

Bellingdon & Asheridge Community Newsletter



Carmel Botwright

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New era for Hort Soc

In this Summer issue of our newsletter we look forward to our annual fête and the many other things going on in our small, but lively, village community.

This last quarter we've held another well attended tea and cakes event, plus a BBQ pub night including a very popular football session for the youngsters.

Gary Woodley, one of the hall trustees, is happy to run the football on a Friday evening during the summer so do pop

down. We're hoping to run further BBQ pub nights too.

July 9th sees the **AGM of the Bellingdon & Asheridge Community Association (BAACA)**. This is your annual opportunity to see in detail what's been going on at the hall and review the charity's accounts. All welcome, we don't bite!

Of course, BAACA couldn't run without our volunteer trustees. **National Volunteers' Week** runs from 1-7th June and we'd like to encourage you to think whether you have a few hours spare each week to help us. We are very

much in need of a **secretary** (trustee position) and also a **maintenance supervisor** to keep an eye on the premises and call in help when needed.

For just a few hours a week you could make an immeasurable contribution to the community, so don't be shy. Please get in touch with one of the committee or email us for more information on either position. You can find out more about what we do at www.bellingdon.com/community-association.

contact@bellingdon.com

JUNE

- 14-17th:** Rumble Fest
- 16th:** Tea & Taize (St John's)
- 19th:** Fête door-knock
- 29th:** Fête & Dog Show
- 30th:** Dalmatian fun day

JULY

- 6-7th:** Summer weekend (St John's)
- 9th:** BAACA AGM
- 12th:** Community Pub Night

AUGUST

- 16th:** Community Pub Night
- 23-26th:** Forró Fest

Community news

Village fête & fun dog show

It's full steam ahead for our village fête on 29th June. The fête opens at 12:30 and the full schedule can be found in the programme which will be delivered to **every** house in Bellingdon & Asheridge (no mean feat in itself) by our volunteer door-knockers on 19th June. We'll also ask if you have any donations you can kindly offer to our fête.

Items gratefully received include: Bottles of wine, raffle and tombola prizes, good condition toys, board games and books.

We will also give you both a free fête programme and an opportunity to buy some raffle tickets, which offer some great prizes, including rugby tickets to Twickenham, a car service from Priest's of Chesham, £50 Fastbreak Sports voucher, a family pantomime ticket for The Elgiva and much more!

If you are out, we can collect black bags marked "Fête" from your doorstep. Alternatively, our friendly door-knockers will leave a card so you can call them to come at a more convenient time.

To donate, help out, or find out more about the fête, please contact fete@bellingdon.com

To join the door-knock as a volunteer or arrange a specific collection time, please phone Liz: 01494 758754.

On the day we'll have a fun dog show run by OBH Chilterns Pony Club as well as the Hemel Hempstead Band, real ale festival and Pimms bar, BBQ, ice creams, kids' fancy dress competition, alpacas, bees, tug-of-war, teas & cakes, kids' corner, face painting, tombola, raffle, bouncy castle and lots more.

Helen Valvona

Ladies' Club

The Ladies' Club continues to meet every Wednesday of the month (except the first week) at 2pm in the village hall. Contact Irene Roberts for more details.

Irene Roberts

St John's Church

Where? St. John's Church, Bellingdon

What? An exhibition on "Our beautiful world". Tim Yates will also repeat the talk (about 20 minutes) he gave last year on both days at 3pm on the history of the village.

When? Saturday, July 6th (10.30 to 16.30), Sunday, July 7th (14.00 to 16.00). This will be followed by Songs of Praise with some well-known hymns (16.00 -16.30) on the Sunday. Refreshments will be available.

Can you help? Do you have anything we could display? Anything which reflects "our beautiful world" would be most welcome – painting, photography, embroidery, children's paintings, arts and crafts in any medium – or perhaps something which is on the general theme of the environment and the damage we are doing to our world. You may also have other ideas we have not thought of. As well as reflecting our theme we'd like to showcase the talent in our villages and have a community focus. Could you tell us about it in advance of the weekend, or lend us anything we could display? If you can offer anything please could you get in touch with me (j.edmunds@sky.com or 01494 782889)?

Do come and visit us during the weekend!

Jane Edmunds

Village goes dotty for Dalmatians again

British Dalmatian Welfare will be hosting their annual fun day at the village hall on Sunday 30th June, the day after the village fête. Everyone is welcome – people, children and dogs – any breed.

Entry is free and activities start at 10.45 and include a Fun Dog Show, a chance to try agility equipment with your dogs, an egg and spoon race and many other activities. Food is served all day including bacon butties for the early birds.

For up-to-date news on the fun day go to dalmatianwelfare.co.uk or follow us on Facebook.

Anne Gurnsey

The Bull - update May 2019

We are finally able to reveal some of the mysteries lying beneath the shroud of scaffolding and plastic that envelops the works next to The Bull.

Whilst it does seem a very long time since work started on the new building to house the village nursery presently situated in the pub, an enormous amount has been done.

Starting with the spoil excavated from the footings which was mechanically separated into soil for use on the garden surrounds and flint which was used as a base to reduce the use of concrete, every consideration has been given to reduce the carbon footprint of the development and to the use of eco-friendly materials.

The internal walls are built using blocks newly developed and manufactured to meet modern building standards at the village brickworks using local straw and clay with facing bricks from the same source. The timbers are constructed using a process whereby English Larch waste and offcuts are made into a composite structural material and English grown hemp is made into blocks at the brickworks and used as infill of the walls to provide an insulation factor 50% more than that required under present building rules.

Recycled car windscreens form an unlikely material that will provide a solid and insulating base for the internal floor and the mortar binding the building together and for rendering the internal wall is simply a mix of local clay and straw.

When completed the building will have a "green" roof, planted with indigenous plants and will sit considerably lower in the landscape than the present covering suggests. In short, this unique building, the first of its kind in this country, will not only serve a most practical purpose but will be one in which the Mathews family and indeed our village can take enormous pride.

Andrew Barratt

[More photos will be posted on the village website:
www.bellingdon.com - Ed]

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

At the Parish Council we welcomed our new Parish Councillor Mr Tim Corvin who lives in Bellingdon and he will bring new views to council. We now meet at the little church and very comfortable it is too, anyone wishing to attend is most welcome.

You will have noticed on your council tax for 2019 that the Parish precept is up 8%. There are two reasons for this, one is that now we cut the verges through the three villages and also the hedges on corners, under devolved services handed down to Parish Council by CDC, we also clean the grips across verges to get water off the roads trying to save any more potholes.

Secondly we have not increased our precept for a while, we get very little in form of grants for this from either CDC or TFB, but I say local tax spent locally is my mantra.

As always any questions contact your local councillor or go to our website,
www.chartridgeparishcouncil.org.uk.

Derek Keen



New era for the Horticultural Society

As many of you will be aware, it was with great regret that the Committee members of the Horticultural Society had to take the decision to cancel the Social Evening last October. With the departure of Rachel & Brian Watts to Cumbria and the sad loss of Bryan How, we simply do not have enough Committee members to run these events.

Despite several attempts to recruit new committee members no new members have stepped forward and so the remaining five committee members are faced with a choice:

- Fold the Society – we could not run either the Annual Show or Social with such a small committee and we really did not want to do this especially in the society's 70th year, or
- Look for a new way forward.

We decided to approach Chesham Horticultural Society, we were aware that they were having similar difficulties and we wanted to see if there was potential to merge the two societies.

They were very open to the idea and so we put this to the vote at our AGM and it was carried unanimously. The proposal this year is to simply combine events, with a view to merging the two Societies constitutionally in 2020.

This will involve the renaming of the combined societies and we would welcome your input on this. Ideas so far are: CAB Leisure Gardeners Club (CAB standing for Chesham Asheridge & Bellingdon), CAB Gardeners Club or Chesham and Villages Garden Club. Please let us know your thoughts.

We all see this as a positive step forward for both Societies and an opportunity to increase both membership and the number of events we can put

on for our members. We hope you feel the same way and will support us enthusiastically in this, as you have always done.

Please find below a list of combined events for the rest of 2019. We look forward to seeing you at any or all of these. For more information contact Nicola Parkes on 07973 558675 or Tracey Ryan 01494 775568.



Combined events 2019

Coach Outing – (Chesham Hort Soc.) Sat 8th June to RHS garden Hyde Hall.

Early Summer Show (Chesham Hort Soc) – Sat 6th July at Trinity Baptist Church, Chesham. Open to public from 2.30pm to 5pm. Apply Adrian Norris for a schedule on 07718 609719.

Late Summer Show (Chesham Hort Soc) – Sat 7th September at Trinity Baptist Church, Chesham. Open to public from 2.30pm to 5pm. Contact Adrian Norris for a schedule on 07718 609719.

Annual Show (Bellingdon Asheridge & District Hort Soc) – Sat 14th September at Bellingdon & Asheridge Village Hall. Open to public 2pm. Contact Nicola Parkes 07973 558675 for a schedule.

Social (Bellingdon Hort Soc) – Friday 18th October 7pm. Three course meal plus Quiz. Tickets £7.50 per person. Contact Nicola Parkes 07973 558675. Theme to be confirmed.

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.