Cheddington Village Newsletter

No. 551 - April 2025

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CRA

FUTURE OF THE VILLAGE NEWSLETTER.

After many years the team who produce this Newsletter feel they can no longer continue. The Newsletter was started in 1972, long before the advent of the internet and social media so there has to be a big question over how useful it is today, given those things now exist and offer many options for information.

The consensus of the CRA committee is that it still offers a useful, sometimes only, source of information for many villagers and would like to see it continue. So the CRA are now looking for volunteers who can take over most of the production stages up to printing. Currently this is done by 3 of us though for many years it was just a team of 2. The software we use is available to pass on for new people.

So, if you want the Newsletter to continue in its current form, maybe with a re-vamp and/or reduced frequency, please consider volunteering to help produce it. If you have any questions either Christine or I can try to answer them. Our contact details are at the head of the newsletter

The current team are prepared to keep it going until the end of 2025 but if a new team arern't in place by then it will then cease production.

Tony Johnson Editor

Speed Monitoring. The Parish Council / Cheddington Residents' Association ran a Motor Vehicle Activated Sign (MVAS) speed check from 3rd February to 6th March 2025, next to the recreation ground, monitoring traffic driving into the village from Cooks Wharf.

66,550 vehicles were monitored at an average of about 2,090 per day. Traffic was higher from Tuesday to Friday and peaked at 3.30 to 6.30 pm.

Although one vehicle was driven into the village at 75mph, at 10.45 pm on 2nd February, the overall average was just under 33mph. 74% of vehicles were entering at 30mph or less, 20% at 31 to 35mph and 6% at over 35mph.

These figures are fairly consistent with monitoring conducted at the same location in previous years, but happily they are slightly better.

Generally vehicle speeds at this side of the village are lower than those previously recorded along Station Road.

The Parish Council, in conjunction with Buckinghamshire Highways, is about to put permanent Speed Indicator Devices (SIDS) on the High Street and on Station Road.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS.

NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL.

The April Monthly Meeting will be held on Wednesday 2nd April 2025 at 7pm in The Pavilion, Cheddington Recreation Ground, High Street, Cheddington LU7 0RG. For those residents who do not know, to find 'The Pavilion' just follow the path alongside the tennis courts until you reach the white building.

The Agenda will be posted on the Cheddington Parish Council Facebook page, on the Cheddington.org web site and on the Notice Board at The Green, with 3 clear days' notice before each the meeting. If you wish anything to be discussed at the meeting, please advise the Clerk well in advance of the Agenda being finalised.

The Parish Council carry out the day-to-day running of the village so if you have any queries please contact the Clerk, Roz Roberts on clerk@cheddington-pc.gov.uk or on 07885 442643 and leave a short message with your name and contact number. Please note that all correspondence is emailed directly to all the Parish Councillors for comment or for their information.

CHEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL FACE-BOOK PAGE. Please note the aim of the Cheddington Parish Facebook page is to relay information to the residents of Cheddington. It is <u>not</u> a public forum page.

PLANNING MATTERS. As reported and discussed at the 5th March 2025 PC meeting

To Consider Applications Received via Buckinghamshire Council:

25/00277/APP – 6 Town Farm Cheddington Buckinghamshire LU7 0TT – Householder application for proposed outbuilding – No Objections.

STREETLIGHTS & SWAPPING TO LEDS.

Many residents have contacted the PC, especially over the last 3 months, regarding the number of streetlights that keep going out on a regular basis, not helped by the cabling works being undertaken by UK Power Networks! The Parish Council has been budgeting to swap to LEDs but have decided to start the project sooner. The first streets to be swapped over will be the High Street, Mentmore Road and Station Road but if any streetlights continue to regularly blow, they will be swapped over. Sourcing the old fluorescent 42w and 57w lights is becoming increasingly difficult and expensive! Swapping to LEDs will not only prolong the bulb life but will mean our monthly electricity bill will be reduced. Money that can be spent elsewhere. So please bear with us when the works are going on. The PC will advise of a start date on the normal village social media sites, but we hope it will be in April/May.

NEW SIDS/MVAS UNITS. I am sure you have noticed that many villages now have Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs). The village currently has a Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign (MVAS) unit which is now getting a bit old! The Parish Council was able to obtain grant funding for 3 new SID devices which will soon be popped around the village e.g. Station Road, the High Street, near the zebra crossing. If you feel there are other roads in the village that might need a speed survey, please contact the Clerk.

HANDYFOLK. Our handyfolk, Keith and Lucy continue to work around the village. Feel free to stop and have a chat with them and if you see anything in the village that they might be able to assist with please contact the Clerk in the first instance.

VE DAY CELEBRATIONS. Communication received by the Clerk from Cllr Arif Hussain, Cabinet Member for Communities.

Thursday 8 May 2025 marks the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day.

'In line with Buckinghamshire's Armed Forces Covenant, the council will be supporting residents, organisations and community groups to hold VE Day 80 events and street parties.

While VE Day itself is Thursday 8 May, to recognise the significance of the 80th anniversary, the bank holiday on Monday 5 May has been officially dedicated to community celebrations. With this in mind, we will be waiving the associated fees to host an event on a public highway between Monday 5 May (Early May Bank Holiday) and Sunday 11 May 2025 inclusive.

Please signpost those planning to mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day to our dedicated VE Day 80 webpage containing useful information to help people plan events safely and to share events with people in the county via the Bucks Online Directory.

Community celebrations nationally are led by the Together Coalition and funded by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and are part of the UK Government's national programme to commemorate the 80th anniversaries of VE and VJ Day.

You can find out more at: https://together.org.uk/ve80/'

The Parish Council will be putting up a VE day flag, will pop bunting on The Green railings and will decorate the streetlights along the High Street/Mentmore Road. We also understand that the History Society will be running an event in the Chapel.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE BEST KEPT VILLAGE 2025.

After winning the DeFraine Cup last year for Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village, Cheddington will be competing for the Tindall Cup in 2025.



The Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition was founded in 1957 as an initiative driven by Sir Francis Dashwood and the Local Councils' Association. The Competition's objective is to encourage entrants to work together as a community, involving all age groups, to make villages and towns more attractive places, not only for residents but also for visitors.

Judging normally takes place between 1st June and the 14th July. So please start sprucing up your gardens and hanging pots!

FANCY A CHAT AND A CUPPA! Come Along to The Methodist Church on Fridays from 12 noon – 2.30pm if you fancy a chat and a light lunch. This is a Churches Together initiative in conjunction with the Parish Council. If you can help in any way/wish to volunteer, please contact ccraft@gmail.com or 01296 661068.

Remember Open Doors is also on from 10.30am if you fancy a chat, a cuppa and a cake before lunch on a Friday!

THE PAVILION – AVAILABLE FOR HIRE! If you are looking for a lovely venue for a child's party/adult party/group meetings/reading groups/wine tasting class, for a small exercise class or whatever please contact the Bookings Clerk, Roz for further information on or call 07885 442643.

The cost per hour is £14.00 p/h for residents and for out of the village £17.00 p/h.

Please note that from the 1st April 2025 the hourly charge has increased.

Remember the Recreation Ground is also available on request for large, organised events so why not use both venues.

FIX MY STREET. For any issues in respect of damage to pavements, graffiti or fly tipping, please report these via https://fixmystreet.buckinghamshire.gov.uk

CHEDDINGTON ALLOTMENTS. We now have a limited number of vacant plots so if you want to get fit and enjoy some outside time, with lovely people, why not get an allotment!

Allotment Warden Vacancy.

The Parish Council has a vacancy at the Cheddington Allotments for an Allotment Warden. If you are interested in this voluntary allotment administration role, please contact the Parish Clerk for more information.

There is an active working group at the allotments so if you are an allotment holder, I am sure they would be delighted if you would like to join and assist.

If you require any information/be added to the waiting list in respect of having an allotment, please contact the Parish Clerk who will direct your enquiry to one of the allotments working group members.

Contact Details. The Parish Clerk, Roz Roberts can be contacted by email at clerk@cheddington-pc.gov.uk or on 07885 442643.

Please note the Clerk's role is a part time position and she may not respond immediately to your query/message.

Have a search on Facebook for Cheddington Parish Council and like us!

OUR MP'S NEWS.

I know that buses are vital for residents here in Cheddington. People depend on buses for getting to work, school, the shops or to see friends and family.

Lots of constituents speak to me about their local services. I know that whilst there are some good services, there are many problems that need addressing as well.

My constituents across Aylesbury have for too long put up with unacceptable delays, cancellations and scrapped CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

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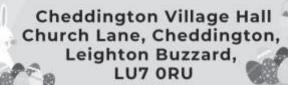


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services, including Arriva's decision to end bus services to Oxford and High Wycombe.

Since being elected as your MP, I have been pleased with the Government's announcement that it would allocate £6.7m to Buckinghamshire Council to improve bus services, in addition to maintaining a cap on fares. We are moving fast and taking bold steps to deliver better buses for local communities in Buckinghamshire.

However, I know there is more to be done. That's why I have recently launched an online survey to help improve bus services in our area. I want to know your views in order to make a stronger case to Buckinghamshire Council and local bus providers.

The survey will be used to help understand how many residents travel by bus, how satisfied they are with the current service, which improvements can be made to improve the passenger experience, and how to increase passenger numbers across Aylesbury and the surrounding villages. I would encourage both regular bus users and people who don't use public transport to take part in the survey. I want to understand your experiences of local bus services, so I can push as your MP for better, more accessible public transport for everyone in our community.

Cheddington residents are welcome to take part in the survey by filling in this short form: https://forms.gle/j2stL3NAZw9rmNGu6.

As ever, if there's anything I can do to support you on this or any other issue, please do reach out. The best way to reach me is on laura.kyrkesmith.mp@parliament.uk. You can also sign up to my E-newsletter which updates residents on my work in Aylesbury and the villages, as well as in Westminster. You can sign up for the mailing list via my website, www.lauraforaylesbury.org/news. Thank you

Buckinghamshire Councillors News.

Westcott Drone Centre flying high. A Drone Test and Development Centre (DTDC), launched in 2023 at Westcott Venture Park in Buckinghamshire by partner organisation Satellite Applications Catapult, is undergoing a major upgrade to its facilities to increase its capacity and capabilities. Drone companies will now be able to test their products and solutions at a much earlier stage in the devel-

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Wednesday 10am - 12pm and 2pm - 5pm

Thursday 2.00pm – 5.00pm Friday 2.00pm – 7.00pm Saturday 10am – 1pm opment process in a safe and controlled environment.

The DTDC received £1.4million in funding from Bucking-hamshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), now managed by the Buckinghamshire Growth Board following the transition of the LEP into Buckinghamshire Council last year.

The DTDC is upgrading to service a broader variety of drone companies and deepen the amount of support available. These new capabilities will allow companies to bring their innovative solutions to market much more rapidly.

The development and expansion of the DTDC is a sign of growing demand for drone operations and will support flight operations both here in the UK and globally. The cutting-edge facility compliments Westcott's commitment to innovation and will be used to develop and enhance services to build a world-class drone services hub here in Buckinghamshire.

The DTDC site is a former RAF base and has a 270m runway, four dedicated landing pads for vertical, or vertical to horizontal take-off, and multiple flying areas offering real-world environments.

Future plans for the site (and possible employment opportunities) also include the development of Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) capabilities. To find out more about the DTDC visit the Satellite Applications Catapult website: www.sa.catapult.org.uk/facilities/dtdc/

Upgraded CCTV system being rolled out across Buckinghamshire.

Buckinghamshire Council is pleased to announce a major upgrade in its Community Safety CCTV system, with the first new cameras now live. It's part of a £868,000 investment that introduces newer technologies and fully modernises the system.

Installation of the new cameras is underway with the first new cameras being positioned in High Wycombe – installation will then continue to roll out to other parts of the county.

As part of the upgrade, older analogue cameras are being replaced with newer digital models. Many of the new cameras have 360 degree coverage, resulting in improved coverage and clearer image quality. The majority of CCTV cameras are placed in town centre locations; where they are located is based on crime statistics, population density and night-time activity. The council cannot disclose precise locations of the cameras for security reasons and to protect the integrity of the system, but the network ensures good coverage of CCTV, particularly in areas that have seen higher rates of crime and anti-social behaviour. CCTV footage is monitored from the council's dedicated control room by specialist operators.

CCTV cameras are used by the council as an important tool

NSPCC CHILD PROTECTION HELPLINES

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to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour and promote community safety and reassurance. While CCTV cannot stop crime, it is an important way to deter criminal and antisocial activity and assists in solving crimes and providing evidence

Councillor Derek Town

FARMING AND FOOD

by Julie Gaymer (julie@mentmoreparkfarms.co.uk)

Our Way of Life in Cheddington and in Our Country. I'm so worried about the Governments changes for farming that I have to talk about it to you this month.... It's going to affect us all and I feel so passionate about our countryside and our way of life that I have to speak out.

I feel that this has been a gradual change throughout the last fifty years which has gone almost unnoticed by everyone except all the farming families who are no longer farming and those fewer farmers like ourselves who continue and change our businesses to comply with various governments legislation. This had been EU driven but also very much by our own successive parliaments. Farmers that you know will have diversified into other businesses to stay afloat. Here we are no exception. In our area - yurts, marquees, wedding venues, self-pick, office Conversions, alternative crops, lambing open days etc.

So, headlines in our farming periodicals today (14th March 2025) highlight this...

'Farmers caught on 'Agricultural Treadmill' - Real terms prices stalled over 50 years and so on.'

'Farmers are being forced to scale up or intensify to stand still with incomes barely improving in real terms since 1970's.'

Honestly, I could have written these articles myself. It's high time that we all realised what is happening to all of us.

Media Quote - "Imagine the area of Beds, Berks, Bucks," Gloucs, Oxon, Wilts, Hants, Surrey and Sussex. 23,700sg. miles (remember this figure as you read on)."

The government launched a document in January 'Land Use Consultation'. It explains the governments vision for future land use and how it proposes to deliver it. Apparently 70% of England is in rural use. According to gov.uk this equates to 16.8 million hectares. According to the document, it is envisaged that environmental goals will require a reduction in the agricultural area of England from the 70% to 60% by 2050.

With 70% of the existing land area in agricultural use being 16.8 million ha, 60% would therefore equal 14.4 million ha. This means the Government is suggesting reducing the farmed area of England by 2.4 million hectares in one generation.

How big is 2.4 million hectares you ask. It's 24,000 square kilometres. The area of nine counties.

That's right, our government is openly proposing to remove an area the size of nine counties from agriculture within a single generation.

All those tax and policy changes and the news that Natural England is acquiring compulsory purchase powers starts to paint a picture of forced change at high speed for the farming sector."

The governments Planning Infrastructure Bill was introduced this week giving them powers to 'ensure shovels could be put in the ground more guickly without unnecessary bureaucracy.

Meanwhile the government is putting more money into laboratory grown food.

More solar farms are planned. Can anyone tell me why aren't the solar panels put on industrial buildings?

Finally, please don't miss the lambing open days at Watergate Farm, Hockliffe. You can go online for tickets and arrival times.... lambing@watergatefarm.co.uk . These are joyous days in the countryside!

Happy Easter Everyone!

Matthew Barber (Police & Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley) is asking the public to report crime and anti-social behaviour so action can be taken.

In a new video, the PCC highlights his role as the voice of the people in policing to deliver an efficient and effective police service and safer communities: Watch the video: https://youtu.be/0x1jaJBkYu8.

NOTICES



THAMES VALLEY Matthew Barber said: "Overall crime POLICE is falling and Thames Valley Police is doing a good job but there is more work to do. Some crimes have gone

up, as reporting has increased and that is what I have been encouraging people to do: Report crime, don't assume someone else will do it. As citizens, we all have a role to play. Reporting on social media, turning a blind eye or assuming that crimes will be dismissed won't lead to action. Only reporting crimes to the police will lead to more criminals being caught, and if cases can be prosecuted, victims getting the justice they deserve."

Shop theft reporting has increased and so have charges as a result of the work the PCC has been doing with Thames Valley Police and retailers, increasing the visibility of officers, using technology and sharing information, which has

had a positive feedback from companies in the Thames Valley. For instance, there were 1055 shoplifting charges from February 2024 to January 2025 in Oxfordshire, a massive increase compared to the previous year (charges were 514 then). Matthew Barber added: "I've always said I wanted retail crime numbers to rise as these types of crimes have been historically underreported. I also want residents to report anti-social behaviour, which I know can have a devastating impact on communities and is often associated with other crimes.

Not all anti-social behaviour will be categorised as a crime and may need a multi-agency response however it can be addressed with proper reporting."

You can report crime and anti-social behaviour online at www.thamesvalley.police.uk. In an emergency, always call 999.

REPAIR CAFÉ. Our next Ivinghoe & Pitstone Repair Café will be held on Saturday 26th April between 9.30 - 12.30 at the Pitstone Pavillion. Bring along broken items to be fixed by volunteers! Tools & equipment, electri-



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For further information or enquiries have a look at our Facebook page

F Ivinghoe & Pitstone Repair Café

Or send us an email

ivinghoerepaircafe@gmail.com

Or give Kim a ring on 07778279109

Update from Cheddington Combined School.

Back in September we launched our new vision and values for the school. Our vision "Enjoying our learning, sharing our success" is supported by our HEART values – Honesty, Excellence, Appreciation, Respect and Teamwork. We have been working hard to embed these across the school – if you have visited school recently you will have seen a beautiful display in our reception area. We're so proud that our pupils and staff have embraced the new values and are truly living them in their everyday at school.

At the beginning of March you may have noticed our visitors from the fire service! We had a small fire in school - no one was hurt and there was minor damage caused. This incident was another example of how well our children & staff display our values. The children showed respect to the fire service, everyone showed teamwork working to keep each other safe, and the fire service were impressed with the excellence of staff & children – the whole school was evacuated in just 3 minutes! Thank you to everyone who checked in with us after the incident; we're thankful for all the support our families and the community provide.

GILES PARISH CHURCH. SERVICES FOR APRIL.

Thurs 3rd 9.15am Mid-week Communion St.Giles
Sun 6th 9.00 am B.C.P. St Giles

10.30 am All Age Service St Giles

4.00 pm Holy Communion St Mary's

Palm Sunday 13th 10.30 am Holy Communion St Giles Good Friday 18th 9.30 am Raising the Cross Methodist Chapel

10.00am All Age Service St.Giles

Easter Sunday 20th 09.00 am Holy Communion St Mary's

10.30 am Holy Communion St Giles

Copy date for the next issue: **April 15th**

Sun 27th 10.30 am Morning Worship St Giles

SERVICES FOR MAY.

Thurs 1st 9.15am Mid-week Communion St.Giles
Sun 4th 9.00 am B.C.P. St Giles

10.30 am Family Service St Giles 4.00 pm Holy Communion St Mary's

Message from Revd Dom Wright -

Team Rector. If you find it hard to work out the date of Easter every year you can blame a group of 318 bishops who met together exactly 1700 years ago at a place called Nicea in 325AD not far from modern day Istanbul. All the British bishops at time were invited to this council but I'm afraid they didn't bother going! One bishop from Gaul turned up but even the Pope in Rome sent his apologies to Emperor Constantine who had sent the invite. So the decision was left largely in the hands of Eastern bishops from Palestine, Syria, Asia Minor (Turkey) and North Africa. It was decided for us here in Buckinghamshire that in 2025 we would celebrate Easter on Sunday 20th April. This is the first Sunday, after the first full moon, that occurs on or after the spring equinox.

It was drummed into me at school that if you don't bother voting you don't have a right to criticise the decisions made on your behalf! The British bishops missed a cracker of a meeting which was so heated that a priest called Arius reputedly got punched in the face.

Perhaps more importantly the bishops who did turn up did some profoundly important work to agree a form of words that eventually became the Nicene creed that we recite together on most Sundays in church. This is an incredible statement of faith that attempts to straddle the mystery of how Jesus is both the "Son of God" and of one "Being with [God] the Father". The creed combines the idea that "through him all things were made" with the juxtaposition that "he was made man". The creed then spells out the most central tenants of our Easter faith:

"For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again

I would like to invite you all to come to church this Easter. Whilst I'm still hoping that no priests get punched in the face this year, I can say with certainty that if you don't come you will be missing out.

CHEDDINGTON METHODIST CHURCH. MINISTER: REV NOREEN DALEY-LEE (01525 240083)

We welcome everyone to our church to share in our worship and other activities. Services begin on Sundays at 10.30 am unless otherwise stated.

SERVICES FOR APRIL

63 pm Rev Noreen Daley-Lee

13 Mr David Neville – Palm Sunday

3.30 pm Messy Church

20 Rev Noreen Daley-Lee – Easter Sunday - Family Communion Service

27 Mr Peter Baker



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A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Easter Day. We all like to see the end of winter but everyone has a different thought of spring known for increased pollen levels, which can trigger seasonal allergies leading to symptoms like sneezing, itchy eyes, nasal congestion, and difficulty breathing. So too when we think about the Easter story each gospel has its own twist.

The four Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John narrate the truth among themselves, yet each report from a different vantage point - some giving much while others leave their readers in bewilderment! John reports Mary Magdalene going to the tomb early in the morning alone while it was still dark; the stone is rolled away. Peter and the other disciple whom Jesus loved sprint to the tomb, sees Jesus is gone and leaves a despondent Mary weeping. Mary then encounters the Risen Lord who sends her to tell the brothers he is ascending 'to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God'. Later that evening Jesus appears to the disciples behind closed doors, shows them his hands and feet and breathed the Holy Spirit on them.

Luke tells of a larger company of women at the tomb 'at early dawn' who encounter the two men in dazzling clothes and declare Jesus has risen. The subsequent scene takes the reader to the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus.

Matthew shares a bit less. The two Marys see the stone rolled away by an angel and more about the guards than the disciples.

Mark is more sparing in his account, sharing only that a 'young man dressed in a white robe' told the women that Jesus was risen, not to repeat the news to anyone, for they were terrified and afraid.

Much has been documented about the Easter Day events, yet if one may ask, what comes to mind, the two common pictures that emerge may be the empty tomb and an appearance to Mary Magdalene. In the grand scheme of things, it is not uncommon to focus on one or two events when so much more has taken place.

Those devoted to the lectionary readings might argue how it is easy to miss key events on Easter Day. Eastertide is a time to reflect and capture these mysterious events and immerse oneself into that day of angels, encounters, journeys, messages and meals - to be captivated by the immense joy and wonder of Easter Day. Supposedly, the liturgy on Easter Day should sweep us off our feet, thrilled by the Paschal mystery and wanting like Mary Magdalene, Peter and the other disciples to be reunited with the risen Lord. Overwhelming wonder, joy and gladness are the marks of the day like that of spring for its longer days and blooming flowers as we take antihistamines, keeping windows and doors closed during high pollen days.

Happy Easter!

Noreen

Good Friday, 18 March at 9.15 am 'Raising the Cross' - a short service of reflection will take place on the forecourt of the Methodist Church.

"THE TOAST" - FOR PARENTS, CARERS and LITTLE ONES. For all parents/carers of pre-school children and babies, join us in the Chapel schoolroom on Monday mornings 9.30 -11.00 during term time for a gentle start to the week. There are toys, activities and refreshments (including toast!) and a warm welcome. Contact Cathy Craft email: cathy.e.craft@gmail.com for more information.

THE SINGALONG CAFE will be held on Tuesday 8 April 2.30-4.30 pm at the Methodist Chapel. It will be led by accomplished musicians and singers, Karen on piano and Cathy on the clarinet. Do come along and join us and bring a friend or two, particularly those who might otherwise be at home alone. Refreshments will be included thanks to two willing volunteers. If anyone feels moved to make a cake, then that would be greatly appreciated - if not then there will be biscuits and tea or coffee.



OPEN DOORS. Friday morning 10.30 a.m noon at the Methodist Chapel. This is an opportunity for all to meet/socialise each Friday morning and have a cup of tea/coffee and a biscuit/cake.

Contact Stuart Minall email: stuartpminall@gmail.com for more information.

BOOKS and JIGSAWS. There is a selection of paperback books, jigsaws and DVDs for buying or borrowing; if you are able to make a small donation that would be appreciated. Do come and have a look to see if there is anything of interest to you. The schoolroom is usually open 9.30 -11am on Monday mornings during term time or Friday mornings 10.30 - 12 noon. If you have books, in good condition, jigsaws or DVDs that you would like to pass on do bring them along.

WARM SPACES. The Methodist Scoolroom will be open on Fridays 12 noon to 2.00pm for a soup lunch for all those who would like to meet together. Donations of tins of soup or bread, tea/coffee or biscuits can be dropped off at the Chapel on Fridays from 10.30 am. This is a Churches Together initiative in conjunction with the Parish Council whom we are most grateful for their financial support.. All enquiries to Cathy.e.craft@gmail.com or 01296 661068.

LOOP SYSTEM. For those people with hearing aids, we have an induction loop system installed and working in the chapel.

SCHOOLROOM **BOOKINGS**. For all enquiries. please contact Janet Banham email:

j.banham@btinternet.com.

SOCIETIES



Cheddington Scout Scouts Group

Group Details. 1st Cheddington is a thriving Scout Group, offering challenge and adventure to young people of all ages, helping them learn to take responsibility for themselves and for others while having fun and taking part in a wide range of activities. The Scout Group continues to grow and plays an active part in village life. We have four sections, all of which are open to both boys and girls:

- Beavers (6 to 8 years) Mondays 18:30 19:30 / Thurs days 18:15 – 19:15
- Cubs (8 to 101/2 years) Tuesdays 18:30 20:00 / Wednesdays 18:30 - 20:00





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- Scouts $(10\frac{1}{2} \text{ to } 14 \text{ years})$ Thursdays 19:15 20:45 / Fridays 18:30 - 20:00
- Explorers (14 to 18 years) Mondays 20:00 21:30

Meetings are usually held in our headquarters on Station Road unless otherwise advertised by leaders.

Hut Hire. Our refurbished hut is now available for hire at preferential rates for Scout Members or Cheddington Residents. We also now have Wi-Fi available at the hut! Please check out the Cheddington Scout Group Facebook page for more details.

For further information about any of the sections, to put your name down on our waiting lists (we recommend at least a year before they are old enough so that places can be made available), to hire the hut or any other enquiries please email admin@cheddingtonscouts.org.uk



Forthcoming Programme:

April 14th Al Capone. Speaker: Roger Mason.

May 19th Trench Humour in the First World War. Speaker: Stephen Barker.



Are you interested in making new friends? Learning new things? Lively discussion? Interesting outings? Engaging with forward thinking campaigns? In which case Cheddington WI could be just the thing! We meet on the first

Thursday of every month in the Village Hall and we are always keen to welcome new members.

Forthcoming Programme:

3rd April, Singing for Fun with Sue Cox

1st May, craft evening with Liesl Maddock

5th June, Food Glorious Food with Dr Jill Eyers

For more information, please contact Liesl on 07716 778118 Nicola 668347 or on email cheddingtonwi@gmail.com.



FLOWER CLUB is normally held on the third Wednesday of the month in the Methodist Hall at 7.30 pm. We hold workshops, organise demonstrators and outings throughout the year. The next meeting is on 16 April - AGM/Floral Bingo/

Interested in joining? Please contact Kay Clements Chair on 01296 668781 for more details



SPIRIT YOUTH GROUP.

Cheddington Spirit Youth Drama Group offers opportunities for the young people in our community to experience the enjoyment and challenge of stage performance in a relaxed and

friendly environment.

Using games, exercises and improvisations we encourage our members to develop their confidence and stretch their imagination, providing them with a range of skills which prove useful in all areas of their lives.

We meet on Wednesdays in term time at the Village Hall from 6.30pm to 8pm, and membership is open to young people aged 7 and over. If your child might be interested in joining the group, simply contact one of the leaders -Colin, Becky Curtis, Emily Nayler, Sally Ann Butcher or Ian whose number is 01296 660872.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



COOKS WHARF ROUGH SLEEPER.

NHW is aware that residents are concerned about the gentleman. NHW has been liaising with TVP who have visited him on several occasions to carry out a welfare check and are satisfied that he is safe and well but are keeping an eye on him, and the TVP were going to contact the council about his situation. However, as he is resident canal car park any resident can tact enquiries.londonsoutheast@canalriver-trust.org.uk or telephone 0303 0404040 to inform the trust of any concerns you may have.

Hit and Run. There was a recent incident when a resident and a parked car were the victims of a hit and run by a silver Audi, Thankfully no one was injured, but the police are aware and security and dashcam footage has been passed onto the police to assist them with their investigation.

SPORTS & FITNESS

BOWLS CLUB. Lawn Bowls: A Sport for All Ages - Join the Fun This Season!

Think lawn bowls is just for retirees? Think again! With the current World Indoor Bowls Champion just 28 years old. this sport is shaking off outdated stereotypes and attracting a new generation of players. It's competitive, strategic, and social - making it the perfect activity for teens and young adults looking to try something fresh. Now's your chance to get involved!

Cheddington Lawn Bowls Club is excited to welcome new players for the upcoming season, which kicks off on 19 April 2025. To celebrate, we're hosting a special Open Day on 9 May 2025 (4 PM to 9 PM), where you can experience the game firsthand, meet members, and see what the club is all about. Whether you're looking for a relaxed way to stay active or something more competitive, lawn bowls has it all.

Friday Night Bowls – The Perfect Start to Your Weekend!

We run weekly Friday sessions from 6 PM to 9 PM, making it easy to drop in and play after school or work. These sessions are completely free for under-18s if accompanied by an adult and just £6 for adults, offering an affordable and fun way to unwind while enjoying a sport that's easy to learn but deeply tactical. Plus, there's always a welcoming and sociable atmosphere, making it a great way to meet new people. We encourage families, friends' groups and

SAMARITANS. We offer free and completely confidential help to the lonely, the distressed and the despairing. Anyone needing this help can ring Amersham (01494) 432000 or Milton Keynes (01908) 667777, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, including Christmas Day and Bank Holidays. The branch in Milton Keynes is moving so as soon as we have the new address you can resume the option to call between 10am and 10pm every day without an appointment. Samaritans also answer letters

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Inclusion of an advertisement in this Newsletter does not imply endorsement by the Residents' Association and purchasers of any goods or services advertised are advised to satisfy themselves of the suitability of the advertiser for their needs.



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organisations to enjoy our facilities together. There is minimum coaching giving you the freedom to enjoy your experience without undue pressure. But we have coaches on hand if you want help. Opportunities to Play – No Matter Your Skill Level

One of the best things about lawn bowls is that it's suitable for all experience levels. If you're a beginner, don't worry – you can book three free coached sessions to help you get started. If you're looking for competition, our full members take part in internal club competitions, as well as friendly and competitive matches against other clubs. Most matches are played on weekday evenings or weekends, so there's plenty of opportunity to fit bowls around your schedule. A Sport for Everyone – Truly Inclusive Lawn bowls is one of the few sports where you'll find teams with players aged 10 to 90 plus, playing side by side.

It's also a mixed-gender sport, so everyone plays together, creating a uniquely welcoming and social environment. We're especially keen to grow a junior section and, if there's enough interest, we aim to form a junior team for the 2026 season. If you want to be part of a growing sport and make your mark, now is the perfect time to join! Affordable and Accessible – Get Involved! One of the best things about lawn bowls is that you don't need to buy expensive gear to start playing. We provide all the equipment – just bring along a pair of flat-soled shoes, and you're ready to roll! If you want to go beyond the Friday sessions and play in matches, our first-year new bowlers membership rates are unbeatable value:

☐ £25 for under-18s

☐ £75 for adults

This membership gives you access to all club facilities, match fees for friendly and competitions matches, Bowls England affiliation and year-round social events. Whether you want to improve your skills, enjoy friendly competition, or simply be part of a fantastic community, it's an investment worth making.

Why Try Lawn Bowls? Lawn bowls is more than just a game – it's a sport that combines precision, strategy, and teamwork in a relaxed yet competitive setting. Whether you're naturally competitive or just want to enjoy a gentle but engaging activity, it offers the perfect balance. Plus, the social aspect means you'll always have a great time on and off the green. So, why not give it a go? Join us for our Open Day on 9 May or drop into a Friday session – we'd love to see you there. You might just discover your new favourite sport!

BADMINTON CLUB. We play social badminton (with a competitive edge!) between 8pm and 10pm every Thursday evening in the Village Hall. Except the 10th April this month as the hall is unavailable due to essential maintenance. New members are always made welcome. Membership is available or £3 per session. For further details give Kim a ring on 07778279109.

JUNIOR BADMINTON CLUB. NO JUNIOR BADMINTON ON THURSDAY 10TH APRIL due to essential hall maintenance. New junior members are always welcome, places are secured on ability and not age. Turn up at 6pm and Ray, our Badminton England coach will determine the most appropriate group for you. Ray can be contacted on 662148 for further details about Junior Badminton.

DAYTIME BADMINTON. PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO MONDAY BADMINTON ON 7TH APRIL. Come along on a Monday morning between 10.45 and 12.45 for social daytime badminton, no membership necessary. The cost is £4 per session. For further details contact Kim on kim.key@hotmail.co.uk or 07778279109 or just turn up!

Cheddington Tennis Club.

COACHING. Bex Stanley is our LTA registered coach. She runs our coaching for adults and children, on a group or individual basis.



CLUB NIGHT. Throughout the year on (most) Tuesday evenings, we hold a relaxed club night for members of all abilities, starting at 7pm. It's also a great opportunity for potential members to come down and try us out for free.

DAYTIME TENNIS. If you're around during the week (Mondays & Fridays, 10am to midday) and fancy playing some social tennis, we have a thriving daytime group.

MATCHES. For those keen to play slightly more competitive tennis, we run a number of teams in the Aylesbury Vale League.

NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN US. If you'd like to get fit, have fun and improve your game, please contact us at: https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/CheddingtonTennisClub/Membership/Join.

NIFTY FIFTIES PLUS, has been established in the Village for over 25 years. We meet at the Village Hall, each Thursday from 10.00am to 12 noon. There are exercises to suit older people of varying abilities, some seated and some standing.

This is followed by a break for a cup of tea or coffee and a chance to socialise. Next, a chance to participate in indoor sports activities, including table tennis, indoor bowls and occasionally soft ball tennis or badminton. The cost is £8 per session, plus a small quarterly membership fee. If you are over 50 years of age, you will be very welcome and your first visit will be free. For more information, please contact Chris on 01442 824350.

VILLAGE WALKING GROUP.

A group of us get together every other Wednesday morning for a walk in our lovely countryside. We generally meet at 9.15am at the Green and drive to a different spot each time and walk for 4 to 5 miles at a relaxed pace with plenty of time to chat and admire the views. Lifts can be arranged if necessary. We are usually back in the village by midday. New walkers are very welcome. For more information contact Mary Peacock on 662620, Nicola Barron on 668347 or email cheddingtonwalkers@gmail.com.

PETANQUE CLUB. Petanque is a friendly, open-air, pursuit which can be played by **all** members of the family. The Petanque pitch in the recreation ground is available to all but as a member of the Petanque Club you also get the opportunity to participate in a variety of social events organised throughout the year.

We now have vacancies for more members so for more information please contact Derek Wilkinson (668689) or Tony Johnson (661342) for further details.



cheddington.org.uk
the village web site

BRIDGE CLUB. Would you like to join a friendly group of 10 to 20 other players who meet twice each month for a social morning of playing bridge? If so why not join us at the Bowls Club on the second and fourth Thursday in each month at 9.30am.

For more details contact Janet on 668317

MESSAGES

THANK YOU.

A Thank You from the Day Family.

We just want to thank everyone in the village for their support after the loss of our son Andy (also known as Skinny), who passed away after a tragic accident on Friday 7th February. He was taken far too young and leaves a huge hole in our lives. The love and support from the village has been very humbling and we really appreciate the kindness shown to us all.

Sue Day

FREE TO COLLECT. The CRA are offering a facility on the back page of the Newsletter for villagers to offer free to others to 'reuse' any useful items they no longer need. If anyone has items they wish to offer free to the collector please summarise the details in about 20 words (or less). There will be no charge for this.

Copy date for the next issue: April 15th

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To place an advertisement or if you have any queries please contact the Advertising Manager:

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Cheddington NHW

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cheddington.org.uk the village web site

CALENDAR

APRIL

3rd WI meeting. Village Hall. 7.45 14th History Society. Methodist Hall. 8pm 16th Flower Club. Methodist Hall. 7.30.

MAY

1st Elections in Bucks 8th VE Day Celebrations 9th Bowls Open Day

19th History Society. Methodist Hall. 8pm

JUNE

28th/29th Spirit Group's Matilda—The Musical. Village Hall.

JULY

28th Playscheme starts







FOODBANK COLLECTIONS.

Cheddington Foodbank Collection 2025

Collection Dates

March: Thurs/Fri/Sat – 6/7/8

June: Thurs/Fri/Sat – 5/6/7

Sept: Thurs/Fri/Sat – 18/19/20

Dec: Thurs/Fri/Sat – 11/12/13

Bins will be located outside the Methodist

Church.

If you are struggling and short of supplies,

please call Babs on 07860 780127.

If you would like items picked up, please call

Carol on 07931 344020.

No fresh food and please place all items in

plastic bags.

Copy date for the next issue:

April 15th

AVDC Refuse Collections

Weds 2nd April Green Refuse Bin

& Food Waste Bin

Weds 9th April Blue Recycling Bin

& Food Waste Bin

Weds 16th April Green Refuse Bin

& Food Waste Bin

Thurs 24th April* Blue Recycling Bin

& Food Waste Bin

Weds 30th April Green Refuse Bin

& Food Waste Bin

Garden Waste bins

Bancroft St, Berryfield, Brownlow Lane, Gooseacre, Hillside, Long Marston Road, Manor Road, Sunnybank, and The Baulk – 2nd, 16th and 30th April Rest of Village – 9th and 24th April

For the latest news see the ADVC website – www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk

^{*} Because of Easter Bank Holiday