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Your PPP would not reach your door without the sterling efforts of the volunteer editor, band of distributors and their organiser, Klaus Ginda. Each distributor posts between 16 and 70 magazines four times a year. Many thanks to them all:

Sheila Stevens, Annie Stack, Fiona Thompson, Barbara Jacob, Norah Parkins, Tracy Stone, Linda Thompson, Sue Nicholls, Vanita Patel, Isobel Robinson, Gillian Arney, Sarah Smith, Louise Pope, Alison Sturgess, Mike Clayton, Nikki Matthey, Norma Leighton, Kathryn Cooper, Linda Martin, Olive West, Vanessa Swan, Sally Kapadia, Julie Mead, Jacqui Gardiner, Terry Gardiner, Lynn Fountain, Louise Weatherill, Dawn Eaglesham, Linda Willmont, Kathy Brassington, Alison Hawkins If you would like to help with the distribution then please contact Klaus Ginda on 01296 668911 or [Klausginda@btinternet.com](mailto:Klausginda@btinternet.com)

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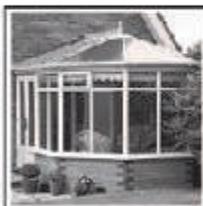
## MISSION STATEMENT

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

\*\* Future changes to PPP  
—see page 10 \*\*

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## FROM THE CHAIRMAN, PITSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

We weren't that lucky with The Best Kept Village competition this year. Only to be trumped by our friends and neighbours in Cheddington. Congratulations to them. I only hope that the appearance i.e lack of grass cutting on the roundabout and along Marsworth Road wasn't taken into account. However the grass cutting process is something that the Parish Council is looking into with devolved services from the County Council. Hopefully we can improve the situation in the years to come.

**The main event of this last month has been The 'Party in the Park' which, thanks to the organising committee, was a resounding success.** The weather had a very large part to play in the enjoyment of the day. Our chosen Charity, Cure Rett, had a very successful day, raising a considerable amount of money, as did other stall holders. I was proud and pleased to show our MP Mr John Bercow, Speaker of the House of Commons, around later in the afternoon, and thanked him on behalf of the Community for his support.

It looks as though the good weather is here – please enjoy the Summer break, keeping an eye on elderly neighbours. Security of buildings is paramount when windows and doors tend to be left open in this warm weather.

Bob Saintey.

## COUNCIL NEWS

### DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL NEWS



### Land at Rushendon Furlong

The AVDC planning committee agreed by 5 votes to 4 that they were minded to approve an outline application for 40 houses behind Rushendon Furlong subject to conditions to be agreed by officers, despite Pitstone Parish Council and local residents making a strong case with high quality presentations to the committee to uphold the policies still rele-

vant from the old local plan, and a long debate on the value of those policies, the footpath, drainage, and landscape.

The committee resolved 'that the application be delegated to the Development Management Manager to determine, subject to the satisfactory completion of a Planning Obligation Agreement to secure on site provision of affordable housing, financial contributions towards off site leisure, education and public transport provision, the provision and maintenance of an onsite open space and a suitable SuDS scheme (drainage) and to secure a travel plan. Any approval to be subject to such conditions as the Development Control Manager considers appropriate or, if this cannot be achieved, refused for such reasons as considered appropriate'.

## Ringshall Road closed by badgers

The road was closed since mid June and is due to re-open mid July as the carriageway outside Trust Cottages collapsed into a badger sett! Not sink holes as some might think.

A license to repair the subsidence is needed from Natural England and an expert will be on site for the repairs. Is this another first for Ivinghoe Division?!

## Prevention Matters - a little bit of help to stay independent and active.

This is a Bucks county Council service for all adults, but mainly older people, who may be wondering how long they can maintain their independence, maybe after an illness or longer term, are feeling anxious, lonely or isolated, or find it difficult to get out and about.

For more information call 0300 666 0159 or email [admin@preventionmatters.org.uk](mailto:admin@preventionmatters.org.uk). I am going to be leaving some leaflets in the library.

Avril Davies, District and County Councillor, Ivinghoe Division  
<http://avrildavies.mycouncillor.org>  
 @avrilpitstone

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

### New bollards by the Yardley Avenue/Cheddington Road junction

The parish council is grateful to the Vale of

Aylesbury Housing Trust (VAHT) for their support to prohibit parking on the grass triangles at the end of Yardley Avenue by the junction with Cheddington Road.

PCSO Dodson of Thames Valley Police has been struggling against parking in this area for many months, which has been blocking the junction, reducing road visibility and posing a significant risk to road users.

Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust agreed to take the necessary action to prevent vehicles from being able to access the grass verges by installing bollards along them. Work has now been completed.

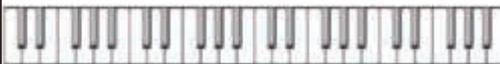
Our thanks to VAHT for their prompt actions and assistance.

### Parish Council supports Memorial Hall Charity

Pitstone Parish Council is pleased to announce that it has been able to provide financial assistance to the Pitstone Memorial Hall Charity following the discovery of some asbestos sheets in the loft void above the corridor. The material was discovered as part of a routine Asbestos Management Report commissioned by the Memorial Hall Management Committee in May. Subsequent quotations obtained for the removal of the material exceeded £15,000 + VAT, a significant sum which was not available to the hall charity.

The parish council resolved to commission these works on behalf of the hall for the long term benefit of our local residents, hall hirers and employees. Asbestos was a common building material during the 1970s when the hall was originally built. Please be reassured that air test results confirm that

*(Continued on page 7)*



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*(Continued from page 4)*

there is no risk to hall hirers and all access to the identified materials has been sealed off. Work on site will commence within a few weeks and the hall charity will seek to minimise any inconvenience to hall hirers on the day the work is undertaken.

## Rushendon Furlong development: 40 homes approved in outline

You will have read in Cllr Davies report that this application has now received outline approval by Aylesbury Vale District Council. The Parish Council opposed this application following a public meeting held earlier in the year convened by the Parish Council to **understand residents' views on the application** as proposed at that time.

A significant number of residents attended this meeting to voice their opinions on the development, and the majority of residents expressed their opposition to it for various reasons including encroachment into the countryside, transport and highways issues as well as drainage concerns.

The decision to approve the outline application was made by the Strategic Development Control Committee at Aylesbury Vale District Council (AVDC), the principal authority responsible for planning matters. Despite the Parish Council attending this meeting to speak and represent the views of the Parish Council and resident opinion, the majority of the District Councillors on that committee voted for approval.

The Parish Council will be consulted again when the full application is submitted, and we will submit comments to AVDC on those matters that the Parish Council be-

lieves remain unresolved, as per the original objections submitted.

## Should the parish council take over responsibility for BCC grass and hedge cutting?

Due to their budget cuts, Bucks County Council is only funding 6 cuts of the grass verges this year and next year. The following year, the budget is cut in half again, meaning that in years 3 and 4 the grass verges will only be cut 3 times during the year.

The County Council is investigating devolving their grass and hedge cutting duties to the parish council. They would provide the same amount of funding that was due to be spent in the parish, but as we would use local contractors, the cuts could be timed better. If the parish council took on board this duty, there would also be the option to pay for additional cuts from our own element of the council tax, which is not capped in the same way as the County Council budget at present.

The other side of the argument is that environmentalists would encourage the grass verges to be cut less frequently (apart from vision splays) to encourage wild flowers and biodiversity. A good example of this could be seen along Westfield Road where the wild flowers were beautiful this year (until the grass was cut) including a number of bee orchids.

We need to know the views of our electorate - this issue affects your village and your council tax payments.

Get in touch before the end of the month (parishclerk@pitstone.co.uk or 01296 660791) with your views on these three key questions:

*(Continued on page 10)*

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## Pitstone Memorial Hall

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*(Continued from page 7)*

1. Would you like to see the parish council take over this responsibility?
2. Would you be willing to pay extra council tax for extra cuts?
3. Would you like to see some areas left to grow to encourage biodiversity?

Please note that the Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust and Aylesbury Vale District Council have their own contractors to cut their own areas of grass. Hence the reason that you might find long grass right next to a cut area at some points around the village. Whilst we would intend to speak to these two authorities, the offer of funding is currently only from Bucks County Council.

## Pitstone Parish Post—the future of the magazine

Readers may recall that recently this magazine proudly celebrated its Centenary edition.

Over the last three years, we have been appealing for a new Editor to take over the production of PPP, in order for it to carry on as it is. Unfortunately no one has stepped forward who is willing to take on this role and the Parish Council has therefore had to review how this publication will be produced going forward within the resources available.

From the Autumn 2014, the magazine will revert to a much smaller publication, con-

taining mainly Council and other essential news only. It is also likely that it will be published less frequently than the current four times per year.

Although the trigger for this change has been largely driven by a lack of volunteers to support its production, it does in fact take us back to what the original publication was intended to do—which over the years has grown far beyond a simple village newsletter.

Furthermore, the current publication also carries a lot of duplicate information that appears elsewhere within other newsletters, church newsletters, web produced updates and the like, which means that by the time it goes to print much of the information has already been published and distributed elsewhere. Times have changed.

Further communication explaining these changes will be sent to our advertisers and contributors over the coming weeks by the Parish Clerk and with other ways that we can support them getting out local info.

## Dog fouling

Thank you to all the responsible dog owners who clear up after their dogs, keeping the environment pleasant for all of us. Please be aware when exercising your animals near any of our recreation grounds that children are likely to be playing in the grass nearby, not just within the fenced areas.

Despite clearing up dog foul as much as possible, residue often remains on the grass, which can make it unhygienic for children playing on the grass or families picnicking on the adjoining grass areas. If possible please

exercise your dog where children are unlikely to be playing, and take advantage of the many other areas of open space we have away from the play areas and the immediate vicinity.

## Helping disabled people to vote

In Pitstone, our Polling Station is the Memorial Hall. The Memorial Hall Charity has invested heavily over the last few years to improve their disabled provision, including access ramps to all external doors, lower viewing panels for doors, dedicated toilet provision and a microphone system in the main hall. If you have any comments regarding disabled provision at the hall, perhaps you could let us know. Some other places may not be as fortunate and BuDS is running a survey to try and identify problems so solutions can be found.

BuDS is helping to make sure that all disabled people in Buckinghamshire are able to vote as easily as everyone else, by conducting a short and anonymous survey about barriers faced by disabled people to voting.

The survey is at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2KYXRTL>.

All results will be fed back to the appropriate District Council to help them improve how they run future elections in Bucks. BuDS will also follow up any complaints or comments about individual polling stations or officials highlighted in the survey.

## **‘PARTY IN THE PARK’**

Saturday 12th July 2014 will be remembered as a day when the sun shone and the crowds flocked in their thousands to Pitstone Recreation Ground, as for the second year in

succession the Party in the Park team served up a real treat for the local community.

Looking around the park at 4pm it was difficult to see any free grass as families and friends relaxed and strolled around the many local stalls and attractions that had again turned out in support of the event.

The event was again visited by the Right Honorable John Bercow MP who took time to introduce himself to many local residents and add his support to the supported Charity Cure Rett.

The main focal point for the event was the very striking stage that graced the recreation ground and hosted an afternoon of wonderful talent from the local area. This years musical choice for the event was hand picked by Steve Matthey and what a choice it was with all tastes catered for and applauded by the afternoon audience.

To choose any particular highlights from the artists who performed would seem a little unfair as each and every act were really that good! So thank you to Lamy Canyon, Sophie Ray, The Rhythm and Blues Revue, Julian Mann, The Reason Why, Mark Cann, Crainers Hill and Kribbar.

A special mention must be made to Dave Mann who again provided the sound and expert engineering free of charge.

The success of the event would of course have not been possible without many months of planning, expertise and dedication by the Party in the Park Committee, volunteers and our Food and drink specialists who are truly remarkable people who have

*(Continued on page 13)*

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*(Continued from page 11)*

created and again delivered something rather special in this little piece of England.

We can now look forward to 2015 and our planning will be starting very soon!

At the time of writing the final financial figures are not available and will be reported in the next Pitstone Parish Post.

## NEWS EDUCATION

### WINDMILL PRE-SCHOOL

As we close our doors on this academic year, **it's probably a good opportunity** to reflect on the past 12 months at Windmill Pre-School. There have been some challenges which we can happily say with hard work, commitment and determination from both the staff and committee, we have overcome, and there have also been some great **positives. We've welcomed Kate, our new Leader** to the setting who in partnership with our team of staff, has reintroduced the **'fun' element to our everyday routines** and the children have enjoyed lots of varied activities and experiences. We look forward to the next academic year with positivity and enthusiasm.

#### Session availability and Admissions

We have some sessions available in September and we will also be holding an **'Open Morning'** for prospective parents. **It is never too early to get your child's name on the waiting list – don't forget we take children from the age of two – so we strongly rec-**

**ommend that you do this well in advance of wanting a place – even if you don't plan to enrol your child until they become funded (the term after they turn three).** This will prove favourable when there are children of the same age waiting for a place, especially when places will be offered to those who have been on the waiting list longer. To register your interest, please email our Administrator Claire Hose at [admin@windmillpreschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@windmillpreschool.co.uk)

#### Fundraising and Events

During the final term of this academic year, we have had some great events which have helped raise funds for Pre-School. Thank you to everyone that was involved in organising them and to the parents and carers that have supported them. Back in May we held a family photography session with **'Photography by Carrie'**. **The results, as usual were stunning and very affordable.** In June we took part in the Ivinghoe church **fete taking on the theme of 'poppies'** to mark the Centenary of WWI. We also held our annual sponsored walk around the villages which was very popular and the weather was very kind to us this year. As this edition goes to print, we are looking forward to receiving lots of donations towards our Textile Recycling initiative as well as our annual Sports Day to mark the last day of the academic year. We will also be holding a short Graduation Ceremony to **bid 'farewell' to the children leaving us** to continue their education.

Thank you to everyone that donated **Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers.** **Next term** the children will be enjoying lots of new equipment.

AGM – Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> May 8pm

At the recent Annual General Meeting, we

were pleased to welcome four new members to the Voluntary Management Committee – Emma Newman, Julia Goddard, Emily Maynard and Dawn Carter. We also saw a few members step down, so we would like to take this opportunity to thank a few people:

Gail Dodsworth who has been Chair of The Voluntary Management Committee for the last two years has stepped down. We **would like to say a 'special thank you'** to Gail who has spent many, many, many hours at Windmill supporting staff during some very challenging (and rewarding) times, and for her hard work and commitment over the last couple of years. However, we are pleased that Gail has decided to stay on the committee for another year as an ordinary committee member. Taking over from Gail as Chair – or rather in this case are Co-Chairs Lara Rutherford and Christina Reilly. Both ladies have been on the Voluntary Management Committee for some time, so understand how the setting is run, the guidelines and policies that govern the way in which Pre-School services the community as well as the way we have to work with Bucks County Council, Early Years and Ofsted. Both parents have a wealth of professional experience – Lara has a background in Recruitment, Staffing and Headhunting and Christina in Facilities and Office Management as well as Human Resources and Employment Law.

Justine Bryson has also stepped down as she will be starting a new teaching job in September after taking a break from the classroom to have her two children. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Justine for her commitment to seeing the Pre-School through a quite challenging time over the last few months and for providing the staff with additional support over and above what is expected of a voluntary member of the team. We wish Justine and her family

best wishes and happiness for the future.

**We'd also like to thank Sallie Harkness, our 'outgoing' Secretary for all her hard work and commitment during the time her two sons attended the setting.** The Secretary position has been filled by Lisa Freshfield who has also been a committee member for some time.

Thank you for your continued support.

*Lara Rutherford & Christina Reilly, Co-Chairs,  
Voluntary Management Committee*

## CHURCHES

### ST MARY'S PITSTONE

The 34th Annual Festival took place over the May Bank holiday attended by an increased number of visitors. This may have been the result of our new advertising notice boards and banner which was a costly investment. We are very grateful for the generous contribution from Pitstone Parish Council towards



the cost of these.

The teas were particularly well supported with many people telling the stewards that they had heard that they would get delicious cakes at the church. Ivinghoe Church Choir sang at the Sunday Evensong which was well attended amongst the beautiful flowers and pictures.

A huge THANK YOU to all the generous people who contributed pictures, pottery, cakes (40 were eaten!) or took a turn at

*(Continued on page 17)*

## Ivinghoe & Pitstone's Windmill Pre-School

Windmill Pre-School in Ivinghoe is one of the top pre-schools nationally and highest rated locally



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Source: Ofsted report June 2011

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Headteacher: Katherine Douglas

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stewarding, making music or serving the refreshments, all of which contributed to the very successful weekend.

The Group of Local Friends who look after the Church were visited in March by the Chief Executive of the Churches Conservation Trust, Crispin Truman. He presented Joan Bolton-King and Vanita Patel with gifts and long service certificates in recognition of over 30 years of outstanding service, caring for the church. They will continue to serve on the committee but the role of Chairman is now undertaken by Mrs. Gill Arney and that of Secretary by Mrs Jean Booth - we are very grateful to them both for taking on this work.

**If anyone would like to join the group of Friends of St. Mary's Church Pitstone or would like to help in any way please ring 01296 668123.**

## ST MARY'S IVINGHOE



St. Mary's, Ivinghoe

Dear Reader,

Let me explain where we are now as we seek to find a new vicar to replace Rev Tracey to minister in our three churches of Ivinghoe, Slapton and Marsworth. The churchwardens of the three churches and our two Licensed Lay Ministers have been meeting regularly **during the last three months to produce what is called a "Parish Profile". This in fact is an application pack which any priest can look at to help them decide if they would like to apply for the vacancy here.** In essence, the Parish Profile is a description of our churches and villages and what sort of personal attributes we would like our

new Vicar to have to be successful here. We have just finished this Profile and it has been approved by the Archdeacon of Buckingham who is the most senior member of the clergy hereabouts.

**We have decided to advertise the job in the "Church Times" newspaper and also on church websites in early-September;** we have been advised that advertising in late-July or August is not advisable because many clergy will be taking holidays then. Shortlisting of candidates will be done in early October and interviews will be held on Monday 20th October. We pray that we find the right person to serve here on this day.

In the meantime, the work of our three churches is continuing, and so far we seem to be coping adequately with no resident vicar. Services in the three churches remain the same and there are, for example, lots of Baptisms and Weddings taking place this year. If you want to contact the church for any reason the Vicarage phone number (01296 668260) remains in use, or else do use our website:

[www.ipsmchurches.co.uk](http://www.ipsmchurches.co.uk)

David Green  
Churchwarden, Ivinghoe with Pitstone



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Any queries contact:

Group Scout Leader: Michelle Lee 01296 668467 or  
[putsevlee@gmail.com](mailto:putsevlee@gmail.com)

Scouting Times:

Beavers: (5½-8years)

Watermill: Monday 6-7pm

Leader: Andy Broad

Windmill: Monday 7-8pm

Leader: Keith Steers

Contact: Michelle as above

Cubs: (8-10½ years)

Windmill: Wednesday 6.30-8pm

Leaders: Rob or Andrea Haddock 01296 663615

Watermill: Thursday 6.30-8pm

Leader: Hattie Mackinder 01442824358

Scouts : (10½-14years)

Friday 7.30-9pm

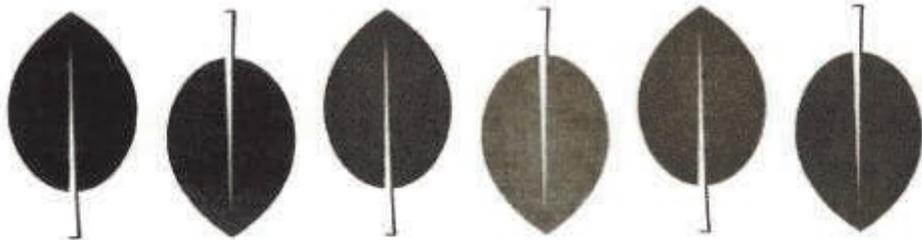
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## NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

Family Friendly Informal Worship at:

Ivinghoe: 10am Sunday 3rd August  
**'Worshipping Together'** - an informal service with music group and activities for the children

Slapton: 10am on Sunday 17th August  
**'Messy Church' and breakfast in the Village Hall**

Marsworth: 10am Sunday 24th August  
**'Messy Church' and breakfast at All Saints**

Bible Study Groups

There will be no meetings during August but we will be delighted to welcome you when we re-commence in September. 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.

School Holiday Messy Mornings –

Thursdays

Are you looking for something to keep the children busy during the school holidays? All three churches in the benefice are running **'Messy Mornings' this summer**

When: Thursdays from 10 – 11.30am

Where: Rotating around the three villages

Sessions will take place as follows:

Thursday 31st July at All Saints Church  
 Marsworth

Thursday 7th August at Slapton Village Hall

Thursday 14th August at St. Mary's Church,  
 Ivinghoe

Thursday 21st August at All Saints Church,  
 Marsworth

Thursday 28th August at Slapton Village Hall  
 Sessions are free – so come along and get messy!

For more details contact Sandra on 01296 668648

### Men's Group

Events for the next few months are as follows:

August – An evening walk and pub visit.

September – visit to RAF Uxbridge.

October – Ashridge House.

Detailed information on events is circulated by email; please contact [charles.e.thorogood@btinternet.com](mailto:charles.e.thorogood@btinternet.com) to be included in the circulation. New members and new ideas are always welcome.

### Food Bank

We have 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.

If you, or someone you know, would benefit from a helping hand, please get in touch with Barbara De Butts on 01525 221080 or Sandra Green on 01296 668648. After a strictly confidential chat we will arrange for a box of groceries to be delivered to your door.

### St Mary's Music Group -

New members always welcome

**At the 'Worshipping Together' Service** each month a friendly collection of musicians play the worship songs. The group also play for a

few other events; we even played at a wedding by special request. The group includes violin, clarinet, saxophone, flute, trumpet, piano and oboe; we would be very happy to welcome any new musicians of any age and ability and any instrument. If you would like to know more, ring Jeanette on 01296 660194.

## PASTOR DAVE CALLING

**'Summer is a-Comin' In', as the old folk song goes, although I'm not sure whether anyone** has informed Mother Nature or the meteorologists with this important information. When I was a kid fifty years ago you knew where you were with the weather. Bank Holidays – rain; Christmas - snow or at least a good frost; Summer Holidays – hot and boring after the second week as there was **no daytime telly or DVDs and you'd probably lost all your tennis and cricket balls in various hedges and canals by this time.**

These days as the youngsters finish for the **'big holidays' as we used to call them, there** are more activities on offer in town centres and parks than ever. All part of the ever changing tapestry of life in the 21st Century and I guess this will continue at an even faster pace to keep up with technology.

Everything organic lives in a state of change, even our Fellowship. No chapel building anymore; moved into the Millennium Hall for Sunday services; changes in those we see in the congregation. The Apostle Peter tells **us we are like 'living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood' (1Peter). It's nice to have a building** you can call home, but the building is a vessel in which the church worships together, the real church is the people and their **'bodies are a temple' (St. Paul) in the everyday world in which we live and come into contact with others. Our physical bodies are**

always changing through age and maturity, and we all feel the effects of that sooner or later.

In the six years we have been here in ministry, it is my prayer that things and people at the Fellowship have changed for the better, despite the ravages of time on some. Our Sunday mornings are usually fun, challenging and a meeting point with God and we welcome anyone who would like to join us week by week or now and then. John F. Kennedy is credited with this quote:-

**'Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future.'**

We hope you all have a happy and restful **summer break. Our 'First Thursday Friends'** will continue throughout August and September, as will our Sunday Services at 10.30. We hope you will join us at some time. Look out for – **'First Thursday Friends' dates. It's a good time for chat and cream** tea, and a good matinee film with free popcorn and ices!

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## COMMUNITY GROUPS

### Ivinghoe Entertainments

After all the hard work, the Summer Festival weekend was over! The change in evenings for the events was well received and in

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- Wednesday - 13.30 @ Pitstone
- Thursday - 10.00 @ Pitstone
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many respects made it easier for the committee to deliver the Festival Weekend of activities.

Laughter-on-the-Lawn featured John Moloney, Tammy Stone & Mick Ferry compared by Kevin Day although to the majority unknowns delivered a fantastic evening of comedy – how many recall John Moloney's cat Edward ("moaw")?

The Summer Ball was re-vamped with new caterers (Hansons) and The Collection featuring

Keavy Lynch (Bewitched) it was fantastic to see so many new faces at the event.

If you did attend one of our Summer Festival events we would really appreciate your feedback on what went well and how we could improve via a short survey (no personal information is collected):

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DNYCNYS>.

I would like to thank Universal Event Productions, The Rose & Crown (Ivinghoe) and the

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Get Stuffed Comedy Club for their continued support and assistance.

## Saturday 8th November 2014: Bonfire & Fireworks

Our next event is the Bonfire & Fireworks on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November from 18:00hrs. 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 evening. Tickets will be on sale from mid-October from the usual village outlets – more details later.

Graham Hollands  
Chair – Ivinghoe Entertainments  
ivinghoeentertainments@gmail.com

## Ivinghoe and Pitstone Women's Institute



**We've had a busy** few months, in April, as the bluebells were out early, some of our members rambled to Ashridge. The sight

of the bluebells in full bloom was ample reward for the walk.

At our May meeting, we discussed the resolution being put forward to the annual meeting and had great fun swapping plants. In June we heard from Mary Russell and her absorbing hobby of accompanying a friend on his micro light plane. The talk was all about her trip to Lundy Island. July will see us embarking on a mystery trip with only the drivers knowing where we are going. In August we will be picnicking on the lawn at Ivinghoe with tea in the Town Hall once it

gets dark.

If you would like to try out the W.I. and meet new friends, come and join us. Give me, Tessa, a ring (01296 661562).

## ONWARDS AND UPWARDS FOR BEACONLIT

A new venue, a bigger cast of authors and a full-day programme of activities to enjoy saw a strong turnout at Brookmead School on Saturday June 28 for the second BeaconLit festival of books and writing.

The event included local authors Teri Terry and Dave Sivers, as well as former Marlow resident Anya Lipska and an array of authors that was studded with best sellers and award winners.

Activities included talks, workshops, panel discussions and an engrossing session with Mandy Kirkby, talking to former soldier and romantic novelist Catherine Jones about her book, *Love Letters of the Great War*. The session marked the centenary year of the outbreak of World War One and included readings from the letters that were sometimes moving and sometimes hilarious.

**“The feedback from the day has been excellent,” said festival committee member Dave Sivers, who chaired the crime and young adult fiction panels. “We will use it to continue to develop the festival year on year. We are delighted with its progress from last year’s half-day pilot.”**

For more information about BeaconLit, visit the website at [www.beaconlit.co.uk](http://www.beaconlit.co.uk).

## OLD SCHOOL, IVINGHOE *The Nub of the Hub, 2014!*

Like several other generous community spirited people before him, you might have

seen John Cutler has donated his skilled work for free - taking apart and reassembling our Ivinghoe Old School Community Hub front wall, so desperately in need of restoration. Thanks John, you did this in heatwave conditions.



Spring has sprung into high summer now and our kitchen garden is fulsome with fresh salad growth, herby garnishes and soft fruit, and our Community spaces are in daily active use. Our flexible spaces can either be divided by their screen to work as two small rooms or with the screen rolled back to work as one larger space which has supported many a celebration, Baptismal party, Birthday or Wake.

Other weekly group use includes classes for babies, toddlers, children and adults in all things physical and health promoting, recreational and entertaining. Some younger classes have run their course and made way for other ideas you might **wish to bring, and also older children's needs are now coming to the fore. Pilates for adults** and later for Mums and babies on a Thursday, and Yoga on Wednesday evenings are very popular, and we have the pleasure as we do our admin in the IT room where hot-desking and PC teaching is our plan, to hear the variety of choirs practice and groups of musicians do the same. Why not start a class here yourself?

**In early May we suggested a shared Art Maker's Fair could work better by splitting a large** group of artists with their wares to display for sale between our Ivinghoe Community Hub venue and the Old Town Hall. This happened with great success as the artists generously shared their aims, skill hints and methodology with us the browsers, and forged what could be an ongoing successful partnership with our village. We have another group coming in September.

Then suddenly we had arrived at 19th June - **our Hub's tenant Café owner Hayley Wesley's** CuriosiTEA Rooms first Birthday! This café has been the focus for so many of our Community coming together informally to enjoy lovely home-made refreshments seven days a week, so we all celebrated with gusto! The same week we had conjoined with the WI to refresh the village on the day of the lovely church fete and exhibit a range of Old Ivinghoe photographic prints that continue to prompt the community to help us answer some searching questions on details of our anecdotal history, all leading to an eventual book!

**Continuing the theme of the fete day's WWI – the British Legion's display kick started our** invitation to this community to bring in their WW1 memorabilia and copies of their personal photographs and ephemera of the time, to join in an exhibition to last until its climax with poetry and song led by Judith Sheridan, here in our Hub over the Remembrance Sunday weekend in November 2014. Please come in to look at and add to our growing exhibition.

Typical of a village that knows how to pull together – our Public Meeting last week here in

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the Hub was packed with 120 people interested in finding a solution between us. For those interested in progress on the Gladman proposal of a development of 81 houses in the field in front of Ford End Farm, please email [ivinghoetogether@gmail.com](mailto:ivinghoetogether@gmail.com) to be kept up to date.

Dates to look forward to include - our two upcoming ActiviTEA days with lunch included for primary school age children on first Tuesday 5th August and September 2nd (TBC). Book up now.

**Hayley's team's next Pop-Up** restaurant is on a theme of Egyptian food. The date will be fixed ASAP at the end of August. Please come in and make your bookings with our onsite Trustees or Hayley in her café. We are exploring sharing our creative skills; drama; after school clubs; line dancing, summer fun on the lawn .....**what else would interest you?**

Our Community Hub is here for your use, and run by volunteers. Do come in and imaginatively engage with the spaces, and use them to enhance all of our lives.

## OTHER NEWS

### Festival Celebrates Chilterns Countryside

The Chilterns Countryside and Food Festival will be bringing countryside fun to the National Trust's magnificent Ashridge Estate on Sunday 14th September. Enjoy a day of mouth-watering local produce stalls, fascinating craft displays, forestry demonstrations and children's activities in the meadow behind the Ashridge Estate Visitor Centre near Berkhamsted. The Festival is open from 10am - 4pm, admission is £4 for adults and £1 for children under 16.

The event, which is a partnership between the Chilterns Conservation Board and the National Trust is now in its 8th year and has built up a reputation for promoting local food and craft businesses and environmental organisations. This year, the festival will have over 100 stands and more than 6,000 people are expected to attend.

Locally produced food will range from cakes, chutneys and chillies to pies, pastries and pork **to take home. If you're feeling peckish, you can tuck into a wide range of hot food including** a bbq, hog and beef roasts, pizza and crepes, with a range of vegetarian options. Feeling thirsty? You can try apple juices and cider pressed in Chesham and Saunderton, ales brewed in Tring, or just a nice cup of tea or coffee!

Craft stalls will include turned and carved wood and walking sticks, ceramics, forged metal, repurposed clothing, plus jewellery, cards, photographs, toiletries and accessories. Many of the stall holders will be demonstrating their skills, and in some cases, you can even have a go.

*(Continued on page 30)*



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(Continued from page 27)

In the forestry area you can chat to the National Trust foresters, see how trees grown on the Ashridge Estate are sawn into planks for building, and how wood is processed for various uses. A chainsaw carver will be demonstrating his art and there will be displays of wood **turning and carving**. **There's loads for kids to do with craft activities, story-telling, bushcraft skills, archery, pottery painting and a chance to meet a real red kite!**

Over on the music stage, sponsored by Launchpad Live Music and Entertainment, local acts will keep feet tapping throughout the day. As well as providing entertainment and opportunities to buy local produce, the festival will also help the local environment as all proceeds will be used by the Chilterns Conservation Board and National Trust for their important work to conserve and enhance the wildlife and countryside of the Chiltern Hills.

For more information ring the National Trust Ashridge Visitor Centre on 01442 851227 or Cathy Rose at the Conservation Board on 01844 355 506 or visit [www.chilternsaonb.org/events](http://www.chilternsaonb.org/events)

## TALES FROM THE COMPOST HEAP

### 5 Top Tips for Composters

The golden rule – you can compost anything that once lived. Only a few things are best left out – cooked food scraps, and perennial weeds for instance are better dealt with separately.

1. Be kind to the worms in your heap. They are accommodating creatures, and whilst they do not have to be talked to nicely, they do appreciate a good mixed diet. So put in all those items you might be wondering about, such as egg shells, citrus peel, tea bags and so on. They can all go in.
2. Observe the 50:50 ratio. That means, half your heap should be made up of green material (soft and sappy kitchen peelings and so on) and the other half of paper and card (I tear up and use cereal packets, toilet roll middles, printer paper and so on – it all composts down a treat).
3. Make sure your heap is not too wet and not too dry – just slightly moist is about right. Water it with your watering can if too dry, and make a lid of some sort – maybe a square of old carpet.
4. Make it easy on yourself. Put your bin in a handy spot, near the kitchen door if possible, so that emptying your kitchen caddy does not involve a trek over a muddy lawn.
5. Give it time. You have to have patience, but your heap will get there in the end. Oops, that seems to be 6 tips!

Barbara Cummings, Master Composter

**\*\* PERSONAL NOTICE \*\***

I'd like to thank everybody for the kindness and love that they have shown me following the recent loss of my husband Ron. *Mrs Shirley Ambridge.*

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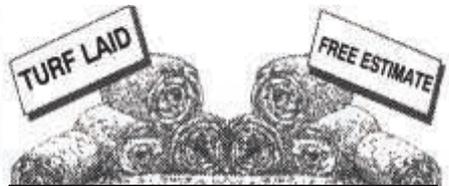
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For further information, please contact the Manager Michelle Andrews on 01296 662292, email [admissions@cheddingtonpreschool.co.uk](mailto:admissions@cheddingtonpreschool.co.uk) or visit: [www.cheddingtonpreschool.co.uk](http://www.cheddingtonpreschool.co.uk)

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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 &amp; 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 &amp; 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 &amp; 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 &amp; Playground Inspections, Neighbourhood Planning</p>
 <p>Cllr Dave Nicholls 64 Marsworth Road, LU7 9AS T: 661910 E: Dave@dnjsolutions.co.uk Chair of the Pitstone Parish Charity committee, the Planning Committee, Web site.</p>	 <p>Cllr Steve Matthey Fern Cottage, 13 Queen Street, LU7 9AU T: 662691, E: Steve.matthey@treelondon.com Chair of the Pitstone Recreation Ground Charity committee, Youth issues, Recreation Ground &amp; Playground Inspections, Representative Memorial Hall Committee.</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>