

Cheddington Village Newsletter

No. 542 – May 2024

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Published by the Residents' Association

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CRA NEWS.

Litter Pick. We are doing another village litter pick on Sunday April 28th. So if you would like to help to keep the village clear of litter please meet up on The Green at 10.30 on the 28th. We will supply litter pickers, gloves and sacks and those who help can also have a drink with us at the end at 12.30. See you there.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS.

NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual Meeting followed by the May Monthly Meeting will be held on Wednesday 1st May 2024 at 7pm in The Pavilion, Cheddington Recreation Ground, High Street, Cheddington LU7 0RG. For those residents who do not know, to find 'The Pavilion' just follow the path alongside the tennis courts until you reach the white building.

The Agenda will be posted on the Cheddington Parish Council Facebook page, on the Cheddington.org web site and on the Notice Board at The Green, with 3 clear days' notice before each the meeting. If you wish anything to be discussed at the meeting please advise the Clerk well in advance of the Agenda being finalised.

The Parish Council carry out the day-to-day running of the village so if you have any queries please contact the Clerk, Roz Roberts on cheddingtonparishcouncil@gmail.com or on 07885 442643 and leave a short message with your name and contact number. Please note that all correspondence is emailed directly to all the Parish Councillors for comment or for their information.

PARISH COUNCIL FACEBOOK PAGE.

Please note the aim of the Cheddington Parish Facebook page is to relay information to the residents of Cheddington. It is not a public forum page.

PLANNING MATTERS as reported at the April PC meeting:

a. Applications Received via Buckinghamshire Council:

No applications received.

b. Determinations by Buckinghamshire Council:

No determinations received.

c. Other Planning Matters:

24/00050/APP – Erection of toilet block accessible by new raised concrete ramp, Cheddington Pavilion, Cheddington Recreation Ground, High Street, Cheddington Buckinghamshire LU7 0RG – Withdrawn/Not Proceeded With.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

The Parish Council does many varied visible things around the village, but it is also good to note what the

Parish Council is doing behind the scenes!

Straw Debris in the Village Yes, it is approaching that time of the year when the uncovered straw will be ferried through the village. The PC has been contacted on numerous occasions by residents about this. The current situation is that Buckinghamshire Council is aware of the problem and its Legal Team is investigating.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE 2024



This year the Parish Council have entered Cheddington for the Defraine Cup.

The Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition was founded in 1957 as an initiative driven by

Sir Francis Dashwood and the Local Councils' Association. The Competition's objective is to encourage entrants to work together as a community, involving all age groups, to make villages and towns more attractive places, not only for residents but also for visitors.

For the last 2 years Cheddington has received a Certificate of Merit so let's really put the effort in this year. With 2 hardworking village 'handyfolk' and with your help, Cheddington might be in with a good chance of winning the Defraine cup!

So, start sprucing up your gardens and hanging pots!

Judging normally takes place between 1st June and the 14th July.

FRIENDSHIP BENCH. Hopefully by the time you are reading this the new village 'friendship bench' will have been installed on the grassy verge at the corner of Barkham Close/New Street. Yes, there are lots of benches dotted around the village but the PC thought this spot would be perfect as it is near Barkham Close and is also on the way to the 'top shop'. Who knows, if you stop for a chat you might make a new friend!

LITTER BINS. Can we please request again that these are not used for the disposal of dog poo bags! There are enough dog waste bins dotted around the village which are professionally emptied by Buckinghamshire Council.

It has also been brought to the Parish Council's attention that there seems to be an increase in dog poo being left, especially along Church Path. **PLEASE** pop your dog's poo in a bag and dispose of correctly.

FANCY A CHAT AND A CUPPA! Come Along to The Methodist Church on Fridays from 12 noon – 2.30pm if you fancy a chat and a light lunch. This is a Churches Together initiative in conjunction with the Parish Council. If you can help in any way/wish to volunteer, please contact ccraft@gmail.com or 01296 661068.

The next Residents' Association committee meeting will be on Wednesday 8th May at 7.15pm in the Methodist Church Hall. Please come along to tell us of any issues.

Remember Open Doors is also on from 10.30am if you fancy a chat, a cuppa and a cake before lunch on a Friday!

THE PAVILION – AVAILABLE FOR HIRE! If you are looking for a lovely venue for a child's party/adult party/group meetings/reading groups/wine tasting class, for a small exercise class or whatever please contact the Bookings Clerk for further information/to arrange a booking on cpcpavilionbookings@gmail.com or 07885 442643.

The cost per hour is £13.50 for residents and out of village £16.50 per hour.

Remember the Recreation Ground may also be available on request so why not use both venues for an event.

FIX MY STREET. For any issues in respect of damage to pavements, graffiti or fly tipping, please report these via <https://fixmystreet.buckinghamshire.gov.uk>

CHEDDINGTON ALLOTMENTS

Warden Position. If you are interested in this voluntary allotment management role, please contact the Parish Clerk for more information.

There is also an active working group at the allotments so if you are an allotment holder, I am sure they would be delighted if you would like to join and assist. Again, contact the Parish Clerk for more information.

If you require any information/be added to the waiting list in respect of having an allotment, please contact the Parish Clerk who will direct your enquiry to one of the allotments working group members.

The Parish Clerk, Roz Roberts can be contacted by email at cheddingtonparishcouncil@gmail.com or on 07885 442643.

Please note the Clerk's role is a part time position and she may not respond immediately to your query/message.

Have a search on Facebook for Cheddington Parish Council and like us!

BUCKS COUNCILLORS NEWS.

Learn to be a Better Biker. Bucks Council is encouraging bikers of all ages and experience to enhance their riding skills with the help of a specialist course.

The Be a Better Biker (BaBB) workshops are run as part of the council's Travel Safe Bucks road safety initiative, in partnership with Thames Vale Advanced Motorcyclists, Bucks Advanced Riders & Drivers, Milton Keynes Advanced Motorists, Oxford Advanced Motorcyclists and local fire and rescue services. The aim is to reduce the number of bikers killed or injured on the roads and equip motorcyclists with additional skills to keep safe.

Costing just £20 per person, the workshops cover a range of advanced techniques including:

- Manoeuvring
- Overtaking
- Cornering techniques
- An on-road assessment with a qualified observer
- A review of the on-road session.

Courses are taking place across the Thames Valley region and locally at:

- Saturday 6 April – Winslow Fire Station
- Saturday 20 April – Chesham Fire Station

- Saturday 18 May – Princes Risborough Fire Station

Now in their 15th year, the courses have helped hundreds of bikers in Bucks to improve their skills on the road.

Anyone wishing to take part must hold a full and valid motorbike licence and have access to their own vehicle to use during the course.

For more information, or to book your place, visit: [Book a motorcycle course | Buckinghamshire Council.](#)

Transform your street into a Play Street!

Communities across Buckinghamshire are being invited to take advantage of a scheme which highlights the importance of outdoor play and encourages neighbours to spend time socialising together, promoting the benefits for health and wellbeing in all ages.

Play Streets invites residents from communities across the county to apply for permission, free of charge, to close their road for a few hours at a time so that they can come together outside their homes to socialise, reduce social isolation and play safely. The scheme is part of the national Playing Out initiative and has been running successfully in Buckinghamshire for several years. Roads are closed to traffic for the duration, but pedestrian access is allowed, and residents can enjoy spending time together outside their homes.

Bin-spiring volunteers collect bagfuls of litter during Great British Spring Clean.

Communities around Buckinghamshire have been busy binning and bagging this spring, as Keep Britain Tidy's Great British Spring Clean has completed its ninth annual run. Committed Bucks residents have come together as part of the country's biggest mass action environmental campaign, collecting and safely disposing of litter from streets, parks and open spaces across the county.

Following this year's theme 'the environment is for everyone', community groups and individuals in Buckinghamshire organised over 94 litter picking events around the county – a record breaking year for Buckinghamshire. The majority of the events took place in the south where more than 926 volunteers collected over 1,723 bags, and clocked over 1,852 volunteer hours.

Although The Great British Spring Clean is over for this year, the need for litter picking stays. The council empties over 4,000 litter bins every week, but over 2 million pieces of litter are dropped every single day in the UK, littering our towns and countryside.

Anyone can organise a litter pick or join an existing litter pick group. To get you started, the council can help you to organise a litter pick in your local area by lending litter pick equipment, providing waste bags and collecting the waste after the litter pick has finished. You can find more information on the council's website.

Litter picking isn't just a group activity and doesn't have to take a lot of time. As an individual, you can take part in the Litter Lotto – it's easy, simply download the Litter Lotto app on your phone and take a photo in the app, of yourself throwing some litter into a bin. This doesn't only tidy up our streets, but also gives you an opportunity to win instant cash prizes and offers, as well as giving you the chance of winning a weekly £1,000 jackpot. Local Litter Lotto users also have a chance to win an extra £250 in an exclusive monthly prize draw, aimed just at people binning litter in Bucks!

(Editor's note – join the CRA Litter Pick listed on page 1)

Councillor Derek Town



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Originally Directed by Robert Jess Roth
Originally Produced by Disney
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Music by Alan Menken
Lyrics by Howard Ashman
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Book by Linda Woolverton

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FARMING AND FOOD

by Julie Gaymer (julie@mentmoreparkfarms.co.uk)

Well, the sun has put his hat on!

The farmers are all very busy out in the fields cultivating and drilling seed. Its rather late but better late than never and we can look forward with hope that we will have a better harvest. Water is still lying about in places where we get machines stuck...and it can take all day to clean out all the coulter in a seed drill! But there is a more positive vibe on the farm.

Farmers continue to diversify from the regular crops we grow in an effort to become more profitable. I see that daffodils are now providing an alkaloid used in the slowing down of the progress of Alzheimer's disease. It has been found that growing daffodils at altitude stimulates the production of galanthamine, the so-called Black Mountain effect. The farmer growing these plants has them up on a hillside in Wales at 1,200 feet. And they thrive in a cold, wet, miserable spring! Sheep don't eat daffodils so it's possible to graze the fields with sheep to keep the grass down! And apparently research has shown you can produce the same amount of sheep meat per acre in a field with daffodils as a field without. So don't be surprised to see geographical clusters of daffodils and sheep on the mountains of Wales.

Another diversification is the growing of Elephant grass or Miscanthus. This does not mind flooded fields or drought cracked fields. Planted just once it means soil disturbance is kept to a minimum and it is noted for the amount of carbon stored in its root. It is used as fuel for biomass boilers and as bedding for horses.

The land used for arable farming food production in the UK is declining and vertical farming systems have a huge potential. This allows growers to carefully manage the crops and produce perfect crops all year round. I recently saw a documentary on salad crops being grown on the roofs of buildings in a city.

Smart farming technologies such as wearable sensors are being developed to monitor the health of livestock in real time, helping farmers to monitor their health and welfare. The types of wearable devices include e-tags, cow collars and electronic ear-rings!

While the Residents' Association endeavours to ensure the accuracy of all material in this Newsletter the views expressed by contributors are their own and not necessarily the views of the Residents' Association.

Inclusion of an advertisement in this Newsletter does not imply endorsement by the Residents' Association and purchasers of any goods or services advertised are advised to satisfy themselves of the suitability of the advertiser for their needs.

NOTICES

BEACON VILLAGES COMMUNITY LIBRARY.

Our AGM will be held on Saturday 6th July at 9.30am. This year it will be a hybrid event, so we will be in the Library if you want to come along, otherwise you are welcome to attend by Zoom. It's your chance to hear the roundup of what has taken place over the year, and our plans for the future. Nomination forms for committee members will be available in the Library beforehand, or you can contact secretary@bvcl.org.uk for a copy. Do think about joining us, it isn't huge commitment, and it is always good to have fresh ideas.


The AGM paperwork will be on our website prior to the meeting and if you want to get the Zoom link please email treasurer@bvcl.org.uk.

REPAIR CAFÉ. Our next Ivinghoe & Pitstone Repair Café will be held on Saturday 25th May between 9.30 – 12.30 at the **Ivinghoe Hub**. Bring along broken items to be fixed by volunteers! Tools & equipment, electrical goods, electronic devices, clothing, fabrics, jewellery, household items, toys & games, wooden items & bicycles & more! There is no charge for fixing but donations are welcome.

Amazing refreshments available, also for a donation!

Since our first café in February 2023 we have successfully repaired over 450 items!

We are now able to recycle Contact Lenses & Packaging, Empty Medicine Blister Packs & Oral Care Waste & Packaging, drop them off at one of our cafes!

For further information or enquiries have a look at our  Facebook page: Ivinghoe & Pitstone Repair Café

Or send us an email: ivinghoerepaircafe@gmail.com

Or give Kim a ring on 07778279109

LOCAL FARMERS & CRAFT MARKET.

Introducing Cheddington Farmer's and Craft Markets held at Cheddington Village Hall, which will be held the last Sunday of April and May 2024, 11am to 3pm. An exciting way to support local.

The Market will host an array of growers, home produce, home preserves, handmade chocolates, fitness and well-being, businesses, charities, arts, and artisan crafts. The market stalls vary each month.

Our markets are held 11am to 3pm at Cheddington Village Hall, Church Lane. LU7 0RU:

- Sunday 28th April
- Sunday 26th May

You will be spoilt for choice! There is something for everybody! Including family fun day activities for all the families to enjoy along with pop up refreshments. Everyone is welcome. FREE ENTRY. Come along and support local and have lots of fun.

Do come and see us and help to support local charities whilst having a great day out.

There is limited parking at the village hall, please park sensibly around the residential streets or use the overflow car park at the recreation ground

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MENTMORE ARTS FESTIVAL. The 14th Mentmore Arts Festival will take place from Saturday May 25th to Bank Holiday Monday 27th 2024 – from 11am to 5pm each day.

We now showcase over 60 artists, twice the number from our opening year. There are painters, ceramicists, glass-workers, textile artists and jewellers to see. Many artists are returning year after year, but we are delighted to welcome new exhibitors again in 2024.

Last year we donated £14,000 between Mind UK, Leighton Buzzard Mencap and St Mary's Church in Mentmore, taking our total raised since the festival began to over £110,000.

This year we will be supporting Guide Dogs for the Blind and MK:Act – a domestic abuse intervention service.

The weekend is an opportunity to have a family day with refreshments available including light lunches and tea, coffee and cakes. There is a bar selling local beer and Pimms. We also have a raffle with some great prizes.

Do come and see us and help to support local charities whilst having a great day out.

Enquiries – www.mentmore-arts-festival.co.uk

Deborah Hall 07831 707023

St. GILES PARISH CHURCH.



For all enquires please contact Team Vicar Andrew Krauss 07508 213154.

Rector's Letter. This is a poignant article for me to write because it is the last article I shall write for our eight village newsletters. During May, my wife and I move to Derbyshire where I shall take up a new post in the church. Although it is fewer churches, it is significantly more people and a combination of rural, urban, estate and schools ministry.

That combination and the breadth of ministry across the Benefice here is the reminder that "church" is not a case of one size fits all; but it is also a salutary reminder that church is equally valid from the formal to the informal. That means that engaging with the various ways of being church is a worthwhile exercise because, who knows, one might suddenly hear, encounter, the same message in a "language" we were not expecting.

Fifty days after Easter takes us to the Feast of Pentecost. That's when the disciples were proclaiming the Gospel and the several nationalities assembled in Jerusalem each heard in their own native language. The account is recorded in the book of Acts. All spoken languages, it is true, but the lesson of Pentecost is that "church" can adopt several and various languages, ways of expression, when it comes to proclaiming the Gospel. Hence, the various service styles in our Benefice from the Book of Common Prayer, Common Worship, Breakfast Church, Messy Church and Brunch Church. And not to forget the services along the theme of Morning Prayer.

From my vicar days in Norfolk, I remember being greatly heartened by a group of octogenarians enjoying Mattins from the Book of Common Prayer who, the week before, had readily taken up percussion instruments to accompany the worship band at Café Church. As the Benefice enters the time to discern a new Team Rector, I encourage you to continue to engage with church and perhaps, (maybe?) go to something very different to your usual choice – and not necessarily in your home church.

Finally however, my very best wishes for the life of your several and varied village communities and to thank you for the time we have had here.

With every blessing,

Rev'd Howard Robson.

Services at St. Giles and St. Mary's May

Thurs 2nd	9.15am	Mid-week Communion	St.Giles
Sun 5th	9.00am	B.C.P.	St Giles
	10.30am	Family Service	St Giles
	4.00pm	Holy Communion	St Mary's
Sun 12th	10.30am	Holy Communion	St Giles
Sun 19th	9.00am	Holy Communion	St Mary's
	10.30am	Holy Communion	St Giles
Sun 26th	10.30am	Morning Worship	St Giles

June

Sun 2nd	9.00am	B.C.P.	St Giles
	10.30am	Family Service	St Giles
	4.00pm	Holy Communion	St Mary's
Thurs 6th	9.15am	Mid-week Communion	St.Giles

Copy date for the next issue:

May 15th

BEACON VILLAGE COMMUNITY LIBRARY.

Run by the community, for the community. **General enquiries: info@bvcl.org.uk. 01296 387890. Committee enquiries: secretary@bvcl.org.uk.**

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- Monday Closed
- Tuesday 2.00pm – 5.00pm
- Wednesday Closed
- Thursday 2.00pm – 5.00pm
- Friday 2.00pm – 7.00pm
- Saturday 10am – 1pm

COMPOST AREA AT ST GILES.

This is a polite reminder that the compost bin is only for organic waste and unsuitable for plastics and wreaths which contain metal. These should be disposed of at home. All non-organic waste has to be taken home by our volunteer so your ongoing co-operation would be very much appreciated.

NSPCC CHILD PROTECTION HELPLINES

If you are concerned about a child at risk of abuse call, free of charge, on

0808 800 500

or if you are a child looking for confidential counselling and advice call Childline on

0800 1111

or visit the website There4me.com

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Weekly Hatha Yoga classes
Monthly Gong Baths
Relaxing Day Retreats in Cheddington

Hatha Yoga, working with alignment and linking the breath with movement.

Monthly Gong Baths, a form of sound meditation. Participants are bathed in the sounds and vibrations created by the Gongs, crystal bowls and other instruments.

Relaxing Day Retreats incorporating Yin and Restorative Yoga and Sound Baths - Yin Yoga targeting connective tissues and Restorative yoga, a deeply relaxing form of yoga.

My classes are suitable for all levels including those new to Yoga as postures can be modified to suit the individual.

Weekly Hatha Yoga at Cheddington Pavilion, LU7 0RG

Monday 9.15am - 10.45 am Monday 6.30pm - 8.00pm

Tuesday 6.00pm - 7.30pm Wednesday 9.15am - 10.45am

Monthly Gong Baths on a Friday at 8.00pm

Relaxing Day Retreats held throughout the year, see website for dates.

www.juliecampbell yoga.co.uk

Instagram: jcyoga23

Email: juliecampbell yoga@icloud.com

Phone: 07508 539 325

CHEDDINGTON METHODIST CHURCH. Minister Rev Noreen Daley -Lee – Tel: 01525 240083

We welcome everyone to our church to share in our worship and other activities. Services begin on Sundays at 10.30 am.

SERVICES FOR MAY

5th 3pm Mr Arthur Sara

12th Mr John Bush

19th Café Church

26th Rev Noreen Daley-Lee – Service of Holy Communion

A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER.

“Come out of your shell.” For me a walk along the beach is incomplete without gazing at seashells as I listen to the waves lap against the seashore and inhale the salty sea breeze. The relics of these amazing creatures appear in a variety of shapes, sizes, textures, and colours. Whilst I enjoy looking fixedly at seashells on the seashore, I must not only take a moment to contemplate on its shape and form, but to think about who made it and the life it might have had, for something to ‘come out of the shell’.

At a 25th wedding anniversary part of this strapline was said to me, “Noreen, you have come out of your shell.” Surely, my classmate didn’t consider me to be a mollusc, rather the expression “come out of your shell” is an idiomatic expression that suggests becoming more interested in other people and more willing to talk and take part in social activities or to be or become less shy or reticent and more sociable, outgoing, or enthusiastic. My classmate who first knew me at the start of secondary school used this iconic idiom to express that I am less timorous. Perhaps if he had any idea of me becoming a presbyter he would have said, “No chance.” But God, who empowered me through the Holy Spirit helped me to “come out of my shell”.

As you are reading this newsletter, in a matter of weeks we will be moving from the post-resurrection scenes to Pentecost where we gain knowledge of the first disciples coming out of their shell. Pentecost – the day fell 50 days after Passover and was originally a harvest festival. In the New Testament times it also commemorated Moses’ giving of the Law on Sinai. Three phenomena occurred that made the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost an unmistakable and unique event, somewhat akin to “come out of the shell” the rushing wind, the visible flames resting on each believer present and speaking in “other tongues.” The Greek verbs meaning “to fill” are always mentioned in the passive voice where the filling with the Spirit is described. We “are filled” we do not “fill ourselves.” I can only imagine how those first disciples felt on the day of Pentecost when they were filled with Holy Spirit that brought them out of their shell giving them a boldness that cannot be denied. So, whenever we walk along the seashore looking with admirable joy at the

FREE TO COLLECT. The CRA are offering a facility on the back page of the Newsletter for villagers to offer free to others to 're-use' any useful items they no longer need. If anyone has items they wish to offer free to the collector please summarise the details in about 20 words (or less). There will be no charge for this.

amazing variety of shells we are also reminded that with the filling of the Holy Spirit we can come out of our shell becoming the courageous believers to share God’s light and peace with our desperate world.



(Noreen)

“THE TOAST” – FOR PARENTS, CARERS and LITTLE ONES

For all parents/carers of pre-school children and babies, join us in the Chapel schoolroom on **Monday mornings** 9.30 – 11.00 during term time for a gentle start to the week. There are toys, activities and refreshments (including toast!) and a warm welcome. Contact Cathy Craft email: cathy.e.craft@gmail.com for more information.

THE SINGALONG CAFE will be held on **Tuesday 14 May 2.30 – 4.30 pm** at the Methodist Chapel. It will be led by Karen, Cathy and Trevor who are all accomplished musicians. Do come along and join us and bring a friend or two, particularly those who might otherwise be at home alone. Refreshments will be included thanks to two willing volunteers

OPEN DOORS – Friday morning 10.30 am – noon at the Methodist Chapel. This is an opportunity for all to meet/socialise each Friday morning and have a cup of tea/coffee and a biscuit/cake. Contact Stuart Minall email: stuartpminall@gmail.com for more information.

MEN’S GROUP meets on the first Friday of each month at 10.45 to noon. Contact Chris Shephard on 661849.

WARM SPACES The Methodist Schoolroom will be open on **Fridays 12 noon to 2.00pm** for a soup lunch for all those who would like to meet together. Donations of tins of soup or bread, tea/coffee or biscuits can be dropped off at the Chapel on Fridays from 10.30 am. This is a Churches Together initiative in conjunction with the Parish Council to whom we are most grateful for their financial support. All enquiries to Cathy. e.craft@gmail.com or 01296 661068.

BOOKS and JIGSAWS: A collection of paperback books, jigsaws and DVDs for buying or borrowing; if you are able to make a small donation that would be appreciated. Do come and have a look to see if there is anything of interest to you. The schoolroom is usually open 9.30 – 11 am on Monday mornings during term time or Friday mornings 10.30 – 12 noon. If you have books, in good condition, or jigsaws or DVDs that you would like to pass on do bring them along.

LOOP SYSTEM For those people with hearing aids, we have an induction loop system installed and working in the chapel.

SCHOOLROOM BOOKINGS A projector and screen are available. For all enquiries, please contact Janet Banham email: j.banham@btinternet.com.

SAMARITANS. We offer free and completely confidential help to the lonely, the distressed and the despairing. Anyone needing this help can ring Amersham (01494) 432000 or Milton Keynes (01908) 667777, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, including Christmas Day and Bank Holidays. The branches are at 149 Station Road, Amersham or 161 Fishermead Boulevard, Fishermead, Milton Keynes, where you can call between 10am and 10pm every day without an appointment. Samaritans also answer letters.



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Various, dates available including some weeks in the School Holidays (including Easter). Prices vary according to the dates you wish to book.

Pet friendly, at no extra cost.

Activities include a swimming pool, bar, club, children's activities, evening entertainment, these require passes you can purchase from reception.

For further information please email me on ms_suemorgan@yahoo.com



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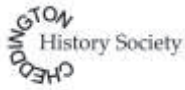
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SOCIETIES



Monday 20th May 8pm

Talk by Lydia Saul: The Cecil Higgins Collection

The Higgins Bedford is an art gallery and museum having permanent displays of archaeology, social history, drawings, paintings, prints and decorative arts.

The Cecil Higgins Museum, as it was formerly known, opened its doors to the public in 1949 and was housed in the former Higgins family home. The museum was founded by the philanthropic brewer, Cecil Higgins to house his collection of ceramics, glass and objets d'art for the benefit, interest and education of the inhabitants of, and visitors to, Bedford. Lydia is the Keeper of Social History at Bedford Borough Council and in this talk will tell us about the history of the buildings, the Higgins family and their connection with the site.

Also, the establishment of the museum and art gallery and the development of that collection including highlights from the Social History, Fine and Decorative Art, Archaeology and Ethnography collections. We meet at 8 p.m. at the Methodist Church by the Green in the village High Street. Visitors are welcome.



BE OUR GUEST AT THE VILLAGE HALL!

Tickets are selling fast for Spirit Youth Group's latest production which features Oscar winning songs, a strong cast and a six piece orchestra playing live.

With 34 talented and enthusiastic young people on stage, this show promises to be one of the best ever staged by the Group, whose previous productions include Buggy Malone, Treasure Island and Oliver! A crew of around 20 adults will provide all the atmosphere required including spectacular costumes, dramatic lighting and special effects.

"We've got some fine acting talent and some great singers among our membership and we've pulled out all the stops with staging on this fantastic Disney show," says Colin Bryer, Director.

"The Leaders – Ian Hale, Becky Curtis, Sally-Ann Wignall, Karen Chapman and Julie Stanley – have been working very hard behind the scenes to ensure a successful run. We are especially excited to have a six piece orchestra playing live, rather than using pre-recorded music which is how this show is usually performed."

Beauty and the Beast Jr. tells the story of Belle, an adventurous young girl, and the Beast, her hideous captor who is actually a young prince trapped under a spell. In order to break the spell, the Beast must learn to love another and earn her love in return – before time runs out. With the help of the castle's enchanted staff, including a loving teapot, a charming candelabra, and a nervous mantel clock, Belle and the Beast find a beautiful friendship and love that neither knew was possible. Beauty and the Beast Jr. features classic songs from the Academy Award-winning film score such as "Be Our Guest" and "Belle," as well as original songs from the 1994 Tony-nominated Broadway musical.

Performances of Spirit's production of Disney's Beauty

and the Beast Jr. are at Cheddington Village Hall on 22nd and 23rd June. There are two shows on the Saturday – 3.00pm and 7.30pm – and a matinee on Sunday at 3.00pm. Tickets are £12 (adults) and £9 (concessions).

Box office is 01296 660872 or you can visit www.spiritdrama.uk for a booking form. Please see the advert in this newsletter for other details.



FLOWER CLUB is normally held on the third Wednesday of the month in the Methodist Hall at 7.30 pm. We hold workshops, organise demonstrators and outings throughout the year. The next meeting is on 16th May. The demonstrator is Gill McGreggor.

Interested in joining? Please contact Kay Clements (Chair) on 01296 668781 for more details.



WOMENS INSTITUTE. Are you interested in making new friends? Learning new things? Lively discussion? Interesting outings? Engaging with forward thinking campaigns? In which case Cheddington WI could be just the thing! We are a friendly group of ladies who meet at 7.30pm on the first Thursday of every month in the Village Hall...and we are always keen to welcome new members.

For more information please contact Liesl on 07716 778118 or Nicola on 668347 or email cheddingtonwi@gmail.com.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH.



One of the many benefits of Cheddington NHW is that often (definitely on 'Compare the Market') when asking for a house insurance quote you will be asked if your house is in an ACTIVE AND VERIFIABLE NHW area.

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This is thanks to 32 NHW volunteers in Cheddington who keep residents who are included in NHW informed about local safety and security concerns, incidents and scams by sending them a NHW Cascade Messages by email following GDPR guidelines.

By being aware and working together we keep crime low here.

If would like to be included, please send us a message using neighbourhoodwatchcheddington@gmail.com or ring 0798 9779 402.

Cheddington NHW does have a Facebook page but not all information can be posted on this.

Thank you

CHEDDINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



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1st Cheddington Scout Group.

Now the Easter break has finished, and the summer term begins hopefully the lighter evenings and improving weather will ensure a lot more outdoors activity for all involved!

Before the break all sections have been involved in lots of fun activities, with a few highlights as follows:

- Beavers – Over 150 badges were awarded before Easter highlighting how busy the Beavers have been in the first part of the year. These included Communication, Safety and Animal Care
- Cubs – Got involved in making a recycled garden, became film makers through using stop motion animation and got creative in a natural art session
- Scouts – Took part in some science experiments, battled evil trolls in a Warhammer evening and took part in the always popular Escape & Evasion at Pitstone Hill with the Explorers chasing the Scouts
- Explorers – Created some Mother's Day crafts, took part in a Happiness Scavenger Hunt and enjoyed a trip to Ninja Warrior

Squirrels – Can you help? The Scout group are working hard to set up a new 'Squirrels Drey' which is a scout section that would sit before Beavers aimed at children aged 4 to 6.

A lot of interest has been expressed and a plan has been developed but the level of effort for group leadership to establish this Section is considerable and the set-up and running of it will be incremental to the current volunteer team and reliant upon new volunteer leaders and helpers stepping forward to assist.

If you think you or someone you know, would be interested in establishing and running the Squirrels section OR your child may wish to attend then please let us know at admin@cheddingtonscouts.org.uk.

Hut Hire. Our newly refurbished hut is now available for hire at preferential rates for Scout Members or Cheddington Residents. Please check out the Cheddington Scout Group Facebook page for more details.

Volunteers Required! As you can imagine, all sections are extremely popular, and we have significant waiting lists. We are urgently looking for volunteers to assist with running the sections (especially Cubs!). Volunteering as part of the Scouting movement can be an extremely fulfilling and enjoyable experience (and if you are a leader you will not be charged the normal subscription fees for your child).

If you, or anybody you know, is willing and able to get involved with any age group as a leader or in any other capacity such as fund raising, administration or executive leadership, please contact us at admin@cheddingtonscouts.org.uk.

We can also offer the opportunity for Young Leaders (aged between 14 and 17) to support a younger section whilst developing their own skills - they can already be an Explorer Scout keen on starting their own leadership journey or a young person outside of scouting who is working towards the voluntary element of their Duke Of Edinburgh Award.

Group Details. 1st Cheddington is a thriving Scout Group, offering challenge and adventure to young people of all ages, helping them learn to take responsibility for themselves and for others while having fun and taking

part in a wide range of activities. The Scout Group continues to grow and plays an active part in village life. We have four sections, all of which are open to both boys and girls:

- Beavers (6 to 8 years) – Mondays 18:30 – 19:30 / Thursdays 18:15 – 19:15
- Cubs (8 to 10½ years) – Tuesdays 18:30 – 20:00 / Wednesdays 18:30 – 20:00
- Scouts (10½ to 14 years) – Thursdays 19:15 – 20:45 / Fridays 18:30 – 20:00
- Explorers (14 to 18 years) – Mondays 20:00 – 21:30

Meetings are held in our headquarters in Station Road.

For further information about any of the sections, or to put your name down on our waiting list (we recommend at least a year before they are old enough so that places can be made available) please see the contact page at www.cheddingtonscouts.org.uk.

Cheddington Scouts has a dedicated Admin email for any enquiries you may have, this may be for hiring the hut or general questions relating to scouting in the village. Please use admin@cheddingtonscouts.org.uk Please note DO NOT use this for registering your child to join – please follow as advised above.

SPORTS & FITNESS

CHEDDINGTON BADMINTON CLUB.

We play social badminton (with a competitive edge!) between 8pm and 10pm every Thursday in the Village Hall. New members are always made welcome. For further details give Kim a ring on 07778279109.

CHEDDINGTON JUNIOR BADMINTON CLUB.

The last junior badminton session of the season is on Thursday 23rd May. All our juniors have made vast improvements this season & are a credit to the club. The 2024/25 season starts again on Thursday 5th September. New junior members are always welcome, places are secured on ability and not age. Turn up at 6pm and Ray will determine the most appropriate group for you. Ray can be contacted on 662148 for further details about Junior Badminton.

Check out our new Facebook page Cheddington Village Badminton Club

BOWLS CLUB.

The 2024 season at Cheddington Bowls Club started on 21st April, and we are very happy to be back on the green.

We have some very exciting news, as for the first year since Covid, Cheddington Bowls Club are having an Open Day on Monday 6th May at 2pm!

Bowls is a great sport for all ages and all abilities, and we would welcome everyone to come and have a go and trying to get a bowl near the jack! All we ask is that you wear flat shoes or trainers.

We look forward to welcoming you to our little oasis at the bottom of the village, just past the Pavilion.

If you cannot make 6th May please contact admin@cheddingtonbowls.org.uk or leave a message on 01296 661381 if you are interested in coming to give bowls a try some other time so that we can make sure there is a coach there for you. Tuesday afternoons and Friday evenings are good, but other times can also be arranged.

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TENNIS CLUB.



NEW MEMBERS. We're your friendly local club and always keen to welcome new members. Membership includes use of our 3 floodlit, hard courts, booked via our online system – never wait for a court again! For prices visit: <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/CheddingtonTennisClub/Membership/Join>

Membership also includes (unless stated) a variety of sessions/events to suit individuals and families of all ages and standards – from complete novices to experienced league players:

DAYTIME TENNIS. (Mondays & Fridays, 10am-noon) If you're around during the week and fancy a social game, with a cuppa afterwards, come along and meet our friendly daytime group.

CLUB NIGHT. (Tuesdays, 7pm onwards) A year-round, relaxed drop-in session for adult members of all abilities. We occasionally crack open the Pimms and mulled wine too!

COACHING (FEES APPLY). Whether you're starting from scratch or want to brush up your backhand, our LTA registered coach, Bex Tillet, offers all levels of coaching for adults and children, on a group or individual basis.

LEAGUE MATCHES (FEES APPLY). For those keen to play regular, competitive tennis, we run a number of Women's, Men's and Mixed teams in various divisions of the Aylesbury Vale League.

If you're interested in any of the above or would like to 'try us out' before joining, please contact us at cheddingtontennisclub@gmail.com

VILLAGE WALKING GROUP.

A group of us get together every other Wednesday morning for a walk in our lovely countryside. We meet at the Green at 9.15 am and drive to a different spot each time and walk for 4 – 5 miles at a relaxed pace with plenty of time to chat and admire the views. Lifts can be arranged if necessary. We are usually back in the village by mid-day. New walkers are very welcome. For more information contact Mary Peacock on 662620, Nicola Barron on 668347 or email cheddingtonwalkers@gmail.com.

CALENDAR

MAY

- 1st Parish Council Annual Meeting. 7pm. Pavilion
- 6th Bowls Club Open Day. 2pm
- 8th Residents Assoc. meeting. 7.15pm. Methodist Hall
- 14th Singalong Café. Methodist Chapel. 2.30pm
- 15th Newsletter copy date
- 16th Flower Club. 7.30. Methodist Hall
- 20th History Society. Methodist Hall. Church. 8pm
- 23rd Junior Badminton season ends.
- 25th Repair Café. 9.30–12.30. Ivinghoe Hub
- 25th–27th Mentmore Arts Festival
- 26th Farmers Market. 11am–3pm. Village Hall

JUNE

- 22nd/23rd Spirit Group Production. Village Hall
- 30th Farmers Market. 11am-3pm. Village Hall

JULY

- 6th Ivinghoe Library AGM. 9.30am Library

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***Thurs 9th May**

**Blue Recycling Bin
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Weds 15th May

**Green Refuse Bin
& Food Waste Bin**

Weds 22nd May

**Blue Recycling Bin
& Food Waste Bin**

***Thurs 30th May**

**Green Refuse Bin
& Food Waste Bin**

***Due to Bank Holidays**

Garden Waste bins

Bancroft St, Berryfield, Brownlow Lane,
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Manor Road, Sunnybank, and The Balk –
1st, 15th, 30th May

Rest of Village – **9th, 22nd May**

**For the latest news see the AVDC website –
www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk**