

the
Bellingdon & Asheridge

Newsletter

Hall Extension

If you have noticed the building works at the village hall, you may have wondered what has been happening there. I am pleased to say that we are close to completing the extension associated with the Hall's changing rooms. We have been able to extend the plan with the existing funding and this new facility will also provide a small hall/meeting room (about 15 sq metres) with kitchenette and toilets for other possible uses. We have drawn down a substantial part of the Sport England funding and would expect the whole project to be completed by early Autumn. Decorating by volunteers will be arranged once the building works are completed, so please email donbaker@rocketmail.com if you can assist. A formal opening date is yet to be arranged and will be posted on the new notice board and on www.bellingdon.com.



Another Fete Success

The rain was not going to get us down and the Bellingdon and Asheridge Villagers were not to be put off. Visitors arrived in their hundreds to take part in this year's village Fete and Dog Show at the Bellingdon Village Hall and Grounds.

We raised money for our local charity, we raised money for Battersea Dogs Home and we had fun drinking, eating, playing games, winning prizes and hanging out with our neighbours, friends, family and pets.

Save the Date!

**Annual Hort
 Soc Show**

**Saturday
 13 September
 2.30pm**

Social Evening

**Friday
 17th October
 7.30pm
 Hort Soc**

Xmas Fayre

**Saturday
 29th November
 10.30am
 Hort Soc**





Hort Soc News

The Horticultural Society stall at this year's village fete offered an excellent display of plants for sale, which were donated by the committee and other members. We also ran a basket raffle, which was very popular. Hopefully you got something wonderful for your garden.

Jobs for the Season

- Collect seed from your plants when seed heads are fully dried and/or start to rattle. Store in envelopes or paper bags in a cool, dry place
- Continue to deadhead container and garden plants to prolong flowering
- Sow Hardy Annuals where you want them to flower
- Start to plant Spring Bulbs (but leave tulips until November)
- Take cuttings from Heathers
- Plant out Spring Cabbages

Thrifty Tip

Use an old washing up bottle or plastic container with lid as a string dispenser.



RideLondon-Surrey 100

Three residents of Bellingdon completed the London 100 Challenge in August, despite battling the elements with Hurricane Bertha's visit. This 100 mile route, was the same one that Bradley Wiggins cycled when he won gold in the 2012 Olympics.

Rob Bourne, Sue Bourne and Graham Botwright were part of a team who were raising funds for The Children's Trust. Although they did not win an Olympic medal, they did raise a large sum of money for The Children's Trust.

Congratulations on an excellent achievement.



Letter to the Editor

Would it be possible for village funds to be put towards a tennis court for the benefit of all the Bellingdon villagers? I feel it would be a great use of our resources, value adding to our community and potentially revenue generating.

Is there support for this suggestion and if so, how can we move this forward?

From, a Bellingdon resident





Chairman's Chat

I start this newsletter by saying a HUGE thank you to all the friends, families and helpers at this year's fete. Despite the poor weather with a deluge of rain greeting us at opening time, it turned out to be another successful fete, providing a great afternoon out for the community particularly as the weather cleared later. We have raised around £3800 for BAVH Charity and on top of this, the dog show raised over £500 for Battersea Dogs & Cats Home. This is a fantastic achievement and could not have happened without your help and support, so thank you to you all.

By the time you get this newsletter, the new annex to the changing rooms will be close to completion. I think these will be a dramatic improvement and will benefit hall and sport users alike.

At the time of writing, I am also pleased to announce that Don (our Treasurer) has been successful in obtaining a grant from Paradigm Foundation of £7,500.

Following a few requests, we planning to install a baby cradle and junior swing to complement our existing playground. This should be installed during the autumn.

Next year we will also try to solve the noisy heater problem, combined with a kitchen upgrade. Again we will be seeking outside funding, alongside using some of our own funds to achieve these objectives.

The AGM was held on the 10th July and we are pleased to welcome back Hugh Griffiths to our committee. We were also able to report a net surplus for the year of £8,619. The reserves continue to be sound and allow us to continually maintain the hall and also to progress development plans alongside grants awarded for specific projects. We aim to continue this process. This important facility for the community relies on a small number of people, and we would welcome anybody from the community who would like to join the committee.

I hope you enjoy the last of the summer and continue to support us and benefit from our hall and grounds.

Alf Field
Chairman
 Asheridge and Bellingdon Village Hall

Curvaceous Cook: Little Potato Souffles

Sometimes the simplest things just are the best, and this is my new favourite anything to be eaten in our area of Umbria. It comes as part of the antipasto, but I serve it as a vegetable with a roast, and also hot with salads. It may look fiddly, but isn't really, and can be made the day before and popped under the grill when ready to eat. These are similar to potatoes dauphinoise, but slightly better for you as I use skimmed milk rather than cream!



For 6 well buttered ramekins or dariole moulds:

1tbs very finely chopped onion and ½ garlic clove, very gently cooked in 1 tbs butter. Add 1 tbs plain flour when the onion and garlic are translucent, and cook gently for a few minutes to cook out the raw flour taste

Gradually add approx ½ pt milk, beating all the time to get a thick béchamel sauce.

Take off the heat and throw in about 20 g of a strong blue cheese, I used gorgonzola, and about 100g of a melting cheese. A really strong cheddar would be lovely. Season.

Leave to cool whilst you slice 3 salad potatoes - slice them the thickness of a £1 coin. Using salad spuds means that they should keep their shape. Boil them gently for 5 minutes in salted water. Drain well. Layer into the ramekins, starting and ending with sauce, with 2 slices deep of potato. You can leave them overnight if you are going to eat them later, or cook them now for 20 minutes on 180 till golden and bubbling.

Grate a little truffle over the top just before serving if you wish.

Village Rounders Match

A sunny Summer's evening inspired a local villager to challenge the men vs the women of Bellingdon to a competitive rounders match. Children and dogs joined in too. There may have been some cheating and no one is too sure who won (but we should assume it was probably the women). Everyone bought food and refreshments and the very exhausting match was followed by a glorious summer family picnic. Thanks to Jon Harding who inspired and organized the event and here's hoping we do it again.



Longbow Archery

Have you been down to the village hall grounds to watch the Longbow Archery team at work? Quite an impressive looking, and highly skilled sport, with targets a challenging-looking 100 yards away.

On Saturday mornings they do target practice and offer tasting sessions. If you wandered down to watch this interesting sport, you could find out more about joining this band of Archers, led by Nick Ellender.

To find out more go to:-
www.longbowarchersoftstsebastian.co.uk



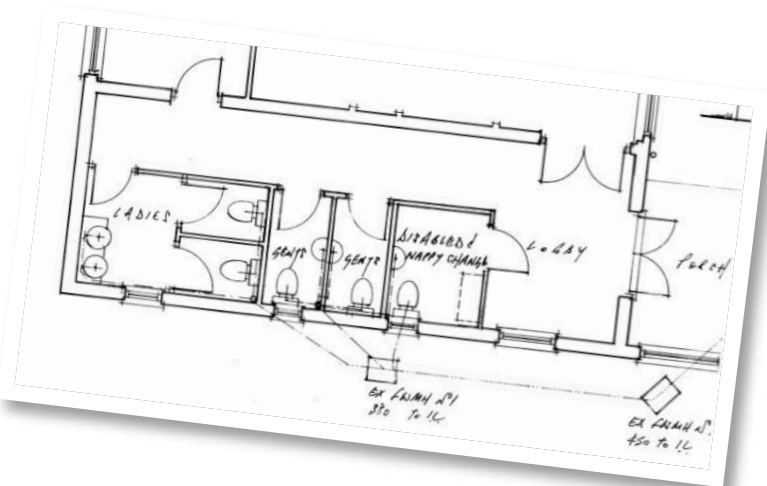
Toilet Renovations in the Hall

We are pleased to announce that Paradigm Foundation has offered an award to grant us £7,500 towards the costs of upgrading the toilets and lobby in the hall.

Our challenge was to create a disabled toilet with baby changing facility within the limited space in the existing toilet area. This has been achieved by using the Gents toilet area and having 2 WCs to replace the existing gent's WC and urinals. The disabled toilet will be a unisex facility as well.

The plan is as shown (left) and we aim to start work on this during the Autumn with a view to it being completed in 2015.

Don Baker, Treasurer, BAVH



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.
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