

the
Bellingdon & Asheridge

Newsletter

Village pulls together for successful fete

The fete that almost wasn't turned out to be a great success. Pleas for assistance from the organisers generated a fantastic response from villagers and we were able to go ahead, on an overcast day in late June. The rain mostly held off, at least until clear up time. It was a very soggy bunch of helpers who took everything down and packed away after the event.

This year we had some new attractions – the wonderful Maggie Monk School of Dance performed twice and the unbelievably energetic Louise from Boogie Bounce just kept on going on her trampoline in the car park. Our fete featured on BBC Three Counties' Radio (thanks to Hugh for being the man behind the mike) and in the Bucks Examiner. We also had our own wonderful photographers – Jenny and Steve – snapping away.

Medical Detection Dogs, ably assisted by our own Don Baker, ran the centrepiece fun dog show, which drew competitors across 6 classes. The overall winner and best in show was Foxy. Owner Karen said "What a fantastic day. I am still in utter shock at my little Foxy winning Medical Detection Dog Champion".

There is a selection of photos overleaf, and the full gallery can be seen via the bellingdon.com website. The fete raised approximately £4,500 despite extremely poor weather in the preceding days. Villagers turned out in their hundreds to support the day – for which you have the committee's eternal thanks.

PTO



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What's on

September

Sat 10th Hort Soc Annual Show
 Fri 23rd Pub/Social night
 Sun 25th St John's Harvest Festival

October

Fri 7th Frog Racing
[Not real frogs – Ed]
 Fri 14th Hort Soc Roaring '20s social
 Fri 28th-Sat 29th Book sort/sale.

November

Fri 18th Pub/Social night

Keep in touch!

W: bellingdon.com

T: @bellandash

F: [facebook.com/bavfete](https://www.facebook.com/bavfete)

The money raised will go towards our goal of upgrading the hall’s kitchen facilities and facilitating its voluntary management. We have an amazing hall and playground, not to mention the recreation ground. Why not try it for your next big event?

There is an online calendar of availability and we hope to launch an online booking facility in the autumn. Huge thanks go to Chris and Julie Hood for their ongoing management of hall bookings, while simultaneously rebuilding their house – no mean feat.

None of this would be possible without the support of local community members – from the organising committee to those who donate to the door knock to those that help on the day. We couldn’t do it without you.

The village fete organisers are a lively bunch, and meetings usually take place in a suitable hostelry. There is always room for more helpers, either in advance or on the day so please do get in touch – fete@bellingdon.com



In pictures

Left, top to bottom: the bric-a-brac and tombola stalls; Best in Show winner “Foxy” and owner Karen.

Right, top to bottom: Medical Detection Dogs team and Don Baker; Maggie Monk School of Dance; one of the men’s tug-o-war teams.

Book sort and sale – 28/29th October

No time to browse the book and bric-a-brac stalls at the fete?

Never fear, there will be a second bite at the cherry in the form of a tabletop sale in the hall in October.

We need helpers (refreshments provided) to sort the books from 2-4pm on Friday 28th and then keen bargain hunters from 10-12 on Saturday 29th. Rock bottom prices!

Curvaceous Cook

Lamb stuffed with feta and olives

I thought I would do a recipe which wasn't Italian for a change, and having friends for lunch on a thundery Umbrian Sunday I hit the books.

In the Abel and Cole cookbook, which arrived with my first order a few years ago, I found this recipe, and played around with it a bit. It was delicious, and I will certainly do it again.

For 6 people you will need 2.5 to 3 kg leg of lamb, boned out and butterflied. I used a shoulder, which is hard to find here as the Italians turn the whole lamb into chops!

- a mug of feta (about half a normal pack)
- a mug chopped black olives
- a mug pre-soaked bulgur wheat(I used farro boiled for 10 minutes)
- 1 handful toasted pine nuts or any other nuts
- 2 – 3 cloves crushed garlic
- 2 handfuls chopped rosemary (the chopping helps to bruise the rosemary which releases the flavour), or 2 tbsps dried rosemary, but I would beg fresh from a friend if you don't have it growing
- 2 handfuls chopped fresh parsley or coriander (I used parsley as can't get coriander here)
- juice of 1 lemon, and grated zest of half a lemon
- a glug of olive oil and salt and pepper to taste

Mix all the stuffing bits, then press onto the flattened, butterflied lamb.

Roll it up as tightly as you can, tying with string, and pushing the stray bits of stuffing back into and round the lamb.

Season well with salt and pepper and roast on 180/350/4 for 20 minutes a pound. If you want it well done, just add some time at the end, but better a bit pink.

Rest it for at least 15 minutes before serving.

I made a gravy by sloshing a large glass of red wine into the pan with all the bits which have dropped out and bubbling for a few minutes with a spoonful of mint jelly, but you could use redcurrant jelly, or leave it out altogether!

I served it with thin green beans and some spuds parboiled for 5 minutes with an onion and a sprig of rosemary, then all but the rosemary fried in frylite till crunchy. When ready to serve add a bit of fresh chopped rosemary and a glug of good olive oil.



Dalmatian Fun Day

British Dalmatian Welfare held its annual Fun Day at Bellingdon & Asheridge Village Hall. BDW is a national charity specialising in finding new homes for unwanted Dalmatians.

The day was a great success and the weather stayed kind and dry. People came from all over the country with their rescued Dalmatians. The Fun Day was open to all and we were especially pleased to welcome some local residents and their dogs.

There was a Fun Dog Show, egg and spoon races for owners and their dogs, a chance to try out agility equipment, a photo competition and freshly made food for both people and canines. The black pudding flavour dog biscuits sold out quickly!

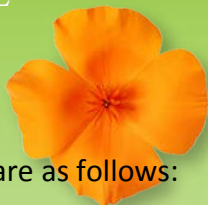
There was even an opportunity for people to enter their dogs for the Kennel Club Good Citizen Award at Bronze level. Eight dogs passed, including two local non-Dalmatians, one of whom was owned by Don and Barbara Baker.

Playground update

Regular playground users will have noticed that the zip wire is out of action.

This was recommended as a precaution during our annual safety inspection by ROSPA, and the committee is working hard to find the most appropriate solution to ensure the safety of users. Please bear with us – these things take time.

Hort Soc



Our two remaining events for 2016 are as follows:

Our **Annual Show** is on 10th September, from 2:30 pm. Entries for the Annual Show must be accompanied by the full membership fee of £2 (£1 for over 70s) if not already paid.

We also have a **social evening** on 14th October with a "Roaring Twenties" theme. Tickets for the social, which cost just £7.50 each, include a three course meal, a glass of wine and a themed quiz.

For more information, to buy tickets or for an Annual Show schedule please contact Rachel Watts on 01494 785322.

Forró Fest makes successful debut



A first – the Hall and grounds were hired out over the August Bank Holiday for Forró Fest – a three day festival of Brazilian music and culture.



Frog Racing

The Bellingdon Belles will be hosting a Frog Racing event at the village hall on Friday 7th October. As with our hugely popular horse racing event, Frog Racing will be truly interactive.

Please bring along some pound coins so that you can bet on your favourite frogs. The doors open at 7:30pm, racing starts at 8.00pm and there will be three races before supper and three after.

This promises to be a fun evening for all – to guarantee your place (and your supper!) please contact belles@bellingdon.com or call Beth on 01494 757069 to reserve your tickets.

BAVH Annual Meeting

The Bellingdon and Asheridge Village Hall (BAVH) Charity AGM was held in the hall in late July. Many thanks to all those who attended.

The committee reported that money taken from the booking and hire of the hall is at a good level, the upgraded hall buildings, grounds and playground will be contributing to this.

Community and interest groups such as the Ladies' club and Short-mat Bowls continue to thrive, while considerable investment has been made to improve the pitch areas for continued use by local football clubs and others.

New committee members are always welcome. We have some fantastic plans for the coming year so if you're interested in being part of this valuable community organisation please do get in touch. contact@bellingdon.com

Details of clubs, events and village news, including hall bookings: www.bellingdon.com
Please send comments, questions and ideas for future articles to the Editor at newsletter@bellingdon.com
The Editor reserves the right to edit submissions for clarity or length.