

Cheddington Village Newsletter

No. 549 – February 2025

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CRA News.

Christmas Tree at The Green. We hope you enjoyed seeing the large Christmas tree, lit up, outside the Methodist Church this Christmas holiday. We would like to thank the Town Lands Trust who funded the purchase of the tree and the new robust stand. The tree was erected by Trevor, Simon, Dave, Keith, Lucy and Christine the day before storm Darragh arrived; but the tree, secured in its new stand, stood up to the gales and we think it looked very festive.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS.

NEXT MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL.

The February Monthly Meeting will be held on Wednesday 5th February 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 FACEBOOK PAGE. Please note the aim of the Cheddington Parish Facebook page is to relay information to the residents of Cheddington. It is not a public forum page.

PLANNING MATTERS. As reported and discussed at the 4th December 2024 (no planning applications or determinations) and 8th January 2025 (no determinations) PC meetings:

To Consider Applications Received via Buckinghamshire Council:

24/03697/APP – 66 Church Hill Cheddington Buckinghamshire LU7 0SY – Householder application for demolition of conservatory and porch and erection of single storey front and part single storey, part two storey rear extensions – No objection.

VANDALISM AT CHEDDINGTON RECREATION GROUND. The Parish Council is glad to report that since the last Newsletter in December no more incidents of vandalism have been reported at the Recreation Ground. Fingers crossed it remains this way!

USE OF DOG WASTE AND LITTER BINS.

Just a reminder that there are currently 13 dog waste bins dotted around the village that Bucks Council empty weekly. The dog bins in Orchard Manor are emptied by the managing agent for the development. There seems to be a misunderstanding by residents about where they can dispose of dog waste. Many believe they must use the designated village bins and that they should not put bags in their own household general waste bin. So just to clarify you put dog waste bags in your household green general waste bin. It is obviously important that the bags are securely tied to prevent any leaks or odours!

The Parish Council also asks that out of courtesy for others, please do not use the village litter bins for dog waste bags and definitely do not leave dog bags on the ground beside the dog and litter bins, especially if they are near a residential property. Take it home! It also seems that some residents are 'stocking up' the bags and then depositing them in both the dog and litter bins, which is clearly not very pleasant for our handyfolk who empty the litter bins!

The Parish Council appreciates your co-operation with this.

NEW NOTICE BOARD AT THE GREEN. You may have noticed that the Parish Council have had a new notice board installed at The Green. Unfortunately during storage, the 'public' side accessible lock was damaged. We are now waiting on a replacement lock. Please do not remove the heavy-duty tape, as it is holding the right hand side door shut.

Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

APPOINTMENT OF 2 NEW COUNCILORS.

After the recent vacancy position, as advertised by Buckinghamshire Council and on the notice board at The Green, the Parish Council is delighted to announce the co-option of 2 new parish councillors to Cheddington Parish Council:

MATTHEW KEHOE. Matthew has lived in the village for all of the 19 years of his life and recently started working at the local shop. He wanted to be a Parish Councillor to offer a new perspective, and to hopefully make a difference. Matthew is our youngest ever Parish Councillor and will be a great asset to the Parish Council.

DAVID NABBS. David has lived in Cheddington for over ten years and has children and grandchildren in the village. His grandson attends the local school.

The next Residents' Association committee meeting will be on Wednesday 12th February at 7.15pm in the Methodist Church Hall. Please come along to tell us of any issues.

David did voluntary work for various charities for a number of years but wanted to get involved within the village community. He took on the role as a Governor at Cheddington Combined Primary School earlier this year. He has attended Parish Council meetings and felt he could contribute in a positive way.

Matthew and David 'officially' joined us on the 8th January 2025.

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 cpcpavilionbookings@gmail.com or call 07885 442643.

The current cost per hour is £13.50 p/h for residents and for out of the village £16.50 p/h.

Please note that from the 1st April 2025 charges will increase to £14.00 p/h for residents and out of village £17.00 p/h.

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 have a few vacant plots so if you want to get fit and enjoy some outside time, with lovely people, 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. Contact the Parish Clerk for more information.

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.

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!



BUCKS COUNCILLORS NEWS.

No ifs, no butts – Council demonstrates its zero-tolerance on sales of illegal tobacco, cigarettes and vapes.

Buckinghamshire Council has once again demonstrated its zero-tolerance to those attempting to sell counterfeit and illegal vapes and cigarette and tobacco products in the county, following recent successful court action against three local businesses.

In November, Smokey World, in Castle Street, High Wycombe, was issued with a closure order by Wycombe Magistrates to run for three months and later the same month Red Power in Aylesbury was also served with a closure order for a period of three months. Most recently, Stoke Convenience Store in Stoke Road, Aylesbury, was served with a one-month closure order at a hearing at Milton Keynes Magistrates' Court on Tuesday 3 December.

All three premises had been subject to investigations by officers from Buckinghamshire and Surrey Trading Standards, having been caught selling a variety of illicit products including illegal vapes, counterfeit cigarettes and hand rolling tobacco in test purchasing exercises carried out by undercover officers. A number of operations involving tobacco detection dogs were also carried out at the locations. These specialist canines are trained to sniff out cigarettes and tobacco that is hidden from sight. At Smokey World the dogs were able to locate counterfeit good concealed behind sophisticated false wall panels. Stoke Convenience Store was also caught selling both regular vapes and alcohol to underage shoppers.

The closure orders were sought under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, and mean neither of the premises is allowed to open for trade during the three month/one month period respectively. If the orders are breached, those involved are liable for arrest and could receive up to 51 weeks in prison, or a fine, or both.

Man caught littering sees penalty soar to more than £1,100 after failing to pay Fixed Penalty.

A man who failed to pay a simple £150 Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) for littering in March 2024 has paid a hefty price for his crime, as the costs rise to more than £1,100 in court.

Ricardo Allen of Hawkins Road, London, was convicted of an offence of littering in his absence, at Wycombe Magistrates Court on 16 October 2024.

The court heard that on Wednesday 6 March 2024, a vehicle was recorded littering on Broughton Lane, Aylesbury. The offence was recorded by a dashcam provided by another driver. The footage played a key role in the investigation, capturing the offence and an image of the litter being discarded from the window.

The vehicle was traced to Allen who attended an interview in Aylesbury, where he was shown the dashcam footage. The litter consisted of food waste, specifically takeaway packaging containing chicken bones. The driver received a £150 Fixed Penalty Notice for the littering offence, however, he refused to pay. In cases like this, Buckinghamshire Council gathers sufficient evidence to prosecute in the event of non-payment and as this happened in this instance, there was no choice but to initiate court action.

On Wednesday 16 October 2024, the evidence was presented at a hearing held in the defendant's absence, as he chose not to attend the court.

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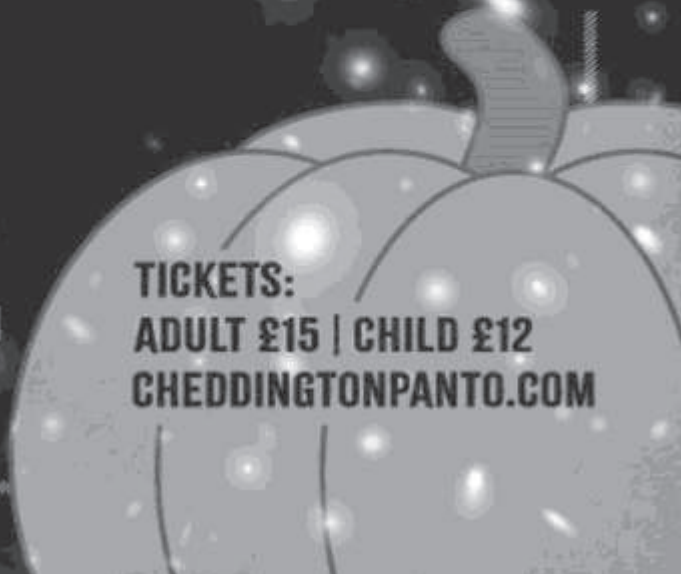
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The court found Mr Allen guilty. Legal costs were imposed, totalling £798.96, which additionally included a fine of £220 and a victim surcharge of £88.00. Allen was ordered to pay the total amount of £1,106.94 within 28 days.

Company learns the hard way – NEVER pay cash to have your waste removed.

A waste company which paid another company to take away waste from their own vehicle when it broke down has been prosecuted in court after the waste was found dumped by the roadside in Buckinghamshire.

Complete Waste Management Ltd, based in Essex, pleaded guilty to the offence of failing in their duty of care when transferring waste to a waste remover, when the case was heard at High Wycombe Magistrates' Court on 27 November 2024.

The court heard that on 14 September 2023, a mixture of household and building waste was found dumped at Ibstone Road in Stokenchurch. Buckinghamshire Council's waste enforcement team carries out regular searches of the area, due to it being heavily blighted with fly-tipping. On this occasion, an enforcement officer found details amongst the waste belonging to an address in Fairlight Road, London.

Enquiries identified a company called Complete Waste Management Ltd who explained that they recognised the waste, and they had removed the waste from the property in London. Complete Waste Management Ltd explained that when they removed the waste initially, their vehicle broke down and was unable to move. In order for the recovery vehicle to take their van away, the waste on the back needed to be removed.

Complete Waste Management Ltd found a company to remove the waste from their van and arranged for its removal, explaining that this was the last they heard of it. Complete Waste Management Ltd said they paid £150 cash but did not do the appropriate checks and so when the waste was later found dumped illegally, they admitted liability.

Magistrates at High Wycombe Magistrates' Court fined Complete Waste Management Ltd £600 and ordered them to pay a contribution of £1546.71 towards the council's clean up and investigation costs. A victim surcharge was also added of £240 – making a total to pay of £2,386.71.

Council produces balanced budget amidst financial challenges. Buckinghamshire Council has published its updated medium-term financial plan which details how it will balance its budget for the next three years.

In a continuing acutely challenging financial context for local government, the council has worked hard to identify the further savings needed during the next financial year to balance the books until 2028. It's also produced a detailed budget proposal for 2025/26 including how much it's planning to spend on major projects and services, following consultation with residents.

The current financial year has seen demand rise further still particularly in four key services, namely adult social care, children's social care, transporting higher needs children to and from school and providing temporary accommodation for homeless people and families. Cost and demand for these services mean they're considerably overspent, particularly where 'high needs' children's services are concerned as the cost to the council is higher than the grant provided by government for these services. Given that nearly 80% of the council's budget is funded through council tax, the budget proposals recommend raising the base rate of coun-

cil tax by 2.99%, alongside a 2% rise in the Adult Social Care precept, meaning a total 4.99% rise in bills next year, which represents an extra £1.77 per week for the average Band D home in 2025/26.

The council has worked extremely hard to find further savings, efficiencies and other mitigations to allow it to produce a balanced budget and is offsetting the rising costs by identifying £115.6 million in further savings and income. Alongside the savings made through becoming a unitary council, overall Buckinghamshire Council will have made savings of more than £230 million from the time it came into being in 2020 through to the end of this budget period in 2028.

The updated budget proposals for 2025/26 include a commitment to dedicate significant funding to key projects and priorities for residents. These include:

- Extra funding for our roads, taking the total investment to £120 million
- £24.8 million to support regeneration
- £10.7 million on climate change and flood management
- £24.8 million to support housing and homelessness
- £188.8 million on schools and school improvement projects
- £30.4 million on our Household Recycling Centres, Waste vehicles and other waste projects

Have your say on making local places safe to live, visit and work.

Buckinghamshire Council is set to review its active Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs), originally introduced to combat anti-social behaviour in public spaces under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, and is now seeking views from those who live, work in or visit Buckinghamshire.

Many of these PSPOs, now over a decade old, remain under the names of former Buckinghamshire councils and vary significantly in their prohibitions.

The council's review aims to:

- Unify all orders under Buckinghamshire Council's jurisdiction
- Ensure consistent prohibitions across the county
- Review and amend existing prohibitions as necessary
- Evaluate PSPO locations for relevance, extension, or removal

The council has already consulted with external partners on the review, and they are now inviting people to participate in a public consultation, which is available on the council's Your Voice Bucks webpage.

The consultation will run until 16 February 2025.

This is an opportunity for the community to share their views on the relevance and necessity of the current PSPOs and suggest new prohibitions. The consultation responses, along with supporting crime and anti-social behaviour data, will be analysed to determine which areas in Buckinghamshire will be subject to a PSPO.

Teach in Bucks fair – 8 February 2025

Are you interested in teaching but don't know where to start? Then look no further than the free Teach in Bucks Recruitment Fair, taking place at Buckinghamshire New University's High Wycombe campus on Saturday 8 February 2025.

Whether you are currently studying, have completed a teaching-related course or are considering a new career

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



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change, the specialist event, which runs from 10am to 3pm, offers the opportunity to find out everything you need to know about teaching, all under one roof.

The unique event brings together local and national industry experts including universities, teacher training institutions and representatives from the Department of Education. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet professionals and current students and also listen to a programme of talks from experts in education throughout the day.

Sessions include information on:

- Routes into teaching
- How to apply
- Teaching at different levels including early years, primary and secondary

Book your free place – <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/teach-in-bucks-recruitment-fair-tickets-1127752741809?aff=oddtcreator>.

New Year, New Career. Buckinghamshire Council is encouraging residents to kick-start their careers in 2025 with free Skills Bootcamps. Whether you're looking for a job, aiming for a promotion, or considering a career change, these bootcamps offer a unique opportunity to land your dream job. Spaces are still available for courses starting later this month (January), February, and March.

The Skills Bootcamps are designed for adults aged 19 and over and cover a wide range of growth industries in Buckinghamshire, including TV & Film Production, Green Technology, Construction, and Automotive. These short courses, run by experienced training providers, offer 60 to 100 hours of free, flexible learning, allowing participants to study around their current work commitments. Additionally, the courses do not impact Universal Credit, and participants are guaranteed an interview upon completion.

Councillor Derek Town

FARMING AND FOOD

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

It has been a joy to walk in the frosty weather over the last few days. The hoar frost is particularly beautiful. Seeing the avenue between the two villages frosted and with a deep blue sky as background has been very special and reminded me of our early days here at Mentmore Park Farm when this was not an unusual sight. I deliberately left my mobile behind to see and listen to the nature around us.

We lost our dear old black Labrador Oscar aged 14.5 just before Christmas. He was a lovely character, kind and loving. Welcoming to everyone and always pleased to come running over with a gift. Probably an old dog toy but no matter! Now we have Maisie who is ten months and quite a handful. However, she is gentle and loving too.

Christmas and New Year are a time to relax and take stock for arable farmers. The winter crops are established and we hope full of promise. Weather permitting. We hope for gentle rains and warm sunshine as Spring approaches. Ideally some good weather in March to enable the drilling of the spring crops. Of course, the big news in farming is the imposition of inheritance tax on business assets over a million. Irrespective of trade many multigenerational businesses will be affected.

Farmers enjoy growing food and rising to the challenges of nature especially weather! The farm shops and local butch-

ers which have popped up in recent years prove this and we hope you will continue to support these places. There is nothing more important than eating locally grown vegetables and meat.

We recently watched the documentary on Warburtons and wondered if some of our wheat ends up in their loaves. The same applies to Shredded Wheat and Weetabix manufactured not far from here. Our wheat goes to a grain merchant and they sell it on to these manufacturers.

Farmers consider themselves to be custodians of the countryside. We've always tried to keep our farms well maintained. Hedges, ditches, woodland and field margins. Its also great to share these areas and so we keep the footpaths clear and well maintained. We don't see as many walkers since the Covid epidemic but we hope the regulars enjoy their walks and appreciate the nature and farming.

Most of us have diversified into other businesses on our farms to make a better living for ourselves. For instance, business units and offices in redundant farm buildings.

A new year brings a fresh start and new perspective. So, we will look on the bright side and hope for good health and good weather for ourselves and everyone.

Cheddington has changed enormously when you think of the days with the railway line to Aylesbury, the orchards all around and all the shops in the village. Many people were employed on the farms and I can remember the mothers and children picking the fruit at the Cheddington orchard in their summer holidays. I can also remember the sheep being driven through the village to new pastures in Mentmore.

NOTICES

REPAIR CAFÉ Our next Ivinghoe & Pitstone Repair Café will be held on Saturday 22nd February between 9.30 – 12.30 at the Pitstone Pavillion. Bring along broken items to be fixed by volunteers! Tools & equipment, electrical goods, electronic devices, clothing, fabrics, jewellery, household items, toys & games, wooden items & bicycles & more! There is no charge for fixing but donations are welcome. Amazing refreshments available, also for a donation! Since our first café in February 2023 we have successfully repaired over 800 items!

We are now able to recycle Contact Lenses & Packaging, Empty Medicine Blister Packs & Oral Care Waste & Packaging, drop them off at one of our cafes!

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.

Cheddington Panto 2025 – Cinderella.

If you haven't already purchased tickets for the Cheddington Panto then please don't delay as tickets are selling fast and the cast have been working hard to put on an amazing show for you - the wicked stepmother is very wicked, the ugly sisters are horribly ugly and as for Cinderella and the Prince... will they have a happy ending? Will good win over evil? Their journey is not without its woes but along the way they make new friends who help them, get involved in silly songs and dances and of course there's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

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23rd February: 1:00pm

Box Office: www.cheddingtonpanto.com.

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

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

SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

2 3pm Rev Richard Atkinson

9 Mr Brian Stabler – Reader Service

16 Rev Noreen Daley-Lee

3.30 pm Messy Church

23 Rev Arthur Cowburn – Service of Holy Communion – Joint Service with Wingrave Methodist Church at Cheddington

A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Kairos or Coincidence? Is there such a thing as coincidence in the Christian vocabulary? Within a short period of time, I've had three incredible experiences which I rule out as coincidence, but I term 'Kairos moments' – the right or critical moment for a crucial action. I was in my office and the Holy Spirit prompted me to call two members who acknowledged the timeliness of my call as one of them was about to have a hip operation.

On the second occasion, the Holy Spirit prompted me to call another member who unbeknown to me was celebrating his birthday.

The third experience occurred while I was leading service at Swanbourne Methodist Church. For the very first time, I asked the congregation if they had any prayer requests. Surprisingly, one of the members shared that her daughter had a blood clot in her lung. I prayed for her. This young lady returned to church and shared, "I believe that when you prayed for me, my pain eased, and I am going to make it a commitment to come to church once each month."

I know within myself that these experiences were not coincidence or random action but Kairos moments where the living breath of God through the Holy Spirit moved me to get in touch at poignant moments in the lives of His children.

My desire is for 2025 to be a year where at the heart of ministry I do my best to be led by the Spirit so that I could discern those Kairos moments. We have been journeying with a close family friend from the very beginning of her terminal pancreatic cancer diagnosis. During the Christmas I was moved to visit her in the hospital because I felt that I needed to see her. I anointed her with oil with faith that she will rise in glory.

Deep within, I want to be able to recognize even more the Kairos moments – those God moments when I am certain that I am led and guided by the Holy Spirit. As we open our hearts to God and allow His Holy Spirit to work within us, we can experience those Kairos moments – the God

moments where we are confident it is not coincidence.

Scripture is filled with Kairos moments that rule out coincidence. Jesus is presented as one who knows the Kairos moments. Think of that story when he decided to visit Samaria. He knew that the Samaritan woman was visiting the well in the noon day heat after being estranged from her community.

That Kairos moment transformed the life of this woman and broadened the ministry of Christ, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him.' (John 4:29-30)

What we term as coincidences are Kairos moments.

(Noreen)

"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 11 February 2.30 – 4.30pm at the Methodist Chapel. It will be led by Karen, Cathy and Trevor who are all accomplished musicians. Do come along and join us and bring a friend or two, all are welcome. Refreshments will be included thanks to two willing volunteers.

OPEN DOORS.

Friday morning 10.30 a.m – noon at the Methodist Chapel. All are welcome to meet and socialise and enjoy a cup of tea/coffee and a biscuits. Contact Stuart Minall email: stuartpminall@gmail.com for more information.

BOOKS and JIGSAWS.

A collection of paperback books and jigsaws are available for buying or borrowing for which a small donation 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 – 11 am on Monday mornings during term time or Friday mornings 10.30 – 12 noon. If you have paperback books, in good condition, or jigsaws that you would like to pass on do bring them along.

WARM SPACES.

The Methodist Schoolroom will be open on Fridays 12 noon to 2 pm 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 to 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.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



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

Christine Fee, 14 Church Lane, Cheddington, Leighton Buzzard, Beds LU7 0RU

St. GILES PARISH CHURCH SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

Sun 2nd	09.00 am	B.C.P.	St Giles
	10.30 am	Family Service	St Giles
	4.00 pm	Holy Communion	St Mary's
Thurs 6th	9.15am	Mid-week Communion	St.Giles
Sun 9th	10.30 am	Holy Communion	St Giles
Sun 16th	09.00 am	Holy Communion	St Mary's
	10.30 am	Holy Communion	St Giles
Sun 23rd	10.30 am	Morning Worship	St Giles

SERVICES FOR MARCH

Sun 2nd	09.00 am	B.C.P.	St Giles
	10.30 am	Family Service	St Giles
	4.00 pm	Holy Communion	St Mary's
Thurs 7th	9.15 am	Mid-week Communion	St.Giles



2025 Programme:

Monday 17th February – History of Almshouses & Their Use Today.

Our guest speaker Simon Smith is an ambassador of The Almshouse Association and managed an historic almshouse charity in High Barnet for 15 years. This talk traces the origins of almshouses and how they continue to meet housing needs today illustrating their wonderful architecture and quirky and amusing rules. The talk will showcase their fascinating history, looking at classic examples of almshouses in the local area, the UK and abroad. We meet at 8 p.m. at the Methodist Church by the Green in the village High Street. Visitors are welcome.

Forthcoming Programme:

February 17th – History of Almshouses

Speaker: Simon Smith

The origins of almshouses and their use today, illustrating their architecture and quirky and amusing rules.

March 17th – The Story of Halton House

Speaker: Trixie Brabner

April 14th – Al Capone

Speaker: Roger Mason

May 19th – Trench Humour in the First World War

Speaker: Stephen Barker

SOCIETIES

CHEDDINGTON PANTO GROUP Cinderella.

If you haven't already purchased tickets for the Cheddington Panto then please don't delay as tickets are selling fast and the cast have been working hard to put on an amazing show for you – the wicked stepmother is very wicked, the ugly sisters are horribly ugly and as for Cinderella and the Prince... will they have a happy ending? Will good win over evil? Their journey is not without its woes but along the way they make new friends who help them, get involved in silly songs and dances and of course there's plenty of audience interaction so be prepared to have lots of fun. Bring your friends, bring your families, everyone is welcome in Pantoland!

Show Times:

21st February: 6:00pm

22nd February: 1:00pm and 5:00pm

23rd February: 1:00pm

Box Office: www.cheddingtonpanto.com

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

BEACON VILLAGE COMMUNITY LIBRARY.

Run by the community, for the community. **General enquiries: info@bvcl.org.uk. 01296 387890. Committee enquiries: secretary@bvcl.org.uk.**

Opening hours are:

Monday Closed

Tuesday 2.00pm – 5.00pm

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

Thursday 2.00pm – 5.00pm

Friday 2.00pm – 7.00pm

Saturday 10am – 1pm



1ST CHEDDINGTON SCOUT GROUP.

Since the last edition, all sections enjoyed Christmas parties in various guises, from indoor climbing to laser tag – all young people had a great and everyone remained damage free.

We started the year with a very frosty and busy Saturday morning collecting approx. 130 trees from around Cheddington/Slapton/Horton/Mentmore. Enormous thanks to everyone that came along and helped – we were over and done in record time again this year and raised over £1000 for the group. Thank you to anyone that requested a tree collection this year – your support is much appreciated.

Thanks also go to Kim Key who did a great job in scratching everyone's brains with another great quiz and very kindly donated the prizes – congratulations to Dave Johnson, Miriam Johnson, Shirley Power, Paul Sniders, and Julie Stanley who guessed the most answers correctly.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

NSPCC CHILD PROTECTION HELPLINES

If you are concerned about a child at risk of abuse call, free of charge, on

0808 800 50001296668697

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CARAVAN available in Scratby, Norfolk, located on California Cliffs Holiday Park, owned by a Cheddington resident.

The caravan sleeps up to 8 guests and comprises of 3 Bedrooms plus a pull-out sofa bed in the lounge.

Fully equipped kitchen, with microwave, gas cooker with grill and full size fridge freezer.

WC and separate shower room, Gas central heating, Double Glazing, Patio doors leading out to enclosed decking.

Plenty of space for parking two cars beside the caravan.

Hairdryer, iron and ironing board. Pillows and quilts supplied but please bring your own t-towels, bedding and towels.

Various, dates available including some weeks in the School Holidays (including Easter). Prices vary according to the dates you wish to book.

Pet friendly, at no extra cost.

Activities include a swimming pool, bar, club, chill-dren's activities, evening entertainment, these require passes you can purchase from reception.

For further information please email me on ms_suemorgan@yahoo.com



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We are ALWAYS looking for more people to help us either as leaders within the sections or as part of the Exec committee who are responsible for governing the group. If you would like to be involved in any capacity, please email admin@cheddingtonscouts.org.uk

Beavers have gone back to 2 sessions a week and are looking forward to a busy term with Bonfires and learning to tie shoelaces.

Cubs have a very full schedule ahead including 'Air Activities', campfires, and celebrating Chinese New Year

Scouts by the time this is published Scouts will have been camping – a week earlier and they would have come home as popsicles – fingers crossed the weather is kind to them and not too cold.

Explorers will be making movies and holding their own 'CheddAS' awards night, as well as a 'Boot Camp' session and a curry night. With this group being so large we are still looking for people interested in supporting/mentoring this section please email:

admin@cheddingtonscouts.org.uk.

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.

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 / Thursdays 18:15 – 19:15
- Cubs (8 to 10½ years) – Tuesdays 18:30 – 20:00 / Wednesdays 18.30 – 20:00
- Scouts (10½ to 14 years) – Thursdays 19:15 – 20:45 / Friday 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.

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.

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.

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 19th February – Interested in joining? Please contact Kay Clements (Chair) on 01296 668781 for more details.



2025 Events:

- 15 January – No Meeting
- 19 February – Gill McGregor
- 19 March – Christine Long
- 16 April – AGM/Floral Bingo
- 21 May – Jennifer Thompson
- 18 June – Jackie Page
- 16 July – Sally Hardy
- 30 August – No Meeting
- 17 September – Jazzy Rose.



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:

- 6th February, The Saunderton Bombs by Roger Young
- 6th March, The Enigma – Breaking the Unbreakable by Frank Falcon.
- 3rd April, Singing for Fun – by Sue Cox

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

SPORTS & FITNESS

BADMINTON CLUB. We play social badminton (with a competitive edge!) between 8pm and 10pm every Thursday evening in the Village Hall. New members are always made welcome. Membership is available for £3 per session. For further details give Kim a ring on 07778279109.

JUNIOR BADMINTON CLUB. 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. 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!

Copy date for the next issue: February 15th

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Both Duty Manager roles will involve overseeing daily operations and ensuring exceptional visitor experiences. The Tearoom role will also focus on food and beverage services, while the Retail role will also lead retail operations. Both positions will lead teams, assist with event delivery, and work towards financial objectives.

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MESSAGES

THANK YOU.

A huge thank you to the whole Cheddington School community who have provided lots of toys and board games which will be sent to Ukraine in time for Christmas. Their generosity means that lots of children who have lost many of their possessions because of the war, had a lovely gift at Christmas.

Hope and Aid Direct regularly sends articulated trucks full of aid directly into Kyiv, where it is distributed by our partner charity there. We will continue to support the people there so long as is needed.

Janet Page

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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

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CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

19th Flower Club. Methodist Hall. 7.30.

21st-23rd Cinderella. Village Hall.

22nd Repair Café. Pitstone Pavillion. 9.30 – 12.30.

AVDC Refuse

Weds 5th Feb

Green Refuse Bin & Food Waste Bin

Weds 12th Feb

Blue Recycling Bin & Food Waste Bin

Weds 19th Feb

Green Refuse Bin & Food Waste Bin

Weds 26th Feb

Blue Recycling Bin & Food Waste Bin

Garden Waste bins

Bancroft St, Berryfield, Brownlow Lane, Gooseacre, Hillside, Long Marston Road, Manor Road, Sunnybank, and The Baulk – **5th and 19th Feb** Rest of Village – **12th and 26th Feb.**

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