

Post Office Opening Times
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 9am - 1pm and
2pm - 5.30pm
Weds: 9am - 1pm
Sat: 9am - 12.30pm

Library Opening Times (BVCL)
Tues, Thurs: 2 - 5pm (Tues Story time
2.15pm – 2.45pm Term time only -
free and no need to book, just drop
in.)
Fri: 2pm - 7pm
Sat: 10am - 1pm

Mobile Library (Alternate Tuesdays)
Yardley Ave Health Centre:
2.40pm - 3.15pm
The Crescent: 3.20pm - 4.10pm



Cover Photo:

Chris Wilcock, with thanks.

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Deadline for articles for the
Autumn edition is 4th October 2013.
Please send contributions to
pppeditor@pitstone.co.uk

MISSION STATEMENT

The content of PPP is intended to inform
and enhance the lives of the people of
Pitstone.



FROM THE CHAIRMAN, PITSTONE PARISH COUNCIL, Bob Saintey

Summer is finally here and after a long winter, is very welcome. The parish Annual Assembly came and went with the Parish being suitably satisfied that everything is going to plan.

The highlight of the evening was a short talk and demonstration from Dave Short from the AVDC Bucks Owl Conservation Trust. He gave us a talk about their work conserving and encouraging owls in our area, ably demonstrated by introducing a beautifully presented Barn Owl. Dave apologised for being late because that afternoon he had the job of wringing the Peregrine Falcon Fledglings that had nested successfully on the County Offices.

During June I represented the Parish Council at the New Multiple Sclerosis Centre at Halton, **which is on the site of the old Princess Mary's Hospital, as a result of Pitstone's involvement with** the Community Chest, which has awarded £150k pounds towards this very necessary medical centre in our area. A fantastic facility largely run by volunteers, with a fulltime staff of 6. It has added facilities for podiatry, reflexology, acupuncture as well as a very up to date therapy pool and a specialised oxygen pressure capsule to aid body tissue repair.

At the end of June I was proud to represent the Ivinghoe and Pitstone Branch of the British Legion and to be chosen as Standard Bearer for Armed Forces Day, which as you know was at Aylesbury Rugby Club, Weston Turville where ten thousand people witnessed various military and airborne displays making a very enjoyable day and saluting a very worthwhile cause. Parish Council work goes on as usual. Thankfully the installation of our Vehicle Activated speed system has taken place and is working. Please enjoy the Summer, keep safe and remember to shut doors and windows when you go out.



COUNCIL NEWS

DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL NEWS

By Avril Davies, District and County Councillor, Ivinghoe Division

Thank you once again for your confidence in re-electing me as your County Councillor in

the May elections. This is the first chance I have had to put my thanks on paper. The Ivinghoe County Division includes the three district wards of Cheddington, Pitstone and Edlesborough, and part of Wingrave ward, Mentmore and Ledburn. 12 villages in all. I remain District Councillor for Pitstone and Ivinghoe. I have also been elected Liberal Democrat Group Leader on the County Council, albeit to a much smaller group. The Council has reduced in size from 59 members to 48 and now includes 7 UKIP members.

The new Council commenced with the Annual Bucks Debate with guest speakers Ben

Page from pollsters IPSOS MORI, local businessman Alex Pratt, reflecting on the economy, and the privileged position Bucks has with the second fastest growth in the UK, and Wendover GP Dr Johnny Marshall looking at the challenges for local government to maintain and improve public health. The debate can be seen on

http://www.buckscc.public-i.tv/core/portal/webcast_interactive/100337

Community Leaders Fund

Since May I have applied for and had authorised (but cheques still in the post!) funding for paint and materials to enable the painting and decorating of the fabulously restored Ivinghoe Village Centre. I have also provided BBOWT at College Lake with funding to enable the publication and sale of a firsthand account by Graham Atkins of the history of the creation of the College Lake reserve, a story that needs to be on the record. We hope to have a joint launch of the publication on the reserve in August.

Local Area Forum

At last the efforts of the various community Speedwatch teams are coming to fruition, with the soon-to-be-installed vehicle activated speed signs (those that flash) in several identified speeding hot spots. County engineers are also working on simple schemes to remind drivers where limits are in place – Great Gap being a case in point. Work is still progressing on winning funding for several footpath projects in the Division including Middle Path to Pitstone Windmill car park, and Pitstone to Marsworth.

Library DVD ‘voluntary’ scheme

I have been working with the librarian, Shelle West and volunteer Frances Booth to

set up a free DVD sharing/mutual exchange scheme for the DVDs that have been gifted to the library. Previously there has been a charge for DVD loans to cover the huge cost of DVDs over and above normal cover price that is levied on DVDs that are loaned or hired. Continuing the old scheme would be loss making for the library. We have come up with a voluntary scheme where library users will be able to take out DVDs for no charge, and will not be entered on the electronic borrowing record. However there will be a prominently displayed piggy bank for donations to cover refreshing the stock and replacing DVDs that are inadvertently not returned. We will suggest a voluntary return date for the DVD with a reminder date stamp. Frances will be trading our out of date and unpopular DVDs on Ebay, and buying more popular DVDs and special requests, supplemented with the piggy bank donations. We are also asking library users to contribute to the scheme by donating any DVDs they may have at home and no longer wish to view which we can either put in the borrowing pool or trade. The scheme is due to start any day now – ask in the library for information.

BeaconLit Festival

This mini festival has been written up elsewhere. Working with the small team of Chris and Dave Sivers, Bren Sainsbury and Jackie Wesley to launch this event was well rewarded by the amazing feedback we received from those who came and the bloggers, writers and tweeters who commented and reported on the day. The event was supported by the Arts Council, AVDC and Bucks CC as well as the bestselling authors who entertained us in two chat-show style sessions ably hosted by Dave Sivers. Local writers were well represented but my special thanks is to Brookmead, Edlesborough and Cheddington Schools, who with the

help of their literary adviser Simon Wrigley, and the enthusiastic support of the head teachers, who wrote for the occasion a selection of Summer Ghost Stories. Thanks too to Ivinghoe WI for their fabulous cakes and to CuriosiTea in the village centre for keeping everyone sustained.

Cheddington going for Gold

In June I joined a walking crocodile of Cheddington school pupils in their effort to achieve national gold accreditation for travel planning. The WOW, walk once a week, team needed to invite their local councillor – a pleasure.

Politics Roundtable BBC3 Counties Radio

Having a taste of this during the election campaign with representatives of the four political parties at a live Question Time **event in St Mary's Church Aylesbury, I was invited back to Roberto Perrone's live show** in mid June. A superb broadcaster.

AVDC Development Control annual tour

This started with a visit to Arla who are well on their way to making this a zero carbon operation and a blueprint for all future European dairies. 38,000 trees have been planted, 100 managers already employed, of 700 full time jobs overall. A billion litres of milk, and only milk, will eventually pass through here every year, from cows in the surrounding counties, to customers inside the M25.

61 Bus no longer runs to Luton Airport

National Express have been given the con-

tract for the Luton Airport coach routes and this includes "exclusive access" meaning all other local bus services can't enter the airport. Arriva are mounting a legal challenge and I believe Luton BC will be getting some sort of bus shuttle from Luton town centre to the airport in place shortly which will at least allow bus passengers to connect from other routes.

[@avrilpitstone](http://avrildavies.mycouncillor.org.uk)

PITSTONE PARISH COUNCIL (PPC)

Adult further education

Thank you to those who responded to the survey. The most popular requests were for French, Spanish, creative writing and **fitness for the over 50's followed by art/drawing**. You will be pleased to know that three of these are already available within the village:

Spanish

Karina Simon offers beginners Spanish in Pitstone. For further details please contact simonkarina@hotmail.co.uk or call 07904 360 623.

Fitness for the over 50's

'Fine Vintage Fitness' classes offer a gentle and effective all over workout for the over 50's. Set to lovely music old and new. Held at Ivinghoe Town Hall on Wednesdays at 3pm. Contact : Kate Everitt on 07985 048880, 07989 205498 or visit www.kasostudios.co.uk

Art

The Art Group is suitable for adults of all abilities. Held in the Millennium Room of Pitstone Memorial Hall 1.35pm-3.35pm Tuesday and 10.00am-12.30pm Wednesday.

Contact: Sarah Moruzzi on 01442 822829,
0787 6670278 or s.moruzzi@sky.com

The recent BeaconLit Festival provided creative writing workshops, and the level of attendance at these will provide further evidence to two local authors that are considering running a longer course.

Bucks County Council has been passed details of all the responses, to the above mentioned courses and others, and they will consider whether running courses in the village is viable. If they set up any lessons, they will be advertised locally and within the BCC Adult Education literature.

New play space in Pitstone

Pitstone Parish Council have been working hard to bring a new play space to the Recreation Ground near the Memorial Hall. We are sure that you will all have seen the new play space design displayed on the noticeboards, web site and Facebook pages. The design received a glowing recommendation from RoSPA when they carried out their pre-installation inspection, concluding **“the new play space certainly has the WOW factor”**. It provides an integrated play area with a large range of features for all age groups and all abilities. If you would like to read about the full list of features, more details about the design or get more information about inclusivity, please visit the village website.

The planning application is live until 19 July 2013 and if you would like to read further details about the design process, considerations or access proposals, or would just like to find out about the materials or make a comment to Aylesbury Vale District Council **then please visit AVDC's planning website** and search for application number 13/13/01436/APP.

We hope that planning will be determined in August and construction can commence in **September so that we don't have to remove** the existing play equipment during the summer holidays. It will take 10-12 weeks to remove all the existing equipment and install our wonderful new space, so we hope to be able to open in November.

Our thanks to all the children, parents and organisations that took part in the consultation process and helped to design this amazing new facility.

New skate park and family inclusive games area for Pitstone

As you know, Aylesbury Vale District Council are handling the procurement and installation of a concrete skate park on behalf of PPC and the young people in the village. They had hoped to commence procurement in April, but this has been delayed somewhat. We hope that the process will start very shortly and still hope to install the skate park in Spring 2014. We will keep you posted on progress as it happens.

The parish council is also developing proposals for the family inclusive games area (Multi Use Games Area, or MUGA for short), so that it can be installed as soon as the Pitstone Development Area proposals permit. As soon as we have any illustrations available, we will share them with you.

Watch your Speed – Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs

We are delighted that our mobile Vehicle Activated Sign (MVAS) is now fully operational and will be rotating around the village. As well as flashing a speed warning to re-

mind motorists to slow down, the unit records the speed of every passing vehicle along with the day and time of the incident so that the data can be analysed and Thames Valley Police can more effectively target any speeding hot spots. Please make sure you drive carefully through the village, for your own benefit and the safety of others.

Annual Report and Accounts

A copy of our annual report and accounts can be seen later on in this edition of PPP.

Enjoy money off your favourite leisure activities

If you claim benefits and live in Aylesbury Vale you could be eligible for a Passport to Leisure Discount Card. With the card you can get discounts for leisure, sports and arts activities and days out, so you can keep enjoying your leisure time despite these difficult economic times. Discounts are available for people of all ages for a variety of activities.

Latest offers include:

- Jonathan Page Play Centre holiday activities and after school club in Aylesbury
- Aqua Vale Leisure Centre and Swan Pool
- Stoke Mandeville Stadium – various activities
- AVDC Ballroom Dancing sessions for adults
- Bucks Play Association Play Scheme
- Southcourt and Walton Court Community Project
- ZKS Martial Arts
- Aylesbury and District Swimming Club
- Kandez Dance School

- **Roald Dahl Children's Gallery**
- **and many more ...**

To check whether you are eligible for a card and find out about the latest offers see the website www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/passport or phone 01296 585301.

WANT TO BE A COMMUNITY RESPONDER?

Dear Member of the Community,

South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust has long subscribed to the fact that the quicker we can have a suitably trained person, with the appropriate equipment; to a member of the public during a life threatening emergency, the better the chance of survival and making a good recovery.

A Few years ago we launched a charity division called **“Community Responders”**, this initiative depends on members of the community volunteering within their local area to respond to emergencies giving lifesaving treatment prior to the ambulance arriving. Volunteers are given 2 full days of training at one of our Training Centres, explaining how to recognize and treat many life threatening medical emergencies, ranging from cardiac arrest to strokes in the elderly down to infants, to name but a few of the situations the volunteers may face.

Once they have successfully completed the course they are supplied with an Automated External Defibrillator, breathing equipment and a mobile phone. The volunteer responders can then respond, to an emergency in their local community and tend to the needs of the most vulnerable, whilst an ambulance is on route. Due to the close proximity of the volunteer responder to the emergency they are very often first on scene and their actions can directly affect the outcome of

the patient, this will have an impact on the lives of the their family and friends within your community.

We are currently looking for volunteers to be a part of this lifesaving scheme to help within your community. Do you have a few hours a week to spare? No prior medical knowledge required as full training is given.

If you would like to find out more then visit our website
www.southcentralambulance.nhs.uk

Or get in touch by email
derek.flint@scas.nhs.uk or tel 07768 635501

BROOKMEAD SCHOOL

“Bringing Learning to Life and Life to Learning”

Building works to make huge improvements to the fabric and school facilities began one week ahead of schedule and phase one is still on target for completion as planned at the end of October.

This project will bring enormous benefits to **the children’s learning with improved learning spaces** including a new hall and library, nine fully refurbished classrooms, and a new roof for the upper school block. You may have seen the Yurt (pictured) under construction when you came to Sports Days recently. Now completed, it will become an integral part of the new learning spaces and potential community resource.

During building works, the primary concern remains the safety and safeguarding of pupils by the headteacher and her staff, with the

contractor working closely with the school to ensure that children experience as little disruption to their learning as possible while works are underway.



During the first six weeks of the new school year, you may see some of the children making use of the scout hut for their lessons until they are back in their re-furbished classrooms after the October half term. The second and final phase will run from October to February 2014 at which time it's expected the building works will be completed.

It is a particularly good time to join this thriving school community. If you have a child who will be four before 31st August 2014 it will soon be time to apply for a place at primary school and open mornings will be held early in the Autumn term for prospective parents. These open mornings provide an opportunity to find out more about learning at Brookmead School, to view the school and in particular meet the staff and children at work in the Foundation Unit. Friday, 27th September and Friday 4th October, 9.30 – 11.00.

Parents of pupils currently attending Infant Schools who are considering applying for a place for their child in Year 3, are invited to contact the school directly to arrange a convenient time to visit.



Ivinghoe Town Hall

**Historic user-friendly Hall with
awards for Best Used and Managed Small Hall
in the County**

Sited in the centre of the Village, the Town Hall provides modern facilities for local groups, parties and fundraising activities.

Facilities include:

Improved lighting, heating, and new upholstered chairs

Music options including quality electronic piano

Stage with specialised lighting, curtains and dressing room

New kitchen with microwave, oven, hob, fridge, comprehensive crockery and glassware

Chair lift/wheelchair for those with mobility problems

If you want to know more contact Carole Wesley; Tel: 01296 661094

Give Bowls a Go!

Open sessions for you

Every Tuesday at 2pm

Every Friday at 6pm

May to September

CHEDDINGTON BOWLS CLUB, your friendly local Club, is for everybody – all ages: beginners to experts.

Our Open sessions are an ideal opportunity to get to know bowls and refine your skills. Come with trainers or flat soled shoes. We will supply the rest.

Cheddington Bowls Club, The Recreation Ground, High Street,

Contacts: Nigel on 01442 824 679 or Sue on 01296 668 772



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2012-13 Annual Report and Accounts for Pitstone Parish Council

The parish council froze their element of the council tax for both 2012/13 and 2013/14 at £61.39 per Band D property (approx. 18p per day). This is the 4th year with no increase. We are also pleased that in January the council became eligible to use the General Power of Competence under the Localism Act 2011, providing more flexibility for us to help our residents.

Financial Position

| | 2011-12 Actual | 2012-13 Budget | 2012-13 Actual | Variance to last year | Variance to budget |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Income | £98,430 | £97,777 | £128,732 | +29% | +32% |
| Expenditure | £93,001 | £161,437 | £99,627 | +7% | -38% |

At the close of the year the council holds £160,169. £106,662 is reserved for specific purposes or with restricted spending ability (like maintenance payments from Taylor Wimpey) leaving £53,506 of retained reserve. The council is financially independent with no loans, lease payments or debts.

Thank You

The council would like to thank all the organisations that have supported us with grants or donations during the financial year including: £24,000 grant from Community Chest towards the skate park, £2,550 Community Leaders Grant towards the play space and skate park; £2,000 grant from Local Area Forum towards the skate park, £500 grant from Ivinghoe Entertainments to the skate park users group for skate park floodlights; £200 corporate sponsorship towards the skate park and £895 of various donations and grants towards the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.

We would also like to thank the army of volunteers that helped during the year at the Jubilee Party, by planting daffodil bulbs, helping at the youth café or being part of the leisure development & Pitstone Development Area working parties. You have all done an amazing job! The council is very grateful for your expertise, devotion and support.

Grants to Community Groups

During the course of each year, the council awarded grants to a number of local groups including: £3,750 start up grant to Beacon Villages Community Library, £3,000 to Pitstone Memorial Hall, £1,000 to Party in the Park, £1,000 to the I&PUCC, £500 start up grant to Pitstone Community Cinema and £166 start up grant to the Silver Surfers Club & £60 to I&P Scouts. If your organisation would like to apply for a grant, please contact the clerk.



Key Projects this Year

The Diamond Jubilee Celebrations were a great success, despite the weather, and raised thousands of pounds for the local charities that supported these events.



The parish council has been working with AVDC, the private landowner, Pitstone Parish Charity, the Charity Commission, the Secretary of State and a Town Planner to secure a favourable redevelopment of the Pitstone Development Area outlined in the Pitstone Comprehensive Plan of 2005. A Development Brief is almost finalised which will act as a guideline to potential developers. It is anticipated that this land will be brought to market in the summer/autumn of 2013.



An indicative layout is shown to the left. The proposals extend the leisure facilities in the village to include a challenging and modern play space, a sprayed concrete skate park, a multi-use ball games court, shaded picnic areas (possibly with some fruit trees and sensual planting), foot and cycle path access and additional facilities at Pitstone Memorial Hall.

The brief still welcomes a Public House etc should the developer identify partners that would find such opportunities viable.

We hope to deliver the leisure and community facilities ahead of the residential properties.

The design for the new play space has been identified following a rigorous public procurement and consultation exercise. Views were sought from children of all ages including those attending the toddler group, pre-school, Sure Start Centre, Brookmead and the Youth Café, as well as views from parents. The play space will be jointly funded by the parish council, S106 funds from Taylor Wimpey and a number of grants. Work continues to obtain the necessary RoSPA and planning application approvals with an anticipated installation date in September 2013.



AVDC has been commissioned to procure a spray-concrete skate park for Pitstone following complications with the initial tendering. Installation is anticipated in March 2014 after completion of the play space. The multi-use ball games court and picnic areas will hopefully follow later in 2014/2015 but are dependant upon the sale of the Pitstone Development Area land.



Mobile Vehicle Activated Equipment has been purchased to help slow traffic through the village. Once the ground-screws have been installed into their locations along Cheddington Road, Vicarage Road and Marsworth Road, the scheme will get started. The sign will rotate around each of these three approach roads, spending one month in each



4,500 daffodil bulbs were planted along the grass verge in Marsworth Road. Now spring has arrived we are treated to a stunning display sure to soar your spirits. Our thanks to Bucks County Council for granting permission and to all the planting volunteers including the Beavers, Scouts, Rainbows, Brownies and Guides for helping create this wonderful legacy.



Party in the Park

*Full report in the November
Pitstone Parish Post*

*Send your contribution to:
pppeditor@pitstone.co.uk*

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Business As Usual

On top of all the special projects, the parish council continues to maintain street lighting and street furniture; care for 3 play areas and the recreation ground; operate and maintain the sports pavilion; produce PPP and communicate with you via our notice-boards, web site, Facebook pages or Twitter account; offer allotments for tenancy; clean litter and dog refuse; maintain trees and hedgerows; maintain Pitstone Hill car park; run the youth café and liaise with other partners to work on joint initiatives such as footpaths and cycleways.

Tring, Northchurch and Berkhamsted LTP
Schematic Profile 12 DRAFT (Nov)



Herts County Council assessed three possible options for the foot/cycle path along Northfield Road to Tring station. The off-road link, formalising the existing footpath track, has been determined the preferred route. However, this is a complex option requiring land purchase and hedge removal. They have categorised the project as having a 3-5 year timescale.

Work continues with Marsworth Parish Council and the Local Area Forum to scope and formalise plans for a foot/cycle path between the two villages. A financial contribution has been set aside and we hope to see some progress on this project within the next financial year.

The youth café has been open for it's first full year of operation. This has been a great success and attracts between 30-50 young people each week. We have also seen a marked reduction in anti-social behaviour in the village as a result. Our thanks to our partners, AVYFC, and all our volunteers as the café couldn't operate or offer such wonderful workshops & experiences without them.



Westfield Road

The parish council has reserved funds to install two bus shelters at the new stops along Westfield Road, and also extend the mVAS service to this location. However Taylor Wimpey (as the current landowner) is currently withholding permission for these facilities until the road is adopted by Bucks County Council, which can't occur until the roads have been brought up to adoptable standard and maintained as such for a period of 12 months.

Charities

The council acts as trustees for the Recreation Ground charity and the Pitstone Parish Charity. Neither of these charities hold any finances or generate any income at present. Annual reports are available on the web site.

WINDMILL PRE-SCHOOL



This final term has been a busy one at Windmill Pre-School - we were able to purchase some new technology for the children to use and enjoy. Thanks to the help of one of our parents - Richard Tanswell, we were able to source and install touch screen technology as well as train our staff to use them and assist the children with their learning. These have proved to be a valuable resource to enhance the children's learning experience at Pre-School.

May was a particularly busy month for us: We organised a trip to Milton Keynes Theatre for the children to see The Gruffalo. Staff, a number of committee members and parents accompanied the children and the live show was thoroughly enjoyed by all those that attended. This was the first trip like this undertaken by Pre-School, and because it was so popular we will look to run a similar excursion during the next academic year.

Also in May, we held another Family Photo Session at Pre-School. Photography by Carrie once again came in one Saturday morning and took some lovely family shots. Carrie kindly donates a percentage of all the Pre-School sales to us, so not only do parents get reasonably priced lasting memories, but they also help us raise funds to buy additional learning and play resources for the children to enjoy. Carrie has been booked to return in October so watch this space for more information.

(Continued on page 17)

Give your child an outstanding start

Windmill Pre-School in Ivinghoe is rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted making us one of the top pre-schools nationally and highest rated locally

"Children make excellent progress in all areas of their learning and development because staff plan an outstanding range of activities..."

"Children have fun and are purposefully engaged in all areas of this dynamic setting. They make excellent progress as staff recognise them as unique individuals..."

Source: Ofsted report June 2011

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Morning session: | 9am-12pm |
| Lunch club: | 12pm-1pm |
| Afternoon session: | 1pm-3pm |

We welcome all children between 2 and 5 years from Pitstone, Ivinghoe & surrounding areas to our purpose-built premises behind Brookmead School

IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD

For further info and to arrange a visit for you and your child please contact us:
admin@windmillpreschool.co.uk or 01296 661031 (during sessions)

www.windmillpreschool.co.uk



Soft play hire and party people for Herts, Beds and Bucks

Weekly soft play and fun sessions starting in September
10.30 - midday at Pitstone Memorial Hall



- Soft play equipment hire for under 5's and party packages for under 7's
- Soft play equipment: bouncy castles, ride on toys, inflatable bouncers, ball pools and giant games
- Tailor made packages to meet your individual needs and budgets
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nikkimattey@hotmail.com



Baby's First

Café, Pitstone

The Café is a meeting place for breast feeding mums to meet other mums and to chat about breast feeding problems with a trained advisor over coffee and biscuits.

Meeting at Ivinghoe and Pitstone
Sure Start Children's Centre,

Brookmead School, High Street,
Ivinghoe at the new time of 9.30 – 11.00.

(access by the path to the right of the school entrance).

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(Continued from page 14)

Another event that took place in May was our Annual Sponsored Walk around the villages of Pitstone and Ivinghoe. Unfortunately the weather was not kind to us, but this did not stop a good number of parents, staff and children enjoying some fresh air and raising funds for Pre-School. Fingers crossed the weather is better next year!

The AGM for the Windmill Pre-school Voluntary Management Committee took place in the Meeting Room at Pitstone Memorial Hall on May 14th at 8pm. The meeting was short and sweet and gave an overview of how the setting has been run over the last 12 months. We were also pleased to welcome Christina Reilly to the Voluntary Management Committee.

May also saw the second Parent/Key worker Evenings take place. Parents were given the opportunity to **pre-book a session with their child's Key worker to find out about their child's progress as well as look through their green books.**

During the final Half Term on Friday afternoons, we ran our annual Transition Programme for the children moving up to Brookmead School in September. In addition to the programme of activities that we have developed in partnership with Foundation staff at Brookmead, we were also pleased that the children had additional opportunities to spend time with their new teachers at Brookmead.

In July we ran our second Textile Recycling initiative. Many thanks to everyone that supported us by clearing out their unwanted clothes and general fabrics. As we go to press, we are awaiting confirmation of the weight produced by this collection which is then turned in to cash for Pre-School.

As this edition goes to press, we are preparing for our last day of term activities which will be very different from our usual sessions. Over at the Memorial Hall, we will be holding a Fun Session with soft play, bouncy castles and crafts – supplied by local business Doodle Caboodle, followed by our annual Sports Day (fingers crossed for good weather), run by our team of staff then concluded by a Graduation Ceremony for the children who are leaving Windmill Pre-School to move on to the next level of their education. We wish all these children good luck and success in all their future endeavours. We also look forward to welcoming lots of new starters to Pre-School when we return in September.

Part of our success as a pre-school is the role the parents or carers play within the setting. We currently have a very small number of enthusiastic volunteers that come in and help out. This can involve helping with crafts and messy play, reading stories, baking or helping with tidying and clearing up at the end of a session. We would like to invite members of the local **community to get involved. You don't have to be a parent of a child currently attending Windmill – if you could spare a couple of hours on an ad hoc or regular basis we'd love to welcome you in to the setting - you would need to undergo a CRB check if you become a regular volunteer.** To register your interest in volunteering please email admin@windmillpreschool.co.uk

We particularly welcome dads, or people with interesting jobs to come in and get involved. So if you are good at sport, or are a fire fighter or you work in the police, maybe even a gardener, doctor, nurse or dentist and could spare some time to come in and talk about your job, the children would love to meet you, so please do get in touch.

During the last term, we have had a number of parents come in and tell us about their **interesting jobs**. **We've had two members of the local police force, a nurse, two airline cabin crew members, the local vicar who conducted a pretend christening and a fish monger and the children thoroughly enjoyed these visits.**

For the next academic year, we would love to hear from anyone who can speak a foreign language or is from a different country that would like to share their experiences of a different culture, language, food or life style.

Join the team

Windmill Pre-School is run by a voluntary Management Committee, mainly consisting of parents of Windmill pre-schoolers, but we also welcome members of the local community. The elected Committee are the Trustees of the Charity and are responsible for all decision making relating to the running of the Pre-School. Some of the activities we are involved in include strategic management of the setting, e.g. staffing, premises, equipment and hours of opening, grant applications, funding, marketing, PR and administration. Without this dedicated team, our pre-school would not be able to run.

We currently have vacancies for general committee members - enthusiastic individuals, who are able to spare a little time each month. Being a member of the Committee is an **extremely worthwhile activity, enabling parents to have some influence over their child's early years' education, and also allows local people the opportunity to get involved in a focal point** within the community. Both have a real and positive impact on the way in which Pre-school is run. We are a friendly group and we meet the first Tuesday of each month at 8pm and we also have regular staff and Committee social events! If you are interested in joining our team, please get in contact.

Gail Dodsworth, Chair, Voluntary Management Committee



Pitstone and Ivinghoe Toddler Group

Our group runs every Wednesday during term time between 1.15 – 3.00pm in the Pitstone Memorial Hall, £2 per family per session.

A Termly round Up - 2nd place in the village fete - Yippee we did a grand job people. Thank you. Thank you to all those who balanced families, commitments, holidays, grandparents and visitors, pregnancies and new babies and sanity, and all



joined in, in whatever way to help us do our best and join in the community spirit and fun. From gherkin painters, to balloon blowers, to tea makers and hose pipe cleaners. We were the best Hungry Caterpillar float there was, this year, in Pitstone and Ivinghoe!!

This term we have invited many visitors into Toddlers to share their skills and promote their local businesses, but also to ringing the changes and giving our families a chance to try out new

experiences. So we had Bob who came to teach us how to celebrate May Day in style on his accordion and Morris dancing (the kids and adults all joined in!) and then Daniel from 1st Kicks who came to teach us all ball skills and play some colour, number and listening games with us and to help build the children's confidence and skills. Also Helen from Singalalong Helen, to introduce us to the puppets, musical instruments, who knew it was called a guiro!!! and develop the children musical skills and rhythm!! And to help us carers out we had a few time savers and treats too. Rachel from Time and Space came to do free mini massages, FAB-u-lous! and Michelle with her mobile nail services. We must not forget Kelle, our regular kiddie hair dresser who comes every 6 - 8 weeks and with a laptop playing films and biscuits when needed and the whole play session to "find the right moment" has successfully trimmed the children hair each time, raising money for the group and saving carers time to visit the barbers etc! Our local shopping day went well again and we had another 8 local traders and lots of excitement over new enterprises beginning.



Coming up - We are now nearly finishing off this fun packed term and we are planning something for the kiddies and something for us adults who also like to make new friends and support each other, and have a nice meal out! The summer party is this year provided for us by the super fun and very local Doodle Caboodle, who are very generously providing us with face painting, a bouncy castle and a ball pit, we will also add some snacks and a few summer games and songs and parachute fun too.

About us - The baby and toddler group is an integral part of life in the village and offers a

wonderful opportunity for parents, grandparents and carers to meet and enjoy a cuppa together. There have been some good friendships formed amongst both the parents and our younger members. Many of the children form friendships with those they later go to pre-school and then school with therefore helping them settle into their new environments happily.

Each week we offer art, craft and messy play activities which allow the children to express themselves creatively whilst keeping their home mess free! Our toddlers have access to a range of toys and activities such as dressing up, train tracks, slides, trikes, trampolines etc. We are able to alternate these toys to keep everyone happy and entertained.

There is a safe soft area with a wide variety of toys for babies to explore and have fun with until they are ready to venture out into the larger area of the hall. A snack and drink is provided for the children and tea, coffee and biscuits, (sometimes cake!) for the adults at no extra cost. The sessions either end with a story time or sing along session, or with our new parachute games which the children really love.

Finally a Farewell - Sadly and with much gratitude we say a sad farewell to Erin and her mummy Rachel and previously to her daddy Andy as well, who have both been on the toddler committee and helped us out and made Toddlers great (with others help of course!), but seriously we shall miss you Rachel and Erin, good luck at big school Erin. Rachel thank you so much. All the children and their adults have appreciated your new ideas, out of the box thinking and their need to wash and dry their children's clothes so much! We now need to build a team to replace you (hint, hint everyone!)

Keep an eye out for our posters advertising our special events. We look forward to seeing you soon. We start back in September on Wednesday 11th, everyone is welcome, come and give us a try! Website: www.pitstoneandivinghoetoddlers.btck.co.uk; Facebook: Pitstone and Ivinghoe baby and toddler group

By Julie Every - Chair and Rachel McGuire - Super craft lady and Creative mind developer in messy play!



LOCAL NEWS

Flo reaches 100 – Pitstone's very own Centenarian!

David and Sue Hawkins would like to thank on behalf of Flo, all the family and friends who attended her surprise birthday celebrations, at the Memorial Hall in May. Guests were generous with gifts and congratulations which contributed to a party enjoyed by all, especially by Flo herself. Many congratulations, Flo.

Williamson Trust and Pitstone Town Lands Charity

The two charities have welcomed Dave Nicholls and Rachel Edwards as new Trustees to support the continuing local work of the charities and thank Gill Lowe for taking on the role of chairlady. Current priorities are to put the new assets to the best possible use in **pursuing the charities' objectives of supporting Pitstone people in need. A new tenant farmer has been contracted to farm the newly acquired fields and the rental income from this is an important part of the charity's resources.**

The Trustees are now turning their attention to the accommodation owned by PTLC. In previous centuries, the charity had owned several properties in the village and it still owns a large building on Cheddington Road which was converted from two houses into four flats in the mid 1960s. However, the properties are considerably older than this, having originally been built in the 19th century. The Trustees are exploring ways of improving the quality of this accommodation and whether they can attract additional grants or use the land around the flats or other assets to provide more modern facilities and possibly additional flats. They would like to hear from local people about whether and how this would benefit them. The charity can only support people with a strong Pitstone connection. At the Party in the Park in July, the Trustees have begun a consultation and are inviting people to make any comments or suggestions and to answer these questions:

- How are you connected to Pitstone?
- Do you wish to be considered if one of our one bedroom flats becomes available for rent? If so, what are your current living circumstances?
- Have you or a family member from Pitstone had to leave the area in order to obtain affordable rented accommodation?
- Do you consider yourself to be in need of any other type of accommodation in Pitstone which could be provided by a charity established to support Pitstone people in genuine need? If so, what type of accommodation would that be?
- What is your age group?

Anybody who wishes to find out more about either charity or to bring to our attention a local need should contact one of the trustees:

- Gill Lowe (Chair), 21 Rushendon Furlong ☎ 01296 668809
- Kate Smethers (Treasurer), 41 Albion Road ☎ 01296 661499
- Mark Robinson, 77 Crispin Field ☎ 01296 660724
- Peter Loose, 21 Albion Road ☎ 01296 668051
- Sue Gregory, 4 The Crescent ☎ 01296 661609
- Dave Nicholls, 64 Marsworth Road ☎ 01296 661910
- Rachel Edwards, 65 Old Farm

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NOT YET 100, but...

Members of the public attending the May Pitstone Parish Council meeting were in for a rare treat: birthday cake all round to celebrate the **Chairman's 65th birthday and retirement** from paid employment!

As the photo shows, no time was lost in showing our appreciation for the occasion, before getting down to our **usual monthly business**. **I'm sure all readers will join me** in wishing our Chairman, Bob Saintey, a belated happy

birthday, and wishing both him and his wife Mary – who recently retired after 23 years service to the Pitstone Town Lands Charity and Williamson Trust - every good wish for a happy and healthy retirement. *Ed.*

No 61 Bus

As you may have noticed the 61 bus is no longer going to Luton Airport. It is now stopping at the Luton interchange at the station. There is a shuttle bus from there to the Airport every 15 minutes.

This is due to the Luton Dunstable busway which is starting service in August. There are no plans to alter the 61 bus in any other way.

IVINGHOE FESTIVAL IS A REAL PAGE-TURNER

BeaconLit - a small literary festival with big ambitions - launched in the marquee on Ivinghoe Lawn on Saturday June 22. The event, which was well-attended, drew some appreciative feedback from its audience, who were treated to star-studded author discussion panels, a creative writing workshop, and a chance to browse various literary-themed stalls whilst enjoying some refreshments.

BeaconLit aimed to raise interest in books and writing within the 'Beacon Villages' - Ivinghoe, Pitstone, Ivinghoe Aston, Slapton, Marsworth, Cheddington and other communities close to Ivinghoe Beacon - as well as highlighting and supporting the Beacon Villages Community Library. Run in association with Ivinghoe Entertainments, who supplied the marquee, within the annual Ivinghoe Summer Festival weekend, the event was Lottery funded using public funding by Arts Council England and also supported by Aylesbury Vale Community Chest and Bucks County Council.

In her welcoming speech, Emma Maier, Chair of Beacon Villages Community Library Management Committee thanked all who had been involved behind the scenes or were taking part in the day.

(Continued on page 26)

The half-day literary event ran from 12 noon to 3.30 pm and included two panels of top-notch authors, including bestsellers and award winners. A crime and thriller panel, featured S J Bolton, Alison Bruce and Elena Forbes and a romantic fiction panel, comprised Kate Lace, Carole Matthews and Sue Moorcroft (pictured).



Moderated by local crime and fantasy author and festival committee member Dave Sivers, the panels engaged in some lively discussions about their respective genres and the challenges of writing them, and also tackled questions from the audience. There were opportunities to meet the authors in person and get books signed in between the panels and at the end of the event.

The panels took place either side of a 'BeaconLit a la Carte' interlude. As well as book signings, there was magic carpet storytelling for children, a creative writing workshop with local author Claire Steele, a local authors' table, bookstalls and information about Bucks County Council and Beacon Villages Community Library services, plus tea and cake, home made fudge and a licensed bar courtesy of the Rose & Crown, Ivinghoe.

With the organisers still winding down from the festival, the online community was already

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buzzing about it. Tring Blogger Andrew Goodman (<http://apgoodman.wordpress.com/>) perhaps summed it up by saying, **“Although this was the inaugural event the organisation was pretty good and, despite the best efforts of the weather, went ahead without any outward signs of hitches... it was a really pleasant event and one which the organisers hope to expand in the years to come.”**

LOCAL CRIME WRITER PENS NEW NOVEL



If you thought the relative peace of Aylesbury Vale was an unlikely setting for a series of grisly murders, then think again.

Pitstone writer Dave Sivers’ new novel, *The Scars Beneath the Soul*, is published as a Kindle e-book on Wednesday May 1 and aims to put the Vale on the crime fiction map.

“I wanted to do two things with this book,” Dave said. “I wanted to explore the ongoing damage that violent crime can inflict on victims and those close to them, and I also wanted to set a crime novel in my part of the world.

“Vale residents will, I hope, recognise the area, although I have taken a few liberties for the sake of the story. Although most of the places are real, some locations are fictitious, so local readers shouldn’t find the murders too close to home.”

In the book, Detective Inspector Lizzie Archer transfers to the Vale from the Met hoping to rebuild her life after being disfigured in the line of duty. But she gets off on the wrong foot with Detective Sergeant Dan Baines, who has problems of his own. As a brutal killer claims a series of apparently random victims, the pair must put aside their differences and work together if they are to stop the slaughter.

The Scars Beneath the Soul is Dave’s fourth book, and his first full-length contemporary crime fiction novel. *Dark and Deep*, published last summer, was a collection of ten ‘coffee break’ crime stories, and he has also published two ‘crime fantasy’ novels, featuring personal inquisitor Lowmar Dashiell.

Dave is well-known locally as a freelance writer, contributing to local newspapers and magazines, and has also gained prizes and publication with his short fiction. He chaired the BeaconLit festival of books and writing in Ivinghoe on 22 June, moderating the panel on crime and romantic fiction.

His website is at www.davesivers.co.uk.

New May Fu Chinese Restaurant

By Klaus Ginda

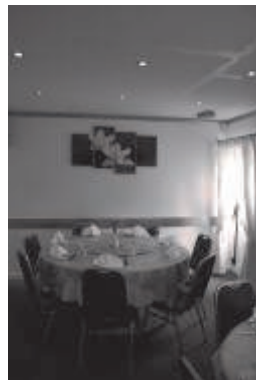
In April 2011 the May Fu Chinese restaurant was taken over by Jessica and Tong Cheung. They moved in, above the premises, with their young family, breathed new life into the business and it became, what we know today, the New May Fu.



During two and a half years, more changes have taken place, recently the exterior has been refreshed with white cladding and uvpc doors - a new light colour scheme has brightened the restaurant, while an aquarium has been introduced to fascinate the younger family members while their food is ordered. The front of house which includes a bar has also been updated.

When I visited the couple were hard at work supervising the preparation of food, for that day and in the restaurant, finessing the table decoration to a state of uniformity. Jessica and Tong are a very industrious pair who work well together ably supported by their staff.. A lot of care is given to the preparation of food and of the premises for that day's business to make your dining experience on or off the premises a success.

Now open six days a week from 5.00 pm. Tuesday to Saturday. 12.00 noon till 5.00 pm. on Sundays for their Eat-As-Much-As-You-Like dining experience closing at 10.00 pm. to normal diners and take away customers.



For reservations or more information Jessica and Tong can be contacted by Phone: 01296 661969; Email: newmayfu.limited@gmail.com

CHURCH NEWS

St Mary's, Ivinghoe and Benefice



St. Mary's, Ivinghoe

Dear Reader,

We all love a good celebration don't we? Well our churches are in celebration mode at the moment, what with the wonderful but wet fete, the party in the park and the vicarage garden tea party we have certainly been joyful.

It is a great pleasure to continue the celebrations with the news that

(Continued on page 31)

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(Continued from page 29)

after much hard work by all concerned we are to be presented with two awards from the **Oxford diocese. Slapton has won the 'family friendly welcome' award and Ivinghoe has won the 'family friendly good news award', both of which will be presented at a special celebration service in the near future, so look out for more details soon.**

I have said many times that we are very blessed to have such an array of gifts and talents within our worshipping communities and because of this I challenged two of my congregations to use their talents to raise funds for the church. At a church service a few months **back I based my sermon around the story of 'The parable of the talents'. I then offered each member of the congregation £5 to help begin their enterprise to at least double their money. Many rose to the challenge, and will have until the end of summer to complete the tasks they have set themselves.**

God has blessed us in many ways over the past few months, we have welcomed new faces who have jumped right in to help out using their gifts, and we thank God for bringing them **to us. We have also seen a growth in our children's church at Ivinghoe and so need to find more people with the gift needed to teach our young ones.**

If you feel that you are being called to use your gifts in anyway please let me know. As it **reads in I Corinthians 12: 4 & 5; 'There are different kinds of gifts, but the same spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord.'**

I don't really want to talk about Christmas during the summer but I would like to say that we are planning a very special display in the church during the 4 weeks leading up to Christmas and we hope that you will all visit Ivinghoe church during that time. We will be inviting schools, pre-schools and other groups to visit for a special showing. Look out for more details nearer the time. We will also inform everyone of the Christmas services with a Christmas card and as always we will be needing our shepherds and angels on Christmas Eve. Of course we have Harvest festival and other special services before then so please do come and join us in the celebrations. We are very friendly family churches as our awards show and we welcome everyone into our fellowship no matter how young or old, and no matter what stage of faith you may be at.

God bless
Rev Tracey

Bible study groups

Our evening study meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 1 Queen Street, Pitstone at 8pm; our daytime study is on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 5 Windmill Close, Ivinghoe at 10am. Everyone is welcome no matter what age or stage you are on your Christian journey.

Emmaus course and Confirmation course

We will be holding Emmaus courses for adults and youth during the last 2 weeks of July and the first 3 weeks of September. For those who wish to go forward for confirmation; the service is to be held in one of our 3 churches on the evening of Sunday 29th September.

The course is designed to welcome people into the Christian faith and the life of the church. It is also suitable for those people who have lost their faith or who want to refresh their knowledge.

Would you like to discover: what Christians believe? How Christians grow? More about your faith?

For more information on these courses please contact Rev Tracey 01296 668260

Not Sunday, Not School

These sessions are held fortnightly from 3.30pm – 5pm. The children will be provided with refreshments and the sessions generally include stories, songs, craft activities, games and cooking. This club is for children aged 3-11years. Parents why not come along relax and have a cuppa and a chat while your children enjoy themselves under friendly supervision. If you would like to know more information please contact Rev Tracey on 668260. By the time you read this we will have broken up for the summer but we start again on September 12th.

Men's Group

The men's group have already enjoyed some excellent events this year as well as helping out with some work in the church yards. The next event will be; a BBQ and beer at the vicarage on Tuesday 30th July at 7pm.

At this event we will be planning events for the rest of the year.

Detailed information on events is circulated by email; please contact mick-doyle.consult@btinternet.com to be included in the circulation.

New members and new ideas are always welcome. Please ring Mick on 01296 668260.

Reel Issues

Reel Issues is a film club which aims to draw out themes and ideas from the films we watch. We meet on the 2nd and 3rd Tuesdays of each month; 7.30pm at the vicarage. The idea is to watch the film together on the first evening and then to discuss it the following week. It is open to everyone. If you want to know more contact Rev Tracey on 668260

(Continued on page 35)



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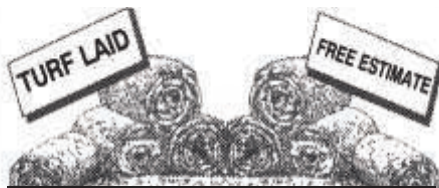
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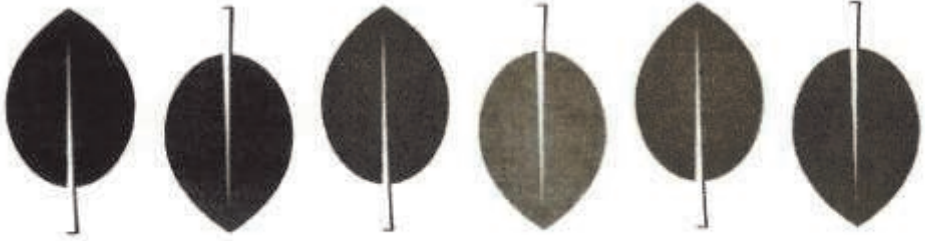


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(Continued from page 32)

The All New Sister Act

Friendly women's group meeting once a month to enjoy a variety of activities and outings;

Dates and activities as follows:

July 12th – a visit to Hampton Court flower show

September 3rd – a theatre visit

October 1st – a pamper evening

November 5th – a fashion evening

December 3rd – Christmas crafts

If you think you may be interested contact Tracey on 668260 for more details or just turn up and have some fun.

Food Bank

We have started a regular collection for a food bank. There is a box at the entrance of each church to place gifts of food. There will be a list of items that are needed for your guidance. Please give generously.

Summer messy mornings

We shall be running messy mornings every Thursday from 10 – 11.30am throughout the summer holidays. There is no charge and refreshments will be provided. These sessions are designed for children age 3 – 11 years and include some very messy activities so come dressed prepared for fun.

The sessions are as follows:

July 25th at Ivinghoe church; August 1st at Marsworth Church; August 8th at Slapton village hall; August 15th at Marsworth Church; August 22nd at Ivinghoe Church; August 29th at Slapton village hall.

Worshipping together at Ivinghoe

As you will see from the service table below; we are now starting our family services at 10am on the 1st Sunday of the month to make it easier for our families to attend. These services are non-communion and use a music group, puppets, drama and crafts during the service. **Our August service will be a 'messy church' which will include a breakfast of bacon sandwiches etc.** We would love to see you there, everyone is welcome whether you have children with you or not, in fact the adults seem to enjoy the activities as much as the children! Why not give it a try!

| | 1 st Sunday | 2 nd Sunday | 3 rd Sunday | 4 th Sunday | 5 th Sunday |
|------------------|--|------------------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|
| Marsworth | 8 am BCP Holy Communion | 6pm BCP Evensong | 10am Holy Communion | 10am Worshipping together family service | 10.30 am * Benefice H/C |
| Ivinghoe | 10am Worshipping together family service | 9.15 am Holy Communion | 9.15am Morning Praise | 9.15 am Holy Communion | 10.30 am * Benefice H/C |
| Slapton | 10.30am Morning Praise | 10.30am Holy Communion | 10am Messy church in the village hall. | 10.30am Holy Communion | 10.30 am * Benefice H/C |

* Benefice service rotating round the three parishes

Pastor Dave Calling!

Over half way through the year already! Where does the time go? I was told the other day that one ASDA store had already put up a Christmas tree!! Though that might just be the stuff of myth and legend, for many people a lot of Christmas is just that. But, hey, let's allow 2013 to roll along without wishing too much of it away.

We hope you have enjoyed your holidays. As I am writing this we are enjoying one of those infrequent lazy days of summer that we have to count up and mark on the calendar so we remember when summer was last year. Whilst we were away we visited a couple of very different churches. One in a small white painted pueblo called Mijas, a Catholic church complete with lifesize statues of Christ riding a donkey into Jerusalem and a Madonna in traditional Spanish attire – I didn't realise she travelled that far. The other was a lively Elim congregation who met in an empty corner shop! Like I said last time, church has changed from what many remember it to have been in years gone by and it's worth visiting one or two to see how they are different.

Our plan in the next couple of months is to provide more activities for the community. Keep watch for posters going up to advertise tea dances; cafe events including MacMillan Fund raising; an afternoon matinee in co-operation with Pitstone Cinema; Harvest Festival on OCTOBER 6TH with Leighton-Linslade Concert Band, an excellent event over the last 3 years and a great atmosphere with a large brass and woodwind band; all of these will be based at the Memorial and Millennium Halls. Watch out for posters with further information.

We continue to meet every Sunday and offer a warm invitation to all to come and share in

worship whether weekly or just now and again as the pressures of life allow. You'll always find a warm welcome, a loving fellowship and sound biblical teaching.

Service Time – 10.30am Sunday morning.
MILLENNIUM HALL – Coffee and biscuits to follow.

One modern proverb says 'There's no such thing as a free lunch.' One wise man said;-

'...for the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. 'Romans 6:23 ESV

Every blessing from the Fellowship.

Pastor Dave Clifford – 01296 668906

The Rose and Crown, Ivinghoe
~ Summer News 2013



It has been sometime since we have taken the opportunity to give you an update on **what's happening at your "local"**. Indeed the last time I wrote I believe we were talking of Christmas, mulled wine, and a cosy warm fire. Well the first two have passed, but the last? Well some days it still feels tempting to light it.


Another great British summer! Thankfully here at the Rose and Crown, whatever the weather we can keep you warm and dry, even outdoors under our covered and heated tables.

If you've been in lately then you'll know that we're continually looking to improve what's on offer. The last few months has seen the introduction of two new key members of staff. First up, in the Kitchen we have our new head chef, Charlie Moll. Since he joined us he has been busy creating our new menus, as well as bringing an exciting array **of specials to each weekend. Whether it's a fine three course meal or just a great pub classic, you'll find something of each on the new menu.** Charlie has a real passion for using fresh ingredients in all his dishes, and brings with him a wealth of experience. **The feedback we've had so far is that the food is excellent and it's been great to see so many more dining with us. If you've not been and tried our food then perhaps now is a good time. Why not when you're in pick up one of our loyalty cards and earn up to a 7% discount on your food purchases?**

In addition to Charlie, Peter Hagen has now taken up the mantle of Bar Manager. Peter comes from a musical background and has toured extensively with a variety of well known musicians. Thanks to the great work **both he and Charlie are doing there's no room for his grand piano.** This leaves him time to take care of you, and to look after all those fantastic real ales that he hides in the cellar. Rumour has it he loves the beer so much he can often be found downstairs cuddling the barrels!

Aside from our new arrivals we continue to offer all those great things a community pub should offer. On Monday nights we continue to welcome local clubs, such as the photography and bridge groups, to hold meetings and enjoy a few refreshments at the same time. On Saturday and Sunday mornings the best free cycling club in the area, the *Vinghoe Velos*, meet for their weekly rides. You can find details of all these clubs on our website. **If you'd like to hold your club meetings with**

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us, then please call us to make arrangements.

With the exception of Mondays we are now open every lunchtime, where in addition to our regular menus you will find a great selection of sandwiches, all freshly prepared with ingredients created and cooked on the premises. Weekday lunchtimes are proving very popular with local people that like to catch up with friends, or for a little refreshment whilst working from home. With our free wifi access you can even work from the pub! Before I leave I would just to thank all who have joined us in the past, and those that continue to visit us. It is without doubt the customers that make a pub great. We look forward to seeing you.

Gary, Kirk and all at the Rose and Crown.

IVINGHOE TOWN HALL....News!

Since the last PPP update in May it still seems to be taking a little time for summer to arrive properly ~ but as we all read this hopefully it's here !

On 1st May Terry Jennings (Chair) reminded and thanked the committee for their efforts **over the last year and our booking's have managed to hold up!** But in the challenge of ever increasing costs, especially electricity, we were delighted to be able to invite Andy Beezer to

join the Committee and he is bravely going to help us develop & set up a internet site for the Town Hall.

Interestingly, one of our largest and nicest booking todote was an all day one held on 1st June for a family wedding reception from Berkhamsted. They had been looking for an attractive location and once they walked into the Hall and saw the location and views over the Green to Mentmore they were sold! They had been searching high & low and this is why we are hoping an internet site with pictures etc , will help us in the future.

We have recently had to replace the Chair Lift batteries (£140 ~ again) due to the Chair **not being fully returned to its 'stop'**. A clearer note by the Chair will be put up and users may also contact the Secretary for help.

Ivinghoe Town Hall's 'old plastic bucket chairs' had their own laugh at 'Laugh on the Lawn' on 22nd June when extra seating was suddenly required at no notice and thanks to all those of you who put them back just as found!

The regular bookings are continuing well and some of you will also have enjoyed trying the **new 'Ballet for Adults' class at 1pm-2pm** on Wednesdays.

If you are interested in any of the regular **classes please contact the numbers...**

Monday: 3pm-6pm Ballet (07834-281434) / 7.45pm Jazzercise (07900-987230)
 Tuesday: 10am -Beacon Art (01296-661291) / 7pm Zumba (07941-092673)
 Wednesday: 10am Pilates (07855-138005) / 1pm Adult Ballet & at 2pm Vintage Fitness (07985-048880)
 Thursday : W.I ~ Monthly - each 2nd Thurs-

day (Win ~ 01296-660755).

If you would like to have a look around or book the hall for a party, meeting or other event please contact our booking secretary Carole Wesley on 01296-661094

Stephen Swinbank, Secretary
 Tel: 01296 660344

IVINGHOE AND PITSTONE WI



In May we had a very tasty tea-party with dainty sandwiches (crusts off of course), and delicious small cakes, all

made by members, followed by a seemingly very popular chocolate quiz with chocolate for prizes. May is our birthday month and we have been going for 96 years now, and are actually the oldest group in Buckinghamshire. Also in May some of our members visited the Cutty Sark in London along with a tour of the Diamond Jubilee River Pageant Barges. They also enjoyed a walk to the National **Maritime Museum and the Queen's House** along with a trip on the Cable Car from the O2 to the Royal Docks and back.

I have been to Cardiff, to attend the AGM, and that was the weekend of May 31st and June 1st and to date, I believe that was our summer as far as I can recollect!

Philip Wright was our speaker at the June meeting and he spoke to us about his family business in millinery. Based in Luton, the business has been in existence since 1889. He brought several of his own creations with him and explained the process of making, and the art of wearing a hat. He was very enthu-

siastic about his art and convinced most of us that everyone is able to look good in a hat; it just depends on the style and most importantly wearing it at exactly the right angle.

Some of our members supplied cakes for the first ever Beaconlit Festival. The cakes were good and Festival even better- well done to Dave and Chris Sivers for having the inspiration. I was a bit dubious about spending the full three and a half hours there, but I went home for lunch and then went back again. There were quite a few WI members there and we all agreed it had been extremely interesting and we all hope that this will become an annual event on Festival Weekend.

Those of you who have wandered through the churchyard recently may have noticed the plant troughs around the base of the War Memorial. We have weeded around the base, planted the troughs with a variety of plants that will not suffer as a result of being in strong sunshine for long periods of time (not too much chance of that happening very often I think) and hopefully the sun will soon shine for a while to encourage the plants to fill out and bloom. This is part of the WI service to the Community and we hope to keep this going throughout the coming years to show that the War Memorial and the names listed on it are not neglected or forgotten.

By the time this is in print we will have had our summer mystery evening, and will be looking **forward to our workshop on "The Benefits of Massage," that one of our new members is** taking for us. Rachel lives in Pitstone and she is an expert on the subject and in fact works part time from home. The workshop is being held in the Town Hall between 10am and 12 noon on Saturday 27th July.

In August we will hold a picnic on The Lawn instead of our normal meeting- and I use that word normal very loosely you understand, and that brings us to September, when we have a speaker on the Power of Plants which is an introduction to Aromatherapy.

Tickets will be on sale in September for our Quiz Night on Saturday 26th October. This promises to be a great night out with a fun Quiz, home cooked food, puddings and wine, and of course fabulous raffle prizes. Please mark the date in your diaries and on your calendars and look out for the posters around the villages nearer the time.

Dr Tony Maisy will be speaking at the October meeting about Spare Part Surgery- that should be interesting!

After that we will have reached November and the AGM and voting for a new Committee, and from that elected committee, a new President. If you have never given a thought to being on the committee for your WI please do so between now and November. The task is not that difficult and it can be very satisfying to know that you have been a part of organising various events for the benefit of the other members. If you are unsure about it we can arrange for you to sit in on a committee meeting to give you an idea of what it is like, but really all you need do is have a word with anyone of us and we will explain anything you are not sure about. Generally it really is good fun and you are not left to organise anything on

your own, anyway, enough from me for now. As ever, any questions please phone me on 01296 668644 or e-mail maggiewi@tiscali.co.uk

Enjoy the summer!

Maggie Halsey. President of Ivinghoe and Pitstone WI

IVINGHOE ENTERTAINMENTS

After all the hard work the Summer Festival weekend was over! The weather made a respectable appearance to brighten up both evenings. We had a brilliant Summer Ball and fantastic Laughter-on-the-Lawn, with a record attendance. The feedback has been very encouraging. This year, like last, brought many new faces to the events.

Laughter-on-the-Lawn featured Sean Hughes, Olaf Falafel, and Carly Smallman compered by Logan Murray – see the separate article about this event.



If you did attend one of our Summer Festival events we would really appreciate your feedback to understand your preferences and how we can improve – we have developed a short on-line survey here: <http://tinyurl.com/iecs13> - no personal information is collected.

I would like to thank Universal Event Productions (<http://www.u-e-p.co.uk/>), The Rose & Crown (Ivinghoe), and the Get Stuffed Comedy Club (<http://www.get-stuffed.biz/tringe/>) for their support. Live entertainment was provided by Choice (Friday), & Scott Mason (Disco Saturday).



The marquee was well used over the weekend including hosting BeaconLit (Saturday), Music-on-the-Lawn (Sunday), and Scouts Disco (Sunday).

Our next event is the Fireworks and Bonfire on Saturday 2nd November for which planning has already started. We are hoping to repeat the success of last

year by providing a musical accompaniment to the fireworks. Naturally, we are hopeful that the weather is favourable and we can have another exciting event.

Graham Hollands—Chair – Ivinghoe Entertainments—ivinghoeentertainments@gmail.com
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/IvinghoeEnts>; Twitter: @IvinghoeEnts

OTHER BITS

Tales from the Compost Heap - **There's a Worm at the Bottom of the Garden**

Or, hopefully, many hundreds. I recently read a news item about worm charming. It seems that people come from far and wide to take part in the World Worm Charming Championships, held annually in Cheshire ever since, in 1980, a local farmer's son "charmed" a total of 511 worms out of the ground in just half an hour.

There is clearly stiff competition for the first prize, which is a trophy in the shape of a golden rampant worm; and the rules governing the event are many and strict. For the information of those who are interested and fancy having a go, the most successful implement is apparently a 4-tined fork, vibrated just under the surface of the soil. This is known as "twanging".

I was pleased to read that rule 18 states that "charmed worms are to be released after the birds have gone to roost on the evening of the event". Otherwise, what a sad waste it would be. For, as composters and gardeners know, worms are truly our friends in the garden and in the compost bin.

Worms will arrive willy-nilly to take up residence in your compost bin, and carry on the good work begun by the bacteria and fungi. Their role is to digest and break down the organic matter in your bin, resulting sooner or later in moist, brown, crumbly material you can put on your garden.

The presence of worms in your bin is reassurance that all is well with your on-going composting. As to charming them, it certainly would do no harm to speak nicely to them as you top up the heap with more organic goodies; but you can probably stop short of full-on twanging.

Barbara Cummings

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POLICE NEWS

I would like to remind readers of Thames Valley Alert - this is a free crime update and safety message service run by Thames Valley Police. Registering is simple either online at www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk or ask a member of the neighbourhood policing team to assist you.

We need the public's help in catching criminals. If you see anything suspicious please call TVP on 101 or 999 in an emergency (including if a crime is in progress). If you do not wish to disclose your name then call Crimestoppers on. 0800 555 111.

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Would you like to support the local police?
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stable? 'Specials' are unpaid volunteer police officers who have full police powers and are provided uniform & equipment. If you are interested please ring 101 and ask for the recruiting department. For more details, please go to www.thamesvalley.police.uk and select 'Join us'.

PC 6794 Steve Brisley
Neighbourhood Supervisor

IVINGHOE OLD SCHOOL

As we look out of the rain splattered windows at the perfumed roses, colourful Valerian and red poppies in the back garden which tell of *high summer, we now have the*

(Continued on page 45)

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(Continued from page 43)

very pleasant wafts of coffee to the nose and warming **croissants and elevenses' biscuits.**



Following a sneak preview of the Old School facilities on the 15th June at the Ivinghoe Village Fete, the CuriosiTEA community café has opened its doors in the first in a line of events taking place over the next few months. Keep up to date with all the celebrations on our site www.ivinghoeoldschool.com

Yes, Hayley Wesley is well and truly now in the building with her CuriosiTEA Rooms **serv-ing us breakfast, elevenses', lunch and afternoon snacks, even a healthy high tea for the 'after school' rush to the swings! Hayley's affordable prices and community awareness has gone** down very well with all comers during her trial period and being pre-advertising this is a great confidence booster for its truly pivotal role.

Very soon, visitors to the café will find a notice board in the entrance/cloakroom which will keep all in touch with the slowly emerging other Hub activities for all generations within our community. This Community Notice Board is a way to not only check out what we have to tell you, but to use it interactively and to be signposted to our website and booking system. This is all part of supporting the Community into engaging with the Building and its future. Activities for all of us will gradually fall into place and we want feedback as to their popularity and relevance.

Despite the rain at the Ivinghoe Village Fete, Butch Baker, one of Leighton Buzzard's Barron Knights, was in a positive mood when he cut the ribbon at Ivinghoe Old School. He reminisced about old times, and talked about being involved as a Scout at the School. A band of interested villagers waited patiently to be let in to explore the new community hub. With the ribbon cut the crowds surged into the building to see their new local facility.

So, as anyone could see then – grateful to finally be inside the building, though safer, warmer and more resilient to the weather now, it has still many smaller and cheaper details to perfect. All these details have been thought about and designed in, but have yet to be afforded. For those who were watching from under a strong umbrella the ribbon cutting on the fete day of 15th June, you will already have received the message that £96,000 hard won grant funding has now all been used effectively and £7,000 needs raising within this community by supporters of the venue. Raising the monies for the last details through local sponsorships is also another way that our community can engage with the project at last and help take some ownership of a facility that largely has come to the community through the hard work of a very few. This funding will now be called something in the order of the **Old School Community 'buy a brick' support fund**, not to be confused with our on-going running expenses which are covered by a very robust business plan and will be sustainable without community help.

(Continued on page 46)

To finish off the details beyond those covered by our Furlong and Higgs builders, we either need some semi-skilled working parties or some funds to buy help in. Thanks to a dozen brilliantly generous locals we have managed to make good and decorate almost all of the **base two metres of the building throughout. You know who you are...so a huge THANK YOU** to you!

Voluntary working parties are needed to take out wood rot near to the far wall of the IT suite, before the new floor surface is put down; to restore rotten timber framing around the old door in the community area and rehang, rehang toilet tiles and restore four vertical outside pipes. Sanding of two sets of floors will be followed by the laying of some special flooring and mats to entrances. Security locks and escape latches are present thanks to donations from Moria Hegarty and John Wallis, now accompanied with all the signage and policy documents and background legislation requirements we need to display within the building.

Andrew's donation of Alison Woodward's piano to our Community space and Karen Groom's offer to arrange transportation by a contact to the Old School, leads the way towards community engagement and fun, even costumed up 'Old Time Music Hall' gatherings, and all sorts of communal musical sharing.

Updated trifold leaflets are circulating with contact and content from the Hub, which aims to be at full strength, by its full ceremonial opening in September 2013. Do come in and pick up a leaflet, enjoy some refreshments and stop for a chat. Peep in and scribble a note or look out for our new interactive noticeboard in the cloakroom. We value your feedback and engagement with this Hub, we look forward to your suggestions on what you and your friends can do to raise some money to assist the final touches to the refurbishment, and your volunteering for a wee bit more of semi-skilled working party DIY!

Our wish list of brand new inclusions is ...**wall mounted baby changing table, soap dispensers, door mats, drinking water tap, roof inspection, toilet tiling, floor sanding, new floor planking, a blackout blind for large gothic window, outside pipe restoration, yard maintenance, garden seeds, garden tools, stackable stools for inside.**

We look forward to welcoming you into your new community hub at Ivinghoe Old School – make the most of your own village facilities! 01296 662267 the-corns@talk21.com www.ivinghoeoldschool.com

Ivinghoe Old School Community HUB - here!



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Pastor Dave Clifford

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Pitstone Car Scheme



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Pitstone Community Car Scheme is a new scheme offering a service for residents who have difficulty travelling to healthcare appointments.

The scheme is run by volunteers who use their own cars to drive residents to local hospitals or other healthcare appointments (for example, the opticians, dentist or physiotherapist).

There is a small charge for the service to cover the volunteer's petrol and car parking expenses. To make it easier, a set tariff has been worked out in advance for typical journeys to local hospitals. If you need to access healthcare in another town, eg Hemel Hempstead, the cost will be advised at the time of booking the trip.

Example costs (excluding car parking):

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The volunteer will usually wait while the appointment is taking place, and then take the resident home. However, there may be circumstances where the return trip is much later or another day. In this case, each journey will be classed as return – as the volunteer will need to return to Pitstone using their own vehicle and petrol.

These charges are exceptionally good. The trips are being undertaken by volunteers so, at present, these cannot be extended to include appointments other than healthcare. Also, there is no guarantee of an available volunteer driver, but we will do all we can with the volunteer resources we have. Please give as much notice as you can.

If you have difficulty travelling and would like to use this service to help you get to a hospital or other healthcare appointment, please telephone

Dave Clifford on 01296 668906.



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1st Ivinghoe & Pitstone Scout Group

Any queries contact:

**Group Scout Leader: Michelle Lee 01296 668467 or
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Cubs: (8-10½ years)

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Leaders: Rob or Andrea Haddock 01296 663615

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Notice is hereby given that the 2012/13 Annual General Meeting of the Ivinghoe Old School Community Hub will be held at Ivinghoe Old School on 21st August 2013 at 7.30p.m for the following purposes:-

- 1) to receive the report of the Committee
- 2) to receive the Hon. Treasurer's report
- 3) to elect a Committee for 2013/14
- 4) to appoint a financial examiner
- 5) to consider and if thought fit, pass the following resolutions under
 7. Responsibilities of the Committee
 - 7g 'to borrow money and to charge the whole or any part of the property belonging to Charity as security for repayment of the money borrowed. The Trustees must comply as appropriate with sections 38 and 39 of the Charities Act 1993 if they intend to mortgage land.
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|  <p>Cllr Gillian Arney 63 Cheddington Road, LU7 9AQ T: 668123 E: gill.arney@tiscali.co.uk Pitstone Hill and Trees, Parish Paths, Pitstone Church Committee, Aylesbury Vale Transport Users Group, Recreation Ground & Playground Inspections, Notice Board Manager.</p> |  <p>Cllr Annie Stack 73 Old Farm, LU7 9RD T: 668020 E: stackja@btinternet.com Pitstone Hill and Trees, Allotment Rep. Rep. with the Chiltern Society, Chiltern Conservation Board & other ecological issues, Pitstone Church Committee, Local Area Forums</p> |
|  <p>Cllr Brian Richardson 55 Rushendon Furlong, LU7 9QX T: 662227 E: Bvrichardson@hotmail.com Representative on the Planning Committee, Representative on Pitstone Windmill Committee, Beacon Villages Society, Recreation Ground & Playground Inspections.</p> |  <p>Cllr Alison Hawkins 27 Rushendon Furlong, LU7 9QX T: 668144 E: Alisonhawkins22@hotmail.com Rep. on the Pitstone Development Area Working Party, the Planning Committee, the Pitstone Windmill Committee, Street Lighting, Recreation Ground & Playground Inspections, Neighbourhood Planning</p> |
|  <p>Cllr Dave Nicholls 64 Marsworth Road, LU7 9AS T: 661910 E: Dave@dnjsolutions.co.uk Representative on the Pitstone Development Area Working Party, Representative on the Planning Committee, village website.</p> |  <p>Cllr Steve Matthey Fern Cottage, 13 Queen Street, LU7 9AU T: 662691, E: Steve.matthey@treelondon.com Allotments, Youth Cafe, Recreation Ground & Playground Inspections</p> |
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|  <p>District and County Councillor: Avril Davies The Old Bakehouse, Chequers Lane T: 668152 E: acdavies@buckscc.gov.uk Lib Dem Group Leader Bucks CC, Lib Dem Spokesperson for Strategic Planning on AVDC; Adult Services on BCC. Special interests: environment and NHS</p> |  <p>Correspondence/Enquiries, the Clerk: Laurie Eagling, 9 Warwick Road, LU7 9FE T: 660791 E: parishclerk@pitstone.co.uk Clerk to Parish Council, Responsible Financial Officer for the Parish Council, all correspondence and enquiries</p> |