

Cheddington Village Newsletter

No. 541– April 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 April Monthly Meeting will be held on Wednesday 3rd April 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 meeting. If you wish anything to be discussed at the meeting please advise the Clerk well in advance of the Agenda being finalized.

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. It's been a quiet month! No applications and no determinations were discussed at the March PC meeting

GRASS CUTTING 2024. Hopefully by the time of publication Simon will have started to cut the grass verges and village large green spaces. Therefore, can we remind all residents to PLEASE pick up the dog poop as it is not very pleasant for him/his work colleagues if it catches in his mower!

As a reminder during the summer months the PC has requested that the contractor comes out over 2 days every 2 weeks per month so that the village looks tidy in one go! Obviously, this is weather dependent.

April-September – 2 cuts per month plus strimming

Mar/Oct/Nov – 1 cut per month plus strimming

Hedges cut by the Parish Council (NB not all hedges) – 1 a year

NEW SECURE FENCE AT THE

RECREATION GROUND. After liaising with Network Rail for a well over a year, the Parish Council is delighted to confirm that the new fence at the railway track boundary of the Recreation Ground has been installed by Network Rail. Another job ticked off the list!

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

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.

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.

As from 1st April 2024 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>.

WARDEN NEEDED FOR CHEDDINGTON ALLOTMENTS! 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 next Residents' Association committee meeting will be on Wednesday 10th April at 7.15pm in the Methodist Church Hall. Please come along to tell us of any issues.

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.

A new vision A for parking across

Buckinghamshire. Buckinghamshire Council has unveiled its vision and ambition for parking across the county as part of a new Parking Strategy which sets out how the service will develop in coming years.

From embracing new technology to providing customers with greater choice and flexibility and from streamlining parking charges to promoting greater safety and reducing congestion, the document, which was agreed by Cabinet yesterday (Thursday 22 February), starts to align the different on and off-street parking arrangements from the previous legacy councils into one strategy which covers the whole county.

Key aims within the strategy include:

- A commitment to maintaining the upkeep of quality parking provision across the county.
- Working to ensure the council's parking operations are fully self-funded as is required legally.
- Exploring ways to give people flexibility in parking options across the county.
- Intelligent use of parking enforcement to ensure effective enforcement locally and county-wide.
- A gradual transition to online/digital payments for all parking, reflecting trends in payment preferences which have accelerated in recent years, whilst maintaining cash payments for as long as economically possible in existing locations.
- Ensuring residents and customers are kept fully informed of changes.

The strategy has been informed by a previous review of current parking arrangements and starts to address inconsistencies across the county and identify where changes are needed to provide a better service for residents.

One of the first actions the council is taking is signing up to the National Parking Platform (NPP), a Department for Transport pilot scheme which aims to provide greater flexibility in paying for parking while providing value for money. The scheme will be piloted in council car parks in Wycombe and will allow customers to choose which supplier they purchase their parking time through.

Council pledges an extra £5 million

investment in fixing roads. Buckinghamshire Council has pledged an extra £5 million of funding this coming year to boost investment in repairs to roads across the county, adding to the £105 million already committed to the road network over the next four years.

The money will be used to fund much needed repairs across the county caused by long periods of very wet weather this winter, and councillors agreed to 'deploy the funding as quickly as possible'.

In total Buckinghamshire Council has committed £110m to highway repairs and improvements over the next four years. The overall investment will go towards maintaining and improving the road network across the county,

including a range of works and schemes, from the so-called 'Plane and Patch' programme, where whole sections of roads are resurfaced, to one-off large scale projects like Station Road Cheddington and cleansing our 85,000 gullies.

As we move into warmer weather in the spring months the temporary repairs reduce in number so longer-lasting improvement works and bigger resurfacing projects can be undertaken.

This is the second year in a row that Buckinghamshire Councillors have committed an additional £5 million of funding for the county's roads, recognising the impact of two wet winters and what residents have asked for their money to be spent on.

Money down the drain for a company prosecuted for fly-tipping in Bucks.

A drainage company has paid a hefty price for making the error of paying a rogue trader to dispose of their commercial waste after it was found fly-tipped in Buckinghamshire.

Drainiac Ltd, pleaded guilty to the offense of failing in their duty of care when transferring waste to a waste remover when the case was heard at High Wycombe Magistrates Court on Wednesday 21 February 2024.

The court heard that on Wednesday 21 June 2023, mixed building waste was found dumped at Gravelly Way, Penn, in Buckinghamshire. Buckinghamshire Council's waste enforcement team carries out regular searches of the area, due to it being heavily blighted with fly-tipping.

On this occasion, an enforcement officer found evidence amongst the waste linking it to an address in Eastern Dene, High Wycombe. The details were later traced back to a company called Drainiac Ltd who explained they were approached by a man with a van asking for scrap metal. Drainiac Ltd had no scrap metal but explained they had some waste. The man with the van accepted £50 cash and removed the waste from the property.

Magistrates at High Wycombe Magistrates' Court fined Drainiac Ltd £4,000 and ordered them to pay a

contribution of £1,049.89 towards the council's clean up and investigation costs - making a total to pay of £5,049.89.

Roofing company pays a high price in court.

A roofing and building company who failed to carry out proper checks on a 'man with a van' who offered to dispose of trade waste for them has paid a high price for its error after being prosecuted in court.

Highlife Roofing and Builders Ltd pleaded guilty to the offence of failing in its duty of care when transferring waste to a waste remover when appearing at High Wycombe Magistrates Court on Wednesday 21 February 2024.

The court heard that on Tuesday 18 July 2023, mixed building waste, including black sacks and wooden material, was found dumped at Holtspur Lane, Wooburn Green in Buckinghamshire. An officer from Buckinghamshire Council's waste enforcement team investigated and found evidence amongst the dumped waste, giving an address in The Green, Wooburn Green, High Wycombe.

The details were later traced back to a company called Highlife Roofing and Builders Ltd, who explained they were approached by a man with a van who offered to remove waste from a property.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



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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.

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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

The man took the waste which was later found dumped just down the road from where it had been collected. Highlife Roofing and Builders Ltd workers admitted they saw the waste dumped the next day but explained they didn't pick it back up as it was 'no longer their problem'.

Magistrates at High Wycombe Magistrates' Court fined Highlife Roofing and Builders Ltd £6,000 and ordered the company to pay a contribution of £1,289.71 towards the council's clean up and investigation costs – making a total to pay of £7289.71.

New library collections will provide invaluable resource for families with children.

A new range of books covering topics around parenting, childhood and childcare are now available for loan at two libraries in Buckinghamshire.

Parenting and Childcare Topics (PACT) is a unique collection of 170 different books designed to help parents and carers of children and young people to navigate a variety of topics from pregnancy, to dealing with complex emotions and situations, right up to approaching university. The books cover everything from general parenting tips to specific situations such as being separated parents or caring for a child with special educational needs and disabilities.

Many of the books are written directly for adults, but a number are also written for the children and young people, including books around bullying and puberty.

A variety of books on the topics of parenting and childcare are already available across all libraries in Buckinghamshire but the enhanced PACT series has been introduced in two of the biggest libraries as an additional resource, with the support of local business, Limitless Tutoring, who have sponsored the collections.

Creating an age friendly Buckinghamshire for all.

Buckinghamshire Council has outlined its commitment to helping older people in Buckinghamshire live healthy, active and independent lives as set out in its Healthy Ageing Strategy which has been formally approved by the council this week.

The document sets out the vision for how Buckinghamshire aspires to be a place for all residents to enjoy growing older in an age friendly community. The strategy also includes an action plan of how the vision will be achieved.

Angela Macpherson, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing explained: "Healthy aging means living a healthy and fulfilling life, being able to participate in activities and contribute to your community. It also encompasses having financial security and living in a suitable home in a safe and thriving community. With the right policies, environments and support, people can age well and live independent and meaningful lives."

To become an age friendly community, the strategy focuses on eight interconnecting areas outlined by the World Health Organisation (WHO):

- Outdoor spaces and buildings
- Transport
- Housing
- Participation in society
- Volunteering and employment
- Communication and information
- Community support for health and wellbeing

• Respect and social inclusion

In the first year, the focus for Buckinghamshire will be on two priorities - outdoor spaces and buildings, and participating in society.

To oversee the implementation of the strategy a multi-agency Age Friendly Bucks Partnership has been set up with external partners including the NHS and voluntary sector organisations. The views and ideas of residents and community groups have shaped the aims of the strategy and will continue to inform the implementation.

To further support the success of the strategy Buckinghamshire Council has joined the UK Network of Age Friendly Communities which is run by the Centre for Ageing Better and affiliated to the WHO's Global Network for Age Friendly Cities and Communities. Being a member of this network provides access a range of additional resources including good practice guidance and advice. In addition, the council has partnered locally with Age UK Buckinghamshire to ensure a local focus is maintained.

Road repairs Goose Acre – West End Road.

By the time you read this newsletter the long-awaited work on the Goose Acre - West End Road repairs should be completed. Last month we were not sure this project would be included in the 2023/24 financial year but as we all now aware we have been fortunate. Although there are other areas in the village that will need attention none were as bad as the section around the junctions of Hillside, Goose Acre and Sunnybank where it appears the road was never properly constructed by the developer when the houses were built at the top end of Goose Acre in the 1960's. We expect that the quality is to be as good as the Station Road.

Councillor Derek Town

FARMING AND FOOD

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

As I write on 13th March, we have had another 15 ml of rain in the last 24 hours and all the floods in the fields and all around are back! According to the Meteorological Office we had the wettest February since records began in 1836, with 445.8mm of rain.

This last six months has resulted in a lack of crops in the ground and the pressures on growers is affecting their mental health. We urgently need some good weather to give us some chance of planting crops for the spring and summer. Those of you who have vegetable plots or allotments will be able to relate to this... you can't even get a fork into the ground right now it's so sodden.

Stock farmers with sheep and lambs which need to go outside are waiting for dry weather too.

I have been wondering how potato farmers are affected by the wet weather and can quote from a recent article. A Lancashire farmer says his business has been hit both in harvesting and storage quality. In January some 20% of the crop – which should have been harvested in October – remained in the ground, while he keeps hope of harvesting some in the spring, frost and rot is likely to lead to an overall yield loss of as much as 50%. Across various parts of the country, growers have reported lower yields and wet crops going into store and then breaking down. For the consumer I guess it means more increased prices and more imported food if available.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



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Other countries also have their climate problems, however.

I recently made a short trip to Iceland. Now there's a country with agricultural challenges. Although our visit wasn't particularly agricultural but with G Adventures, I did learn a little about the farming. In between climbing Glaciers, going underground in a lava tunnel and bathing in a hot spring!

They have a very short growing season but do grow grain such as wheat and barley. Also, they store lots of hay and straw as I could see wrapped circular bales in stacks at the farmsteads. Big modern barns could be seen in some places and these would be housing their animals for the winter. Sheep, cattle and pigs. We did visit one farm for lunch where we ate their own beef burgers which were delicious. The animals were in the same barn as ourselves on a different level, in deep straw and munching hay. Free to wander about they could lay in one of the feeding bays and visit the robot milker when they wanted. A very modern concept.

The Icelandic horse is a beautiful animal. Originating in Scandinavia they are short and stocky with very thick coats and a special gait. They have two additional gaits to other horses. The Tolt and Flying Pace. We were lucky enough to see this when out driving and it is most unusual and beautiful to watch. These horses are very popular around the world, particularly as a teaching aid. As they are a very good first horse. They are exported all around the world.

One of my first meals in Reykjavik was Skyr yoghurt which they eat with single cream and brown sugar! I avoided the additions and it was absolutely scrumptious. I was told that the Icelandic Skyr is the best!

We were taken for a visit to a tomato grower. Like here, huge greenhouses full of tomato vines but water from the glaciers heated by their natural heat and piped around. I was fascinated by the bee colonies which are brought in from Holland in special cardboard boxes. These are placed high up above the flowering vines, opened, and the bees fly around pollinating.

Hot of the press! in the latest Farmers Weekly, as I finish writing on March 16th...English Farmers plan to be the first to grow GE Crops. Gene-edited cereal cultivars. Two wheats, Cadenza and Fielder, and a barley called 'Golden Promise'. The opportunity to grow gene-edited crops in England follows the enactment of the Genetic Technology (Precision Breeding) Bill in 2023. The legal change applies to England only. This has yet to be adopted by devolved parliaments and the EU.

NOTICES

PACE. This year's Pace BIG Walk routes will take on 21st April in the ancient Ridgeway Trail. There is a choice of 18m, 12m, 6m or The Superhero Mile routes.

There is something to suit all ages and abilities. This is a great opportunity to set yourself a challenge for 2024 and have some outdoor fun.

By taking part in the BIG Walk, you will not only have the opportunity to explore this beautiful countryside in a completely unique way, but you will also be helping us to provide life changing support to babies, children and young people with neurodisabilities; www.thepacecentre.org.

UPDATE FROM CHEDDINGTON COMBINED SCHOOL.

Message from Mrs Brown, Headteacher:

I joined the school in September 2023, and have been enjoying getting to know the school, staff, children and parents. Something that I noticed immediately upon joining the school was how well behaved and absolutely wonderful the children are. Their eagerness to learn, impeccable manners and the kindness they show to each other - they truly are remarkable and make me very proud.

Since joining the school, together with the staff, we've been working to implement positive changes, along with support from our governors, parents and of course the children.

We now also have a school dog - Bella. I had Bella at my previous school and am delighted that she is now part of Cheddington School. She visits school regularly to see the children and 'a walk with Bella' has been very popular as part of our new positive behaviour policy.

I'm looking forward to getting involved further with the wider community of Cheddington, and would like to thank all of you who have made me very welcome here.

From our PTA: The Cheddington Combined School PTA is excited to share that the new clothes bank has arrived and is located near the back gates of the school off Lammas Road. Anyone in the village is welcome to use the facility so please donate your unwanted clothing and household fabrics to help raise funds for the school. The PTA will receive 40p for every kilo of usable clothing donated.

A list of accepted items is on the clothes bank itself and you can find out more info on what happens to the items donated here via <https://kidsjustrecycle.co.uk/faqs/> Items do need to be in a wearable condition, so please no soiled/damaged items. Thank you and happy clearing!

From our Governing Board: We are looking for new governors from our local community.

Governors play a vital role for the school. The role of the Governing Board is a strategic one; working with the school to provide strategic leadership and support to the headteacher and staff.

If you'd like to find out more, please contact our Chair of Governors, Martyn Dolbear, by email - gboard@cheddington.bucks.sch.uk.

Cheddington Combined School has a zero tolerance approach to cyberbullying. We will not tolerate abusive, disrespectful or repeated negativity directed at either our staff or pupils - whether via email, text or social media. We reserve the right to take all appropriate action, including sharing content with investigating authorities.

Cheddington Playscheme 2024

We are looking for volunteers to help out at the playscheme during 1 week of the summer holidays.

Could you spare a few hours or days to support this wonderful scheme for the village children?

For Further information, please contact Lucie on luciefountain@hotmail.com. DBS Check is required.

Copy date for the next issue:
April 15th

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REPAIR CAFE Our next Ivinghoe & Pitstone Repair Café will be held on Saturday 27th April between 9.30 – 12.30 at the **Pitstone Pavilion**. 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 400 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 F Ivinghoe & Pitstone Repair Café

Or send us an email ivinghoerepaircafe@gmail.com

Or give Kim a ring on 07778279109

MENTMORE ARTS FESTIVAL

2024. The 14th Mentmore Arts Festival will take place from Saturday May 25th -Bank Holiday Monday 27th 2024. We now showcase over 60 artists, twice the number from our opening year. There are painters, ceramists, glassworkers, 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

LOCAL FARMERS & CRAFT MARKET.

Cheddington Farmer's and Craft Markets will be held on the last Sunday of every month April to October 2024 at Cheddington Village.

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

Buying from our markets can help you shop and eat more sustainably, this also means you're directly supporting all independent local growers, producers, artisan, charities, and craft businesses.

You will be spoilt for choice! There is something for everybody! Including entertainment and fun activities for the families to enjoy. Everyone is welcome. **FREE ENTRY.**

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR GARDEN WASTE SUBSCRIPTION.

The garden waste bins of some of the Cheddington villagers have not been emptied recently, and they may not be aware of changes to the subscription system as follows:

The North Garden Team are changing the way that you pay for your Garden Waste subscription. They are no

longer collecting payment by Direct Debit. Instead, they are giving you the opportunity to start your subscription on a date that suits you by changing to a rolling 12-month subscription.

Please go to their website, and follow the instructions to make payment using either a credit or debit card. Currently the subscription costs £55 per bin per year and they will send you a new sticker when they receive payment, which takes around 10 working days.

There will no longer be any invoices issued. You need to go to the website to subscribe and renew

If you require help, please refer to the garden waste FAQs on their website which may be able to help you. Alternatively, please contact our customer services team on 0300 131 6000."

St.GILES PARISH CHURCH.

For all enquiries please contact Team Rector Howard Robson 01296 688593; Team Vicar Andrew Krauss 07508 213154.



The New Life of Easter. First of all, happy Eastertide to everyone. Eastertide comprises fifty days of celebration concerning the Resurrection of Christ, and it is rightly said that this is a celebration of the promise of a *new* form of life – a new way of being as we are drawn to participate even in the life and the nature of God Himself in Christ. Resurrection is not merely some form of resuscitation, in which life just somehow comes back but otherwise continues exactly how it always had done.

People often remark on Easter as being fittingly represented by the re-emergence of life in the springtime, but this doesn't actually capture the more 'radical' sense of *newness* suggested by the Resurrection Life, since the new growth of Spring is simply a resprouting of what we are already accustomed to. The word 'radical' comes from the Latin word *radix*, meaning root. Eastertide, in this sense, aims to get nearer to the *root* of what a truly fulfilling life – one that is actively drawn into the Life of God through and in Christ – actually is. This is the Easter promise of an ultimate renewal of life, known in the New Testament texts as the 'new creation'.

In Christian tradition this new creation is something we are called to explore, and to do so means learning from the lesson of Lent that other things might need to be 'let go of' first. A classic Easter Sunday text is therefore the story of a woman called Mary Magdalene encountering the risen Christ outside the empty tomb. Though she doesn't recognize that it is Christ at first, as soon as she does her first reaction is to cling to Him, and she is immediately told by Christ *not* to do so, because He, the Son of God, must return to the Father, in order to draw her and others into the Life of God. Like Mary, our journey does not simply end at Easter, nor does it end by clinging to our first conception or partial recognition of the risen Christ. Instead, Easter is the new beginning of a new form of exploration concerning a newly promised transformation of life to come.

A blessed Eastertide to you all

Andrew Krauss

Services St.Giles and St. Mary's

April

Thurs 5th	9.15am	Mid-week Communion	St.Giles
Sun 7th	9.00 am	B.C.P.	St Giles
	10.30 am	Family Service	St Giles

CONTINUED ON PAGE12

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Sun 14th	10.30 am	Holy Communion	St Giles
Sun 21st	9.00 am	Holy Communion	St Mary's
	10.30 am	Holy Communion	St Giles
Sun, 28th	10.30 am	Morning Worship	St Giles
May			
Thurs 2nd	9.15am	Mid-week Communion	St Giles
Sun 5th	9.00 am	B.C.P.	St Giles
	10.30 am	Family Service	St Giles
	04.00 pm	Holy Communion	St Mary's

CHEDDINGTON CHURCH.

METHODIST

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 unless otherwise stated.

SERVICES FOR APRIL

- 7 3 pm Rev Hee-gon Moon
- 14 Mrs Paulette Tedd
- 21 Rev Arthur Cowburn – Service of Holy Communion
3.30 pm Messy Church – Rev Noreen Daley-Lee
- 28 Mr Peter Baker

A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER.

I was pleasantly surprised on hearing the prehistoric idiom "Cleanliness is next to godliness" mentioned in a conversation at a church event a few weeks ago. Like this individual, I grew up with the idea that the saying signifies people have a moral duty to keep themselves and their homes clean. It is an archaic proverb found in Babylonian and Hebrew religious tracts.

The inauguration of the idiom in the English language, in a modified form is found in the writings of philosopher and scientist Sir Francis Bacon. He wrote, "Cleanness of body was ever deemed to proceed from a due reverence to God." John Wesley, the co-founder of Methodism, may have been the originator of the slogan. In 1791, he referenced the phrase in one of his sermons as we use it today. Wesley wrote, "Slovenliness is no part of religion. Cleanliness is indeed next to Godliness."

However, the general principle behind the practice dates back long before the time of Wesley to the worship customs mentioned in the book of Leviticus. The Israelites were certainly concerned about the concepts of "clean" and "unclean" because a major portion of the Mosaic Law outlines the principles of each. Among the unclean things that God's people were to avoid are dead bodies and carcasses, eating certain animals, leprosy, and bodily discharges.

But Jesus extended its meaning in a discourse about traditions in Matthew's Gospel where He challenged the religious leaders, "It is not what goes into the mouth of a man that defiles and dishonours him, but what comes out of the mouth, this defiles and dishonours him." Initially after hearing the idiom, I didn't know if that person was only referring to keeping the church clean or something far deeper. Was it just about wiping the floor; the pots and pans; the toilets; dusting the benches; the cupboards? I am not sure! On the contrary, the Biblical understanding of this archaic proverb has an inward resolution that modifies or metamorphoses the outward that not only please us but God.

Therefore, shining the cupboards and counter-tops should reflect what is within the heart. Cleanliness is next to godliness refers to our responsibility to have a relationship with God whereby we explicitly recognize Him, listen to what He says, and obey with the goal of the keeping our hearts pure, clean, and assertive to the things of God. We believers must hold to the central reality of our faith, Christ, for He is the source of all our righteousness, holiness, and redemption. I think "Cleanliness is next to godliness" is not an illusion. How eerily prophetic those words can be!

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 9 April 2.30–4.30 pm** at the Methodist Chapel. It will be led by accomplished musicians and singers, Karen on piano and Cathy on the clarinet. 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. If anyone feels moved to make a cake, then that would be greatly appreciated - if not then there will be biscuits and tea or coffee.

OPEN DOORS – Friday morning 10.30 a.m – 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.

MENS' GROUP: This usually meets on **the first Friday** of each month at 10.45 am to noon. Contact Chris Shephard on 661849.

BOOKS and JIGSAWS: There is a selection 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, jigsaws or DVDs that you would like to pass on do bring them along.

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.

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

SCHOOLROOM BOOKINGS. For all enquiries, please contact Janet Banham email: j.banham@btinternet.com.

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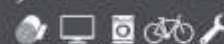
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Tuesday 6.00pm - 7.30pm Wednesday 9.15am - 10.45am

Monthly Gong Baths on a Friday at 8.00pm

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

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SOCIETIES

REPAIR CAFE – Our next Ivinghoe & Pitstone Repair Café will be held on Saturday 27th April between 9.30 – 12.30 at the **Pitstone Pavillion**. 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 400 items!



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 17 April - AGM

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



History Society

Monday 15th April 8pm

History of the Royal Bucks Hospital, Aylesbury.

Speaker: John Flewin

Story of the Royal Bucks Hospital, including a newly discovered film that was shown to Cheddington WI in February 1939.

Forthcoming Programme:

20th May: The Cecil Higgins Collection

Speaker: Lydia Saul

The history of the Higgins family and the establishment of a museum and art gallery collection in Bedford.



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

Handbag safety. It is very easy for opportunists in supermarkets to open your handbag and take your purse. This happened to a resident in Cheddington recently. On this occasion the purse was hanging out of the bag when thankfully the person realised that someone had opened her bag and was about to take her purse. Please be aware of the people around you and keep your handbag closed, in view and positioned at the front of you.

Handbags left in cars are easy pickings so please always take your handbag with you even if you are only going to be away for a minute.. It only takes a minute to



smash the car window and take the bag even when under the passenger seat.

Do you want to be included in NHW Cascade email messages?

Being aware reduces crime. Contact us on neighbourhoodwatchcheddington@gmail.com.



SPIRIT YOUTH GROUP.

Established in 1995, Spirit meets every Wednesday in term time at the Village Hall, between 6.30 and 8.00pm. The group is fortunate to have a host of talented adults who help to put on the shows. Some are parents and many are involved with CADS, Cheddington Pantomime Group, MASH and other local drama societies.

Spirit puts on a full scale musical production every year at the Village Hall. Previous shows include Bugsy Malone, Peter Pan, Treasure Island and Arabian Nights. Throughout the rest of the year members enjoy games and improvisations that encourage self-confidence, teamwork, discipline, quick-thinking, self-expression, good communication, creativity and much more

Young people are welcome to visit and see whether they would like to become full members, although there is usually a waiting list. Spirit is always on the lookout for adults to help with everything from set building to lighting, sound, costumes and make-up.

For parents of potential members or adults wanting to help, please contact Colin on 07817 847099 or Ian on 07734 958745 to discuss.

Previously the group has mounted productions every year since 1996 (except 2007 and 2021/2 due to covid).



1st Cheddington Scout

Group.

A big "Well Done" to all the Cubs, Scouts, Explorers, leaders and helpers who represented and supported Cheddington in the Endurance hiking events on March 2nd. This is a large event in the district with 1000 walkers taking part from across the area. Three teams of Cubs completed the 10km event, four teams of Scouts completed the 40km hike and two teams of Explorers took on the 60km hike. Through very muddy conditions and some very tired legs by the end, all teams completed the challenge! This is a fantastic achievement and shows great spirit and determination by all involved.

With the dark evenings still with there has not been much opportunity to get outdoors but all sections have still managed to pack in a lot of activity, with a few highlights as follows:

- Beavers have enjoyed lots of fun and games around the hut
- Cubs had a great trip to Tring Fire Station where they explored the engines and even had a go on the hose (with some very wet leaders at the end)!
- Scouts were worked hard during a fitness session run by one of the parents (many thanks for wearing them out!)
- Explorers showed off their ice-skating skills at MK Ice Rink

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.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

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A lot of interest has been expressed 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 / Friday 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

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.

JUNIOR BADMINTON CLUB. 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 will start on 21st April, when most of the members will be playing in a friendly competition in the afternoon. If you might be interested in bowling, please feel free to come along to watch and meet some of us. All potential bowlers are invited to join a taster session on Tuesday afternoons, or Friday evenings when there will be a coach available to introduce you to the sport, and you will be able to meet some of our members. If neither of those times are suitable, then we could make other arrangements with our coach to suit you.

Experienced bowlers are of course also welcome to join.

There is more information on our website at <https://cheddingtonbowls.org.uk/>

Please contact admin@cheddingtonbowls.org.uk or leave a message on 01296 661381 if you are interested in coming to give it a try so that we can make sure there is a coach there for you.

TENNIS CLUB.

NEW MEMBERS. We're your friendly local club and always keen to welcome new members. We have sessions to suit individuals and families of ALL ages and standards – from complete novices through to experienced league players. Come and try us out, we'd love to meet you!



COACHING. Bex Stanley is our LTA registered coach. She runs our coaching for adults and children, on a group or individual basis.

CLUB NIGHT. Throughout the year on (most) Tuesday evenings, we hold a relaxed club night for members of all abilities, starting at 7pm. It's also a great opportunity for potential members to come down and try us out for free.

DAYTIME TENNIS. If you're around during the week (Mondays & Fridays) and fancy playing some social tennis, we have a thriving daytime group.

MATCHES. For those keen to play slightly more competitive tennis, we run a number of teams in the Aylesbury Vale League.

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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FURTHER INFORMATION. So, if you'd like to get fit, have fun and improve your game, please contact us at: <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/CheddingtonTennisClub>.

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 midday. New walkers are very welcome. For more information contact Mary Peacock on 662620, Nicola Barron on 668347 or email cheddingtonwalkers@gmail.com.

CALENDAR

APRIL

3rd Parish Council Meeting. 7pm. Pavilion
9th Singalong Café. Methodist Chapel. 2.30pm
10th Residents Assoc. meeting. 7.15pm. Methodist Hall
15th History Society. Methodist Hall. Church. 8pm
17th Flower Club. 7.30. Methodist Hall
27th Repair Café. 9.30–12.30. Ivinghoe Hub
28th Litter Pick 10.30. The Green.

MAY

25th –27th Mentmore Arts Festival

JUNE

23rd/24th Spirit Group Production. Village Hall

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 cooperation would be very much appreciated.

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.

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.

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 Saturday 10am – 1pm

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Foodbank Collections.

Thur/Fri/Sat - 6th/7th/8th June 2024

Thur/Fri/Sat - 5th/6th/7th Sept 2024

Thur/Fri/Sat - 5th/6th/7th Dec 2024

Bins will be outside Cheddington Methodist Church.

If you are struggling and are short of supplies, please
call Babs on 07860 780127.

If you would like items picked up please call Carol
07931

No fresh food. Please put items in plastic bags.

If you would like items picked up please call Carol
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AVDC Refuse Collection Dates

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| *Thurs 4th April | Green Refuse Bin
& Food Waste Bin |
| Weds 10th April | Blue Recycling Bin
& Food Waste Bin |
| Weds 17th April | Green Refuse Bin
& Food Waste Bin |
| Weds 24th April | Blue Recycling Bin
& Food Waste Bin |

***Due to Bank Hoilidays**

Garden Waste bins

Bancroft St, Berryfield, Brownlow Lane,
Gooseacre, Hillside, Long Marston Road,
Manor Road, Sunnybank, and The Baulk –
4th, 17th March

Rest of Village – **10th, 24th March**

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