

the
Bellingdon & Asheridge

Newsletter

**Fete
 Doorknock**

The Village Fete is just around the corner (**Thursday 12 June 6-8.30pm**) and, as happens every year, a merry band of fete volunteers will be doing the annual doorknock to collect any goodies you could donate for our fete: for stalls, tombola and the raffle.

Items that would be particularly welcome include bottles of wine, good quality toys and games, books and crockery for the china smash.

This is also your opportunity to buy raffle tickets (first prize is £100) and to get a free programme. A flyer will come through your door the week before to give more details, but if you would like to join the door knock team, please email fete@bellingdon.com.



Helen Griffiths, Liz Warren, Felix Warry, Jules Eyles, Katusha Warry, Barbara Baker, Don Baker at the start of the renovations.

Breaking Ground

Work has started on the new annex to the village hall, using the funding awarded by Sport England. A few Bellingdoners came to see the breaking of the ground.

The new building will have 2 toilets (1 disabled), official's changing room, kitchenette and external store (for the pitch marking equipment currently in the showers). Also it will provide a small hall about 17.5 sq metres which will be self contained. It is hoped that this unit could provide an alternative to the main hall for smaller groups, as it would potentially make an excellent meeting space. The building works should be completed around mid July.

We will be seeking volunteers to help decorate the new annex at this time, and we also need help to repaint the external walls of the main hall and the changing rooms. If you are able to help, please email contact@bellingdon.com or phone 01494 757195.

Save the Date!

Village Fete	BAVH AGM	Waterperry Gardens	Hort Soc Annual Show
Sat 28 June	10 July	20 August	13 September
12.30-5pm Village hall	7.30pm for Drinks, Cheese & Biscuits in the hall	Hort Soc coach trip and day out	2.30pm in the village hall





Rachel Watts and Tracey Ryan at the Plant Sale

Hort Soc: Let's bee Bee-Friendly

In these times of falling bee populations, we gardeners need to do our bit for our pollinators.

The recipe below is for a small bee friendly patio pot that will attract bees. You can double up on plants for a larger pot or add any of the following annuals: Antirrhinums (Snap Dragons), Cosmos, Poach Egg Plant or Single flowered Dahlias.

Recipe:

- 1 x Scabious
- 1 x Lavender
- 1 x perennial Salvia

You could also try sowing Wild Flowers on a patch of your lawn and leaving it to grow, which the bees will also love. This has the added benefit of cutting down on the mowing - so everyone's a winner!

The Hort Soc enjoyed another successful Plant Sale on 17 May. We sold lots of plants and it was a great opportunity for sharing gardening tips over a cup of tea and slice of cake.

Look out for the Hort Soc stall at the Village Fete on the 28th. They will be selling plants as well as having a basket raffle.

Happy Gardening! And please email your Thrifty Tips for re-using and recycling in the garden to tryan9605@hotmail.com.

Curvaceous Cook: Leftovers Chutney

I had quite a lot of dried fruit left over last Christmas, so when my little Bramley tree was groaning with gorgeous apricot coloured apples (I challenge you to find them like that in the supermarket!) I thought I would have a go at inventing my own chutney. You could use whatever dried fruit you have and like.



- 6lb Bramley apples
- 2 large onions
- About 2 lbs dried fruit. I used prunes, apricots and dates
- 1pt white wine vinegar, or apple vinegar
- 2 heaped tsp chilli powder and 1 tsp chilli flakes (this does give quite a warm chutney, add more or less to taste!)
- 2 tsp ground cumin
- 2 ½ lb sugar (as dark brown as you like)

Put all fruit and veg through the largest processor grater, or chop them small.

Put everything into a big pan. Bubble gently for about an hour till the fruit is soft and the vinegar is no longer showing on the surface.

Bottle in clean dry jars, and keep in the dark - ideally for at least a month.

What's been happening?

Opening of the Notice board

BAVH are always looking for ways to communicate with our community and as a further step to help with this, they have put up a new, more visible notice board to share information with you. We officially "opened" the notice board in the middle of May with Felix Warry cutting the ribbon to declare it "open". The first poster to go up has been the Village Fete poster and coming soon will be a map of the houses in the village so we can all contend with less lost people. If you would like to put a notice on the board, please email contact@bellington.com



Barn Dance

The Bellingdon Belles' Barn Dance on the 17th May was a great evening. Everyone was in good spirits and although it felt very busy, there was plenty of space for people to dance.

The caller particularly made the evening, with a great sense of humour and good crowd control skills. Helen Griffith's lamb and butternut tagines were wonderful and the talk of the town all of the next week. The final total of £676 after paying the band, will go towards the hall charity and a hopefully imminent refurbishment of the kitchen.

Litter Pick

Thank you to all the brave volunteers (and one pooch) who turned up for this year's litter pick towards the end of Spring. Numerous cans of beer, tires and other random items of rubbish were removed from Bellingdon, now a cleaner and prettier village. Afterwards, refreshments were served to the deserving crew.



Whist Drive

On Saturday 22nd March the Bellingdon Belles organised a whist drive at the village hall. Over 50 players attended the evening, ranging in skill from a number who play regularly to a table of complete novices at the game. The event was run as a series rounds with players moving tables and scoring points as they went.

Master of ceremonies Hugh Griffiths kept things moving and the enjoyment was broken only to serve fish & chips part way through the proceedings. The eventual winners scored over 80 points and won the Grand Prize. The evening was enjoyed by all the attendees and we hope that the Belles repeat the event again soon.

Chairman's Chat



Welcome to the Summer Newsletter. I start with a reminder that the village fete will be on Saturday 28th June from 12.30pm. We are now in our final stages of preparation and we hope you will come along to enjoy yourself. There will be the usual fun dog show, BBQ, beer tent, archery, children's corner plus much more so come along and enjoy the afternoon with your family, friends and pooches. There is still time to volunteer to help out on a stall, even if it is only for an hour or two!

The fete committee is organizing their annual door knock on **Thursday 12th June (6-8.30pm)**. We will be delivering programmes, selling raffle tickets and collecting any donations you can offer for the raffle, tombola and stalls.

I have previously mentioned our plans for improving the village hall facilities and I am pleased to say that planning has gone through and work has started on the new changing room annex. Whilst we will endeavour to keep disruption to a minimum, please can I ask you to bear with us until the works are completed. Once they are, we will plan the upgrade of the hall toilets and kitchen, which we can do once we have raised the necessary funds for these.

A great deal has been done by this and previous committees over the last 5+ years to steadily improve all the facilities. Whilst some of the work is unseen (like electrical improvements), the playground and changing room annex will there for all to see and benefit from for many years to come. None of this would have been possible without your support at previous fete's and fund raising events (like last month's Barn Dance). So, on behalf of everyone concerned, can I thank you for your continued support.

I am looking forward to seeing you on the 28th at the Fete.

And do come along to the AGM on 10th July from 7.30pm

Alf Field

Chairman, Bellingdon and Asheridge Village Hall Charity Committee

Parish News

Members of Chartridge Parish Council represent the villages of Pednor, Bellingdon, Asheridge and Chartridge. They work with our parishioners and the District and County Councils to help maintain and enhance community services.

Within Bellingdon they have recently campaigned hard for the resurfacing of Chesham Road, have successfully nominated The Bull as an Asset of Community Value, organised much of the roadside hedge cutting and are lobbying as hard as they can to retain home to school transport for our local children. One of the more significant projects that they have worked on is the development of affordable housing within the village – work is now well under way at Bloomfield Cottages, on the building of 4 two-bedroom houses (for a family of 4) and 2 one-bedroom flats (for 2 people).

Please contact our clerk at elizabeth@vanhullen.org if you would like any matter discussed at a parish council meeting. More information on what they do and when and where they meet can be found on www.chartridgeparishcouncil.org.uk.



Details of clubs, events and village news, including hall bookings:

www.bellingdon.com

Please send your comments, questions and ideas for future articles to the Editor at

newsletter@bellingdon.com.