

WELCOME TO BOVINGDON NEWS

Back in January, a conversation was had at our dinner table, which has meant that by the end of the summer we shall be a child-free house... I get the feeling this summer we, along with a lot of other families with children leaving for university, will be attempting to pack in as much as possible and enjoy family life before they all head off to their respective new and existing homes. As they say, change is a-coming and I, for one, am not quite sure how I feel about this; but there is always the fall-back of modern technology with FaceTime and Skype so all is not lost!

Change is a-coming for the village too... as the Tesco should be open soon, the churchyard has undergone a make-over (see page 20), and there will be new faces on the Parish Council too. However, some things remain the same: all the activities and clubs that are on offer in the village - and there is a lot on offer! From gardening shows to the school summer fayre, a classical music concert to the annual dog show... we are nothing if not pro-active in encouraging residents to get out and about.

See you all out and about in the village :-)

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 September 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 August 31st (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.

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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)?

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www.westhertsbees.org.uk



If you see, or are concerned about the presence of, a swarm of honey bees resting on a tree, building or elsewhere in the Bovingdon area, please contact West Herts Beekeepers. The person you contact will be able to advise you and, where necessary, arrange the quick and safe collection of the swarm. Rest assured, the bees will not be harmed in any way and will be found a new home.

Diane Bruce, Association Secretary, 01923 775943

Ben Richardson, Councillor, 834515



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Chairman's Report

By the time you read this edition of the Bovingdon News, Easter will have passed and we will all hopefully be looking forward to a long warm summer.



Village Update



On 20th November the Parish Council hosted a visit from the Mayor of Dacorum, Councillor Rosie Sutton, as part of the Mayor's annual community tour. She first visited Bovingdon Primary Academy where the Head Boy and Head Girl, accompanied by the Principal, gave us a comprehensive tour, followed by coffee and biscuits. We then moved on to St Lawrence Church where again we had a very interesting tour of the Church and grounds. The Mayor was particularly keen to see the plans for upgrading the Church facilities. We then went on to Lily's Café where Tracy generously provided us with an excellent range of refreshments. Next was a visit to The Mount where we visited the library, observed an art class and had a tour of the workshops where the residents are able to learn new employment skills that will assist them in the future. We then met with the Governor who gave us an update of the many changes that had taken place within the last year, and, in particular, the considerable increase in staff numbers.

The Christmas Fayre was again a great success and this year we had the added attraction of the inaugural Christmas Lights switch-on. Many local businesses, traders and individuals, together with the Parish Council and ITV Productions, contributed to the cost of the lights. ITV generously arranged the star attraction: Melody Thornton, a former member of the Pussy Cat Dolls, to come and perform the switch-on, which almost all went according to plan. Melody then spent some time chatting to local residents during the event, which proved very popular. The Parish Council provided complimentary mince pies and mulled wine during the evening. I would like to make special mention of Tracy Woods for organising the Fayre and Councillors Julia Marshall and Alison Gunn for all of their hard work in organising the Christmas Lights.



Sunnyside
Rural Trust

We are very pleased to report that subsequent to the retirement of our Village Warden, the Parish Council have now signed a contract with Sunnyside Rural Trust whose personnel will be carrying out the warden duties and also taking on



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Chairman's Report (cont'd)

further works to improve the environment around the village. Hopefully many of you will have seen their teams of personnel collecting litter, planting, and generally carrying out maintenance work in all areas of the village. Sunnyside Rural Trust was founded in 1990 as a small, horticultural project for young people and adults with learning disabilities. It is now a thriving charity and social enterprise, offering training and work experience for over 130 vulnerable people in the local community.



The Library is now very much a Community Library and is largely staffed by volunteers from the village, with the steering group being ably led by Councillor Julie Steer.

The Neighbourhood Planning group, led by Councillor Julia Marshall, has been working tirelessly during the last few months organising a very successful open day and the subsequent village survey.

Future Events

The Annual Dog Show on Bovingdon Green will take place on Bank Holiday Monday 26th August: the intention is to develop this event into more of a general fun day for the village; and the annual Bovingdon Parish 10k and 3k Fun Run will be taking place on Sunday 1st September. Please see the Parish Council website for further details and to obtain entry forms.

Annual Parish Meeting

I would like to invite you all to attend the Annual Parish Meeting, which will take place on 13th May at the Memorial Hall. This is an opportunity to meet your new Parish and Borough Council representatives following the Parish and Borough Council elections, which take place on Thursday 2nd May. Complimentary refreshments will be available from 7pm followed by a presentation from Keely Siddiqui Charlick, the CEO of Sunnyside Rural Trust, about the evolution of the trust, its aims, objectives and the general development of the charity as a social enterprise. There will also be a presentation by Tom Morkill from the local Royal British Legion. The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will follow.



Parish and Borough Elections



Parish and Borough Council elections are to be held on Thursday 2nd May, and, as previously, the Memorial Hall will be the polling station (7am-10pm). I am aware that two members of the current Council will not be standing for re-election; they are Councillors Richard Taylor and Giles Turner.



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St. Lawrence Church
BOVINGDON



Chairman's Report (cont'd)



Giles was elected in 2015 and has served as Chairman of the Finance Committee. I understand that work and family commitments are such that he is unable to continue as a Councillor, and we thank him for his contribution.

Richard has been a member of the Parish Council since 2008 and has served as deputy Chairman for the last three years. He has been involved in many aspects of Council work serving on the Planning, Outdoors, Finance and Personnel Committees at various times. He has given up an enormous amount of his time for the benefit of the village. He was the instigator of the Bovingdon Fun Run, which is now in its third successful year, raising funds for local community groups. On behalf of my fellow Councillors and the community we thank Richard for his dedication and wish him well for the future.

My best wishes to you all... and a very happy summer.

Councillor Graham Barrett
Chairman, Bovingdon Parish Council

Planning Committee Report

The planning appeal for a terrace of seven houses and two semi-detached houses on land at the rear of 50-53 Chesham Road has been allowed, despite the objection of both the Parish and Borough Council Planning Committees. The site at 35 Green Lane is now being developed with three new-detached houses together with the retention of number 33. Previous proposals for this site have been for six flats at number 35 and for six detached houses and nine houses at numbers 33 and 35, all of which were refused by both the Parish and Borough Council Planning Committees.



Generally new planning applications and planning issues continue to occupy a considerable amount of time for the Council. Since my last report the planning committee has met on nine separate occasions and considered 71 planning applications.

Councillor Graham Barrett
Chairman, Planning Committee

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County Report



Daffodils and cherry blossom in warm sunshine with clear blue skies. Rose-tinged I know but it does lift the spirits when the sun comes out... it's like Brexit never existed. I am worried at the time it is taking because there is a huge amount of work ahead to realign ourselves with Europe and the rest of the world. There is a lot at stake and at the County Council we have had to make contingencies for whatever happens, planning closely with health and the police. David Gauke MP and Richard Harrington MP from nearby Watford have both had to make difficult decisions, distracted from their cabinet roles like everyone else in Government.

There is a major review of our funding coming out later this year so let's hope both Dacorum Borough and County Council get a look in. Our population is expanding and aging rapidly driving the need for more housing and whilst we are spending more on local roads both Children's and Adults social care are under funding pressure. We did receive some welcome one-off grants for roads, schools and social care this year but it is no way to run things long term. We spend the best part of £1 million a day on adult services in Hertfordshire; keeping children safe and supporting families takes another £3 million a week.

There is good news though, this winter was relatively mild with less flu than usual and a good uptake of flu jabs so that the hospitals coped better and fewer people got into serious health difficulties. Talking of hospitals, there isn't going to be a new one anytime soon. The NHS has decided it cannot afford a new hospital but will invest some £350 million in upgrading Hemel, Watford and St. Albans. My belief, and I have said this to campaigners, is to welcome this spend, which will help the NHS deliver our services but keep the campaign for a new hospital going. CQC who inspected our local hospitals recently found a significant improvement and found care to be good.

I am pleased Police and Crime Commissioner David Lloyd is spending more on front line police officer recruitment. My thanks to our local officers for keeping on top of our local issues, which includes the market and most importantly for letting us know what's going on. There has been an increase in crime across the County but locally the burglary rates are still low and knife crime across the villages is rare. Having said that minds across Police, County and Borough have a sharp focus on these issues.

That mild winter has left our roads in reasonable shape for this time of year, which means more money for bigger repairs rather than potholes. The utility emergencies on Box Lane are nearly sorted but the delays caused are yet another sign of just how busy our roads are. Keep suggestions for repairs, vegetation cut-back, blocked gullies or just visual improvements coming in... my Highways budget does help on most of these.

As ever my thanks to the Parish, especially Julie for all her work on the paths and roads, and good luck to all those taking part in the elections this year.

Cllr. Richard Roberts, Herts County Council
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Bovingdon Neighbourhood Plan

It has been a very busy start to 2019; we held our first Open Day on Sunday 13th January, which was followed immediately by a survey of all residents. The Open Day was very successful with over 300 people attending to see the work the steering group has carried out so far and to give their opinions on how they would like Bovingdon to develop in the future. There were interactive displays on four main themes: Housing and Design, Community Facilities, Transport and Traffic, and Business. Residents had an opportunity to comment on all of these subjects and on the sites put forward by landowners to Dacorum Borough Council, as potential development locations for housing. As you can imagine it was a lively and interesting event.



We then delivered the surveys to all households in Bovingdon Parish, (over 2,000). Thank you to all the volunteers who helped with this mammoth task. We had a very pleasing response, with over 730 Neighbourhood Plan surveys completed. The response rate was approximately 35%, which is very good and reflects the community spirit and level of engagement in Bovingdon. As part of the consultation process, we will also be seeking the opinions of Businesses, Young People and local groups and clubs in the Parish.



The survey responses are currently being analysed and will be combined with the feedback from the Open Day and other consultations. This will then be used to help to inform and devise policies and shape the Neighbourhood Plan. We plan on holding another Open Day at the beginning of July, where we will present the findings of the consultation and present some draft policies.

The date of the Open Day will be published on Parish noticeboards, the Memorial Hall, BPC website (www.bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk) and Facebook page (www.facebook.com/bovingdonparish/). If you are interested in getting involved in the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group or are able to assist at any of the events, please contact the Parish Clerk's office.

Mike Kember, 833036 / neighbourhoodplan@bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk

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Bovingdon and District Horticultural Society

According to the Oxford dictionary a gardener is a person who tends a garden. Sounds so simple doesn't it? What it does not tell you is that you need amazing qualities of patience, perseverance and optimism, as well as some tools, muscle and a good pair of wellies. Coping with the weather is one of the major problems and each year the weather seems to become more challenging. Last year we had the 'Beast from the East' and heavy snow but this year's exceptionally warm weather is equally a problem, especially if you grow daffodils for showing. Our society Spring Shows are usually awash with these sunny blooms but as I write this in early March the unseasonably warm weather is threatening to spoil potential exhibits.



April 13th is the date of our Spring Show this year, the first of our three annual Shows. We are hoping for the usual high standard of entries in the flower classes despite the unpredictable weather. Subsequent shows are on 29th June and 14th September.



The first event of 2019 was a talk on the Elatum Delphinium given by local nurseryman Graham Austin of Home Farm Plants. Graham is an enthusiastic and award winning grower of Elatum Delphiniums at his nursery in Shantock Lane. His excellent talk was illustrated with slides of his stunning plants showing that this strain is far superior to the average garden centre Delphinium. I think many of our members will be paying a visit to his nursery, which is open until October.

On 28th April we will be making a visit to RHS Garden Wisley. Weather permitting we hope to see some of the flowering cherries putting on a show. Final details for this trip will be on the website or if you are a member they will be emailed to you. We are able to offer our members free entry if they join the group visit on that day, as we are affiliated to the RHS; this is one of several benefits for our members. Others include the opportunity to buy bulky composts, bark etc. on our annual order, discounted seeds from Thompson and Morgan, discounts for outings and talks and 10% discounts from some local shops and nurseries. If you are interested in learning more about our society or becoming a member, please take a look at our website www.bovingdonhortsoc.org.

When we are not tending our gardens we take some time to socialise either at the shows, where teas are provided, or at the two social gatherings that we hold each year. Last November we held a winter social evening in the Memorial Hall. This involved some muscle flexing, as we had a skittles alley to provide us with entertainment. Unlike a modern bowling alley there are nine pins to aim for but it is fiendishly difficult to get them all to fall. Few people achieved this despite numerous strategies, brute force not always being a winner! We all enjoyed the games, fuelled by food and drink brought in by members. Some of the profit from the evening was donated to 'Perennial', a charity that supports horticultural workers in times of hardship.



We wish you all a successful gardening year and hope to see you at one of our events.

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News from St Lawrence Church



Managing our churchyard to the satisfaction of everyone is a bit of a balancing act. Thanks to a growing band of volunteers we keep the grass trim (but not too manicured) while also letting it grow in certain designated areas, in order to encourage wild insects and plants. We advise people about the regulations which govern the care of graves, which can seem overly restrictive to some, while others are swift to point to graves that are over-decorated. We try to be sensitive to those who are bereaved but we may not always get it right. On the whole, the positive comments significantly outweigh the small number of complaints, and one member of the congregation who has been worshipping at St Lawrence for 30 years remarked that he had never seen the churchyard looking so good. We will keep working hard to maintain this precious place and will always welcome new volunteers at our working parties on the first Saturday morning of each month.

Our links with Bovingdon Primary Academy continue to grow. Last December they brought their Christmas production, 'Bah Humbug!' to St Lawrence Church, which is able to hold significantly more people than the Assembly halls at school. The children put on a wonderful show, helped by dedicated staff and helpers, and we hope this will become an annual occasion, alongside regular visits for Easter, summer and Christmas assemblies, and Harvest Festival.

It was lovely to see so many people come out to watch our 'Live Nativity' and join in our carol singing at the Bovingdon Street Fayre in December, held jointly with Bovingdon Baptist Church. We also had a full church for our Carol Service, Crib Service, Midnight Communion and Christmas Day Communion. We sang carols, again with our Baptist friends, at the two pubs in the village as well as Mountbatten House and Dudley House. By the time you read this we will have marked Holy Week and Easter with our united Walk of Witness on Good Friday and with a joyful Easter Day celebration.

In June we celebrate the birth of the church – not of a building, but of a community, a movement, which started with a teacher in Palestine called Jesus. On the feast of Pentecost, which occurs on June 9th this year, we remember that a group of Jesus' followers, who had gone into hiding after his death, emerged to turn the world upside down with his message of love, forgiveness and reconciliation. That movement is alive and flourishing 2,000 years later and still spreading the same message. We hope that many will find inner peace, joy, inspiration and courage in the Christian gospel, as we do.

Rev Charles Burch, Vicar of Bovingdon
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St Lawrence Churchyard Report



One of the highlights of the past 12 months was the visit of the Bishop of St Albans, who walked the new boundary path and blessed two of the three new sculptures that were in situ. The third, the large circle of stone from India, installed in the south-eastern corner, was blessed by the Bishop in its absence and arrived just days later, since to become a permanent fixture in a quiet corner.

St Lawrence Churchyard is the second or third largest churchyard in the county, at some 4.5 acres, and the largest still open for burials. That means it is by far the village's largest community asset but I'm convinced there are local residents who do not know of its existence. That sounds silly I know but many people who live in the village commute to London and elsewhere each day and have busy family weekends that don't include exploring locally. The churchyard remains a quiet oasis of calm – and has plenty of benches around its perimeter for quiet reflection away from the demands of everyday life and social media.

It's been an active past 12 months of maintenance that started at least two months late because of the snow in March 2018 and the churchyard team was rained off in April, so work did not start in earnest until May. Despite the long hot summer and little grass cutting from June to September, there was plenty to keep the merry band of volunteers busy. Southern boundary yews were pruned early in the year and the 50 clipped and wired yews bordering the main path, south gravelled drive and northern side of the church, were pruned in late autumn, thanks to the generosity of the Friends of St Lawrence who paid for the work to be done. All large boundary trees, mainly the 150 year old Corsican Pines and ancient yews, were monitored during one of the longest, hottest drought summers on record, to ensure they weren't impacted heavily by the lack of rainfall.

Bob Woollon continued his sterling work on the tractor mower, though he was able to stand down from duty during the height of the summer when very little was growing. The three wild flower areas continued to be studied during the months of May to September after which they were cut. We do this as churchyards are among the only rural areas that have not been treated with chemicals down the ages and monitoring such areas provides an important survey of wild flora and fauna.

Removal of ivy, brambles and self-seeded holly, elder and hawthorn continued throughout the year and the team also managed the three wild flower areas in the north and north eastern areas of the churchyard between May and September. The sound of first Saturday of the month strimming was in evidence throughout the year.

Over recent years the number of volunteers has steadily grown and it's not uncommon for a team of a dozen or more to gather for the four-hour work party. If you are tempted by tea, coffee, splendid cake and community engagement, and have a few hours free on the first Saturday of the month, do please make contact. There is a great deal of satisfaction from seeing the churchyard look well kept, but not overly manicured.

Gary Cullum, Churchyard Officer

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Royal British Legion Update

Chipperfield and Bovingdon Sub-Branch



2018 was a very busy year for the Royal British Legion and those branches that had made special efforts to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I and the formation of the RAF. Your sub-branch has participated to the full with a gazebo presence in both villages during the summer, a number of events, the Armistice Day services and widespread displays of knitted and crocheted poppies in both villages during the Poppy Appeal collection period.

As a result of all this activity it is no surprise that the Poppy Appeal was amazingly well supported and I am delighted to be able to report that in both villages the combined efforts of the churches, shops, schools, garages, pubs, house-to-house and street collectors have been exceptional, reaching a figure of £15,394, which was a 34% increase over 2017 which in itself was already a record year. The biggest contributors know who you are as do others of you who increased your donations. I thank you all for your individual efforts along with those supporting staff you may employ. I take the view that we are a combined team of collectors and donors and it is the overall total of which we should be proud.

2018 will be a hard act to follow but we must start planning how we can maintain this level of support through a combination of attendance, functions and events. If you would like to be involved in any way, or have ideas which might be helpful, do please get in touch as I should love to hear from you.

2019 is the 80th anniversary of the start of World War II. We already have ideas of how and when to commemorate various significant anniversaries of events from WWII: Dunkirk, the Battle of Britain, and D-Day, and we will also do our best to take advantage of any initiatives emerging from the Royal British Legion HQ along with a number of excellent films, which many of our younger villagers may not yet have seen. Our efforts in Bovingdon last October were so well received that we are planning similar events on the Saturday evening immediately prior to Remembrance Sunday 10th November and a parade led by the school on Armistice Day, Monday morning 11th November.

Lastly the Royal British Legion is having a major drive to increase membership numbers. It would be great if we could support this initiative, as it is very difficult for us to run a small branch with very few members. Finally we still haven't found someone to become our Secretary, and this role is vital if we are going to re-establish ourselves as an independent branch.

Tom Morkill, 834268
Sub-branch Chairman

Hiring Bovingdon Memorial Hall



Bovingdon Memorial Hall is available for all to hire and we are delighted with the wide range of activities in the Hall – just remember these groups need your support to continue. But we would also like to promote the Hall as a wonderful venue for parties, weddings and other functions. The areas available to book are as follows and the facilities include:

- Main Hall/kitchen – 130 people / stage / enclosed rear garden
- Clubroom – 30 people (maximum)
- All Areas – 160 people maximum
- Access – wheelchair access through main front doors / internal and external toilet
- Parking – on forecourt and at the front of the Bowls Club
- Equipment – table tennis table.

Please see the Bovingdon Parish Council website www.bovingdon.net (Memorial Hall) for more details, including booking form and conditions of hire.



Event	Room	Mon-Fri £ per hour	Sat-Sun Up to 12 noon £ per hour	Sat-Sun 12noon-6pm £ per hour	Sat-Sun 6pm-Midnight £ per hour
Reg. charities and 'not for profit' groups	Clubroom	£7.80	£7.80	£10.00	£12.00
	Main Hall	£12.00	£12.00	£17.00	£25.00
	All Areas	£15.00	£15.00	£23.00	£28.00
Community users and individuals	Clubroom	£8.80	£8.80	£11.00	£13.00
	Main Hall	£13.00	£13.00	£18.00	£26.00
	All Areas	£17.00	£17.00	£24.00	£29.00
Commercial users and public authorities	Clubroom	£10.80	£10.80	£11.80	£14.00
	Main Hall	£15.00	£15.00	£19.00	£28.00
	All Areas	£19.00	£19.00	£25.00	£34.00

Bookings are confirmed on receipt of a completed booking form and deposit (cash), which **MUST** be paid within 14 days of booking form receipt; £250 where alcohol is available (£100 on all other occasions). The hire fee payment (cash) **MUST** be made during office hours a minimum of 14 days in advance of the booking. Bookings will be charged according to the number of hours booked, rounded up to the nearest quarter hour and can start at any of the following: on the hour and every quarter hour thereafter.

**For all enquires/bookings, please contact Mike or Lisa at the Parish Office
on 833036 or via email office@bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk**

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, which is independent from St Lawrence Church but we work closely with it in order to fulfil our objectives.

2018 was a sad year for the Trust for we lost Carl Perkins who died in the summer after a relatively short illness. Carl was irrepressible and was our go-to person for many practical issues for he was skilled at so many things from design and printing through to restoration. We will miss him dearly. However, we have since welcomed Tom Morkill and Caroline Walker to be new trustees.

It is wonderful to be able to report that we have completed the churchyard project. The final piece was the granite sculpture by Matthew Maddocks, which is situated in the south-east corner of the churchyard. It is our hope and objective that the churchyard will be a welcoming amenity to be enjoyed by all the people of Bovingdon, young and old. Please take the time to visit it if you have not already done so.

The 'Beast from the East' hit the churchyard very hard and there was a great deal of damage. With the support of a donation and hard work by the churchyard volunteers, we were able to help St Lawrence repair the damage.

Most churchyards have a yew tree somewhere but at St Lawrence there are over fifty. Why? Nobody knows... it may have been a fashion statement at one time but, being in a conservation area, they must be cared for. Most of them are trimmed and had become quite bedraggled. During the autumn we financed a professional haircut for them which will leave them looking a little bare for a while but they will soon pick up and look quite smart.

The main event last year was the second Music Festival organised by Charles Burch and his team, which was a great success and raised £4,200. Our work goes on and we have some dates for your diaries:

- 8th May – Coffee Morning at West Winds, Bovingdon Green
- 29th June – Camerata Concert in St Lawrence Church
- 30th June – Open Garden at Long Meadow with Sounds Easy in the marquee

Our Trustees are: John Walker (Chairman and Treasurer), Jane Cayley (Secretary), Charles Burch (PCC Representative), Pauline Wright, Tom Morkill and Caroline Walker

We would love to hear from anyone who would like to join us either as a Trustee or as a volunteer at one or more of our events.

We look forward to seeing you all at our events this year.

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



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to register your interest or find out more.

**Classes held at Bovingdon Memorial Hall
Every Monday and Wednesday 6-7pm**

Bovingdon Day Centre

In June this year we will be celebrating our 30th year and we still find it amazing that many people still don't know about us. We started off all those years ago in the Parish Rooms run by Social Services and then to where we are now at Bovingdon Football Club under the umbrella of Age UK Dacorum. We currently have ten members looked after by a small but dedicated and enthusiastic team of volunteers who strive to ensure our members keep fit and active, both physically and mentally. We would like to say a massive thank you to Ladybirds, Evergreens, Margaret Horwood and Violet Hubert who continue to support us so wonderfully.



If you know of anyone who would benefit from a day out with Bovingdon Day Centre, please do not hesitate to contact us to discuss it further.

Brenda Franklin, 832006

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.



At time of writing, we have all recently enjoyed a super lunch at Little Hay Golf Club. We usually have a post-Christmas outing, as our members are so busy in December, whereas we all welcome a cheering up in the dark days of late winter. We are planning a trip to Dunstable Downs in June and later on a Christmas Tea in November.

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 the village.

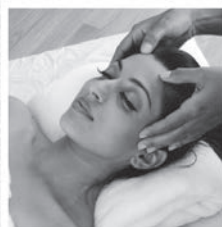
So, if you or you have a neighbour who would like a change of scene and company, please contact us for more details.

Sue Miller, 832569 or Sue Sturtivant, 833023

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vicar@stlawrencebovingdon.com /
admin@stlawrencebovingdon.com

All welcome!

Bovingdon Community Library Update

The library is a really important part of our community, whether you are regularly borrowing books, belong to a book club, popping in to photocopy or use the computer, read a newspaper or just waiting for a shower to pass, there is always a warm welcome at Bovingdon Community Library.



Volunteers are now running the library and it has been a steep learning curve for many of us. Who would have known how complicated assigning a book really is?!

You will see we have our local history section, which is being updated to include both the history of Bovingdon plus information on local events. We also have both a children's and adult's jigsaw on-the-go. We are hoping to have a year plan in place very soon with a list of topical events – any suggestions are welcome.

If you can spare two and a half hours on a Tuesday or Friday and would like to be part of the team, we would love for you to join us. There are many jobs and tasks, from putting books on the shelves, displaying work, assigning and making reservations, to helping with the children when Bovingdon School are visiting. Get in touch via the email below or pop into the library for more information.

If you have any good quality books or jigsaws for both adults and children to donate to either add to our stock or to sell and raise funds for new books then they will be gratefully received.

Look out for any events that might be going on in the library and we thank you for your continued support. We hope you will consider becoming a volunteer at your local library.

Finally our first AGM will be in August and we will be looking for people to join the committee.

Bovingdon Library Committee, bovingdonlibraryvolunteers@outlook.com



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VOLUNTEERS AND RUNNERS NEEDED

SAVE THE DATE and INVITE YOUR FRIENDS

**We will be holding the third Annual Bovingdon 10K and 3K Fun Run
on 1st September 2019**

Last year it was another fantastic event that attracted over 245 runners in the 10K, and 98 in the 3K fun run. We are hoping for 300–350 runners in the 10K this year and over 100 in the 3K fun run so if you know of anyone who wants to take part or you can twist someone's arm into running or volunteering then you can apply for the 10K, 3K fun run and volunteering via the Parish office or sign up for the 10K on www.runbritain.com or www.letsdothis.com (search for Bovingdon).

In 2018 the runs raised just under £10,000 for different charities (through runner sponsorship) and enabled the Parish Council to put another £2,000 into the Parish Grant Fund for local community groups to apply for funding.

The run would not take place without the hard work of the Parish Council in organising the event, but also could not take place without the many volunteers and runners who turned up in force again in 2018.

We really appreciated all the volunteers who helped last year, either as on-course marshals, lead and trail cyclists, secure storage helpers and all those at the Memorial Hall helping with registration, teas and coffees, and assisting the runners in to place... not to mention those tasked with time-checking and handing out the goodie bags.

Please help us to make this race the one that all runners want to enter, your support and encouragement on the course have already been noted by runners, so let's keep up the enthusiasm.

If you can spare a few hours, or even just one hour, during either Saturday 31st August or Sunday 1st September, please contact the Parish Clerk on 833036 or Julie or myself

The whole purpose of the runs is to engender a community spirit (which was clearly on display in 2017 and 2018), provide a fun and healthy activity and to raise money for the community grant scheme which all local community groups can apply for; grants for 2018: £300 for the Baptist Chapel for a projector, £300 for Bovingdon Care for running costs and £500 for the Cricket Club to help secure a new lease, £250 for Scoot Race hall hire and insurance, and £500 for the Scouts towards secure storage for equipment.

All that remains is to wish you all happy training, for those running (as I will be this year) or planning to run.

Richard Taylor and Julie Steer (Councillors and Race Directors)



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1-30
June



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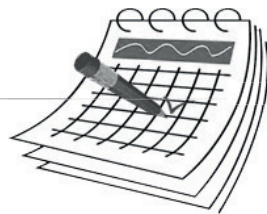
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Charity Number: 1108989

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 / Annette Compton	380355 / 834898
Bovingdon 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	elaineschocolatefactory@hotmail.co.uk	
Child Health Clinic	Helen Seaman, Health Visitor	831126
	Jane Grant, Health Visitor	01923 269158
Churches	Baptist – Rev Mary Moody	831756
	Catholic – Rector Michele du Saire	01923 264377
	St Lawrence – Rev Charles Burch	833298
Cricket Club	Mark Carine	bovingdoncc@hotmail.com
Crimestoppers		0800 555111
Day Care Centre	Brenda Franklin	832006
Evergreens Club	Kathy Archer	01923 260528
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 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	Kathy Banks	832702
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	Alysia Martindale	bovingdonrainbows@hotmail.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
 FC Football Club
 STL St Lawrence Church
 T Tennis Club

May 2019

2	MH	Thu	07:00	Parish and Borough Council Election
4	MH	Sat	09:30	Horticultural Society: Plant Sale
8	STLH	Wed	10:30	FoSL: Coffee Morning
8	BC	Wed	20:00	Evening WI: AGM
13	C	Mon	18:30	BPC: Planning Committee Meeting
13	MH	Mon	19:30	BPC: AGM and Parish Council Meeting
16	BC	Thu	20:00	History Group: The Capabilities of the Herts Landscape
20	MH	Mon	19:30	Ladybirds: Towel Folding

June 2019

3	C	Mon	18:30	BPC: Planning Committee Meeting
3	MH	Mon	19:30	BPC: Parish Council Meeting
8	STL	Sat	14:00	St Lawrence: Church Fête
10	MH	Mon	19:30	Ladybirds: AGM
12	BC	Wed	20:00	Evening WI: TBC
17	C	Mon	18:30	BPC: Planning Committee Meeting
20	BC	Thu	20:00	History Group: The New Town Movement in Herts
23		Sun	14:00	Bovingdon's Summer Scoot
24	MH	Mon	19:30	Ladybirds: Talk on Mauritius
29	MH	Sat	TBA	Horticultural Society: Summer Show
29	STL	Sat	19:30	St Lawrence: Camerata Concert
30		Sun	TBA	FoSL: Open Garden & Concert

July 2019

1	C	Mon	18:30	BPC: Planning Committee Meeting
1	C	Mon	19:30	BPC: Parish Council Meeting
10	BC	Wed	20:00	Evening WI: The Mount Prison, Kim Hobbs
18	BC	Thu	20:00	History Group: TBA
22	C	Mon	18:30	BPC: Planning Committee Meeting
22	MH	Mon	19:30	Ladybirds: Send a Cow (African Farmers)

August 2019

12	C	Mon	18:30	BPC: Planning Committee Meeting
14		Wed	TBC	Evening WI: Garden Meeting
18		Sun		History Group: TBA

Trade Directory

Page

19	Accountant	Emma Stevens	07736 835167 / 831462
28	Beauty Therapy	Time 2 Relax, Gill Kedgley	832459
13	Butcher Shop	Meat Hook, Guy Coertze	832300
61	Café	Lily's Café & Florist, Tracy Wood	833334
43	Caterer	Leon Catering	832277
59	Computer Services	Reeboot, Karen Cramer-Smer	388537
29	Dog Boarding Service	Barking Mad, Carole Chester	832594
55	Double Glazing	Jobling Windows	07985 656843 / 07944 399350
59	Driving Instructor	Peter Moore	07879 831750 / 832889
55	Education	Lockers Park School	251712
11	Education	Westbrook Hay	256143
49	Electrician	AAD Electrical, Tony Davison	07780 606863
43	Electrician	J C Cooke	07905 356895 / 832153
3	Electrician	TJH Electrical, Todd Harris	07415 059883
45	Estate Agent	Pendley Estates	834834
61	Florist	Lily's Café & Florist, Tracy Wood	833334
17	Fuel Merchant	G C Parish & Sons	832224 / 832341
68	Funeral Directors	A & C Tadman	01923 264296
3	Garage Services	Bowron Motorcare	07860 882970 / 834634
17	Hair Dressing (Mobile)	Hair by Fiona	07885 491988
57	Hall Lettings	Baptist Church, Mr Brian Walker	832898
23	Hall Lettings	Memorial Hall	833036
9	Hall Lettings	St Lawrence Hall	07756 562722
21	Hardware & DIY	Jarmans	832141
60	Health & Beauty	Health Hub, Zandra Christie	07866 587117
49	Health & Beauty	Reflections Clinic	07711 846731 / 834236
63	Market	Bov. Village Market, Julie Steer	07803 141254
25	Martial Arts – Karate	SSKI, Jeff Carson	07855 958549
17	Oven Cleaning	Ovendazzle	07853 206193 / 01923 261567
7	Page Design	Farrspark, Steph Farrer	07913 086477
49	Painter/Decorator	Allan Brown	832103
15	Pest Control	The Wasp Man, Gary Jess	07780 953222
11	Plumbing	AA Plumbing Solutions	07782 122555 / 831519
51	Plumbing & Heating	Manor Heating, Vic McDonald	07712 265034 / 834373
47	Pre-School	Bovingdon Pre-School	834188
59	Reflexologist	Ametrine Reflexology, Emily Laver	07717 783728
27	Reflexologist/Therapist	Nature's Touch, Sharon Coomber	07557 687042 / 831089
7	Secretarial Services	Farrspark, Steph Farrer	07913 086477
39	Solicitors	Underwoods	430900
7	Taxi Service	Murray Rogers	07710 470676
29	Taxi Service	Mark Humphrey	07973 470202 / 500750
15	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
 BPA Tue 17:30-19:00
 C 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
 T Fri 09:15
 BC Fri 09:30-10:30
 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

MH Sun 09:00-10:00
 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
 Child Health Clinic
 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}
 Ladies Tennis
 Pilates (Lisa Giles)
 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

Zumba with Emma
 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
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 (environmental.health@dacorum.gov.uk)	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.

Refuse Bank Holiday Collections

Details of Bank Holiday collection dates will be published in local press and will also be available on the Dacorum website: <http://www.dacorum.gov.uk>

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/hhonline services/hfr/ for more details.

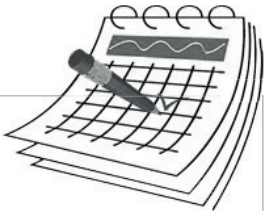
Public Transport (Bus & Train Times)

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 Diary (cont'd)



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

September 2019

2	C	Mon	18:30	BPC: Planning Committee Meeting
2	C	Mon	19:30	BPC: Parish Council Meeting
9	MH	Mon	19:30	Ladybirds: TBA
11		Wed	TBC	Evening WI: Social
14	MH	Sat	TBA	Horticultural Society: Winter Show
19	BC	Thu	20:00	History Group: The Rothschild's Tring Park House
23	C	Mon	18:30	BPC: Planning Committee Meeting
23	MH	Mon	19:30	Ladybirds: Life in a Care Home
27	TBA	Fri	19:30	St Lawrence: Barn Dance
30	MH	Mon	19:30	Ladybirds: Bootcamp Fitness

October 2019

9	BC	Wed	20:00	Evening WI: Secrets of a Store Detective, Josie Jeffreys
12	TBA	Sat	18:30	St Lawrence: Quiz & Chips
14	C	Mon	18:30	BPC: Planning Committee Meeting
14	MH	Mon	19:30	Ladybirds: Food Tasting
17	BC	Thu	20:00	History Group: Treasures of the Archives, Marion Hill
18	TBA	Fri	19:30	St Lawrence: Wine Tasting
28	MH	Mon	19:30	Ladybirds: Footsteps in Summer

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

Village Medical Services

Chemist	Manor Pharmacy	37 High Street	832127
Dentist	Anusha Tandon and Vivek Tandon	Hyde Meadows	832144
	Simon Michaels	60 High Street	832212
	Nick Shah, Kunal Shah and Modupe Sasanya	57 High Street	833922
Doctor	Archway Surgery	52 High Street	833380
	Longmeadow Surgery	16 High Street	833295

Bovingdon Evening WI

The Bovingdon WI were very happy to support the Christmas Market once again and thankfully the weather was kinder than 2017, albeit a little wet. It was a great success for us once again. Our stall raffled a beautiful hamper, guess the weight of the cake and naming a doll and there were some very surprised winners, including one delightful young man who came to collect the cake! Our efforts raised a much needed £203.50 for our funds, so a big thank you to the Market organisers and everyone who supported us.



After rounding off an entertaining and interesting year with some Christmas singing and minced pies we started our New Year on a more sinister note with a talk about 'Murderous Butlers'. By June we will have held our annual Craft Competition, tried some Brass Rubbing and held suppers and lunches in members' houses. We occasionally organise walks around the local area and hold pitch'n'putt and darts competitions, the latter with grateful thanks to the Bowls Club for use of their facilities.

Our meetings are a relaxed affair where we update members on other activities in the Hertfordshire District and National WI, and organise our activities for the months to come. This is then followed by a speaker with very varied topics from dogs to travel, and local history and crafts, some of which we are able to experience for ourselves. We have a trading stall where members bring along unwanted items to sell, the proceeds of which go to a local charity or a charity nominated by a member. Our members continue to volunteer at the Boxmoor Trust, Bovingdon Library and HMP The Mount.

We are a small group who would like to increase our membership to enhance the mix of people within our group, offering more opportunities and options to us all. Do come along, you may be surprised!

Shirley Hart, 380355 or Annette Compton, 834898

Hatch, Match & Dispatch

Baptisms

Molly Boothby
Espen Uthaug
Florence Long
Phoebe James

Marriages

Richard Beavis & Elana Rose

Deaths

Archie Brown
Patrick Mills
Gillian Whitewood
Derek Moss
Jeffrey Lindsay
Richard Northen
Alan Marks
Nicholas Horslen
Jane Anderson
Patrick Odell
Pamela MacGregor
Faith Tournay
Jeff Tipler
Beatrice (Betty) Pearce



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 [@kerry_underwood](#)

See Kerry's blog at: kerryunderwood.wordpress.com

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Bovingdon Fun Day 2019



Once again Friends of Bovingdon Green (FOBG) will hold an event on Bovingdon Green, on the August Bank Holiday Monday 26th August 2019; this is the fifth year that the event has been held and it has become a popular annual village occasion. We intend to widen the event this year to include more activities for children, as well as activities for our four-legged friends!

There will be an opportunity to watch professional displays of dog agility and obedience and a chance to have a go with your dog on the agility equipment. By popular demand we will continue to have fun dog competitions with prizes and rosettes.

Stalls including activities for children, information about local services, voluntary organisations and the sale of goods will be on display around the Green. Refreshments will be available including a BBQ, teas, homemade cakes and, of course, the bar will be open in the cricket pavilion! Classic cars will be on display and we would welcome anyone who has a classic car to bring it along.

We are a very small group of volunteers and are now at the planning stage for the event for this year. We would really appreciate help from the local community and would love to have more help either in the planning of the event or on the day. To volunteer please email or phone me.

Stalls

If you wish to book a stall, please contact me on the details below; further information will be posted on FOBG website nearer the time and there will be flyers posted around the Green.

We look forward to seeing you!

Anne Barrett, annekathrynbarrett@gmail.com / 07973 115056
www.bovingdondogshow.co.uk



The Box Moor Trust News

Registered Charity No. 206142

Bovingdon Brickworks Conservation

Our conservation volunteers continue to do an excellent job at Bovingdon Brickworks. The Trust took over this clay quarry in 2000 and has been managing it for nature and recreation purposes since. The site is home to wildflower meadows, ponds and woodland hosting butterflies, frogs and toads.

Our volunteer group has helped to reduce the amount of self-set ash trees, which have been shading out all manner of ground flora from primroses to bluebells. The volunteers have been creating a mosaic of different habitats across the site to encourage a wider variety of insects, reptiles, amphibians, birds and mammals.



Species of note are the Dingy Skipper, White Admiral and Purple Emperor butterflies, which prefer the patches of bare earth, large Sallow stands and food plants such as Birds-foot Trefoil and Kidney Vetch, which are all found within Bovingdon Brickworks. The volunteers annually survey the site for flora and fauna, with the results seeing an increase in numbers and variety year-on-year thanks to careful management.

The Box Moor Trust Centre
London Road, Hemel Hempstead
Hertfordshire HP1 2RE
01442 253300
admin@boxmoortrust.org.uk
www.boxmoortrust.org.uk



Ladybirds Club

We have had a successful six months during which we were very pleased to welcome more new members who seem to have settled in well.



In the Autumn we enjoyed an 'in-house' food tasting; an interesting talk by Kirsty on chocolate; music by Sing Wilstone and in December joined in carols led by St Lawrence Choir. So far this year Simon Woodmere (St Lawrence Church) told us of his experiences in Sierra Leone with Mission Direct; Richard Mellor spoke on the Majestic Age of an Ocean Liner and Graham Laurie (retired Captain of the Queen's Flight) gave us the history of Royal Flying... so many interesting and enjoyable evenings.

In October 14 Ladies and three dogs had a lovely autumn walk followed by tea at Blackwells. Boxmoor Lodge again did us proud with a beautiful Christmas dinner, which, as our numbers have grown so much, was served in the marquee; the setting was quite magical!

The knitting group are at present making Easter Bunnies etc to sell for Marie Curie. If anyone has any wool that they are not using and wish to donate it for our knitting group for their projects please let me know (and we can arrange collection) or you can drop it off at the monthly market. Even small balls of wool are handy, as they are used to make the 'dementia muffs'. The group wish to thank everyone for their support and donations, which enable them to keep knitting!!!

Since my last article I am pleased to report that Ladybirds have donated £158.75 to Alzheimer's Research, £149 to The British Legion, £158.75 to NAWC and £35 to the British Heart Foundation

Ladybirds meet twice monthly on Monday at the Memorial Hall at 7.30pm and if you would like to learn more please see our programme, which is displayed outside the Hall and on the village web page under www.bovingdon.net under heading Memorial Hall>What's on at the Hall. If you would like to just turn up on the night you will, of course, be very welcome... we are a very friendly group!

Should you like some more information please ring me.

Kathy Banks, 832702

Are you involved with a charity or do you have an interesting hobby or job and fancy telling us about it? Many of our speakers are raising funds for charities they support for which we give an agreed donation.



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Bovingdon & Flaunden Tennis Club

www.bovingdontenniscub.co.uk



Did You Know?

- We pride ourselves on being a Community Club, welcoming and open to all regardless of standard, and offer Social, Semi-Competitive and Competitive tennis to our members
- You will find us next door to the Football Club, mid-way up Green Lane
- We have five full size courts, three Floodlit, and a mini court
- Bovingdon & Flaunden residents can book courts on-line for £5/hour – no membership required.

Try Before You Join

- For improvers and returning players, Geoff runs Rusty Racket sessions every Saturday morning at 10am and 11am (first session free)
- You are also welcome to come along to our Club social play on a Wednesday from 5pm or Saturday after 1pm.

Coaching

- For Juniors aged 5-18 the Club runs beginners, improvers and advanced courses on Saturday mornings throughout the year between 8.30am–12 noon. Individual and small group sessions can be organised mid-week after school and in the holidays.
- Our friendly coach, Craig, runs adult coaching for groups and individuals of all standards throughout the week.

Competitive Tennis

- As well as a range of Club tournaments and leagues, we also run six teams in the Watford & District summer league, three teams in the Hot Rackets leagues and two winter Men's vets teams.

Memberships

- A wide range of memberships are available; details are on our website or talk to Rebecca, our membership secretary.

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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www.pendley.co.uk

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News from Bovingdon Baptist Church

145 years of loving & serving God



This year my family circumstances have changed. It has meant that I've been spending a lot of time sitting in cafés. In fact, I'm writing this in a little corner café in London, with a large cappuccino – and my thoughts are slightly distracted by the pleasant buzz of conversation around me. Since January I've become a 'regular' over the road from my daughter's new school, such that I don't even have to order coffee any more. I arrive, smile at the proprietor, sit down at 'my' table, set up the laptop and a cappuccino magically appears a few minutes later. I now refer to this café as my 'second office' – and enjoy feeling that I have a base when I'm away from home. If it was closer to Bovingdon, I'd probably arrange pastoral meetings here too!

In the past, café culture was something I'd enjoyed, superficially, from time to time, but now, like many of the other customers, I depend on it! Through experience, my appreciation of what it offers has deepened. I can rely on the café to provide refuge, sustenance and a sense of belonging. I'm sure you can guess what I'm going to say next: it's very like church – or as church should be if only we believers lived out our Christianity in the way Jesus meant us to.

I came across a wonderful quote the other day, which exhorts Christians to be peacemakers in a world of hostility. We don't have to go far to see dividing walls of hostility between peoples – or between people and God – but the church is meant to be a living demonstration of peace, harmony and reconciliation:

'I wonder if anything is more urgent today, for the honour of Christ and for the spread of the gospel, than that the church should be, and should be seen to be, what by God's purpose and Christ's achievement it already is – a single new humanity, a model of human community, a family of reconciled brothers and sisters who love their Father and love each other, the evident dwelling place of God by his Spirit. Only then will the world believe in Christ as Peacemaker. Only then will God receive the glory due to his name.' (John Stott)

Why not pop in to your local church sometime this summer and see whether we're living up to the example Jesus set us? If so, you should find that we can be relied on to provide a refuge, spiritual sustenance and a sense of belonging. At the Baptist Church we usually have our Sunday services at 10.30am – but there are various other activities going on during the week. There's always a decent cup of Fairtrade tea or coffee on offer, too. This autumn we're planning to run another Alpha course, which is a great way to 'dip your toe in' to Christianity. Keep an eye out for posters around the village in September. In the meantime, please feel free to come to any of our meetings, you're assured of a warm welcome.

Rev Mary Moody, Minister
831756 / minister.bovingdonbaptist@gmail.com



BOVINGDON PRE-SCHOOL

- **Morning sessions for children from 2 years of age**
- **Airy premises with a purpose-built safe, secure and exceptional garden**
- **Key person allocated to each child**
- **Close links with Bovingdon Primary Academy**
- **Open Monday to Friday 9am – 12pm term time**
- **Breakfast Club offered daily from 7:45am**
- **Lunch club offered daily 12pm – 12:45pm**
- **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 one adult to every four children under the age of 2 years and one adult to every eight children over the age of 3 years. Our staff have many years of experience between them and are dedicated to providing a friendly and supportive environment for learning.

Qualifications range from NVQ Levels 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 continued professional development.

Parental Involvement and Partners

Parents are invited to play a part in Pre-School life in a variety of ways – helping out 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!

Memorial Hall, High Street, Bovingdon, Herts HP3 0HJ

Telephone: 01442 834188

admin@bovingdonpreschool.co.uk

www.bovingdonpreschool.co.uk

Volunteering at HMP The Mount

Here at HMP The Mount we believe in second chances. We work in partnership with a range of internal and external agencies who offer a wide variety of support services to reduce the likelihood of re-offending. These services are available over a number of different areas, including (but not exclusive to) education, mental and physical health, workshops, behavioural interventions, plus strengthening children and family support networks. However, the vast provisions we offer can only be implemented and facilitated through the dedication and support of our staff and our volunteers.



**HM Prison &
Probation Service**

HACRO

For the Care and Resettlement of Offenders

Currently the establishment has over 100 active volunteers, who offer their time and support to help others and they make a real difference to the prisoners' lives. For example, they help them to maintain self-confidence, support them in developing their academic abilities, build their family ties and give them hope for the future when they leave prison, to live law-abiding, productive lives.

However, volunteering does not just benefit prisoners and their families, it can also be highly rewarding for our volunteers themselves, as it is an excellent opportunity for people who want to make a real difference in their local community by helping to make a contribution to reducing crime. It can also be very satisfying and enjoyable: for example, one of our Visitors' Centre tea-bar volunteers commented;

"Since I started [volunteering at HMP The Mount] I've really enjoyed being there. The staff and visitors are lovely and always grateful that you're there. I only planned on doing a couple of days a month, but seem to be there most weeks."

If you are interested in volunteering at The Mount too, there are plenty of areas that you can get involved with including:

- The Visitors' Centre, by welcoming the visitors and making the process of prison visits less stressful
- The Education Department, helping to assist the teachers in our many accredited courses, or mentoring men who want to start their own businesses on release
- The workshops, including farms and gardens, woodwork or bike repairs
- The Chaplaincy
- Official Prison Visiting, and many, many more...

If you are interested in volunteering at HMP The Mount and would like to know more about it, please visit the HACRO website, www.hacro.org.uk and just click on <Support Us> and then on <Become a HACRO Volunteer>. Alternatively, you can call 01727 854727 and they will assist you in becoming a volunteer through the 'Step Inside' Programme.

We will look forward to hearing from you.

HMP The Mount

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The Bovingdon Players



The Bovingdon Players have been going strong since at least 1921 when the Memorial Hall was built, staging almost every kind of play you can imagine – classic and contemporary dramas, comedies, musicals, pantomimes, children's productions, tragedies and farces.

Our most recent production, in March, was *Duets*, a terrific collection of very funny and very touching plays for couples, which was very warmly received.

We're taking a break over the Summer but planning a truly fantastic production for November – the universally acclaimed *Hangmen* by Martin McDonagh. If you'd like to get involved, please get in touch.

Check out our website (bovingdonplayers.com) or look out for our posters and keep up to date with us on Twitter (@bovingdonplayer) or Facebook (Bovingdon-Players). 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

Bovingdon Cricket Club



It's March as I write this and whilst the outfield is still struggling to recover from last year's extremely dry summer, the square is probably looking better than it has ever done, thanks to the efforts of our groundsman Craig Ringsell. It's probably no coincidence that we will be hosting even more county cricket this year with three matches scheduled. Admittedly Hertfordshire Over 60s 4th XI is not quite at the pinnacle of the county development pyramid but their interest in coming back to Bovingdon reflects what a fantastic place the Green is to play cricket.

On Saturdays this year, we will be playing in Division 7B of the Herts League, with our first game scheduled for May 11th. Following the league AGM, games have been reduced in length to 45 overs. Our Sunday side have a full fixture list of friendlies from the first weekend of May until the end of September, usually 35 or 40 over games and most at home. New members are always welcome so if you are interested in a game do get in touch.

Mark Carine, Hon. Secretary, 07738 200297

Bovingdoncc@hotmail.com / www.facebook.com/BovingdonCC / @BovCricketClub

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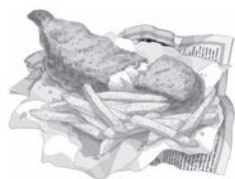
Bovingdon Evergreens

So what have we been up to at Evergreens since you last heard from us?



In February 2018, we had a very interesting afternoon called 'Safety in the Home' where we had fire officers come to give advice and answer questions. How this differed from our usual speakers is that each table had our very own handsome fireman come and sit with us so we could ask him for help as well as having a really nice chat. They were also willing to visit our homes if we had any problems or needed smoke alarms fitted. There were some free gadgets to take home too, such as torches, electricity timers and so on... luckily they weren't called out to a fire while they were with us!

In March we had our usual quiz afternoon, which everyone enjoys, and in April we had a really good group come to sing for us.



In May we had our first outing, which was a trip on the Grand Union Canal. This included a lunch of fish and chips, which was delivered from the towpath on one of our stops. Unfortunately, somebody dropped a large parcel of chips on the floor of the boat, which made us all laugh – but it didn't matter, as there were plenty of chips anyway! It was a very pleasant day, as we made our way through the locks towards Watford.

The Chiltern Ladies Choir also came to entertain us in May. They always have a good repertoire including traditional, pop, country and more, rather than just World War I songs, which we are a bit fed up with at our age...

Our highlight in June was a visit to Eastborne. After coffee and a stroll round finding somewhere nice to have lunch, we spent a little time on the beach as it was a fine sunny day. We then wandered slowly up the pier where we found a big spectacular 1920s-style tea room with chandeliers, cane furniture, real tablecloths and exotic elephant and Buddah statues; we felt as though we had stepped into an Agatha Christie play. We stayed there for some time sipping tea and admiring the sea view. Ice-creams later finished off the day nicely.

We had a very interesting speaker in June who came to tell us of her experiences as a Land Army Girl. Not only did she have some tales to tell but she also passed round some interesting objects for us to examine, including clothing (very sturdy and uncomfortable looking), photographs, a ration book, an identity card, a gas-mask and some bloomer-type knickers! Some of us tried on the gas-mask, but we decided against trying on the knickers...!



Bovingdon Evergreens (cont'd)

In July we had a very pleasant trip to the Lavender Fields in Hitchin. We had our photographs taken amongst the lavender and then meandered round the shop which, of course, sold all things made of lavender. Those who wanted to paid a little extra to buy a container, which could be filled with freshly picked lavender to take home. Tea was taken at tables out in the sunshine so it was a very relaxing day.



As an extra surprise in July we were off to the seaside again, this time to Clacton. It was a very hot day so our first destination when we got off the coach was a bar/restaurant where we all had an ice-cold drink. We then went on to a wonderful fish and chip shop where the 'medium' portions were so big the chips were falling off the plate; the fish was delicious, probably the best any of us had tasted. We later wandered on to the beach where some of us had a paddle in the sea. The sight of several elderly ladies squatting on the beach afterwards trying to dry their feet and get their shoes on must have been quite funny. Clacton is a very noisy town with music all around and the pier is just one big noisy funfair. We decided not to go on any hair-raising rides but we did have a nice tea in the pier restaurant; altogether a very jolly day.

Our speaker in August was a lady who loves dogs. She arrived with a beautiful cocker spaniel... and a mat under her arm. She placed the mat on the floor, pointed to it and the dog immediately settled down to wait while lady gave her talk. She spoke about various dogs (she often has two or three at a time) and about how she and her husband trained them all, sometimes at a training school. She then went on to explain that the dog she had with her, who she'd had from a young puppy, was totally deaf. This had meant training the dog with nothing but sign language so she had to invent a signal for everything such as sit, stay, come, walkies and 'we are now going out in the car'. As she pointed out Jasper doesn't know he is deaf, as he has never known anything different. We all made a big fuss of him, of course.



In September we had a visit to Micky Drivers Music Hall in Wood Green, London. There we had a roast beef dinner and trifle, followed by good old-fashioned music hall entertainment with colourful dancers, singers and comedians; there's a bar if you get thirsty. We have been there a few times, as it is a fun day out, and all the profits go to charity, one of which is Vera Lynn's special charity, which makes it especially worthwhile.

In October, some of us went for lunch at The Belcote in Chesham. We do occasionally go out for lunch together at a local restaurant, but not as part of our Wednesday meetings; while in November, we celebrated our 66th Birthday with an entertainer who played keyboard and sang for us, after which we enjoyed dainty sandwiches, nibbles and fancy cakes.



Bovingdon Evergreens (cont'd)



We finished off the year in December with our annual Christmas Dinner, which, this year, was held at The Watermill in Bourne End. We were treated well by the staff and a good time was had by all. Now we are looking forward to several outings already arranged for this year, as well as our twice monthly get-togethers.

We meet in Bovingdon Memorial Hall every second and fourth Wednesday, arriving between 2-2:30pm. We may have a game of Bingo (cheap and just for fun) or enjoy an interesting speaker or entertainer followed by tea, biscuits, chat and raffles. So, if you are a lady or gentleman of 55 or over but still feeling 'evergreen', why not pop in and join us some time? No obligation to become a member until you see you like us! Oh, and we all sit round tables together, not in rows... so it's easy to make friends. If you need further information, please call us on the numbers below. Hope to see you soon!

Kathy 01923 260528 / Lynn 834213

Bovingdon Village Market



Bovingdon Village Market is a non-profit making monthly market for the community. Monies raised are re-invested back into the village: the funds represent the monies raised from stall holder charges less hall rental. The cost of a table is £5 (medium) and £7.50 (large) and the monthly market is run by volunteers, supported by the stall holders and customers. By the time this edition is delivered, hopefully the large cherry tree we purchased will be planted outside Village Mews.

All the items below are available in the Bovingdon Village Market... pop in for a treat: whether home-cooked or hand-made! Lots of crafts, gifts and produce on offer – why not come and see?

- Do you know someone who is having a baby? Why not buy a handmade 'piggy bank' and put a few coins in for the happy event?
- Lavender has antiseptic qualities so bath salts made with Dead Sea Salts and Lavender are very relaxing and refreshing...
- A selection of individual and large quiches, cheese scones, chocolate brownies, steak and chicken pies and a few 'different' cakes...
- Hand-made gifts for every age and occasion – including cards, paintings, baby knits
- Different crafts that make lovely gifts including bottle lights (choose your spirit bottle and light colour for that personal touch), candle cups, rag wreaths and canvas bags... and why not add a hand-made greetings card..?

If you wish to join us as a stall-holder or volunteer, then please contact me.

Julie Steer, 07803 141254



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1st Bovingdon Scout Group



It's been a busy few months at 1st Bovingdon Scout Group. The Scouts have been working on their orienteering skills with a hike already completed and another two planned over the next few months. They are working on their map reading skills and how to use a compass.

The Scouts have also completed their model maker badge by designing and making a Pinewood Derby car and one of them won Best Looking Car at the District Competition; they only missed achieving a spot in the final by one place! We aim to be involved with District Scouting as much as possible and have also recently entered teams into the District swimming competition. Camping is always on the agenda and the Scouts went on a successful sleepover camp last term and we have another hike and sleepover planned for next term, as well as a Cub camp before our group camp in May. We have a few of them attending the international trip to Haarlem in Holland in July and we also have a week away in May for the Cubs who are attending Cubjam.



Our fundraising efforts are on-going for the Scout Hut HQ; we were very pleased to be awarded £1,000 from the Tesco Bags of Help scheme at the end of 2018 and we had a hot chocolate and mince pie stall at the Bovingdon Christmas Fayre generating some extra funds. 1st Bovingdon Scout Group is also a registered community cause for the village Co-Op and would encourage all local Co-Op shoppers to join the scheme: select 1st Bovingdon Scout Group as the community cause and help us raise money! We have some fun events coming up and we are hoping to be providing a refreshment stand at the Fun Run in September (we might even have some of our own Cubs and Scouts running!).

Thank you to all those who continue to support our Group and keep it thriving!

Ross Dorras, 07876 398392 / ross.dorras@btinternet.com

Bovingdon Baptist Church

High Street, Bovingdon HP3 0HG

www.bovingdonbaptist.org.uk

The members of Bovingdon Baptist Church are pleased to share our church building with the wider community. Carpeted throughout and centrally heated, the church is suitable for children's parties, fitness classes, and community groups sympathetic with our Christian values. It is not available for general commercial use.

£20/hour whole church, including kitchen
(one-off bookings, seats 85 in main hall)

£16/hour small meeting room and kitchen
(one-off bookings, seats 10-15)

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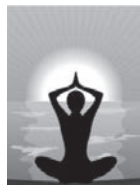
For all hall bookings and enquiries, please email:

hallhire.bovingdonbaptist@gmail.com

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.



This Hatha yoga-based class with elements of relaxation 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
- enhance powers of concentration.

Open to all levels of ability. £6 per drop-in session.

Jo Bain, 834251 / jo@bain-family.org

Bovingdon History Group

Bovingdon
History Group



Bovingdon History Group has continued to meet throughout the autumn and winter. Our speakers have proved to be popular, attracting 30 to 40 members to each of our meetings. We are grateful to Bovingdon Baptist Church for making us welcome and for the excellent facilities they provide. Our lectures are usually held on the third Thursday of every month, at 8pm. Exceptions are July and August, when we usually have walks and visits. The meetings are open to members who pay an annual subscription of £12 and also to non-members who pay £3 per meeting. The Bovingdon News diary shows the titles of the lectures for the remainder of this year.



The talk last September was given by Catherine Taylor who is the head archivist at Waddesdon. Her subject was *Waddesdon Garden and the First World War*. Baron Rothschild had died in 1898 and his sister Alice was in charge of the estate. There were 60 gardeners at the start of the war most of whom, including the head gardener George Johnson, enlisted in the army. The correspondence between Alice and

her head gardener describes the efforts made in turning the beautiful gardens into areas growing vegetables in order to support the war effort.

In October our speaker was Roy Wood. His talk was entitled *Hemel Hempstead in Picture Postcards*. He gave us a very knowledgeable and entertaining tour of the town from the pre-New Town era to more recent times. Several of our members who had been brought up in Hemel Hempstead became very nostalgic with some of the scenes. We were all struck by the quiet streets, practically free of traffic.

In November our talk was given by Adam Smith. He gave us a most interesting talk, describing the management hierarchy of a typical country house. There were two groups of staff, indoors and outdoors. The indoor staff were organised like a large hotel, but with some additional trades to give self-sufficiency in remote locations. Indoor staff had to leave to marry. Outdoor staff such as gardeners usually lived in rented cottages on the estate and were managed by the head gardener. Farms owned by the estate were rented out and the rent was paid every quarter.

In December Philomena Liggins gave us an exciting talk entitled *Dropping SOE Agents and Supplies*. The operation was based on a wartime airfield not far from Bletchley Park. She illustrated her talk with an official film made shortly after the war to show the contribution made by the SOE. This took us through the training of agents to the flights to and from France and further afield, initially in light aircraft and later in bombers loaded with supplies for the French Resistance. This was on an immense scale with huge warehouses forwarding supplies to the aircraft. We were awestruck by the bravery of the agents.





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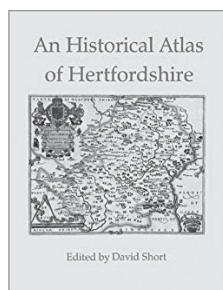
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Bovingdon History Group (cont'd)

We held our Annual Dinner in January this year: we had an excellent meal, provided by our caterer Julia Maddox and the dinner was very successful, with over 60 people attending. We were greatly entertained by Stephen Hearn who is the Director of Tring Market Auctions and has made many television appearances. He was a farmer's son and his first job was as a boy at the cattle market in Tring. Over time the market began to also sell farm equipment and unwanted furniture from the farms. Stephen described the auction scene with farmers sitting on straw bales in the yard bidding for furniture and unwanted antiques. Arable farming took over and the cattle auctions were succeeded by today's very successful auction house for antiques.



In February our speaker was David Short. He is the editor of *A Historical Atlas of Hertfordshire*, which was published in 2011. This consists of a very extensive series of one-page articles each illustrated by a map on the opposite page showing the locations of items described in the article. The subjects included the evolution of the county boundaries and the growth of communications and of industry. Examples of local interest included the Grand Union Canal, silk manufacture in Tring and the paper-making industry in Apsley.

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 on the notice board in the library and also on the Memorial Hall noticeboard.

Sylvia McClelland, Secretary

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Bovingdon Primary Academy

Bovingdon Primary Academy has had another great six months. We have held celebrations to deepen and strengthen learning, while broadening the curriculum we offer the children in the school.



In November 2018, the School Council organised for the pupils and their families to raise £1,051 in just four days for the Poppy appeal. Our Year 5 and 6 children, accompanied by the local Cub group, took part in the Remembrance Day Centenary Parade on Friday 12th October in celebration of the Remembrance Day centenary this year. The children marched down the High Street, led by a soldier, to St Lawrence Church where our Head Boy and Girl laid a wreath in honour of the event.

Christmas productions are always a treat for the children and their families and this year was no exception with the school putting on three productions – *The Nursery Rhyme Nativity*, *The Inn-spectors* and *Bah-Humbug*. We had lots of great feedback "I thought it was tremendous. I really liked that every child had the opportunity to have a part."

This month, March 2019, we have been celebrating World Book Day with a whole week of reading activity. Every day we have Dropped Everything and Read. The children and staff waited in anticipation, full of excitement, for the sound of the bell. Every time the bell was rung, everyone stopped what they were doing, whatever the lesson, and read their favourite book for five minutes. This really created a magical atmosphere across the school. Many children asked if we could do this every day!

We celebrated World Book Day itself with the teachers and staff coming to school dressed as their favourite book characters. We started the day with two assemblies: one for Early Years and Key Stage 1 and one for Key Stage 2. During the assembly, the children took part in a World Book Day parade to show off their wonderful costumes and have a little dance in their character roles! At lunchtime, the children were delighted to find that their school desserts were book-themed cakes!

On the last day of the week, we welcomed children's author Pete Johnson. He began the day leading assemblies to all the children and discussed how he was first inspired to become an author. He spent the rest of the day in sessions with Year 3, Year 4 and Year 5 going into more detail and giving them hints and tips on how to become a successful writer, and later in the day he also formally opened our 'Reading Room'.

It was this time last year that the Reading Room began to take shape. With the help of McCarthy and Stone, BAPA, book donations from the children's families and a dedicated staff we now have a wonderful space to read and learn.

The school is looking for volunteers to help keep the Springfield wooded area in good condition. If you can help us, please contact the school. We use the area as an outside classroom and with Summer coming, help to keep the space well-maintained would be ideal.

Clare Norton, Chair of Governors (Local Advisory Body), 406545



Bovingdon Village Market

3rd Saturday monthly

February - December

10.00 am – 12.30 pm



Home produced Food – soups, pasties, pies, quiche,
sausage rolls, cakes, scones, shortbread, bakewells,
eccles, jams, curds, marmalade, chutneys and more,
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and Rock Painting



All Enquiries contact Julie 07803 141254



Bovingdon Christmas Lights

Thanks to the generous support of the Parish Council, local businesses and villagers, Bovingdon High Street was sparkling during the festive season, with Christmas lights from the top of the High Street down to the Ryder Memorial!



Pussycat Doll Melody Thornton was the guest of honour at the first-ever Bovingdon High Street Christmas Lights ceremony. The St Lawrence Church Choir performed a selection of Christmas carols before Melody led the countdown to the switch-on. The night of fun also saw visitors enjoy Bovingdon's popular Christmas Street Fayre, which was a great success, and combining the switch-on with the Street Fayre was the perfect way to bring the community together at the start of the festive season.

We're pleased to announce that the **2019 Christmas Lights Switch-On** and **Street Fayre** will take place on **Sunday December 1st**. Our aim now is to secure more sponsorship to help fund the lights for 2019/2020 and beyond, and to make sure Bovingdon Christmas Lights are an annual event!

Local shops and businesses interested in sponsoring a Bovingdon High Street Christmas Light should contact the Parish Office for more information.

Parish Office, 833036 / email office@bovingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk.

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The Box Moor Trust News

Registered Charity No. 206142

Box Moor Trust Sponsors Live Music for the Elderly

The Box Moor Trust has been working with another charity, Music in Hospitals and Care, to provide live music entertainment for the elderly and people with dementia in Hemel Hempstead. It is well documented how therapeutic music from their younger days can be for dementia sufferers.

In early December, senior citizens at the Centre in the Park were treated to a live music session provided by singer and pianist TJ Johnson, a local resident himself. "The mini concert last Friday went very well; the service users here thoroughly enjoyed it, as did the staff, so thank you very much – all positive feedback from everyone," said Janette Rowe, Deputy Manager at the Centre in the Park.



In September 2018, a group of people with dementia from B&M Care came to the Box Moor Trust Centre to watch guitarist and banjo player Matt Redman and singer/musician Patricia Hammond perform a selection of well-known favourites from the good old days. "Thank you so much, we all had a lovely afternoon", said Becki Theophile, of B&M Care. The Trust plans to fund further such events in the future – please contact us if you are a care home and are interested.

The Box Moor Trust Centre
London Road, Hemel Hempstead
Hertfordshire HP1 2RE
01442 253300
admin@boxmoortrust.org.uk
www.boxmoortrust.org.uk



Neighbourhood Watch – Bovingdon Ward Update

As at 12th March we have 1,090 residents registered in the Bovingdon area (which incorporates Box Lane, Bourne End, Felden, and surrounding areas), which is just over 46.05% coverage; this is slightly down on the previous six months due to additional properties in the patch. If you would like to become involved with Neighbourhood Watch, please contact me (using the details below); please ensure that if a crime is committed it is reported to the police.



OWL

OWL keeps communities safe, helps reduce crime and keeps people informed of what's going on locally. It's a shared, secure platform for the public and local authorities to maximise the potential of Neighbourhood Watch, Rural Watch, Business Watch and dozens of other 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; if you wish to be considered as a co-ordinator for your street, please send your details (name, address, telephone/mobile, email) to:

Julie Steer, Bovingdon NW Area Co-Ordinator

Post: drop off at the Parish Office at the Memorial Hall, High Street, Bovingdon
Email: nwatch_julie@btinternet.com

PCSO Bardhyl Agallili

Post: post to Bardhyl Agallili, Hemel Hempstead Police Station, Combe Street, Hemel Hempstead HP1 1HL
Email: bardhyl.agallili@herts.pnn.police.uk

Online

Register: www.owl.co.uk

Alternatively, you can drop them in to Mike Kember at the Parish Clerk's office in the Memorial Hall.

*Julie Steer, NW Ward Co-ordinator for Bovingdon, Chipperfield and Flaunden
NW Deputy District Co-ordinator for Dacorum
nwatch_julie@btinternet.com / 07803 141254*

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.

Bovingdon Care

Please note our New Number

Our Care Line now operates on a mobile phone number: **07376 832999**

This is the previous BT landline number 832999 with a mobile area code prefix in place of the optional STD area code (01442). The BT line will remain in operation until any unforeseen issues with the switchover are resolved.

This change has been deferred for a number of years due to concerns about the impact on our clientele of the requirement to dial a mobile number. It is now our opinion, after some informal enquiries with some of our users, that most people no longer worry about calling a mobile number and many will be using a mobile phone to do so.

The principal benefits of this change are: Reduced operating costs, Easier daily setup, Easier administration, Increased flexibility for duty coordinators, Improved ability to contact drivers, More options for contacting Bovingdon Care, Easier to cope with network issues.

Reduced Operating Costs

Currently we pay for a BT Basic line, a monthly contract SIM card and a Pay-As-You-Go (PAYG) SIM card to operate the service. Our new method will require one PAYG SIM only. The actual mobile handset has been donated.

Easier Daily Setup

Currently our service operates on the basis of forwarding the incoming BT landline call to the phone number of the Coordinator on duty that day. This is done by a static cellular device which is programmed remotely by commands sent to it from a dedicated mobile phone in the system administrator's office. These commands are generated by the administrator from the spreadsheet program used to produce the monthly schedules for the coordinators. Using the mobile phone, the need for all the work involved with call forwarding is eliminated.

Easier administration

As well as easier daily setup, all the information necessary to run the service can be stored in such a way that it is quickly accessible by the coordinator with the mobile phone. The coordinator can then look up the current (password protected) schedules, contact details, procedures, fact sheets by using apps and pre-programmed icons on the phone

Increased flexibility for duty coordinators

The mobile phone will be included with the information passed between coordinators each day. If the duty coordinator needs to be away from their house for some reason, they can take the bag with the information and the phone with them and still be on duty. Although this flexibility is currently available by resetting the diversion to the coordinator's own mobile phone, it will be more convenient with the dedicated mobile phone

Improved ability to contact drivers.

We currently use a WhatsApp group to contact the majority of our volunteer drivers. This will be more manageable with a dedicated mobile phone. For those drivers who do not use WhatsApp, it will be easier for the coordinator to find and use their contact details.

More options for contacting Bovingdon Care.

It will be possible for our users to contact us utilising methods other than direct calling, such as SMS (text), WhatsApp and email; it will also be possible for callers to leave voicemail messages. Once this new mobile service is established we may consider the use of social media such as Twitter etc.

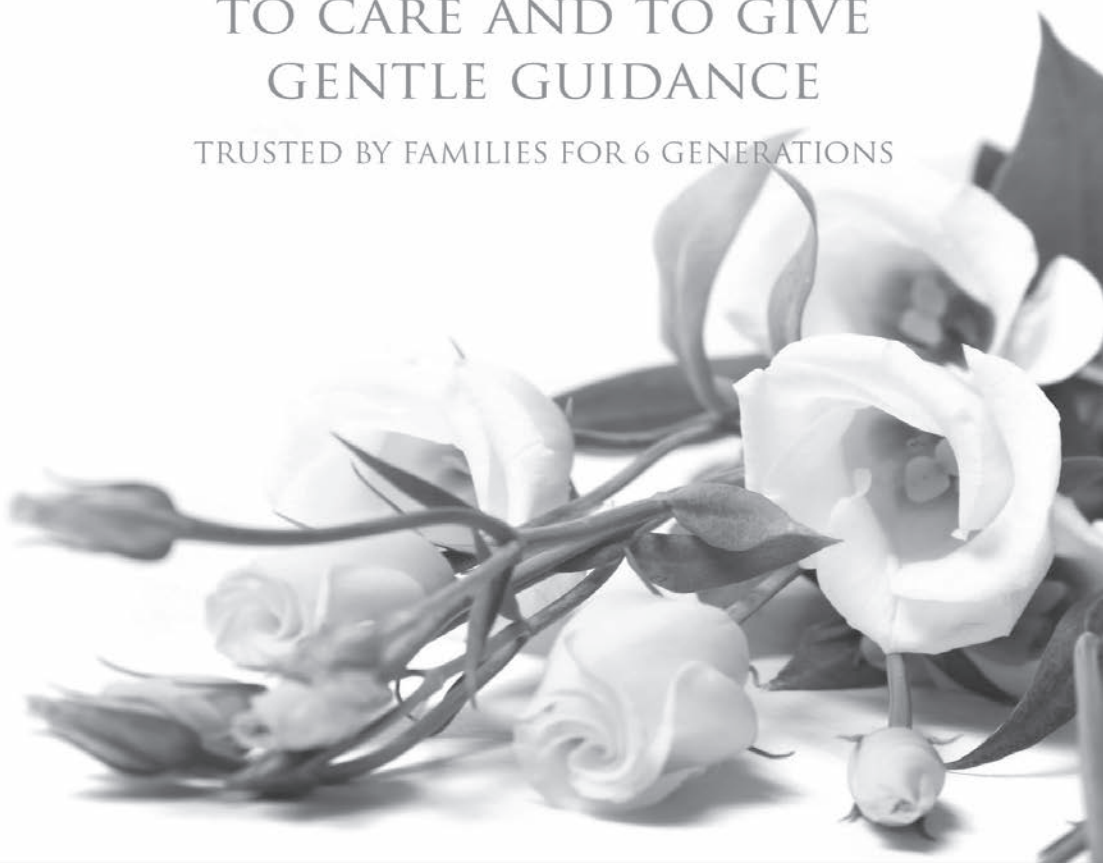
Easier to cope with network issues

We have considered potential problems with weak signals in some areas and have established that all our coordinators should be able to use our mobile phone in their own houses. We shall, of course, be vulnerable to loss of cellular services in the area as a whole, as happened again at the end of November, and national service failures such as the O2 disaster in December but our current system is equally at risk. However, since we will have direct control of the handset, it will be easier for us implement tactical changes to try to keep Bovingdon Care available. We have established strategies for most scenarios and shall continue to investigate ways of working around these service failures should they recur.

As always, we should welcome more volunteers, both as drivers and coordinators.

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