



HUGHENDEN NEWS

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SPRING 2017

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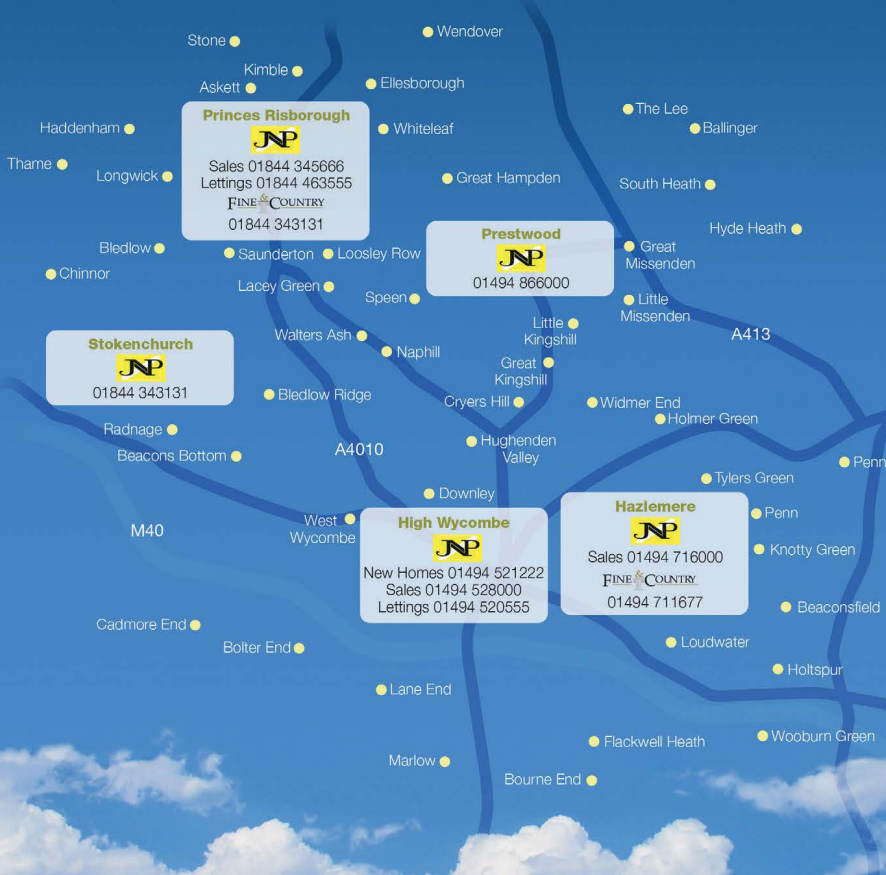
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Regular Village Hall Users & Contacts: Spring 2017

Monday

Pre-School	9am-1pm	L Jenny Ing	463521
Pre-School	9am-3pm	S Jenny Ing	463521
Beavers	5-7pm	L Lynda Wallwork	564582
Pilates	1:15pm – 4:15pm	L E Harwood 07803	123092
Art	7-10pm (most Mondays)	S Jill Graves	563813
Valley Players	7:30pm - 10:00pm	L Sheelagh 07468	462023
Village Hall	1 st Monday, 8pm-10pm	C Michael Sole	563516

Tuesday

Pre-School	9am-1pm	B Jenny Ing	463521
Badminton Tuesday	1:30-3:30pm	L Nancy Hussy	563767
Sains' Veterans	3 rd Tuesday, 2-5pm	S Sandra Jones	715219
Kids Strictly Shine	5:15pm - 6:15pm	S A Goldsmith 07545	011714
Seido Karate	6:00pm - 8:00pm	L Roger Thyer-Jones	565341
Residents Assn.	1 st Tuesday 8-10pm	S Angus Idle	563673
Pilates	7:00pm – 9:00pm	S E Harwood 07803	123092
	(Not 1 st Tuesday of Month)		

Wednesday

Pre-School	9am-1pm	L Jenny Ing	463521
Pilates	9:30-11:30am	S Rosie Lewin	812796
Pre-School	12noon-3pm	S Jenny Ing	463521
Badminton	1:30-3:30pm	L John Veysey	562332
Flower Arranging	3 rd Weds 6:30 - 10:30pm	L Jan Collins	563890
Pilates	6:45pm-9:00pm	S Karen Letham 07973	384817

Thursday

Pre-School	9am-1pm	L Jenny Ing	463521
Painting	9:30-11:30am	S Jim Eastgate	528698
Painting Class	12noon:2pm	S Bucks Adult Learn	473795
Good Companions	1 st Thursday, 2-5pm	L Pat Furness	563071
Tai-chi	2:15-4:15m	L+S Pam Felix	440198
Dance Class	4:30-8:30pm	S Jessica 07792	518455
Diet & Fitness	5:15-7-:15pm	L Rachel	452286
Pregnant Yoga	7:30pm - 9:30pm	L Sue Friar	564530

Friday

Pre-School	9am-1pm	L Jenny Ing	463521
Pre-School	9am-3pm	S Jenny Ing	463521
Valley Friends	1 st Friday, 7:30-10:30pm	L Heather Mayer	436044
HAGA Gardening	4 th Friday, 7:30-10:30pm	L Debi Hoare	816304

Saturday

Jazzercise	8:30-10:30am	L Marthese 01753	889746
Multiple Sclerosis	1 st Saturday, 12noon-5pm	L Judy Biggs	562204

Village Hall Booking Phone Number:- Christine Powell 07815 163269

Contents Page

Introduction and people of Hughenden		Clubs & Societies	
Notice of A.G.M.	6	Art Group	41
Chairman's Welcome	7	Philatelic Club	42
People Before Us (7b)	9	Good Companions	42
		Football Club	43
Council Matters		Wednesday Badminton	43
David Carroll	11	Valley Players	44
Hilda Stearn	11	Valley Friends	45
Precept Statement	13	Conservatives	46
Planning Report	16	Rotary Club	47
Speeding	17		
Freight Strategy	19	Environment	
		Gardens & Allotments	49
Care in the Community		Drainage	51
Hospice	20	Conservation	51
Patient Participation Gp	23		
South Bucks Hospice	24	Miscellaneous	
Neighbourly Coombe La	25	Hen Harrier	54
		Gritters	55
Local Institutions		Role of Road Rep	56
Hughenden Manor	26	Hugh 'n' Den	57
Manor Events	27		
Village Hall	28	Information Tables	
From the Vicarage	30	Village Hall Users	4
Primary School	31	Parish Councillors	58
		Road Representatives	59
Centre Spread		Advertiser's Index	60
Village Shop re-Opens	34		

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 18th May 2017 at 7:30pm Small Village Hall

AGENDA

1. Welcome and apologies for absence
 2. Approval of the minutes of AGM 2016
 3. Matters arising from previous minutes
 4. Vice Chairman's report
 5. Treasurer's report
 6. Election of Officers for 2017/18
 - * Chairman
 - * Vice Chairman
 - * Treasurer
 - * Secretary
 7. Open Forum
 8. Closure of Formal Meeting
- Guest Speaker – To be announced.**

Please detach and send to the Secretary, Mrs Rosemary Hewitt,
Hadley House, Valley Road, Hughenden Valley HP14 4PF
rosemary.hewitt@talk21.com

Hughenden Valley Residents Association
Annual General Meeting. Thursday, 18th May 2017

I hereby nominate

.....

To the post ofon the Association's committee.

I have discussed my proposal with my nominee and he/she has agreed to be nominated.

Proposer: Seconder:.....

Address: Address:

Chairman's Welcome to Everybody

We hope you are having a good year so far. We will begin this welcome with a big thank you to all the Road Reps; those who now do a lot of communicating with their roads' residents by email, and those who go on foot to keep the Village up to date. They have been very supportive of us. Thanks must go to John Dockett who has now produced an interim letter between editions of the Hughenden News. That helps considerably. Thanks also to Rosemary Hewitt for talking on the role of Acting Secretary as well as organising the Speedwatch campaign. The Officers of the Executive Committee, Al Bowyer and Jerry Morley also give a great deal of their time to the Association.

Thanks too to Clare Atkinson who ran the Tombola at the Village Christmas Bazaar, to Derek Armshaw who has been our Webmaster for a long time, and James Perkins for several other areas of help.

We are also very pleased with the support we receive from Councillor Peter Gieler, the Shop representatives and Michael Sole in conjunction with the Village Hall, Councillor David Carroll and Rev. Keith Johnson, the Vicar, who hopefully will be able to continue to attend.

We pondered long and hard on what to write to you all as well as a welcome to the Hughenden Valley Residents Association and ended up with over thirty important constituents; what should come first, be shortest or longest, most democratic, interesting, important for the Village and more? Then, in the end, we decided we had probably just composed our Chairman's report for the AGM on Thursday 18th May, when the speaker may be from Fields in Trust!

So we will leave it off until then, except that the dates are important because they have been fixed. One such date is that of the senior Citizens' treat on Saturday 17th June, an evening occasion again this time.

Various things in brief:

- Uplands developments are still ongoing, and plans for one, two or three bedroom flats there are still in the pipeline.

- We will be digitising many photographs taken by the late Bill Page now that they have been sorted under specific headings and partially indexed.
- We support the Hughenden Valley Drainage Improvement Group work to get early warning to prevent future flooding in the Village. HVDIG has got the various agencies, Bucks County Council, Thames Water, The Environment Agency together to take preventative action before any emergency becomes likely and thus ensuring that the Village never has to go into recovery mode again.
- We are keeping an eye on Wycombe District Council's planning strategies, the Green Belt and Area of Natural Beauty and the Chilterns.
- The telephone kiosk in Valley Road is staying put for now, as it covers some of the discrepancies in mobile phone reception in parts of the three villages.
- We still have strong representation on the Sports Committee.
- There is a new organisation, the Street Association, run by Bucks County Council and the Neighbourhood Action Group. In this respect, the Street Association will run in parallel with the HVRA Road Reps, but individual Road Reps can decide for themselves if they want to take on two functions and work in liaison with the Street Association. The Road Reps will remain to be the main body for the Residents Association.
- Lastly, a sincere thank you to BuildBase for complying with the AONB requirements at the District Council's request, and by doing that, leading the way to show that businesses do consider the AONB. They schedule their lorry arrival times, something for others to follow suit.
- We cannot take up any more space in the Magazine, so farewell for now and we wish you all a very Happy Easter, and look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

Angus and Janet Idle ~ Co-Chairs - 01494 563673

People before us 7b

Part 2 of the story of the King George Playing Field, 1970 onwards.

In 1970 Rev. Seymour Dickens, a long time Village Hall Trustee, left Hughenden and the Village Hall was down to just 2 Trustees: namely Mr Fleet and Mr Hopkins. In came Harry Potter and John Veysey for the playing Field. There was no income for the Field. In 1982 the HVRA started the 100 Club and Hugh Steel became a trustee of the Village Hall and its committee and as he was a member of both the HVRA's news was then shared.

Golf was banned from the Field by means of a Village Hall bye-law to prevent accidental injury and broken glass. That still stands.

Apart from occasional sports days, the biennial Village Day, occasional Crown House sports days and a few summer activities for children, the field largely remained empty, except for football. The Parish eventually gave permission for a full size football pitch in the next field, so long as the HVFC kept it in good condition, and they have certainly done that in both fields. The King George V Field remained empty for most of the summer. Three floodlights had been put up for just a few hours of football practice. The King George V Playing Field was very often empty because of the mud or cancelled football matches due to the poor drainage.

The parcels of land first bought for the Field were originally prospective building storage sites but three houses were built on Coombe Lane and two in Valley Road nearest to the present hall at the 1948/1950 take-over time. "If you've got it, use it" comes to mind in modern times.

Now we have a tennis net and posts and Hughenden Valley residents want modern sport facilities on the Field to allow all year round sport enjoyment.

Fields in Trust are now custodians of the King George V Foundation. They are the operating name of the National Playing Fields Association. We will still call the Field by its original name. Many families want to have more sport available for the increasing number of children and young people in the Valley and hopefully they soon will have. The Hughenden Valley Football Club deserve our thanks for inspiring so many teams and looking

after the fields at their own and parental expense. All the local villages have better use of their sports fields for sport. So keep your fingers crossed.



The first photo shows the levelling and extension of the Field which was all done by village people with the help of George Suter's tractor in 1977 and the second one how the HVFC have taken care of it in present times but as the lonely lad shows it is just an empty field. However, many dog walkers and runners use it so it's not always an empty field.



Janet Idle ~ 01494 563673

David Carroll

Firstly can I wish everybody a belated Happy New Year and just to update you on the resurfacing of our roads, I have got the largest rural area of roads in Bucks and it goes from Ellesborough right up to Widmer End so I am limited with funding but I have been successful in resurfacing most of the main roads. This year Valley Road will be put in the programme alongside Bryants Bottom and other roads which need attention. Can I thank all our residents who volunteer their time with many activities in Hughenden which I always try my very best to listen to and support. We make our area a great place to live and I will continue to do my best on behalf of all our residents.

David Carroll, County Councillor - 01494 716967

Hilda Stearn



I am delighted to have been co-opted onto Hughenden Parish Council to represent the residents of Hughenden Valley. It is not without some trepidation as I know how challenging the role might be. It has certainly not been a quiet time in recent months and it is important to explore ways to ensure that the widest possible range of views is heard. There is no doubt that we will not all agree with each other all of the time; however, an open dialogue backed with transparency and mutual respect is far more likely to result in consensus.

As a business development consultant I hope to use my skills and experiences to increase community engagement. This is already happening in Coombe Lane where I live and I am proud to be one of the residents behind the recently

launched neighbourhood engagement initiative that fits well with the Street Association initiative recently launched in the Parish.

In partnership with my fellow Parish Councillors and local residents I will be exploring ways to increase community engagement so that we all feel more involved in the decisions that actually affect us, our family and the environment around us. We are so lucky to live in a Green Belt Settlement which is afforded more protection than the villages that surround Hughenden Valley. Attempts to reduce this protection must be resisted and this will become increasingly challenging as the Government eases its planning rules to encourage more house-building in the Green Belt. Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (ANOB) such as Hughenden Valley cannot remain immune to this. Vigilance is needed!

Change is the one constant in our busy lives and we need to embrace this. It is always easier when there is strong communication and those organisations representing the community actively seek to engage. The volunteering nature of the organisations tasked with representing the community has led to only a small number of people being actively involved. This needs to change and I will be working hard to encourage more residents to get involved thereby taking the pressure off those currently volunteering as well as ensuring that all views are represented. If you would like to discuss how community engagement can be improved do get in touch either via email .

Hilda Stearn ~ hilda.stearn@hughendenpc.org.uk or 01494 565206

Cover Photo

Mary Berry opening the new Village Store on Saturday 4th March (see full article on page 40). Picture by Bucks Free Press / Anita Ross Marshall.

Copy Deadline for Summer Edition

Friday June 23rd 2017.

Hughenden Parish Council Precept Statement for **2017/18**

January 2017

Key Facts

In this year 2016/17 HPC precept averaged £51 per household for the whole year with variations dependant on your home's tax band. For next year 2017/18 we have had to increase this by an extra £1 on a Band D council tax bill. For context, this is still below last year's national average of £57 and noticeably lower than the average for the whole of Buckinghamshire at £60.

This money goes directly to providing the services that HPC are responsible for and include providing and maintaining allotments, open public spaces including ponds, bus shelters, dog bins, the Garden of Rest (cemetery), benches and playgrounds. For the first time this year HPC has also provided significant roadside maintenance including grass and hedge cutting, clearing the edges of pavements, weed killing and rights of way clearance.

Full Statement

Each year Hughenden Parish Council (HPC) has to set a precept to cover its operating costs in providing services for the local community. This Precept is paid by Wycombe District Council and comes from our Council Tax.

In this year 2016/17 it averaged £51 per household for the whole year with variations dependant on your home's tax band. This money goes directly to providing the services that HPC are responsible for include providing and maintaining allotments, open public spaces including ponds, bus shelters, dog bins, the Garden of Rest (cemetery), benches and playgrounds. For the first time this year HPC has also provided significant

roadside maintenance including grass and hedge cutting, clearing the edges of pavements, weed killing and rights of way clearance.

Parish Councils are increasingly becoming significant local government partners that can deliver more focused attention to residents. This is underlined not only by the process of devolution which is slowly transferring County Council responsibilities out to our towns and parishes but also by the amount of reliance the current published unitary council plans** for restructuring local government in Buckinghamshire place on Parish Councils. To assist in taking on the extra roadside maintenance services Bucks County Council (BCC) will give HPC £11,410 each year up until 2019. However, this is nowhere near enough to cover the actual cost of providing these services to a level expected by the community. HPC will have spent an additional £18,000 to meet the anticipated bills in this first year alone. We need every resident to pitch in where you can by cutting any grass in front of your property, keeping your footpath/roadside hedges trimmed, preventing graffiti and picking up litter in the neighbourhood.

Because of the growth in services and responsibilities for our Parish, the whole Council took a decision when replacing our part-time Parish Clerk recently to hire a full-time one so that we would have the necessary staffing levels to support both councillors and residents. This inevitably has led to an increase in staff costs and while some savings are also being achieved in other areas the administration budget must increase by 10% next year.

Providing 6 playgrounds, 8 allotments gardens and a cemetery are our other key areas of responsibility. The playgrounds, which are used by about 1/3* of the families in the parish, provide up to 5 play experiences namely swing, rocker, rotor, agility and slide. The cost of the equipment and the ongoing maintenance of it to meet health and safety standards is considerable and we are now coming to the point where some of the bigger and more expensive equipment needs to be replaced. Some major new equipment has been installed this year in Hughenden Valley along

with smaller items in Widmer End, Great Kingshill and Naphill. These pushed us over our allocated budget. We have used some of our allocated Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money from recent house building within the Parish to pay for these essential replacements. We will continue our programme of updating in 2017/18 with a planned spend of £20,000.

In total the above increases will amount to an extra £1 on a Band D council tax bill for 2017/18 bringing it to an average of £52 per household. For context, this is still below last year's national average of £57 and noticeably lower than the average for the whole of Buckinghamshire at £60. HPC is pleased that it will be able to continue funding modest grants and donations to local community groups & activities at the 2015/16 level, along with providing annual grants for all the Parish newsletters, Village halls and some local sports clubs. Whilst the allocation for 2016/17 has already been distributed this does not mean we cannot still be approached for funding from April 2017 onwards.

The elected councillors, who are all unpaid, together with the dedicated staff of Hughenden Parish Council will continue doing their utmost to ensure that the level of service provided to our community now and into the future is the best it can be within the budget available.

Should you have any questions on this statement or require further information, please contact our Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer,

Shona Hadwen ~ clerk@hughendenpc.org.uk 01494 715296

Web: HughendenParishCouncil.org.uk

*Based on responses from 2014 Parish survey of residents.

** For more information visit <http://futurebucks.co.uk>

HVRA Planning Sub-Committee Report

WDC Local Plan

As you may be aware, WDC carried out a consultation on their draft new Local Plan last year. However, following the recent publication of the Government's Housing White Paper there are matters that WDC now need to address before the Local Plan can be approved by Cabinet and Council, in advance of submitting to the Planning Inspectorate for Examination. WDC had intended to take the Plan to Cabinet in March, and Council in April, with the statutory public consultation taking place from April to June. This will no longer be the case. When WDC have fully digested the implications of the White Paper they will advise of the new timetable, and formally update the Local Development Scheme.

HUGHENDEN NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUP (HNAG)

I am sure you have all seen the Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign (MVAS) that is located outside Deeters, and below is the latest summary of traffic flowing towards *The Harrow Pub* on Valley Road during the period 13th December 2016 to 1st February 2017:

% Not speeding	55%
% Speeding over 30 MPH	45%
% Speeding over 35 MPH	15%
% Speeding over 40 MPH	4%

I am pleased to say that 85% of vehicles were travelling Under 35 MPH But a maximum speed of 80 MPH was recorded on Monday 26 December at 22.50.

Don't forget that the Police keep a watchful eye on the data and will return with their speed camera van if the numbers rise. So please do drive carefully through the village as well as on all your journeys.

Community Speed Watch

Working alongside Thames Valley Police, a small team of volunteers carry out three one-hourly Speed Watch sessions each month, and I am pleased to say that overall the number of car registrations we list for speeding drivers has gradually been reducing. This is welcome news and makes our efforts worthwhile because it's in all our interests that our village is a safe environment for everyone whether on foot, bicycle or as a driver.

If you would like to join the team, then please get in touch. I look forward to hearing from you.

Rosemary Hewitt 01494 562752.

Will You Help Us Control Speeding?

For several years Hughenden Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) has been working to reduce the speed of traffic throughout the roads of our Parish. Each village provides volunteers for the monthly Speed Watch at up to 3 locations where speeding is likely.

Each month, on a random day, teams of up to 3 people, including PC Lee Turnham, log the speeds of vehicles travelling at 35 MPH or over. Speed, Time, Colour, Make and Model and number plates are noted. Those speeding are notified by letter and if they offend 3 times, they receive a visit by a Police Officer.

When the scheme started, over a 100 speeding cars could be caught in an hour. Since then the number has reduced to around 30 cars an hour, often less and also the average speed of the offenders has reduced.

To keep this improvement up we need more volunteers to help. Just 1 or 2 hours a month, when you have time, firstly on weekdays but also we need to have some Saturday volunteers to do some checks to remind week end drivers that they need to slow down.

Please contact David Jarman on 01494 712441 or Stan Jones on 01494 716278

Multi-million pound cash injection set to boost Buckinghamshire's economy

'A massive thumbs-up for the Buckinghamshire economy' is how Martin Tett, Leader of Buckinghamshire County Council described today's multi-million pound cash injection by the Government to support transport, skills and business across the County.

The money, part of the Government's latest round of Growth Deal Funding, will help to deliver the Stoke Mandeville Relief Road, The University of Buckingham Vinson Centre for Liberal Economics, Innovation and Entrepreneurship and the Silverstone Innovation Centre.

The total award of £20.48m will be matched with a further £135.5m of local public and private sector funding. The government's funding builds on the previous £53m already awarded to Buckinghamshire from previous rounds.

"This is fantastic news for Buckinghamshire and a real vote of confidence by the Government in our ability to generate economic growth both locally and for the Country as a whole," said Martin.

"The Buckinghamshire Thames Valley Local Enterprise Partnership has done a fantastic job in negotiating this new funding, particularly as they are up against competing bids from 37 other LEPs from across England. Amazingly, it puts Buckinghamshire as a county on par with the 'Northern Powerhouse' in terms of the amount of money we have been awarded in proportion to our population".

"All of the business and public sector partners, who make up the LEP, deserve a massive pat on the back.

Buckinghamshire is a very successful, high performing economy already. This award demonstrates the confidence central Government has in Buckinghamshire.

Martin added, "It's important to remember that economic growth is not just critical for business. It also provides the jobs that people need and the money that pays for vital local services.

<http://www.buckstvllep.co.uk/interesting-stuff/news-releases>

For information please contact: Aidan Shutter, on 01296 382126

Village Day 2018

Following the success of the 2016 Village Day we need someone to lead the team for next year's event. There are many willing volunteers to assist, and a template to show how it was done last time. Applicants please phone :

Michael Sole ~ 01494 563516

Make Your Street More Than Just a Name

Would you like your street to become more friendly and supportive? A place where people belong, have friends and look out for one-another? This is the idea of the Hughenden Parish Street Association.

Thames Valley Police, Trading Standards, the District and County Councils have been working with local action groups to develop the initiative in Hughenden Parish to complement what is already in place.

The scheme requires local people to sign up as a member to be the eyes and ears on their street, encouraging stronger and safer communities in the long term.

For further information, please contact Helen Cavill

HughendenStreetAssociation@gmail.com or 07392 683500

New freight strategy aims to reduce load on Buckinghamshire communities

- Minimising the impact of freight travelling through Buckinghamshire was the subject of a special summit which brought together community leaders from across the county on Monday (February 13)
- Organised by Buckinghamshire County Council, the debate focused on the key issues that directly affect local communities from lorries and trains carrying freight. These included noise, road safety, damage to roads, lorry routing and congestion.
- The session, marked the start of the process to refresh the Council's existing freight strategy originally published in 2010.
- Workshop chairman and the County Council's Deputy Cabinet Member for Transportation, Paul Irwin said things like the growth in online shopping and the continuing success of Buckinghamshire's business economy meant it was the right time to refresh the current strategy.

- "More than ever, we are having to cope with the impact of freight transport in the county and the challenges it places on our infrastructure and quality of life.
- "This session was all about fact finding and listening directly to the views of our local communities. We covered a range of potential solutions from weight restrictions on roads to better sat-nav technology to help HGV drivers. I was also grateful for the input from the Freight Transport Association and FCC Environment who both shared some of their positive experiences of managing the impact of freight from a trade perspective.
- "Our task now is to build on all these ideas and open up a wider discussion with industry and other authorities to help shape the development of our new strategy going forward.
- Paul added, "We've got a long way to go yet and it won't be a quick fix but I am determined to get the best possible protection for our local communities, while balancing the needs of the freight industry.

The new strategy is expected to be finalised in 2018.

NB This should help several roads in Hughenden Valley for several of the above reasons; four roads at least – Cryers Hill, Valley Road, Coombe Lane, Warrendene Road.

News from Buckinghamshire County Council
PR 9327 16 February 2017

More volunteers needed **as Hospice prepares for new era**

Volunteers are being urged to come forward to help patients with life-limiting conditions as South Bucks Hospice prepares to move into a stunning new £4.8m building. The charity is on course to move later this year into a 15,000 square foot three-storey property in Totteridge, High Wycombe.

However, more volunteers are needed to carry out various functions which support the care services given by the experts at the community hospice.

Dee Baverstock, South Bucks Hospice's Volunteers Co-ordinator, explained: "We have a great team here but we still need volunteers everywhere. We are looking for drivers, gardeners, collection boxes collectors, receptionists, and people who simply are good at meeting and greeting.

"You don't have to have any special medical expertise to volunteer, because all skills are welcome and can be used by us for the benefit of our patients."

She added: "I hope people will listen to this appeal and join us. The difference they can make to the lives of others by helping at the Hospice is quite considerable. And, what is more, the volunteers themselves really tend to derive a lot of benefit from the joy of helping others."



Elaine Merrilees and Nurse Carole Hildreth

Former nursery nurse Elaine Merrilees is one such volunteer who says that helping out at the charity has benefited her by enriching her life. Elaine, 57, a mother-of-three from Hughenden Valley, has volunteered at the hospice as a day services assistant for four hours every Tuesday since April 2015. Her duties are in the kitchen, ensuring the lunches are served up to the right temperature. She also washes up, clears away the food and serves tea and coffee to patients.

"I have made a lot of friends here among staff and patients and do feel I have made a difference," she said. "My mum was in a hospice a long time ago and I felt drawn to it because I knew a hospice had helped my family. Some people perceive that helping at a hospice would not be their cup of tea - but it is a really happy and enjoyable place to be with a really nice atmosphere."

Now Elaine urges others to follow her example. She added: "If you are thinking about volunteering then give it a go because there are so many opportunities, such as in the office or garden, and it's an incredibly enriching experience, because I benefit possibly as much as the patients do."

By the middle of 2018, it is projected that 650 to 800 people a month will be using the new hospice building. Dee Baverstock said: "Now is your chance to join us in this incredibly exciting new era. I hope people will pick up the phone to find out more about how they can help."

People can volunteer from as little as two hours a week. If you want to join the Hospice team, contact Dee at:
dee.baverstock@sbhospice.org.uk or call 01494 537775

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

Charlotte Davis, Trainee PR and Marketing Assistant

Hughenden and Chequers Patient Participation Group

The first of our intended Talks on health issues took place on 23rd November 2016 in the Hughenden Valley Village Hall.

The talk was on Male Health and Prostatic Care kindly given by Mr Neil Haldar, Consultant Urologist of Wycombe General Hospital. We are pleased to report that it was a successful evening, well received by the 95 who attended. After the talk Mr Haldar answered questions, which he deemed to be a very important part of the evening.

Medical Detection Dogs.

Following the talk on male health, a representative from the Medical Detection Dogs, Mr Farrer - Brown came to tell us about their work training dogs in cancer cell detection from body fluids. The highly developed smell receptors in dogs (3000% better than our own) can detect cancer cells from .5ml of fluid. They are said to be 97% accurate. They can detect prostatic and breast cancer cells. The dogs are working on a research project for breast cancer with .

£ 150.00 was collected for the charity to help them with their important work. Our men folk gave generously.

I would like to thank The Hughenden Valley Hall Committee who kindly donated the hall as they thought the talk was beneficial to the Hughenden community.

I would also like to thank the road representatives who delivered the advertising leaflets in their road. My feet were also tired!.

Important information for the Female Patients.

1) Breast cancer.

If you have two members of your immediate family who have had breast cancer please make an appointment to see your G.P. They will, with your consent, send your family details to a centre in Oxford who will look at your cancer “ Risk factors”. If you are considered to be at risk of breast cancer, a medication to greatly reduce your risk is now available, which can be prescribed by your G.P. Please don't hesitate.

2) Cervical Cancer.

NHS England are disappointed at the drop in women who come forward to have their smear test.

As a result untreatable cervical cancer is on the rise.

Cervical cancer may not have symptoms in the early stages but cell changes can be detected by regular screening with the smear test.

Early changes can be treated so patient vigilance is paramount.

The test is available for women between the age of 25 – 65 years but particularly the younger age groups are at risk. Around 3000 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer in the U.K. each year. Please do not be one of them.

We hope to put on another health talk possibly in May.
Subject to be decided.

Elizabeth Carless - PPG Chair.

elizabethcarless@sky.com

Being Neighbourly **is second nature to the residents of Coombe Lane**

Late last year a group of residents in Coombe Lane decided it was time to get to know their neighbours. Having visited 14 out of the 17 households (it was half term week and some residents had clearly taken advantage of the opportunity to get away!), the group kicked off this initiative with a Neighbours Natter over tea and cake. 15 neighbours enjoyed some yummy cakes and endless cups of tea as they got to know each other better. In January the second event was held: a Prosecco and Nibbles evening. Another amazing evening where the time simply flew by! Whilst many have lived in Coombe Lane for over 10 years (one couple has in fact lived here since their house was built 52 years ago!) it was acknowledged that busy lives and the way that the houses are situated do not encourage easy interaction. All that has changed through the efforts of a few people which has been applauded by everyone who came along – and indeed some who were unable due to other commitments. In the spring and summer there will be – subject to the UK weather! – outdoor events to keep the conversation going. This informal network has sown the seeds of real community spirit and it can be said that the Parish Council initiative to give a little time for your neighbours is well under way in Coombe Lane and has made some real differences already!



Jane Phillips, Ailort, Coombe Lane
Email: Jane@jph99.co.uk Tel: 07792 261338.

West Bank Garden recreation at Hughenden Manor



The garden team at Hughenden have been working hard to recreate the West Bank Garden. In 2016 we completed the rabbit fencing and moved in to the new year felling all the poorly formed trees. Contractors are scheduled at the end of February to resurface the overgrown path and realign the steps so we can open to the public. Weed control and planting will continue throughout 2017.

The West Bank Garden was originally part of a larger garden designed as a formal woodland walk that lead on to the top of the parkland. It was dominated by Yew and Primroses (Benjamin Disraeli's favourite flower). It had a unique character as a secluded walk away from the formality of the parterre and had an ambience of relaxed woodland. Benjamin Disraeli spoke of the view from the West Bank "to a spot where seats have been provided for the enjoyment of a pleasing view of the Wycombe Valley and the little town".

Currently the West Bank is closed to the public as the steps became unstable in the early 1990's and the garden has reverted to woodland. Opening the West Bank will give an extra 7% size to the current garden at Hughenden enabling more interesting winter shrubs and includes Yew trees planted by Disraeli over 130 years ago.

The project has been funded by raffle ticket sales in 2016 where garden volunteers raised £4000. This funding has enabled us to buy 639 shrubs and 620 Primroses.

Piers Horry, Senior Gardener, Hughenden Manor

Mobile: 07917174409 Desk: 01494 755595 Office: 01494 755573

Hughenden Events



National
Trust

Exhibition: Disraeli the collector

Mon 13 Feb – Sun 14 Jul

The Victorian era was a golden age of collecting. Discover how Benjamin Disraeli collected titles and treasures, while his wife Mary Anne collected locks of hair.

Behind the scenes: manor tour

Thu 23 Feb, 30 Mar, 27 Apr & 25 May 11-11.45am

Join a member of the house team to see conservation work in action and get a sneak peek into Hughenden's store rooms.

Forester walk

Sat 4 Mar, 10am-12noon

A guided walk through the woods with our knowledgeable ranger, finishing with a hot Forester's soup, tea and coffee in Dizzy's tea room. £10 **B**

Cadbury Easter egg hunt

Sat 1 – Mon 17 Apr, 10am-4pm

Hunt for giant eggs in Hughenden's gardens and receive a chocolate prize. Child £3

Trail trackers

Tue 4 & 11 Apr 10.30am-12noon

Kids can be a 'trail tracker' with our ranger team. Put your orienteering skills to the test with a compass and map. Child £4 **B**

The great big tree climb

Thu 6, Mon 10 Apr & Thu 1 Jun, 10am-4pm

Climb a really big tree for a bird's eye view of Hughenden. Join an instructor from The Great Big Tree Climbing Co.

£20 Booking via bigtreeclimbing.co.uk or 0800 0556760

Meet the beekeepers

Mon 1 & 29 May, 11am-4pm

Find out about beekeeping and honey production with the friendly volunteer beekeeping team.

Ranger walk

Sat 13 May, 10am-12noon

Discover spring flowers on this walk through bluebell woods with one of our rangers. £4 **B**

50 Part of the 50 things to do before you're 11 ³⁶ challenge.

B Booking essential.



Bugs & beasts

Sat 27 May – Sun 4 Jun

10.30am-4pm

There's a creepy crawly theme to the half-term activities at Hughenden. Pick up a craft pack and make a bug friend. Child £2

Beasts & butterflies walk

Tue 30 May

10.30am-12noon

Be a nature detective on this walk with a ranger. Catch bugs and identify them. Child £4 **B**

Creepy crawly roadshow

Fri 2 Jun

10.30am, 12noon, 2pm & 3.30pm

Join an expert for a one hour show meeting creatures from the rainforest. Child £5 **B**



West Wycombe Park



Near High Wycombe
Tel: 01494 755571

Have you visited nearby West Wycombe Park? Step into a tranquil landscaped garden complete with Palladian mansion.

Open April – August (mansion open from June), Sunday – Thursday, 2-6pm.

Musical Sundays

Sundays May- Aug 2.30pm

Relax with music performed on the south colonnade.

Garden tour:

A walk on the wild side

Sundays Apr – Aug 2.30pm

Join a guided walk around the pleasure gardens.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/west-wycombe-park-village-and-hill

Unless otherwise stated, normal admission applies.

B Booking essential on 01494 755573 or visit: nationaltrust.org.uk/hughenden

Hughenden

High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP14 4LA



New Doors Please

Last issue, the focus was on some of the investments being made to the village hall including upgrading of the audio system and stage lighting. These changes have been welcomed by many hall users, both regular and occasional, and the overall feedback has been very positive. The next major project will be to replace all the internal doors as many of these are older than the majority of people using the hall. Over the years, the existing doors have been repaired and repainted numerous times with handles and hinges suffering considerably from the wear and tear from everyday use. The village hall committee is keen to provide a facility for the community that fully reflects the aspirations of all users and consequently has identified several potential upgrade projects for consideration during this year. Replacing the internal doors was one of the items at the top of the list and this will now become a reality. All the upgrades are paid from the income raised by the various fundraising events such as Village Day and the Christmas Bazaar, and this continues to be a vital source of additional income for the hall.

The aforementioned Christmas Bazaar was held on Saturday 21 November 2016 with record numbers attending the event. A new Craft section proved a very popular addition and featured several local craft enterprises and this element will no doubt be expanded in the future. Monday December 5th saw the Annual General Meeting of the village hall committee and featured a fascinating presentation by Rev. Keith Johnson, Vicar at St Michael & All Angels, on his visit to the Holy Land with a detailed photographic record of the places and people he encountered. December 20th/21st/22nd saw the first production by Valley Players of the pantomime Dick Whittington, and a more detailed report appears elsewhere in this publication. Suffice to say that audience reaction was extremely complimentary with 2 of the 3 nights being fully sold out.

Finally, with the advent of spring flowers starting to show and new growth appearing on shrubs and bushes all around the village hall grounds, it seems winter may have passed us by this year. Let's hope so.

Michael Sole, chairman@hughendenvillagehall.co.uk

Hughenden Valley Village Hall

Hughenden Village Hall, Hughenden Valley, Coombe Lane, High Wycombe, HP144NX
T: 01494 564244 E: info@hughendenvillagehall.co.uk

The Perfect Choice for your event whatever the reason.

Set in AONB Hughenden Village Hall has two halls both with fully equipped kitchens. The large hall can accommodate 100 sitting and has an elevated stage and the small hall benefits from an outside patio area.



There is plenty of off-road parking and the extensive grounds incorporate a playing field for hire for sporting events, weddings and recreation; a conservation area, children's playground AND the grounds benefit from an adjacent village shop and coffee shop overlooking the play area.

So if you have a party, meeting, class, club wedding, special celebration, or show call now on **07815 163269** to find out more.



From the Vicarage

“The most important thing that I’ve ever done is become a follower of Jesus. I want everyone to hear his voice calling to them. That’s why I’m praying for people to know his life-transforming love.” With these inspiring words, The Archbishop of Canterbury, The Most Rev Justin Welby launched #Pledge2Pray as part of *Thy Kingdom Come 2017*. The Archbishop’s words are very appropriate in our Parish this Lent as we are considering what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ on Sunday mornings at St Michael & All Angels Church.

Lent is often a popular time to forgo a luxury, or something which you think you might be better off without – I have known of people who have given up television, coffee, their car and yes of course chocolate. During Lent, we recall the 40 days and 40 nights which Jesus spent alone in the wilderness. No food passed his lips during that period, and he used the time of isolation wisely to prepare himself for the challenges of public ministry which would lie ahead. Prayer would have been his main occupation, and that time away from human contact was spent in close communion with his heavenly father.

Jesus left the desert with fresh resolve, and began preaching and teaching about the kingdom of God, but he knew that his time on earth was limited, and so it was imperative that he made disciples to follow in his footsteps, to carry the flame for the kingdom after he had left – and so he began recruiting followers. Those same disciples formed the core group who became eye witnesses of his remarkable words and miraculous deeds, and subsequently leaders of the early Christian Church of which all those who profess the Christian faith today are inheritors.

Jesus Christ calls you and me to follow in his footsteps, whether we are strangers to the divine call or recognise his voice at once.

I love following in the footsteps of Jesus Christ. I don’t always get it right, and sometimes I lose my way on the path. But he is infinitely patient with me [thank goodness] and if the way ahead has already been walked by Christ, then I know that I am heading in the right direction.

I invite you to respond to the call of Christ to those first disciples, Simon and Andrew, fishing on the Sea of Galilee – “Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men” Matthew 4:19

*Rev Keith Johnson ~ Vicar, St Michael & All Angels, Hughenden
keiththevicar@gmail.com*

Hughenden Primary School

Year 5

On the 25th of January we had a celebration after school and had a traditional Scottish feast to celebrate Burns Night. We did this because Miss Sleight is very proud of her Scottish heritage, and as a result, wanted to teach us about her background and culture.

The feast we had was delicious! It included: Haggis, Neeps (turnip) and Tatties (potatoes). We didn't just go out and buy our feast, we prepared it ourselves! We really liked the Haggis and it was spicy!

Written by Year 5

Year 6 – Wycombe District Council



Over the past few weeks, the children at Hughenden have had some really exciting opportunities to think and discuss British values, democracy and our local area.

In Year 6, we have been working with our class teacher, Mr Meatyard, to consider what makes Hughenden and High Wycombe a great place to live and what we could do to improve it. Our work began when we were first invited to be the lead school as part of the Wycombe Youth Voice by Cllr Carroll.

After several lessons, lots of surveys of local people and class discussions, we finally had a set of ideas that we wanted to present to the Councillors at Wycombe District Council in their chambers. We were a little nervous about speaking to so many important people, but they were all really kind and listened carefully to our concerns about littering, smoking, public toilets, parking, police patrols and local facilities.

They were so impressed with how we spoke that they gave us three rounds of applause and offered us the opportunity to work on several local projects. We cannot wait to get stuck in and help make our community an even cleaner, safer, more exciting place to live.

Written by Year 6

Able Writers – Year 6



Before half term, children from year 6 and year 5 went to Manor Farm junior school to take part in the Able writers workshop with the children’s author, Nick Cook. The main theme of the workshop was based upon the tornados in Nick Cook’s books, *Cloud Rider* and *Breaking Storm*. After a brief introduction from the

author, the children took part in several practical workshops that helped them develop several writing strategies including: overcoming the ‘blank page’, how to turn their ideas into an engaging story and use ‘tricks of the trade’ to keep the turning the page.

Nick Cook was blown away by the children’s ideas and commitment to improving their work. Their imaginations were stimulated by a variety of activities such as writing a script then acting it out in front of a green screen, which then had different backgrounds imposed upon it. The children had immense fun carrying out this task especially creating and throwing giant fake hailstones at each other to simulate the feeling of being in a storm and being a ‘storm chaser’. The children look forward to working with more authors in the future such as local Author, Jason Rohan after reading his latest book *The Stone of Kuromori*.

Hughenden Primary teacher was selected to attend Parliament’s “Teachers’ Institute”.

January 2017

Jonathan Meatyard a teacher from Hughenden Primary school in Hughenden Valley has been selected to attend “Teachers’ Institute” in the Houses of Parliament. In the ten years since it was launched, “Teachers’ Institute” has trained more than 500 teachers, from all parts of the UK, giving them skills and knowledge of Parliament to pass on to their students and fellow teachers.



Mr Meatyard applied to Parliament’s open call and was selected from more than 180 applicants to attend the three-day event in Parliament. Fully funded by Parliament’s Education Service, he participated in question and answer sessions with the Speaker and the Lord Speaker, and heard from parliamentarians of all parties about their work in the Commons and Lords.

John Bercow MP, Speaker of the House of Commons, said:

“I am proud that this excellent initiative, now in its tenth year, continues to provide such an invaluable service. Better engagement and dialogue with young people is of fundamental importance to our democracy, and I am sure that the teachers attending will find the experience both useful and enlightening.”

David Lidington MP for Aylesbury and Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons, said:

“I am delighted that Jonathan Meatyard, a teacher from my constituency, has attended the Teachers’ Institute at Parliament. Teachers have so many opportunities to engage young people with Parliament and their democratic heritage, and I am sure that the students in Hughenden Primary are benefiting from Jonathan’s experience.”

Jonathan Meatyard

Village Store re-opens

Saturday 4th March saw the return of the Village Store and Cabin - but not as you know it! A year of preparation and highs and lows resulted in a successful reincarnation of the former shop with hundreds of people turning out for the event.

The opening was a culmination of a huge team effort of local trades people, professionals and volunteers who have given their time and expertise over the last few months to help bring the new store to fruition. The last few weeks have seen weekly working parties of groups of volunteers helping with the decoration and the clear up operation, with the last week seeing volunteers in the shop til' late at night, finishing in time for the grand opening.



Saturday's opening saw large crowds turning out to see celebrity guest Mary Berry make a star performance. Before the ceremony Mary visited the shop and chatted with the volunteers. Louise Jones, Shop Manager gave a speech thanking everyone for their enormous efforts and support over the last year and then Mary made a short speech emphasising the importance of a community shop, concluding with her cutting the ribbon to formally open the shop.



Following the ceremony Mary had her photograph taken with the local Brownie group who had raised approximately £300 and the local Scout Group who had helped out at the event handing out leaflets to the crowd. Mary then signed books for over two hours after the event making sure that everyone in the queue had their books signed.

The new shop is in the style of a traditional village store with a modern twist and the cabin is modern but cosy with a mix of comfy sofas and tables. The feedback from the crowds was amazing with glowing reports from everyone who entered.

The store will continue to sell a range of main brand convenience foods and local produce in addition to some finer foods, as well as a range of sweet and savoury pastries, tray bakes and cakes that can be taken away or eaten in the cabin. The shop will continue to carry out free home deliveries to the ill, elderly and housebound and the cabin can host local group events such as the book club, and Hughenden Ladies Running Club.

If you would like any further information or be interested in volunteering, please call the shop on 568653. Long live our lovely new Village Store and Cabin!

Louise Jones ~ Shop Manager



Our Village Store

*If you have the time to spare,
Will you come with me and share
the wonder of our village store?
With pots of honey by the door,
Shelves on shelves of sweets in jars
that seems to reach up to the stars,
Shortbread biscuits in square tins,
Flour stored in silvered bins,
Brooms and mops and spades and forks,
Writing paper, coloured chinks,
Screws and nails and brass door handles,
Christmas lights, tallow candles,
Nuts and raisins, candied peeling,
Home-cured hams hung from the ceiling,
Such a feast of magic spells,
Mingled with enticing smells,
And what's more, on top of that,
There's time to have a friendly chat,
Such is the charm of country lore,
Embodied in our village store*

By Barry H. Grant

**THE HUGHENDEN VALLEY SHOP COMMITTEE
WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING
PEOPLE FOR THEIR GENEROUS DONATIONS
AND KIND HELP ALLOWING THE SHOP TO
OPEN AGAIN.**

**IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT
THEIR HELP**

FUNDING, DONATIONS AND SUPPORT

- ❖ **WDC – Bob Daniels, Mandy Surety and Paul Shackley**
- ❖ **Heart of Bucks– Catherine, Bev and Lauren**
- ❖ **Parish Council – Shona, Jill and Councillors**
- ❖ **Steven Broadbent, David Carroll & David Lidington**
- ❖ **Bucks Badgers**
- ❖ **Rotary Club of Princes Risborough**
- ❖ **National Trust Club**
- ❖ **Hughenden 1st Beavers for fundraising**
- ❖ **Hughenden 1st Brownies**
- ❖ **Hughenden Valley Scouts**
- ❖ **Hughenden Football Club**
- ❖ **Hughenden Valley Res. Assoc. Al Bowyer, John Dockett, Janet, Angus and the road reps.**
- ❖ **Hughenden Village Hall**
- ❖ **Staff and children of Hughenden Primary School**

DONATIONS FROM LOCAL BUSINESS

- ❖ **Applewood Surveying – Jason Woods - donation of architectural services**
- ❖ **T J Robbins – Transporting the Park and Ride to Hughenden**
- ❖ **CMS - dismantling and re configuring the building**
- ❖ **Steve Morris, Builder**
- ❖ **Robin Hurrell – Robins Garden Retreat**
- ❖ **Buildbase – Barry, Eddie, Jimmy and all the team**
- ❖ **Grant and Stone – Darren and team**
- ❖ **Sharedish Systems – Daryl, Aaron and Victor**
- ❖ **Windows, Doors and Bifolds – Ken**
- ❖ **Denise Cann at Brown’s Solicitors - legal services**
- ❖ **L R Harvey Electrical – Paul Dunnings**
- ❖ **S C Gibbons Decorating Services - Stuart**
- ❖ **Sue Sidley – Graphic Designer for logo design**
- ❖ **Beechdean Ice Cream– Lucy, Sam, Debbie and team**
- ❖ **Scott Lacey and Instone Designs for Counter building and donation of services**
- ❖ **Phoenix Retail – refrigeration**
- ❖ **Howden’s – donation of kitchen units**
- ❖ **S J Flooring – Simon and Pete**
- ❖ **Back Street Coffee Shop, Stokenchurch - Paul**
- ❖ **GMS – Coffee Services - Seamus Doyle**
- ❖ **Turville Printing Services – Annette, Michael and team**
- ❖ **Karl’s Company Karl and Mark**
- ❖ **Chiltern Natural Foods – Susie and team**
- ❖ **Raj and Horesco Coffee Servicing**
- ❖ **Hazlemere Fire Services**
- ❖ **Panache Fire Services**

- ❖ **Carlington Cleaning – Dean**
- ❖ **Fisher Tomlin & Bowyer - Dan**
- ❖ **Johnstones Decorating Centre - Kelson**
- ❖ **Country Supplies Richard and team**
- ❖ **Chiltern Wood Recycling – Andy and team**
- ❖ **Wycombe Sound radio – Pippa, Richard and Claire**
- ❖ **Bucks Free Press – Anita and Shruti**
- ❖ **Three Counties Radio**
- ❖ **Barry Collins – AKA Super Barry**



- ❖ **James Aitken, John and Tim**
- ❖ **James Kent – for use of barn and cabin storage**
- ❖ **Chris Dell**
- ❖ **Glynn Richards**
- ❖ **Karen and David Brittin**
- ❖ **Davina and Scott Lacey**
- ❖ **Ethan Clark**
- ❖ **Alan Peacegood**
- ❖ **Sam Morrison**
- ❖ **Don and Linda Brunton**
- ❖ **Aaron Keats**
- ❖ **Martin, Bev and Alice Hall**
- ❖ **Neil McDonald**
- ❖ **Harry Coventry**
- ❖ **Sandie Davie**
- ❖ **Peter and Louise Cannon**
- ❖ **Tricia Pringle**
- ❖ **John McGee**
- ❖ **Gary Franklin**
- ❖ **Pam Pringle**

Hughenden Art Group

Our Christmas parties are always so much fun that I have to give you a quick report in February! The Olympics were the theme, and guests were divided into different countries. The competition between 'tables' was hot, the most competitive being the crepe paper plus anything you could lay your hands on fancy dress or anything to represent 'your country'. The creative juices really flowed, with lots of mirth thrown in. Mr Trump was chosen by America; his hair was amazing! I hope you enjoy the picture of 'England's' effort- a truly magnificent Britannia!

Our A.G.M. was well attended, but this year started on a sad note. Our chairman for the last thirty years (Jill Graves) has had a patch of poor health and decided to resign her post. I can report she is recovering well and will remain on the committee in a less arduous post. Sandra Thomas has taken on the role so the club will remain in good hands!

Jo Laurie was our first tutor of the year, 'she' plus the subject of a 'Hare' proved so popular it was nearly standing room only! At the end of January we had a Bring and Buy sale of art materials and raised a generous sum for our charity 'CLIC'.

Tonight sees us back to basic drawing with Joy Hawes, then after half term pastels with Jane Coulson, her subject 'Giraffe with beautiful eyes'. Bidy Lee is joining us in March to help us paint foxgloves using water colour glazes. Bidy is always a popular 'returner' for Monday evening tutorials. Before the Easter break, our own Judy Maynard demonstrates how to illustrate garden birds in acrylics, using just a palette knife. Between these tutored evenings we enjoy chat and activity of our own choice.

Looking at the cold grey February sky out of the window, I know we are all looking forward to the lighter days of spring and summer.

Margaret Hunter ~ wellhouseway@btinternet.com

High Wycombe & District Philatelic Society

Our Christmas Dinner and Grand Draw was again held at the Hazlemere Golf Club on 15th December, and a very enjoyable time was had by all. We are now well into our programme for 2017, and forthcoming visiting speakers include Joe Cottrill from the well-known stamp auctioneers WARWICK & WARWICK on 23rd March, Peter Wood on 20th April who will give us a display of IRISH POSTAL HISTORY, and Brian Davis on 18th May who will bring his collection entitled 'CONCORD – QUEEN OF THE SKIES'. In addition, we continue to have our selection of Stamp Markets and Auctions, and the Annual Members' Cup will be held on 6th April.

Our full programme is posted on our website

www.hwphilatelicsociety.co.uk and any new members who are interested in furthering their collections will be very welcome at any of our meetings, which are held fortnightly on Thursdays at St. James's Church Hall, Plomer Hill, Downley, starting at 7.30 pm.

Ken Richardson, Secretary ~ 01494-563155

Hughenden Good Companions

The Club is friendly afternoon meeting for anyone over 60; the meetings are held once a month on the first Thursday, at 2:25pm until 5pm. We have some interesting speakers or entertainment, and refreshments of tea and, usually, home-made cakes. And we have a raffle to which everyone contributes. At our meeting in February we were pleased to welcome three new members and we had a talk about Canada.

At our next meeting, on Thursday 2nd March "The Bell Ringers" will entertain us. Then, on 6th April Roger Wilding, a local man, will speak on some of the Natural History of the area; he has said his talk will be about the Chiltern Way. He loves walking the country's long distance paths.

May 4th will see the return of Mrs Deacon who will talk about the Andes and the Amazon of South America and the Galapagos Islands of the Pacific Ocean.

Are you aware that the Hughenden Valley Good Companions Club is the longest surviving club for this age group in this area? Long may it exist!

Sheila Veysey ~ 01494 562332

Hughenden Valley Football Club

Since the turn of the year, the very wet weather has taken its toll on the pitches and training areas at Hughenden. Most of us can't remember the last time we played a match and it really demonstrates how necessary an all weather pitch is for the Club.

The back pitch has recovered well following the badger damage over the Autumn but we are being very careful with the new surface as it cuts up very easily. Roll on the Spring weather!

We are delighted to have a new partnership with Pipers Corner School for the first time. They have allowed the Club to rent their fantastic MUGA facility for four nights a week so we can continue to train during this bad weather. Whilst expensive for the Club it is proving to be an invaluable facility at the moment. Such a shame we have been so delayed in obtaining a village MUGA. In the future we would like to deepen the relationship by encouraging more of the girls to play within our teams - so that one day we will be able to field an all girls team. Wouldn't that be great.

Date for your diary :

AGM/Funday on Sunday 11th June.

Neil Bellamy, Chairman ~ neilbellamy@icloud.com

Wednesday Badminton

Our particular group started as a Wellesbourne afternoon class as part of the Evening Classes scheme which existed at the time.

Some joined and started playing the game for the first time while others had played before at different levels. Even today this idea continues so that anyone, whatever age or level, can take part. It is a social occasion where people of the village can keep themselves fit with a little bit of exercise!

When the Hall was built in 1974 it was decided to make it high enough to play badminton, hence the attractive wooden instead of steel girders in the roof. Later on, when the small hall was built, our secretary, Harry Potter, suggested we had the similar roofing. Well done Harry who is well remembered by the "Potter Quiz".

Wednesday Badminton is from 1:15pm to 3:15pm every Wednesday in Term Time. Pop round and see us if you fancy giving it a try.

John Veysey ~ 01494 562332

Valley Players, Hughenden Valley

Time flies when you're having fun. I know I am & I sincerely hope all the other members are too. From the attendances at the Monday evening rehearsals I can say there is no lack of enthusiasm.

That mood has continued since London & Morocco came to Hughenden Valley last December in the form of our pantomime 'Dick Whittington'. This was the first production by Valley Players and was well received by its audiences. I'm sure no-one will forget Tony Konieczny & Bev Beverage as the Captain & Bosun respectively! (The Director can confirm that they both managed to recite all their dialogue just not necessarily in the right order, and how we loved them for it.) Rachel Johnson also deserves a mention. New to the village she stepped up to take the title role of Dick Whittington and who knew she could sing like that! Well done Rachel. In fact, it was a brilliant performance by all the cast, not forgetting our beautiful miniature Shetland pony, Princess Mary and the sterling work of the backstage & front of house teams who all deserved the applause and audience appreciation for a job well done. We had some wonderful feedback & we thank you all for the kind messages of support and encouragement.



However, Dick Whittington now being behind us, we have to remember that, as the very first performance, it has set the standard & laid the cornerstone for future performances. There will always be room for improvement made all the easier if you have a strong membership base. As with any drama group we are always looking for help. A performance isn't just about actors, it involves so many others. Stage crew, lighting crew, front of house staff – the list is endless with no experience necessary – so please come along and see us on Monday evenings in the Large Hall at 7.30pm or maybe you saw our pantomime and are tempted (in the words of the BBC) 'to get inspired' then please contact Sheelagh on 07468 462023.

Going forward we begin our new year with our AGM on March 20th at 8.15pm in the Large Hall.

In April you will be made welcome as we hope to present a Review of songs, sketches & stories.

In July we will present, in the form of a radio play, '**The Ghosts of Halfway House**' by Richard James. Simon and Daphne are looking around an old house, with Simon's mother in tow. They aren't convinced it's the right place for them, and Mr Godley the estate agent is *unusual*. They're in for quite an evening before they find out more than they expected about the house and its history.

Look out for dates & times of the two productions above in the not too distant future

Sheelagh Jones, Chairman, Valley Players, Hughenden ~ 07468 462023

Valley Friends

At our October A.G.M. Valley Friends celebrated their Golden Anniversary with a Grand Dinner and Musical Entertainment. Fifty Years ago families were moving into the new local housing estates and young mothers needed somewhere to socialise. Inspired by the young members of Hughenden Mothers' Union two groups were formed, one at Park Estate and one at Hughenden Valley which was called Valley Young Wives, later named Valley Wives and now Valley Friends. Membership has been constant for 50 years. Our A.G.M proceeded as usual and then our Leader,

Jill, was presented on behalf of us all with a book of poems and a beautiful bouquet as tokens of our gratitude and as a tribute to her for her outstanding leadership over an amazing 26 years. At our Christmas meeting we were entertained by "Aca-holics Barbershop Quartet " who were all members of the Ladies' Association of British Barbershop Singers. They were very talented and gave a most enjoyable concert.

Our interesting programme included a very informative talk by Malcolm Nelson who, as a Customs and Excise Officer, spent forty years catching smugglers. Our most recent speaker was Tony Eaton who told us two mysterious stories one of Amy Johnson and the second of Leslie Howard, both of whom failed to return from aeroplane flights. We meet on the first Friday of the month in the Large Village Hall at 8pm. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Joan Steel joan@steel33.plus.com 01494 562648

Hughenden Valley & Kingshill Conservatives

Our energies will now be directed towards the county council elections on Thursday, 4th May. We are part of the Ridgeway East county council division which has some 8000 electorate. Apart from the more populated areas of Hughenden Valley, Great Kingshill and Widmer End, a lot of this area is rural, around the Hampdens, Ellesborough and the Kimbles, and it is imperative that we get our message to every household in the division. If you would like to help us deliver some leaflets of the candidate's address please give me a call on the number below.

On 2nd December we had our Christmas Lunch at Stowe Landscape Gardens, and they looked after us very well with a very good lunch. In December we did not really expect the weather to be too inviting to go round the gardens, and it wasn't, so we had booked a tour round Stowe House instead, which is now both a boys and girls school.

On the social front, we are planning to visit one of the RHS Garden Flower Shows in August or September, but before then we plan to visit a National Trust property in the Summer, probably in June or early July. Full details will be sent out to members as soon as they are available, but meanwhile you can see our programme on the Aylesbury Conservatives website: www.aylesburyconservatives.com under 'Events' when details are known, or contact me.

Ken Richardson ~ Branch Chairman 01494-563155

The Rotary Club of Princes Risborough



For those of you who know me, I am sure you will be well aware that I like to give some of my time to the Community and help raise some money for charities. So in this context it was special for me when some 18 months ago, I was invited to join the Rotary Club of Princes Risborough.

Like me before I joined, many of you are probably not aware of what Rotary does and what it stands for so I thought you might be interested to hear my take on it.

Rotary International was founded in 1905 and is the world's largest service organisation. There are approximately 1.2 million members worldwide who come together in their many guises to give special and continuous support to communities.

The Rotary Club of Princes Risborough was established in May 1981 and is a very friendly club with over 50 dedicated individuals who exchange ideas, build relationships and take action. We have a President who serves in office for one year and is supported by officers and a number of Committee Chairmen. All members participate in a committee and have a voice in the running of the Club and its current projects.

Meetings take place at Whiteleaf Golf Club on Mondays at 8:00pm, except the first Monday of each month when meetings start at 1:00 pm. There is a wide-ranging agenda of Club business, external and internal speakers, and fellowship evenings. Regular attendance at meetings is encouraged, and as a Rotarian, you can visit and be welcomed at any Rotary Club worldwide.

At evening meetings, the club's business is addressed followed by a meal, coffee and then some form of entertainment.

Fellowship plays a very important part in Rotary life, including social or sporting events which includes, amongst others: Theatre trips; Progressive suppers; Quiz nights; Golf, Skiing, Darts, Sailing; Partners' evenings; St George's and Burns nights; Group walks and cycling-events.

As well as raising money for many charities within the local community and abroad, we also join with other local organisations, supporting each other in many ways. Indeed I am pleased to say that we gave a donation to the rebuilding of the Hughenden Valley Community Shop.

Our activities are many. For example the whole club supports the Kop Hill Climb motoring event in September attracting some 15,000 people and raising large sums for charities. We also hold a Fireworks and Hallow'een evening in late October, which is well attended by the community with the focus on fun for the children. Every year, at the end of November in Dukes Street Garden, and in conjunction with the Rennie Grove Hospice we hold a Tree of Light dedication ceremony in memory of those who have passed away.

We are also very active in supporting Bucks Young Carers and are justly proud of the efforts we have made in supporting the Princes Centre and Saunderton Lodge.

We are equally proud of our support to our Interact Clubs at the Princes Risborough Secondary School and the Royal Grammar School in High Wycombe. This introduces young people who are setting out on their careers to the joys of supporting the community and raising money for worthwhile charities. Rotarians take turns in attending Interact meetings every school week.

Why did I join? Well I have already made valuable connections with like-minded people who care about the issues facing our communities. And I have had the chance to apply my personal experience and professional skills to support the club and many of the events and charities it is involved with.

If you are interested in finding out more then please contact me by email: albert.bowyer@btinternet.com

I look forward to hearing from you,

Al Bowyer ~ 01494 562862

Hughenden Allotment and Garden Association (HAGA)

Hello Plotters,

Well, it's just past Valentine's Day. It clearly worked for the birds (if not the bees – I've not seen any yet); the garden is full of birds courting, displaying and, certainly in the case of magpies, finding nest-building materials (a case of build early in prime spots!). They are all having to dodge the rain showers of course that have now replaced the recent bright, crisp days.

But we shouldn't knock the rain - it will be good for the spring bulbs and other flowers that are clearly beginning to show. Fingers crossed though that it doesn't catch us out with another cold snap. We need to keep a weather-eye on the forecast and garden fleece to hand for shoots that are coming up which will not yet stand a frost. Things in pots, such as lilies are already doing well but won't thank you for much cold without protection at this stage.

On the other hand, aren't the snowdrops and crocuses looking good? Those first sure and happy signs that spring really is coming. Then the hellebores...not as much a clarion call to spring as the snowdrops and crocuses, more a muted trumpet passage to accompany the daffs and tulips.....aahhhh.

Now.... enough of this romanticism. To more prosaic stuff:

Following the Annual General Meeting at the end of November, HAGA went into its annual hibernation. Only for two months you understand – we were back on parade at the end of January for our first talk of the year: "The Basics of Garden Design". It was entertaining **and** informative, in front of an excellent turn-out, and it was just what we needed to start our new season's programme. Apart from the seven further talks we shall have three one-day visits and the short break/long weekend (which is in June).

Notwithstanding a necessary increase to the membership fee this year (to £10), I still maintain that HAGA is up there amongst the best value, most vibrant and sociable groups in the area. Our monthly meetings are regularly attended by 60-70 people – this is all but 50% of our membership, which itself is rising not slipping back; the full programme of talks and visits continues as in previous years and our retailer discounts are all still available. We support and participate in the bi-annual Village Day and the annual Hughenden Valley Christmas Bazaar. What is more *the tea/coffee and biscuits at the monthly meetings are STILL FREE.* Hoorah!!!

So you see, if you join HAGA, you don't simply become a member of an allotment and gardens group you become part of an enthusiastic, sociable locality. You don't *have* to be a resident of Hughenden Valley to join HAGA; you just need a feeling for the good things, good places and good people of life.

Looking forward to seeing you all during great seasons to come.....

Andrew Flint
Chairman

Barrie Tackley
Vice Chairman and Membership Secretary

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Email: clerk@hughendenpc.org.uk



Hughenden Valley Draining Improvement Group (HVDIG)

You can read about the Hughenden Valley Drainage Improvement Group (HVDIG) activities on the HVDIG Blog page of our website:
<http://www.hvdig.org/page2.htm>.

Membership of the Group is open to residents in the Hughenden Valley area and to those in organisations with an interest in or responsibilities for the Hughenden Valley area. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact Sarah Mustapha (secretary@hvdig.org).

David White Chairman, HVDIG

The Conservation Group

As the winter disappears in the rear view mirror so the spring appears in our headlights and it's time to reflect and contemplate the conservation group's action.

Our biggest challenge was to expose the chalk 'line' near the fire pit and to do this we hired an excavator and use the skills of John Moorby (I had to have a go as well!) It's not much to look at yet but the hard work is done and the fruits of our work will soon be there for all to see.



A number of trees and hedges have been pruned/coppiced or pollarded, this allows the light into many areas helping the lower growing plants some chance of growing to a better size. Along with this those pruned items will look and do much better during the growing season.

The hay raking was very onerous last year as we had a bumper crop that had to be disposed of via a number of skips, this year we expect as usual to spread our 'harvest' throughout the four or so acres of conservation land. A further skill being learnt by Andrew Flint was the most satisfying of hedge



laying. Under Johns' supervision he's made an excellent start and it already looks great, only to be enhanced by the passage of time!

The future looks rosy (sorry for the pun) as the warmer weather arrives. There is much more 'spring cleaning' to do and we're always short of hands so why not come and join us throughout the spring AND, this year, some Sundays during the summer! Already we see orchids springing to life and the other flora and fauna are budding almost too bursting point - come and see!



These rare orchids are a real treat

The group works very hard but the rewards are amazing and

gives back in abundance for all the sweat and tears and you get to have a bonfire as well.

The work schedule for the coming period is as below, please feel free to come and join us at any time – remember, fresh air guaranteed (albeit smokey on some occasions) and free tea and bickies for all.



Now, where did I bury that last nut!!!!!!

HUGHENDEN VALLEY CONSERVATION TEAM
DATES FOR April to July 2017
All 10.00 AM Starts

SUNDAYS 2017

April	5	19
May	21	
June	25	
July	16	

John Moorby ~ The Conservation Group 07803 278107

Hen Harrier?



I'm sure most of you know that the RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch was on Saturday and Sunday 28th and 29th January 2017. We have normally taken part in this but have rarely found anything special or relatively rare. We do get some interesting birds in our garden but never on the right weekend! And this year was no different.

On Friday 27th January I was looking out of our bedroom window and saw a large bird of prey in our garden that I simply didn't recognise at first glance. It definitely wasn't a kite or a sparrow hawk.

So I took a couple of photos. I have checked on the Internet, in bird books and with friends and am pretty sure it is a female Hen Harrier.

What do you think?

Needless to say we were unfortunately not allowed to include it in this year's count!

Al & Christine Bowyer ~ 01494 562862

Gritters

After a long and hardworking career Buckinghamshire's gritters Salty, Daisy and Snowdrop have retired. In their place we welcome Blizzard Wizard, Snowphie and Brrrrrrrian!

During December Transport for Buckinghamshire (TfB) held a competition to name their three new arrivals, and whittled over 200 entries down to the winning three. It was a tough decision, with entries such as 'Melt'n John' and 'Meltallica' as well, of course, as Salty McSaltface...

Blizzard Wizard was named by Arran and Calum Kelly from Chesham, Brrrrrrrian's name was chosen by Beth Arnaud from Waddesdon, and Snowphie has been named by Sophie Ingham from Long Crendon, who chose her own nickname given to her as it snowed on the day of her birth. Her 'glitter', as she refers to it, along with the other two new trucks will join the existing fleet all of which were named during 2009 by local schools.

Mark Shaw, Buckinghamshire County Council's Cabinet Member for Transport said: "The guys who carry out our winter road salting work hard through a tough season, and having a little light relief in the form of fun glitter names just brings a bit of humour to the job. We love running these competitions and I'm delighted with the new names.

Don't forget to check them out online!"

The new salting trucks will be out on their routes over the rest of the winter season, and can now be tracked in real time on TfB's online gritting map. www.buckscc.gov.uk/winter.

TfB make daily decisions during the winter about whether or not to treat the roads based on forecasts from stations across the county. They make this decision based on a number of factors, but will look at whether or not the road temperature will drop below zero.

To keep informed of these decisions, follow TfB on Twitter @tfbalerts.

Hughenden Valley Residents Association (HVRA)

THE ROLE OF THE ROAD REPRESENTATIVE

All households in Hughenden Valley are effectively, by default, members of the HVRA, unless they specifically opt out of membership. This means that there are potentially approximately 700 member households, housing around 2,500 people.

A key role in the HVRA is that of 'Road Representative' who, as the title implies, are the representatives for particular roads within Hughenden Valley.

There are various functions that the 'Road Rep.' *could* be involved with and these are fully listed below:

- Keeping in contact with the members in the road they represent and representing their issues and concerns at the HVRA meetings
- Attendance at monthly HVRA meetings and participating in the business of the HVRA
- Collecting the annual subscription fees from the households in the road they represent
- Delivering various leaflets and documents relating either to the business of the HVRA or local business information to members in the road they represent
- Delivering the magazine of the HVRA – The Hughenden News – 3 times per annum, to members in the road they represent
- Assisting with the various events that the HVRA either organises or is involved with, such as the Potter Quiz, the Senior Citizens Function, the Christmas Bazaar, Village Day, etc.

However, it is important to stress that a 'Road Rep.' does not have to carry out all of these functions, nor do they have to live in the road they represent.

It is possible and feasible for some 'Road Reps.' to carry out only some of the above functions and/or to jointly share the role.

Whatever the situation, all assistance given to the HVRA is very helpful and useful.

So if you are interested in assisting the HVRA and/or becoming a 'Road Rep' please contact:

secretary@hughendenresidents.org
or chairman@hughendenresidents.org

Hugh 'N' Dens' Pages

- We are sorry to announce the passing of Councillor Brian Swain on Tuesday 28th February. Cllr Swain had represented Great Kingshill Ward for 6 years
- Thank you to everyone who cut back their hedges next to pavements and road corners, thus enabling everyone to walk or drive unimpeded by overhanging, often dripping wet, branches and bushes. If you have not done this yet there is just still time before the sap starts rising and birds start nesting. (End of February).
- You may be interested in a handy Little Book of Big Scams; it is the third edition produced by the Metropolitan Police in partnership with Barclays Bank. Item reference 9913758 created 10/15. The booklet covers many aspects of scams and fraud. If you have any experience of scams you will appreciate how totally inconvenient or expensive they can be. Useful Reference no: Action Fraud 0300 123 2040 or at www.actionfraud.police.uk . The booklet gives well founded advice on identity fraud, banks, phone, computer; courier fraud, travel, scam mail, money scams, some better known than others, and loads more, especially scam emails. Road Reps will eventually each have this booklet for their own residents.
- Many Hughenden Valley roads have neighbours looking after empty houses when their owners are away on holiday or at work, and many neighbours also become a burglar alarm key holder. Why not discuss this with your friends and neighbours, especially if you are new to the Valley?
- Please report rubbish tipping and damage to woods to the Residents Association via your road Rep so that we can follow it up or report it directly to the Police or Highways on Call etc.
- There have been reports of dogs chasing and/or hurting sheep or worse. Please keep dogs on leads when in fields... We are rural and have farmers and also others who look after sheep on National Trust Land and rented fields.
- The Crime Rate is low, but still lock-up

Hughenden Parish Councillors

Great Kingshill Ward

Cllr Rick Gould 01494 714566

Cllr Paul Nicholls (Chairman) 01494 717381

1 x Vacancy

Hughenden Valley Ward

Cllr Simon Kearey 01494 564607

Cllr Peter Gieler 01494 562473

Cllr Hilda Stearn 01494 565206

1 x Vacancy

Naphill and Walters Ash Ward

Cllr Peter Williams (Vice-Chairman) 01494 565695

Cllr Martin Burch 01494 566047

Cllr Chris Waterton 01494 715296

1 x Vacancy

Widmer End Ward

Cllr Kelly Gilmore 07931 322207

Cllr Stan Jones 07900 581703

Cllr Nick Keegan 07717 712586

1 x Vacancy

District Councillors

Cllr David Carroll 01494 716967

Cllr Audrey Jones 01494 563435

Cllr Steve Broadbent 01494 488907

Parish Clerk

Shona Hadwen 01494 715296

County Councillor

Cllr David Carroll 01494 716967

Councils

Bucks County Council 01269 395000

Wycombe District Council 01494 461000

Hughenden Parish Council 01494 715296

(Emergency numbers are given on the Hughenden Parish recorded message)

Hughenden Valley Residents Association Officers & Road Reps for Spring 2017

Office	Officers	Phone
Chairman	Angus & Janet Idle	563673
Vice Chairman	Jerry Morley	
Treasurer	Al Bowyer	562862
Secretary	Vacant	

Road Rep for	Road Rep	Phone
Boss Lane	Karen Dynes	563682
Bryants Bottom north	James Perkins	488442
Bryants Bottom south	James Perkins	488442
Bryants Bottom south - upper	Heather Dempsey	489800
Burnham Road	Andrew Capey	258724
Cherry Tree Close	Clare Atkinson	564792
Church Farm	Daphne Hicks	562170
Coombe Gardens	Jerry Morley	
Coombe Lane	Angus & Janet Idle	563673
Cryers Hill north	Daphne Hicks	562170
Cryers Hill south - lower	Alison Gieler	562473
“ - upper	Virginia Foster	565797
Fleet Close	Lin Smith	562533
Friars Gardens	David & Susan Sharp	562033
“	Jo Holt (resigning)	562423
Frogmore Close	Becky Bonnerjea	562792
Hampden Road	Carole Palmer	565154
Orchard Close	Rachelle Fountain	565123
South Maundin	Anna Burniston	565586
Stocking Lane	Al Bowyer	562862
Trees Avenue	David Mynors	562004
Trees Road	Geoff Wright	563281
Valley Road mid	Rosemary Hewitt	562752
Valley Road north	Carole Palmer	565154
Valley Road south	Paul Jenner	565543
Warrendene Road	Christine & Al Bowyer	562862
Wedgewood Drive	Jerry Morley	
Whitfield Road	Angus & Janet Idle	563673
Hughenden News Editor	John Dockett	564565
Bucks Free contact	Janet Idle	563673
Advertising	John Dockett	564565
Web-site	Derek Armshaw	488407
Village Shop	Louise Jones	568653

Advertiser's Index

Applewoods Surveyors	67
Bel Ami Beauty	70
Betsy Williams Solicitor	76
Charlotte Bellamy	64
Church Friendship Morning	72
Computer Repairs	71
Energetic Healing	65
Fraser Morgan Dance Tuition	72
Full Circle Garden Machinery	63
Genesis Refurbishments	62 & 68
Helping Hands	71
Hollick Builders	73
Hughenden Autos	76
Hughenden Village Hall	29
Ian Spicer - Plasterer	71
JNP Estate Agents	3
John Bishop Garden Machinery	72
Leigh Lewis Optometrist	69
M Richardson - Electrical	74
Mark Read Interiors	65
Midway Chimney Sweep	71
Nelson Electrical Services	67
Pilates with Pamela	64
Premier Plumbing & Heating	64
TK Plumbing & Electrics	69
SJ Flooring	75
South Bucks Windows	70
Stuart Gibbons Decorator	72
The Harrow	70
Turville Printing	73
V.E.S. (Plumbing)	61
Wright Buildbase	2
Yellow Cars Taxi Service	74

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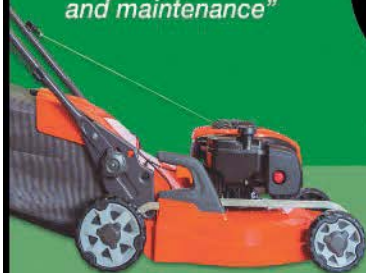
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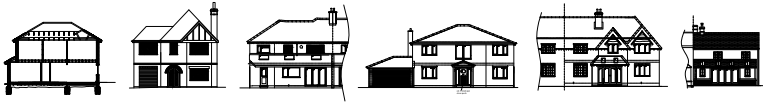
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