evening WI: Cheque Presentation to The Willow Foundation
13	MH	Mon	7pm	Ladybirds

February 2025

12	BC	Wed	7:30pm	Evening WI: <i>Tropic</i> Makeup Demonstration
17	MH	Mon	7pm	Ladybirds

March 2025

3	MH	Mon	7:30pm	BPC: Parish Council Meeting
10	MH	Mon	7pm	Ladybirds
12	BC	Wed	7:30pm	Evening WI: <i>An Eventful Life</i> by Suzi Clarke
24	MH	Mon	7pm	Ladybirds

April 2025

7	MH	Mon	7pm	Ladybirds
9	BC	Wed	7:30pm	Evening WI: <i>Love and Laughter</i> by Andy Smith
14	MH	Mon	7pm	Ladybirds
18		Fri	10am	St Lawrence/Baptist Church: Walk of Witness
20	STL	Sun	10am	St Lawrence: Easter Sunday Service
28	MH	Mon	7pm	Ladybirds

Page Listing	Company Name	Contact
47	Computer Tuition	Reeboot, Karen Cramer-Smer 388537
7	Design and Layout	Steph Farrer 07913 086477
7	Digital Transcription	Steph Farrer 07913 086477
17	Driving Instructor	Pete Moore 07879 831750 / 832889
41	Education	Westbrook Hay 256143
31	Electrician	J C Cooke 07905 356895 / 832153
37	Fuel Merchant	G C Parish & Sons 832224 / 832341
19	Funeral Directors	A & C Tadman 01923 264296
33	Funeral Directors	White Rose Independent. Funeral Directors 953145
7	Garage Services	Bowron Motorcare 07860 882970 / 834634
31	Gutter Cleaning/Repairs	Gutterbuster, Adam Cooper 07749 977997 / 874540
47	Hall Lettings	Baptist Church hallhire.bovingdonbaptist@gmail.com
13	Hall Lettings	Memorial Hall 833036
21	Hall Lettings	St Lawrence Hall 07756 562722
52	Hearing Aids	Halo Hearing Solutions 389949
17	Hypnotherapy/Reiki	Lyn Palmer 07889 159727 / 833688
39	Market	Bov. Village Market, Julie Steer 07803 141254
17	Oven Cleaning	Oven Dazzle 07853 206193 / 01923 261567
3	Pest Control	Hope's Pest Solutions, Pete Hope 07717 190614
37	Painter/Decorator	Allan Brown 832103
37	Planning Drawings	John Galvin 07841 861298 / 834284
3	Plumbing	AA Plumbing Solutions 07782 122555
35	Plumbing and Heating	Manor Heating, Vic McDonald 07712 265034 / 834373
43	Pre-School	Bovingdon Pre-School 834188
11	Recycling/Skip Hire	Leewood Recycling 01923 269496
15	Solicitors	Underwoods 430900
9	Venue Hire/Golf	Little Hay Golf Complex 952444
21	Veterinary Practice	Hope Vets 833198

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FC	Football Club	TT	Term time only



Monday

MH	9am-3pm	Bovingdon Pre-School TT
Online	9:15am-10:30am	Hatha Yoga
LIB	10am-12noon	Knitting Group
MH	2pm-4pm	The Art Group
LIB	3:30pm-4:30pm	Lego Club
BPA	5pm-6pm	Beavers TT
BC	6pm-7pm	Pilates (Lisa Giles)
BPA	6pm-7:30pm	Cubs TT
BPA	7:30pm-9pm	Scouts TT
MH	7pm-9pm	Ladybirds (fortnightly)
STLH	7:30pm-8:30pm	Beginners Yoga Class

Tuesday

MH	9am-3pm	Bovingdon Pre-School TT
LIB	9am-11am	Toddler Tales
C	2pm-3pm	Child Health Clinic (fortnightly)
C	2pm-3:30pm	Hertfordshire Hearing Advisory Service (1 st Tuesday)
STLH	3pm-5pm	St Lawrence: Tea Time (1 st Tuesday)
MH	5pm-5:45pm	Bovingdon Dance Academy
C	5:45pm-6:30pm	Bovingdon Dance Academy
LIB	6pm-8pm	Scrabble Club (1 st /3 rd each month)
MH	6pm-8:30pm	Kredible K9 (puppy/dog obedience classes)

Wednesday

C	9am-3pm	Bovingdon Pre-School TT
STLH	9am-10:45am	St Lawrence Toddler Group TT
LIB	10am-11:30am	Baptist Church Coffee Morning (1 st and 3 rd Wednesday)
T	From 5pm	Adult Social Tennis
MH	7pm-8:15pm	Hatha Yoga
BC	7:30pm-9:30pm	Bovingdon WI (2 nd Wednesday)

Thursday

C	9am-3pm	Bovingdon Pre-School TT
MH	4:45pm-5:45pm	Loko Dance (Freestyle and Street Dance - age 3+)
STLH	TBA	Rainbows TT
STLH	TBA	Brownies TT
LIB	7:30pm-8:45pm	Singing for Fun
MH	7pm-8pm	Bovingdon Yoga Fitness



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*Steph Farrer, Publisher, Bovingdon News
steph.farrer@icloud.com / 07913 086477*

General

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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

You can report faults in Dacorum such as abandoned vehicles, dog fouling, fly tipping, waste collection issues and more... see www.dacorum.gov.uk for more details.

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Herts Highways Fault Reporting – Self-help

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www.hertsdirect.org/services/transtreets/highways/honlineservices/hfr/

Public Transport

Intalink (Herts. Buses)	0300 123 4050	www.intalink.org.uk
London Underground	0845 330 9880	www.tfl.gov.uk/tube
National Rail Enquiries	08457 484950	www.nationalrail.co.uk

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	Bovingdon Dental	60 High Street	832212
	Laurel Cottage	57 High Street	833922
Doctor	Archway Surgery	52 High Street	833380
	Longmeadow Surgery	16 High Street	833295



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Friday

C	9am-3pm	Bovingdon Pre-School ^{TT}
T	From 9:15am	Ladies Tennis
STLH	11:30am-1:30pm	Bovingdon Lunch Club (Over 60s)
STLH	6pm-7:30pm	Martial Arts

Saturday

T	From 8am	Tennis – Men's Practice
BC	8:30am-12:30pm	Bovingdon Dance Academy
MH	10am-11am	Horticultural Society Supply Hut (rear of MH)
MH	10am-12noon	Bovingdon Village Market (3 rd Saturday)
STLH	10:45am-12:30pm	Dancing
T	From 2pm	Social Tennis

Sunday

T	From 11am	Social Tennis
STL	8am	St Lawrence: Holy Communion, Book of Common Prayer
STL	10am	St Lawrence: Family Communion (1 st Sunday Only)
STL	9:30am	St Lawrence: Family Praise (all other Sundays)
STL	10:30am	St Lawrence: Parish Communion or Morning Prayer
BC	10:30am	Baptist Church: Sunday Service

BPC Planning Committee Meetings to be held in the Clubroom at 6:30pm on 4th and 25th Nov, 16th Dec, 6th and 27th Jan, 17th Feb, 3rd and 24th Mar, 14th and 28th Apr

Please note: the Annual Parish Meeting followed by the BPC AGM will take place in the Memorial Hall on Monday 12th May at 7:30pm; all village residents are welcome to attend.

Village Diary/Regular Events Listings

If you have any events (either regular events or a one-off) you wish to publicise in the Village Diary or Regular Event listings, please send the details to me and I will ensure their inclusion in the relevant issue – thank you.

Steph Farrer, Editor, Bovingdon News
steph.farrer@icloud.com / 07913 086477



News from Bovingdon Baptist Church



As I write this article, the summer is over, the weather has suddenly turned much colder and I can't quite believe it is September already. Over the summer, our services are even more informal than normal, which allows the Leadership Team to take a bit of a step back. It's been nice not to have to worry about meeting/minutes/agendas and have a few Sunday mornings off. As 'normal' services resume, and we continue our search for a new Minister, we must refocus on selling the Mans in Chipperfield. The church garden was looking untidy, and we needed to start thinking about our Christmas services again! It can feel a bit overwhelming.

Just before the summer, we also took the difficult decision to stop (at least for the time being) our Youth Group, which had been running for well over 10 years. Like many things the pandemic took its toll and with dwindling numbers of young people attending, and fewer adults able to help lead the group, sadly it was just no longer sustainable. We do pray that the young people that did attend over the years were blessed by the experience and that it will have a positive impact on their lives as they mature into adulthood.

However, please don't think it is all doom and gloom here at BBC. Absolutely not! We have recently welcomed three new members and, as I write this article, we are also preparing for an adult Baptism in November. Over the summer, we lifted the floorboards at the front of the church to reveal the baptismal pool beneath, hoovered out the cobwebs, and repainted the edges and sourced a pump to empty the pool; for those of you who don't know, adult Baptism in a Baptist church is usually by total submersion. A new boiler has also been fitted in the church, with the option to add hot and cold water to the baptismal pool! We are very much looking forward to the Baptism, which is a blessing and encouragement to all, followed by a celebratory lunch. We expect the church to be full to capacity!

We are also preparing for our annual and ever popular Quiz night charity fund-raiser. In 2023 we raised over £1,000 for 'Home of Hope' an orphanage in Lebanon, but this year we may choose a charity a bit closer to home. Last year initial ticket sales were sluggish, (and I must admit I was panicking a bit!) but in the end we had to turn people away! Not so this year, we already have five tables of teams, and fully expect the church to be full again!

Not only that, but the Christmas services are also now sorted (well, at least we know what we are planning) and the garden has been tided. Amazing what you can achieve in a short space of time when you all pull together. So, we have a lot to look forward to and be thankful for and I am trying to focus on a verse that was given to me many years ago by my mum at a difficult time:

Proverbs 3 v5

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

In the meantime, life at BBC continues and there is lots still going on:

- Coffee Morning: 10 am at Bovingdon Library on 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month
- Men's Social Evening: 7pm on 1st Monday of the month (call 07368 322363 for details)
- Walk, Talk and Coffee: 9.30am on the second Saturday of the month from Chipperfield Common followed by coffee at The Two Brewers at 11am. Please call 07368 322363

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News from Bovingdon Baptist Church (cont'd)

for further info and if you would like to join us for the walk, coffee or both!

- Coffee Morning and Carols: 18th December 2024 at 10am in the church
- 24th December: Carols with Christingles Service at 5pm. Check our Facebook page or call 07368 322363 for more details
- 25th December: Christmas Day Service at 10:30am – a short informal service to celebrate the birth of our Lord.

And of course, last but by no means least, we have our regular Sunday morning services. Join us for a prayer time upstairs in the upper room at 10am or for the service at 10.30am–11:45am followed by refreshments. Once again, we have some great visiting preachers lined up for the coming months, and on the first Sunday of each month we have a more informal homegrown Café church service with opportunities to get to know each other better (and the possibility of bacon baps or something equally as delicious!).

Whatever the occasion you will receive a warm welcome – especially now we have our new boiler! And, as a reminder, ours is the long driveway just past the Cutting Garden (as you walk up the High Street)... just look out for the blue and yellow double doors! For more information visit our website, check out our Facebook page, call us on 07368 322363 or see the display in the library. We hope to see you soon!

BBC Leadership Team

07368 322363/ www.bovingdonbaptist.org.uk

Santa Comes to Bovingdon...

Bovingdon's main Christmas fund-raiser this year will take place on **Friday 6th December** when the popular and now annual parade of local tractors sets off to escort Father Christmas on his travels to his Grotto at the Memorial Hall in the High Street.



The community-wide event will raise money for BAPA (Bovingdon Academy Parents Association) and Bovingdon Pre-School, and is also in memory of event founder, the late Emma Carder, and one of her chief elves who took on the event when Emma passed away, the late Kelly Stocker.

The procession will start on Newhouse Road, then along Chesham Road, turning left into Hyde Lane and Old Dean before arriving at the school where BAPA will be holding a **Christmas Craft Fair and Raffle**, and Santa will take up position in his grotto at the Memorial Hall.

There will be no official switch on of High Street Christmas lights nor associated street fair this year, as organised in recent years by the Parish Council and The Villager, though both remain happy to support and help any voluntary group should they wish to take on this event in future years. Instead, the tractor convoy, craft fair and raffle promises to be a fun-filled festive alternative.

Full details of the event were being finalised as Bovingdon News was preparing to go to press, however a number of stalls at the craft fair are still available and those interested should contact Hayley at hayleymilton@aol.com



WHITE ROSE

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Bovingdon WI

We are a lively, friendly group of women who meet on the second Wednesday of each month in the Baptist Church, starting at 7.30pm, and we've had a wide range of talks over the last six months.



What happens when a speaker does not appear? Fortunately our president gallantly stepped into the breach and entertained members and visitors with an account of her experiences as a Home Economics Teacher, "soggy bottoms" included! Members were called upon to be judge and jury by Philip McKinder who outlined a real life case and asked the question "Guilty or Not Guilty". He then explained how the Not Guilty verdict had been reached; most interesting and thought provoking. Tables were decorated with Easter chicks, eggs and bunting etc, when we held our charity fund-raising Cream Tea event. £388 was raised for this years charity The Willow Foundation (which supports seriously ill young adults through special day experiences, creating memories for the future.)



This year our WI has been delighted to welcome several new members, some of whom have been brave enough to come on the committee ready to share ideas regarding WI activities. While in July two of our local parish councillors came and outlined the Village Plan to members, after which we enjoyed strawberries and cream followed by a talk about archery from one of our members.

Sarratt Community Garden was the subject of a very interesting talk by Flora Garvey who briefly outlined the project then spoke about suitable planting to encourage bees and other pollinators. Produce from the garden is sold locally. The site is run by volunteers and is open 10-12am on Saturdays and at other times by arrangement. Members have continued to enjoy the regular monthly lunches (and occasional evening meal). We kept our fingers crossed for fine weather at our August Garden Meeting and many enjoyed a lovely Bring-and-Share Lunch outside in perfect weather. Thank you to Pauline for hosting.



During August we fund-raised towards our 50th Anniversary in 2025 at a Coffee Morning. 40 people enjoyed refreshments, stalls, friendly conversation and together raised £279, which means we will now be able to book our entertainment for our 50th. Thank you to all who supported the event, on again a lovely sunny morning. We have made a pennant to showcase WI in Bovingdon (thank you Mo) that will be sewn into bunting to be used in October when Herts WI welcomes Esme Young (Sewing Bee fame) as a guest speaker at the annual meeting.

Our programme of events and activities can be seen on our poster in the Library or in the Baptist Church and in the Village Diary Section of Bovingdon News. Do come along to join us if you find something of interest. Visitors are always most welcome.

Want to know more? Contact me on the details below.

Alison Walker, 07711 696263 / bovingdonwi@gmail.com

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TEA TIME

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Bovingdon Cricket Club

Oh what a wonderful summer for Bovingdon's one hundred and seventy-two year old cricket club – one of the oldest organisations in the village. Almost 100 youngsters participated in this year's All Stars and Dynamos junior coaching course.



It was a marvellous sight, seeing so many children actively participating and enjoying themselves on the village green, watched by their parents, many of whom enjoyed a leisurely drink during the Friday evening sessions. More than 90 percent of the youngsters, both boys and girls, are pupils at Bovingdon Academy and the cricket club is endeavouring to structure itself to provide more coaching that will take the children into Colts Cricket in seasons to come.

Saturday Herts League cricket has been played on the green this season by Leverstock Green CC, under an arrangement that will see the Hemel Hempstead village side use our facilities initially for at least four years.

Our own mid-week side, organised and captained by Shaun Mills, played at least weekly through the season and sometimes twice. The Sunday side had their most successful set of results for many years and at times during the past season we fielded two Sunday sides.

Two summer fund-raisers were staged: the first being a 'Rat Pack' tribute act night and the second an Elvis evening. Both events raised valuable funds to help sustain the club. We also welcomed villagers who attended the 80th Anniversary commemoration of the D-Day Landings in June.

If you would like details of joining the club, do drop me an email or call and I'll put you in touch with our membership secretary. You can also become an associate member that gives summer access to the bar or a member of our 1884 Club that offers prizes kindly donated by local businesses and individuals several times a year.

If you'd like to enrol your youngsters for next season's junior cricket, our youth development officer Jamie Banner would be happy to hear from you – he's on 07599 574845 or please email him at jamielbanner@hotmail.com

Gary Cullum, Vice Chairman, Bovingdon Cricket Club

07768 774355 / gc@cullumpublishing.co.uk

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Scouting in Bovingdon

At 1st Bovingdon Scouts, the summer term ended with four of our Cubs being presented with their highly prestigious Cubs Chief Scout Silver Award. We are also very excited to report that some of our Beavers are close to achieving their Chief Scout Bronze Award, as well as a Scout who will shortly complete his Chief Gold Scout Award!



During the summer holidays hard work continued as a team of leaders and parents cleared up the grounds of our old scout hut. Thanks to Shantock Nurseries who kindly donated various seeds and plants, we have our very own vegetable patch and apple tree! It makes for a much nicer space to hold our meetings, and of course for toasting marshmallows around the campfires! We are all very grateful to all our donors that continue to support our scout hut fund-raising efforts and help enrich the lives of our young people.

*Michelle Black, Scout Leader and Committee Fundraiser
blackmich@googlemail.com*

Recycling for Sight...

Bovingdon Community Library is now accepting donations of glasses, cases and hearing aids for recycling by the Lions Club, with 129 frames, 102 cases and seven hearing aids having been recycled so far. If you have any of these items and wish to donate them for recycling, please bring them along to the Library where they will be gratefully received.



Bovingdon Village Market

10am-12noon

2024/2025

16th Nov • 14th Dec • 15th Feb • 15th Mar • 12th Apr

The village market continues to grow with new stall holders and products, plus our regulars.

Homemade goodies- local honey, cakes, Eccles cakes, eggs, pies, pasties, sausage rolls, jams, curds, marmalade, chutneys and more...

Handmade cards for all occasions, wide range of crafts (bags, bunting, cushions, pictures), baby knits, handmade jewellery, Laser Monkey (house signs, wooden coasters, spoons, bottle openers, cheeseboards, laser designs etched while you wait), bird and bug boxes, items crafted from Clover's horse shoes and garden fun, clothes and denim designs etc, fun knits, local prints and cards, plants, veg (seasonal), Neal's Yard Remedies, lavender treats, upcycled goods, Chocolate Orange and Ferrero knits, glass, second-hand books and jigsaws (monies collected for Bovingdon Community Library), teas and coffee, and much more...

All Enquiries: Contact Julie on

07803 141254



Shop and Support your Local Traders... Bovingdon Village Market is a non-profit making monthly market for the community. Monies raised are re-invested back into the village. The cost of a table is £5 medium and £7 large and the market is run by volunteers, supported by the stall holders and customers. Come and join us, or pop in for a treat, whether home-cooked or handmade...

Check Facebook for up-to-date list of stall holders.

Ladybirds Women's Club

Would you like to make new friends? One of the things we love about being members of the Ladybirds Women's Club is that you can walk down Bovington High Street at almost any time of the day and find it extremely unusual not to meet at least one other Ladybird to stop and have a chat with – it really does make you feel like you are a member of the village community.



We are a friendly and caring group of ladies of various ages who meet about twice a month on a Monday evening, normally in the Memorial Hall, or in the dark winter months of January and February in the afternoon at Little Hay for afternoon tea and cakes. Most meetings involve either a very interesting speaker or a Club activity. We have had some brilliant speakers this year who have given us talks on subjects as wide ranging as *Prosthetic Perils* to *Bees*, and our new programme includes subjects such as *Scams* and *Makeover Makeup*.

Next year is our 60th Anniversary and we are planning a special outing to celebrate. We are furiously fund-raising at the moment to help offset the cost of this event and have held several auctions and Chinese raffles, which have proved very successful.

They say "the first step is the hardest" but it really isn't, and if you are somebody who wants to get out and meet people and make new friends, come and join us, we promise you will be made very welcome. If you use the Library, go to the Village Market or participate in any of the village groups and activities you probably already know some of us – we Ladybirds are everywhere.

If you are interested in joining us or would like more information please don't hesitate to contact one of us.

Pearl Bowler / Linda Comerford, Joint Secretaries
07796.173069 / 07800.589299

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Bank Farm Riding for the Disabled

Based in Ashley Green, Bank Farm RDA strives to improve the lives of local children with physical, learning and sensory disabilities through riding – and they believe it's what you can do that counts! The children, who come from across the Aylesbury Vale, benefit in so many ways, but particularly in relation to increased confidence levels, improved communication/interpersonal skills, physical health and well-being.



Bank Farm engage with individual families and also through schools where there is a high percentage of children with physical, emotional or psychological needs, creating an environment where no matter your challenges and ability they focus on celebrating achievements, every tiny step! For example, staying focused, calming down, engaging in eye contact, completing a task. They deliver hope and create the opportunity for children with disabilities to feel positive about what they can do.



Parents have commented saying: "Riding has such a positive impact on Jacob, it calms and regulates him and he loves going!" and "Louis loves riding Fudge! It makes him so happy, and it is a fantastic workout and helps with his strength and balance", while founder Anne Coney went on to say: "Emma is six years old, she cannot walk but that doesn't matter when she is on a pony. Her smile reminds me why I have devoted 50 years to supporting disabled children. Over 60 children benefit from Bank Farm RDA each week."

Bank Farm do not charge for the sessions and can only carry out these life-changing activities thanks to the generosity of donors, the dedication of volunteers and their fantastic ponies. Charlie, a Duke of Edinburgh volunteer, commented "Volunteering at Bank Farm RDA has been a great experience, not only have I made new friends I've learned to appreciate how brave some of the riders are and the smiles on their faces are priceless."

Bank Farm operates entirely on donations and sponsorship. Can you help them continue this much needed and loved service? Whether a business or an individual – you can get involved...

- Sponsor a Pony – you can sponsor one of their ponies for as little as £1 per week www.bankfarmrda.com/sponsor-a-pony
- Company support – sponsor the group or organise a team building fund-raising event
- Donate – if you would like to contribute or organise a fund-raising event, go to the 'Donate' page on their website www.bankfarmrda.com/donations
- Volunteering – there is no need for an equestrian background, just enthusiasm and interest in helping the children; anyone 12 and over can volunteer.

Visit their website www.bankfarmrda.com or call 07922 244288 for more information.



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Save the date...

Santa and his Christmas Tractor Convoy

Friday 6th December

See Santa and his festive farming friends' **Christmas Tractor Convoy**, which will leave **Newhouse Road** at **5pm** taking in Chesham Road, Hyde Lane and Old Dean before delivering Santa and his sleigh to his Memorial Hall Grotto at 5:45pm.

There'll be more festive fun at the **BAPA Christmas Craft Fair** at **Bovingdon Academy** (starts at 5pm) with stalls, attractions, community choir, Christmas carols, and super prizes in the community raffle, with *Bangers 'n' Burgers* supplied by 1st Bovingdon Scouts Group.

All proceeds to Bovingdon Academy and Bovingdon Pre-school

Contact Hayley Miller for more information
hayley.milton@aol.com

And don't miss...

St Lawrence Church Christmas Market
Saturday 16th November from 2pm



Mind & Body – Is Yoga for You?

Classes in Bovingdon Memorial Hall or on Zoom



The students in this long-established and friendly village group enjoy a class that combines a total body work out with the opportunity to relax and unwind. By combining the three key elements of yoga: controlled and focused movement, mindful stillness and concentration, and gentle but powerful breathing techniques, students work to become stronger and improve their suppleness, while simultaneously learning to feel calmer and more in control.

This Hatha yoga based class helps: stretch out tight muscles in a gentle way, release tension and increase flexibility, align the spine to relieve aching backs and end fatigue, build core and body strength to improve balance and posture, reduce stress through conscious breathing, and enhance powers of concentration.

The class is suitable for all levels of ability from beginners to the experienced, whatever your age, gender or general fitness. Whether you want to return to yoga after a break or you've never tried it before, this is your opportunity to get involved. Please email me if you would be interested in joining either the Wednesday evening class, which runs from 7–8:15pm in the Memorial Hall and costs £8 per session, or the Monday Zoom class that runs from 9:15–10:30am and costs £7 per session, where you can practise from the comfort of your own home..

Namaste

Jo Bain, jo@bain-family.org / 07854 355291

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St Lawrence Churchyard

At four and a half acres in size, St Lawrence Churchyard is not only one of the largest graveyards in Hertfordshire, but is also one of Bovingdon's largest community assets. It is alive with interest and wildlife.

As I write this article for Bovingdon News, I am just back at home after my first walk round the perimeter path to study the beautiful early September cat's ears flowers. They are intriguing. The hairy cat's-ear is a short, yellow flowered perennial herbaceous plant with an upright stem that has a small dandelion-like, yellow flower. Its leaves are rough, hairy and lobed, coming from a rosette at the base of the plant and a central taproot.

As the sun rose over Bury Farm to the east, all the flower heads were closed, still asleep, and virtually all of them, hundreds if not thousands across the lawns, were pointing to the east, eagerly awaiting the warmth of the sun's rays. As I headed home for breakfast the flowers were opening. A golden flower basking in golden sunlight.

On my second walk later in the afternoon, the sun well past the yard arm and disappearing into the Buckinghamshire hillside beyond the parish borders, the flowers had had their fill of the late summer sunshine and were closing again at the end of their day. The cat's ear is just one of the dozens of wild flowers that come and go with the seasons in the churchyard, typically one of the few areas of any hamlet, village, town or city where pesticides, herbicides and insecticides are not sprayed.

Talking of insect control, that is the job of the splendidly colourful green woodpeckers that are often seen working the numerous ant hills that build around ancient headstones. Other visitors to the churchyard this year have been numerous brightly coloured siskins, their numbers no doubt swelled by cousins from mainland Europe visiting to breed. This green-yellow plumed bird is one of the smaller members of the finch family and is always a welcome sight.

I've only seen one super small goldcrest this year, skipping through the foliage of the ancient yew trees. Among the larger birds to have dropped in have been ravens – perhaps on their way back to the Tower of London after a night out in Windsor. Strange as it seems, I have only ever seen or heard the distinctive call of the ravens on a Sunday. A brace of male pheasants strutting through the yard has also been observed recently.

This year's late winter and spring flowers (notably snowdrops, crocuses and various species of daffodils from small Tete a Tete to large golden trumpets) gave way to an abundance of native primroses and bluebells followed by a pretty amazing number of digitalis (the native fox glove), the seeds of which blow around on the wind and appear in different areas of the yard every year.

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St Lawrence Churchyard (cont'd)

The Churchyard, that dates to the 13th century when there was an early church building on the site, doesn't look after itself, of course; I'm grateful to the valiant band of community volunteers that turn out each month on the first Saturday to cut, strim, weed and rake. Special thanks too to Paul Campbell who is regularly seen throughout the year cutting the main lawn areas on the ride-on mower.

The churchyard remains a work-in-progress but over the course of 12 months the team makes it look loved and cared for – without making it appear overly manicured. I look forward to hearing from you if you'd like to join the team or help set up a mid-week gardening group.

Gary Cullum, St Lawrence Churchyard Officer
07768 774355/ gc@cullumpublishing.co.uk

Bovingdon & Flaunden Tennis Club

www.bovingtontennisclub.co.uk



Over the last year the Bovingdon & Flaunden Tennis Club has been enjoying the opportunity to play tennis, and even with the weather not being as good there has still been a full list of tennis activities. This September we are launching Pickleball at our club, which is a growing sport across the world. Our first court will be launched in September this year with a lot of interest from our members, which adds value to our growing membership.

Six Bovingdon teams have been competing in the Watford & District Tennis League and we also have two women's and one men's team in the Hertfordshire Hot Rackets Competition with matches on Saturday (away) or Sunday (home) during winter months, and seven teams in the Aylesbury District Winter League, which runs September to April.

Our new coaching team starts this September, headed up by David Gray our senior coach at the Club, and they are currently launching lots of new programmes including Junior Coaching and Adult Drills on Saturdays and Beginners, Intermediate and Mixed Drills on Wednesdays. See our website (www.bovingtontennisclub.co.uk) for more information.

We have a number of annual membership rates ranging from Full Adult Member at £205, Senior Member £165, Family Membership (two adults and up to four children in full time education) £410, Juniors 10-15 years old at £42, and Juniors Under-10's at £26. The Club continues to welcome new members, young and old. Players are attracted by the friendly and welcoming approach and the range of activities both on and off court. If you are interested in joining, why not come along to one of our social sessions to try us out. Just contact our head of membership on membership@bftc.club.

If you are interested in playing tennis (the courts are also available to book through the website) for non-members 24-hours in advance for one hour), more details of all the membership options can be found on the Bovingdon & Flaunden Tennis Club website, or you can contact our membership secretary on membership@bftc.club for details.

We hope to see you at our Green Lane site soon!



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ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

Dacorum Borough Council for Bovingdon, Flaunden, Chipperfield

CLr. Gbola Adeleke	gbola.adeleke@dacorum.gov.uk	01442 240916
CLr. Stewart Riddick	stewart.riddick@dacorum.gov.uk	07710 132985
CLr. Phillip Walker	phillip.walker@dacorum.gov.uk	07899 925779

Hertfordshire County Council

CLr. Richard Roberts	richard.roberts@hertfordshire.gov.uk	01992 556557
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Member of Parliament for Hemel Hempstead

The Rt Hon David Taylor MP	david.taylormp@parliament.uk	
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Member of Parliament for South West Hertfordshire

The Rt Hon Gagan Mohindra MP	gagan.mohindra.mp@parliament.uk	0207 219 3000
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LIBRARY OPENING TIMES

Bovingdon Community Library open 30hrs/week

Current opening hours are:

Monday:	9am-6pm
Tuesday	9am-6pm
Wednesday	CLOSED
Thursday	1pm-6pm
Friday	9am-1pm
Saturday	10am-1pm

More information is available at www.hertsdirect.org/libraries

Parish Office Information

The Parish Office at the Memorial Hall
is open to the public from:
Monday to Friday – 9:30am-12noon

Please use the letterbox for any written
communication with the Parish Council

Tel: 833036



office@bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk



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