

the

Bellingdon and Asheridge newsletter



Photo: Jenny Goodall

Village News

The **Official Opening of the children's playground** on the 10th May was a fun occasion attended by many adults and children from the villages and showed the impressive results of years of fundraising and hard work by many in the village. Unfortunately bad weather means there have not been many days for outdoor activities. Summer's arrival should see all that changing. A great spot to take your little ones to play, picnic and get active.

Quite an impressive crowd of villagers got together to tackle bushes, kerbs and hidden corners to clean up our villages on April Fools Day.

Apparently, the **Litter Pick** almost collected a whole car but were just one door short.

The **Easter Saturday coffee morning** was held in the hall to raise funds for the B&AVH Charity. Thanks to all who attended and who baked (and bought and ate) the delicious cakes.

The Fete Committee has been hard at work getting ready for this year's **Fete**, which is shaping up for all sorts of fun and festivities. Make sure you don't miss it.

Save the Date!

Village Door
Knock
14 June

Village
Fete
30 June

AGM
12 July
7.30pm

Hort Soc
Annual Show
15 Sept

Chairmans Chat

This year's village fete will take place on Sat. June 30th at the hall playing fields. This is the major fund raising activity for providing funds for maintenance and the continual process of upgrading the facilities for our village hall and we look forward to seeing a good attendance from the community.

The trustees are keen to replace the very noisy heating system and to carry out a major upgrade to the kitchen and changing facilities and your support for the fete is vital if we are to continue to maintain and improve these facilities for the benefit of the communities of Bellingdon and Asheridge.

Remember, if you live in the villages and want to hire the hall or grounds, you benefit from special community rates.

Besides the perennially popular fun **DOG SHOW**, this year a major attraction will be a rally of **old military vehicles**. The fete committee is delighted to be making a contribution to **Help for Heroes**.

Also, the Annual General Meeting of the Bellingdon and Asheridge Village Hall is being held soon. In the Hall. We would be delighted to see as many villagers there as possible.

Alf Field
Chairman
Bellingdon & Asheridge Village Hall Charity



Photo: Jenny Goodall



Photos: E.Russell

Local Business Profile : SugarPlumFairy Cakes

Sue Bourne and Eanne Russell’s interest in cakes started in 2008 when Eanne ordered cakes for her twins’ birthday. They dissected the fairy castle cake and pirate treasure chest and decided they could do the same with a bit of practice.

That insight, combined with their passion for cake, chocolate and things that looked good enough to eat, led to them participating in various courses to gain experience with as many cake decorating techniques as they could master. They shared their delicious masterpieces with friends, families and work colleagues.

Eanne and Sue formally started SugarPlum Fairy Cakes In 2010, when people suggested their cakes were good enough to sell. They registered with the council, attended the required Health and Hygiene course and a new local business was born.

They have done cakes in all shapes and sizes from

horses, tractors , a hot air balloon, fairies , cars and a judo suit. Their wedding cakes have travelled as far as Ireland. They have donated cakes for local charities such as to the Jaguar Garage in aid of the Scanappeal, to Sargent & Plester Dance School and of course to the village hall fund-raising events.

Sugarplum Fairycake also run workshops for people who want to learn about cupcake and cookie decoration.

To find out more or to order your own cake or cupcakes, go to www.sugarplumfairycake.com. Or Ph: Eanne 01494 757185 or Sue 01494 757163. They are offering a 10% discount on cakes ordered by the end of July, when quoting promotion code: BAAN.

Many villagers have expressed an interest in “supporting local”, so each season we will profile a special business in the area. If you would like to recommend anyone please email newsletter@bellingdon.com.

Curvaceous Cook: Summer Fruit Salad

As the wind blows and the rain rains and the power goes off and on, it is hard to imagine that when you read this the British strawberry season will be upon us! But it will be - so here is an idea for really getting the best from this wonderful summer fruit.

INGREDIENTS

- 400g strawberries, halved or quartered if large, to make an easy mouthful
- 150g raspberries
- Finely grated zest of 1 lemon
- ½ deseeded vanilla pod
- 40g icing sugar.

Start this the day before to get the absolute best flavour, but even a couple of hours will make a difference.

In a bowl, tip out all the ingredients. Cover with cling film and refrigerate for 24 hours.

When ready to serve, arrange on the plate and add a few Greek basil (the tiny leaved ones) leaves.

This is really good on its own, to decorate a lemon tart, or in a Victoria sandwich with some fresh cream. You could also fold it into equal quantities of Greek yoghurt and whipped cream with some broken meringues or Amaretti biscuits, but only add the fruit at the last minute before serving.



Get Involved

Village Door Knock

The annual Bellingdon and Asheridge door knock takes place on Thursday June 14th. The Village Fete Committee are seeking donations for the bric-a-brac stall, book stall, tombola or raffle (bottles, unwanted gifts, children's toys etc). If you will be out, please contact donbaker@rocketmail.com or 01494 757195 who will arrange collection at a time convenient to you.

They are particularly looking for a volunteer from Asheridge to join the team. Can you help?



Bellingdon Bikers

Do you want to get out on your bike more regularly? Would you like to exercise with others, in a sociable and relaxed manner?

Go to www.bellingdon.com to find out more and to join these rides that usually take place on a Sunday evening, weather dependent. Most rides leave from the Bull and average from 7 – 20 miles, usually with a “refreshment stop” towards the end of the ride.

We all love Cake

Two of the most popular attractions of the fete each year are the cake stall and the teas served in the hall and we need your help. Donations of cakes, biscuits, scones, baked goods of all size, description and tastiness will be gladly accepted.

Please let us know if you are able to bake, stir or concoct something delicious for us. Email: Fete@bellingdon.com.



Photo: Carmel Botwright



Printing our newsletter

As with all good things, our wonderful support for the printing of our newsletter has had to come to an end.

Is there anyone out there who can either recommend a good, affordable printer or who can in fact take on the printing of our newsletter themselves? The newsletter printing, if it becomes a cost, will need to be paid for by the Bellingdon and Asheridge Village Hall Charity and if we can, we would rather retain these funds for hall improvements.

Any suggestions welcome, to newsletter@bellingdon.com.

Photography Competition

Are you an enthusiastic photographer? If you have taken some great local photographs, submit your favorite (in jpeg please) to newsletter@bellingdon.com

Best photograph wins top spot, credited to you, on the front page of the Autumn Newsletter

Good Luck!

BIG
Thank you's



Photo: Rob Bourne

Village Hall Bookings

Phone Chris or Julie Hood on 757028
or email: bookings@bellingdon.com
Rates are on www.bellingdon.com

www.bellingdon.com

For information on:

- Events in the village
- Clubs and events running at the Village Hall
- History of the Village
- Back copies of newsletters
- And much more...

Also follow Village news and events on twitter on:

[@BellandAsh](https://twitter.com/BellandAsh)



Photo: Don Baker

To all those who donned their sense of humour, safety shoes and black bags to tackle local litter on 1 April's Litter Pick.



Photo: Carmel Botwright

To Andrew Barratt for planting daffodils around the village hall signs. They really made our dreary Spring seem more cheerful.

AGM

The Annual General Meeting is open to all inhabitants of Bellingdon and Asheridge of 18 years and over. At the meeting the accounts and Trustees' Report will be presented and all existing members of the Committee of Management will resign and if they wish offer themselves for re-election. All residents are encouraged to attend the meeting to vote in those they want as Trustees (Committee of Management), and give their views about how they would like to see their committee operate in the year ahead. This is your chance to have a say in the running of the Village hall and grounds, an important resource for our villages.

New Editor

Thanks go to Andrew Barratt, who after a year of editing the newsletter has handed over the role of Editor to Carmel Botwright. If you would like to submit articles, have some great photographs or have ideas for articles you would like to see published, please email newsletter@bellingdon.com