

ROUNDA^{BO}UT

JANUARY 2016

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January 2016

January 2016

Publishing magazines like this can play havoc with your perception of time. Last month, in early November for the December edition, we were wishing you a Merry Christmas - as were many of our advertisers and contributors.

Now, in early December, we are already thinking about 2016 in an edition of the magazine that should reach you before Christmas!

The 20mph survey published in December is still open until December 27th so please remember to take the chance to express your opinion. Please note that the address for the survey was incorrect - the correct one is on the front cover this month!

As this issue should reach you before Xmas we'd like to again wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year! See you all in 2016!

Please remember to visit the website. There are often articles there that we could not fit into the print edition, as well as information that arrives during the month. The address is:

<http://www.buckdenroundabout.info/>
Editorial Team

Front Cover

The cover photo this month shows the valley and was provided by David Mulcahy; as ever we are very grateful.

We are still looking for photos, images, drawings and paintings to use on the front cover so please keep sending them in.

January Production Dates

Production dates for the **February Edition** of the Roundabout are as follows:

Copy deadline:	Sunday 10 January
Proof Reading	Friday 15 January
Copy to Printers	Tuesday 19 January
Distribution	Thursday 28 January

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THE DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ALL MATERIAL FOR THE JANUARY EDITION IS NO LATER THAN 4.30 pm ON SUNDAY 10th JANUARY.

HOWEVER, SPACE IS ALLOCATED ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED, BASIS. IT IS REGRETTED THAT ANY CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE WILL NOT BE INCLUDED.

Buckden Parish Council News



The Parish Council and staff would like to wish a happy and healthy 2016 to all residents of Buckden, Stirtloe and Diddington.

Stop Press - The on-line survey web address in last month's Roundabout was incorrect – it should read: www.surveymonkey.com/r/buckden20mph If you haven't yet completed the 20mph speed limit survey, there's still time as the survey doesn't close until 27th December.

Unveiling of the commemorative paving stone for Captain John Green V.C. on 1st July 2016.

The Parish Council has previously informed residents of the government's scheme to provide a commemorative paving stone for all those awarded a Victoria Cross during the First World War. We can feel very proud that Buckden was the birthplace of Captain Green, a member of the Royal Army Medical Corps, who was awarded a V.C. posthumously following his outstanding bravery on the first day of the Battle of the Somme in 1916. There will be only two of these paving stones in Cambridgeshire so this is a very special honour for our community. The commemorative paving stone will be unveiled on 1st July 2016, exactly one hundred years after it was awarded.

The Parish Council would like to invite all residents to attend the commemorative event. This will begin at 11 a.m. at the Green Memorial on the High St, opposite the pedestrian entrance to The Towers. We will then proceed to the war memorial in St Mary's churchyard, where the stone will be unveiled.

Please put a note in your diaries now. This will be a unique occasion for Buckden and a reminder of the sacrifices made on our behalf, both by Captain Green and by all those who lost their lives or who were injured in both World Wars.

New Year, new healthy activity? How about an allotment?

This is the time of the year when most of us make resolutions for the coming year. Why not decide to take on an allotment? As well as the opportunity for lots of fresh fruit and vegetables, working an allotment is also excellent exercise. The current allotment rent is only £15 per year, which must rank as one of the best bargains going. For the first time for some years, we now have vacant plots. So, don't hesitate, contact the Clerk for more information.

Parish Council Photographic Competition

We will again be running our photo competition as part of the Festival Weekend. We would like to give advance notice of the categories so that all you budding photographers can start getting busy. These are:

1. Black and White
2. Heritage
3. Speed

The age categories will be:

1. Up to 10 years
2. 11-16 years
3. Over 18 years.

We were low on entries for the 11-16 category last year so, all you teenagers, get the cameras, or phones/i-pads, out and start snapping. Remember that there is a small financial prize for the winner of each category.

Please save all your unwanted electrical items for the next WEEE kerbside collection on 10th February 2016.

The next meeting of the **Parish Council**, including a **15 minute Public Forum** will be held on **Tuesday 12th January 2016 starting at 7.30pm** in the Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend and raise any Buckden related issues. If required, the **Parish Council's Planning Committee** will meet on **Tuesday 12th and Tuesday 26th January** starting 7pm. Agendas for the meetings are posted on the Parish Council notice boards not later than the Saturday preceding the meeting

Any questions or comments on this report can be addressed to the Parish Clerk John Chase, Clerk to Buckden Parish Council, Buckden Village Hall, Burberry Road, Buckden PE19 5UY, Telephone (01480) 819407, Email clerk@buckdenparishcouncil.org.uk
Do not forget our website at www.buckdenparishcouncil.org.uk

FROM YOUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR

This May 2016 there will be elections for the Police and Crime Commissioner. The current PCC, Sir Graham Bright was elected in 2012 is not standing for re-election. The Police and Crime Commissioner role is to support the chief constable and when necessary holding the chief constable to account. The PCC is also responsible for delivering an effective and efficient police service in Cambridgeshire and liaising with local agencies such as the local authorities, health, the Probation Trust, the fire and rescue service and the criminal justice system to ensure there is a joined up approach. The Police and Crime Commissioner is a very important role, and elections will be in May 2016 for us to choose Cambridgeshire’s new Commissioner.

Please be advised that residents can come along to the Buckden village hall on the second Tuesday of the month at 6.30pm for an hour to speak to me. I will be in the Aragon room and no appointment is necessary. My next surgery will be held on **Tuesday 12th January 2016** and I look forward to serving you all in 2016.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.
Julie Wisson, County Councillor Buckden and the Offords
07725 791459 01767 677837 Julie.Wisson@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

**FROM YOUR DISTRICT COUNCILLOR
SECURITY**

I am aware that our excellent Neighbourhood Watch keeps us up to date with matters concerning security and personal safety but I believe that I must add my warnings to theirs. There has been a considerable increase in cold phone calls trying to obtain your bank and other personal details. Sometimes the caller poses as a an expert from Microsoft or from your bank. Never, never provide your personal bank and other details unless you are absolutely sure that you know who you are speaking to. Do not ring them back on a number provided by them because they will have kept your line open. Unfortunately many of these calls are aimed at the older generation, of which I am one, and sometimes we can be a little too trusting. I recommend that you do as I do – as soon as I recognise a call as a 'cold call' I replace the handset firmly back in its holder. I may have cut off the odd genuine call but if so they will always ring back.

THE ROLE OF A DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

I am very proud to represent Buckden, Diddington and Southoe on the District Council and will always try to represent the views of the residents whenever possible. The total electorate is in the region of 2,500 and it is inevitable that there will be occasions when there will not be a majority view or when views expressed are not, in my judgement, necessarily the best for the village. Edmund Burke in November 1774 wrote "Your representative owes you, not his industry only, but his judgement and he betrays instead of serving you if he sacrifices it to your opinion". I try to keep my finger on the villages' pulses as a member of Buckden Parish Council, by attending Southoe Parish Council meetings and through my membership of numerous other village activities. That said I always welcome residents' views and comments either by telephone or email and am happy to meet residents, if they want to.

LOSS OF A VILLAGE 'CHARACTER'

All funerals are sad but sometimes a village loses a 'character' who has been part of the village fabric for what seems a lifetime. The funeral and celebration of the life of Freddy Brown was particularly poignant and uplifting. After serving in the Royal Navy in WW2 and then running a market garden with his father he was the village 'postie' for 25 years. The church was overfilled not only by old friends but younger neighbours who he had befriended in recent years. We have many residents whose families have lived in the villages for many generations. We should cherish them and ensure that we learn from them what has made the village what it is.

My seasonal greetings were, perhaps a little early in the last Roundabout. May I reiterate them and wish you and yours a very happy Christmas and prosperous and healthy New Year.

Terry Hayward (Cllr) Buckden Ward, Huntingdonshire District Council
01480 810974 or terry.hayward@huntingdonshire.gov.uk.

Buckden Surgery Patients' Association 200 Club Prize Winners December 2015 Draw		
£100	No. 200	Mrs Shirley Wimbleton
£25	No. 98	Mrs Rosie Gee
£25	No. 135	Mrs Janette Brown
£25	No. 156	Mrs Mary Mansfield
£25	No. 159	Master Archie Attwell
Christmas Bonus Prize		
£200	No. 57	Mrs Ann Smith

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Appeal

I would like to say a very big **THANK YOU** to everyone who contributed to the shoebox appeal as **196 shoe-boxes** were collected.

This means that some children in poor countries will have a happier Christmas as they will receive a shoe box. That in effect is a smile on a child's face. So thank you all again for making this possible. It is a wonderful achievement by everyone.

Carol Swepstone.



**Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Northamptonshire**

**Huntingdonshire
Local Group**

Fighting Wildlife Crime

For our first meeting in the New Year, the Huntingdonshire Local Group of the Wildlife Trust will present an illustrated talk entitled 'Bird Crime - Fighting Wildlife Crime'. This will be held on Wednesday 13th January at 7.30pm at Brampton Memorial Centre, Thrapston Road, Brampton, PE28 4TB.

Our speaker will be Bob Elliott who has been with the RSPB as Head of Investigations since the inception of the unit in 1989. His team concentrates on species of conservation concern and work closely with the police and statutory agencies to further the enforcement of the law. Bob will talk about recent cases and explain where the problems still exist today.

Anyone interested in wildlife is most welcome to attend. Entrance charge £2.50 (accompanied children free). No need to book. Please contact Tim on 01480 457795 for further information.

Part of the Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire. Registered Charity No: 1000412



Friends of Buckden Towers

FOBT held its annual Beetle Drive at The Towers on 20th November. There was a good attendance and great fun was had by all. It's a very sociable event as players move round the tables, playing different opponents.

At the half way point we stopped for mulled wine and mince pies which went down very well. My thanks to Anne Petty and her team for some lovely mince pies.

Work on the new viewing platform in the Knot Garden is progressing well. The new king post is in place with its supporting structures. The only jobs now left are putting on the roof and the lattice work panels around the sides. I thoroughly recommend taking the time to have a look before the roof is finished, to see how it is constructed. The key to the garden is usually available on request from the office in the house. John Davies and Keith Lawrence have worked very hard on the platform and have done a great job. They hope to finish before Christmas, weather permitting.

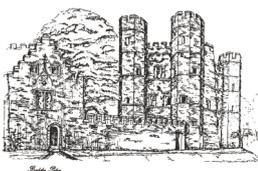
Our next event will be the annual quiz night on 4th March 2016 at The Towers.

John Thelwall, Chair

Royal British Legion
So far we have banked almost £4,000 towards the 2015 Poppy Appeal with Gift Aided to be calculated along with late donations. Hopefully a more accurate figure will be available for next month. Thank you does not seem an adequate response to the generosity of every House to House collection and the businesses in Buckden and Perry (including HMP Littlehey staff, visitors and inmates). The collection, as usual, has been overwhelming. None of this could be possible without the help of everyone involved from the churches, the Village Hall Trust and everyone else too numerous to mention here. And to you and everyone who contributed.

It was necessary to abandon the RBL Branch AGM in November because of lack of interest. I would ask any and every member to please try to attend on Wednesday 20 January 2015 at the Millennium/Village Hall. If this is the only RBL meeting you attend come along. We cannot move on unless you do.

Veronica Hunstone, Secretary, RBL Buckden Branch, 01480 810070



Buckden Local History Society

A log fire and the aroma of mulled wine welcomed members and guests to the December meeting. Sarah Doig of Ancestral Voices shared her Tudor Christmas presentation starting with the tune of Ding dong merrily on high played on renaissance guitar, bagpipes and bass curtal, reminding us how tunes have been passed down through the years. We learned about how traditions common in Tudor times have carried on to the present day, including bringing greenery into the house, feasting and the giving of presents. Twelfth Night ended the Christmas festivities; an evening of games and entertainment ruled over by a king and a queen, the lucky ones to have found a bean and a pea baked in a cake.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 6th January in the Conference Room at 7.30pm when Liz Davies will tell us about Crime and punishment in St Neots.

CHURCH NEWS

Catholic Church of St Hugh of Lincoln, High Street, Buckden

Telephone: **01480 810344**

Website: saintshughandjoseph.churchgoers.co.uk

In the pastoral care of the Claretian Missionaries:

Fr. Chris Newman cmf

Fr. Angel Ochagavia cmf

Fr. Peter Wareing cmf

Fr. Paul Peter Alphonse cmf

Sunday Masses - Saturday evening at 6.30 pm and Sundays at 9.45 am

Weekday Masses - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 9.30 am and on Wednesday and Friday at 7.00 pm.

Morning Prayer on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday at 9.15 am in the Lady Chapel.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation every Saturday from 10.00 to 10.30 am.

The Rosary is prayed each Monday morning after the 9.30 am Mass.

Catechism Classes for school age children each Sunday from 9.00 am in term time. Formal classes for primary age children.

Silent Adoration. There is half an hour of silent adoration before the Blessed Sacrament every Thursday following the 9.30 am Mass and ending with Benediction at 10.30 am.

Would any newcomers to the Village who are Catholics please let Fr. Chris Newman know their contact details.

The Migrant Crisis

Thank you John Davies for your considered comments and I do take your points.

As I understand it, our country is now committed to accepting 20,000 refugee families so if Buckden offered to house one such family we are not adding to the numbers coming. Also, these families are from established refugee camps, not trafficked families although we need compassion for all of them. After discussion with a friend who has worked for the UN on the migrant problem I understand that local authorities in the UK make an offer for a certain number of families and it may not work with Buckden offering support for one family.

Finance - if Buckden residents offered support for one family that would mean our local authority does not have to finance that family therefore leaving more finance for our own needy population. Translate this to lots of communities and our own needy families could still be supported from local funds which would not be diverted to refugees.

I understand that it will be well nigh impossible for Syrians to return to their country – not least because their home and their community, possibly of generations' duration, no longer exist.

I fully support John's ideas of lobbying our government and also for the UN to work to keep folk as close to their home land as possible. Is there any mileage in forming a pressure group here? There has been very little response indeed to my proposal.

Finally, may I say that I am continually hugely impressed by the many thousands of pounds Buckden residents give in charitable donations for a multitude of good works year on year, as well as the thousands of hours given in voluntary work. We are a very special village and community.

Ann Brittain.

Buckden Methodist Church

Minister: Rev. Paul Beard (473444)

Stewards: Bob Baxter (810092)
Carol Swepstone (810053)

Room Bookings:
Isabel Daniels (810084)

Services in January

Sunday 3
10.30 am Morning Service
No Fellowship

Sunday 10
10.30 am Morning Service
6.00pm Favourite hymns & readings

Sunday 17
10.30 am Morning Service
6.00pm Evening Fellowship with
Isabel Daniels

Sunday 24
10.30 am Morning Service
Rev. Paul Beard, Covenant Service
6.00pm Favourite hymns & readings

Sunday 31
10.30 am Morning Service HC
6.00pm Carol Swepstone

Activities in January

Fri 8	10.00 am	Coffee Morning
Mon 11	12.30 pm	Study lunch
Tue 12	9.30 am	Quiet Time, Wesley Room
Wed 13	2.30 pm	CAMEO, Wesley Rm
Fri 15	12.00	Soup & sweet lunch
Fri 22	10.00 am	Coffee Morning
Tue 26	9.30 am	Quiet Time, Wesley Room
Fri 29	10.00 am	Coffee Morning

CHURCH NEWS

The Benefice of Buckden & the Offords

St Mary's Parish Church

Church St, Buckden PE19 5TL

www.stmarysbuckden.org.uk

Facebook: 'like' St Mary's Buckden

Twitter: follow @A1ChurchBuckden

email: enquiries@stmarysbuckden.org.uk

Priest in Charge: Revd Jes Salt 819377

The Vicarage, Church St, Buckden PE19 5TL

priestincharge@stmarysbuckden.org.uk

Churchwardens:

Anne Carter 812789

David Riley 810718

churchwardens@stmarysbuckden.org.uk

Pastoral Care Co-ordinator:

Marilyn Rolin 07719 087215 [pastoral-](mailto:pastoral-care@stmarysbuckden.org.uk)

care@stmarysbuckden.org.uk

Friends in Deed (transport): 07914 669 967

Friends in Deed (general): 07810 006 598

Bookings for baptisms, weddings and funerals or room hire Contact bookings@stmarysbuckden.org.uk

Services at St Mary's in January our main Sunday Services are now at 11am

Sun 3	11:00am	Epiphany Sunday – the travelling cribs return
	6.00pm	BCP Holy Communion
Wed 6	9.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 10	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	11:00am	Family Eucharist
Wed 13	9.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 17	11.00am	Family Eucharist
	6.00pm	Evensong
Wed 20	9.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 24	8:00am	BCP Holy Communion
	11:00am	Family Communion
	6.00pm	Open ministry meeting
	7.00pm	Night Prayer
Wed 27	9.30am	Holy Communion
Sun 31	8.00am	BCP Holy Communion
	11:00am	Family Eucharist

Our sister church, All Saints' Offord Cluny, also has a service at 9.30am each Sunday

The Daily Office

The Daily Office (daily prayers) is said in St Mary's on

Monday 2.15pm Tuesday 4.30pm

Thursday 9.15am Friday 9.15am

All are welcome. Prayer requests may be left in church.

Keep in touch!

If you've enjoyed the services and events at St Mary's over Christmas, we would love to see you again during other times of year. We run a variety of different services, groups and social events – hopefully something for everyone. We'd also love to hear from you and our contact details are at the top of this page.

Events in January

Friends in Deed: Living Stones Cafe

Wednesday 13th January

2.30pm – 4pm in the Living Stones Room

All are welcome to drop in for tea/coffee/cakes and chat

UNITY SUPPER

(Buckden & District Churches Together)

Saturday 23rd January 7.15pm

in the Meeting Room, Buckden Towers. A bring and share meal with reflection & prayer

Coming up on 20th February – St Mary's Church Auction

For the Children

Jamworkx (Jesus & Me Works) After School Club

Fridays 3.20 – 4.20pm at Buckden School.

Contact Buckden School

Regular Groups and Events

Newcomers are always welcome at all groups & events

Coffee & Cakes: EVERY Saturday, 10.30-noon in the Living Stones Room. Contact Gina Bylett 01480 812777

Going Deeper: A chance to look again at Sunday's bible readings. Mondays 7.45pm (vicarage); Wednesdays 10.45am (Living Stones Room).

St Mary's Bell-Ringers practice on Mondays at 8pm. Visitors and beginners are always welcome

Ground Floor Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays 8pm-10pm to discuss anything and everything, ending with Compline. Contact Lorraine Toogood 01480 811352

Angel Voices informal all age choir rehearses Fridays 15th & 22nd January at 6.45pm in the Living Stones Room. Contact Chris Bylett 01480 812777

'Honeycomb': A group for those on their own who find that time hangs heavy at the weekend. Meets at 7 Vineyard Way on the 1st Sunday each month 3 - 4.30pm for conversation, tea and cake, board games & fellowship
Contact Lorraine Toogood 01480 811352

Churches Together Study Lunch meets on the 2nd Monday each month 12.30pm in the Methodist Hall for delicious soup & bread, and discussion.

Open Ministry Meeting All are welcome to this open forum at 6pm on the 4th Sunday of each month in the Living Stones Room

Bible study group meets on the last Monday each month 1.30pm in the Living Stones Room.

St Mary's is open

St Mary's is open during the day for private prayer.

Need some peace and quiet? You are welcome to use the Quiet Room at the back or any other place in St Mary's whenever the church is open.

Cup of tea and a chat? Jes will be in Church each Wednesday 10 – 10.45am (after communion) if you want to drop in for a chat.

St Mary's Living Stones Room (with under-floor heating, kitchen and toilet facilities) is available for hire for meetings, groups and social gatherings.

CHURCH NEWS

	<p>Buckden & District Churches Together www.buckdendistrictchurches.wordpress.com</p> <p>Anglicans Baptists Catholics Methodists</p>
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Weekly Prayer Roster

Each week during the year the Churches, in their prayers, remember the residents of particular streets in the village, those who work in the parish and village organizations. Those to be remembered this month are:

3rd January	Farming communities, Taylor's Lane (West), Hardwick Lane, the residents and staff of Hardwick Dene, Great North Road, Brampton Road, Perry Road, Buckden Wood
10th January	High Street, Ivelbury Close, York Yard, Lion Yard, George Lane, King George Court, Taylor's Lane (East), Wolsey Gardens, Charles Court
17th January	Hunts End, Copes Close, Monks Cottages, Hunts End Court
24th January	Manor Gardens, Manor Close, Glebe Lane, The Grove
31st January	Park Road, Falcon Way; The Marinas, and those who live and work there

Thought for the month

Happy New Year.

It seems incredible that 2016 is already here. The celebration of Christmas and the New Year is only too quickly followed by the cold reality of January. It may be my imagination, but the years do seem to be passing with increasing speed, perhaps a function of age, and it is salutary to think that we are already more than half way through the second decade of the 21st century.

I wonder how 2015 was for you. I guess that for most of us it was a mixture of good and bad, happiness and sadness; the joy at the birth of a child, like Princess Charlotte, and the sadness of illness and death which we have seen on TV, and which I know a number of us have experienced. That was certainly our experience of an eventful year; one that culminated in my leaving the insurance industry in London to join you in Buckden where, thanks to you, we already feel very much at home.

And what of 2016? Many of us may make New Year's resolutions, or indeed resolve not to make a resolution, and all of us will have ideas and plans for this coming year, whether holidays, a change of job or school or even a new hairstyle.

It is likely that for most of us 2016 will, like most years, contain a mixture of experiences, some positive and enjoyable, others less so. But the fact is that none of us know how the next 12 months will play out. That is part of the risk, uncertainty and adventure of life. The bible records James the brother of Jesus warning some friends about the danger of setting too great a store by the plans they had made. Writing metaphorically he asked - what is our life? We are nothing but a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Certainly the sad and serious events of the recent months have underlined how fragile and uncertain life can be.

The Christian message, of course, is that our God is deeply interested in each of our years. At Christmas many of us celebrated the birth of His Son. As a man Jesus showed us how to connect with a God who will walk with us through whatever life in 2016 and beyond holds for us; the vale of tears as well as the mountain top of joy. The invitation He issues to each of us through the Bible and through all the churches in the village is to come and experience the joy, peace, mercy and compassion that God offers to all who respond to Him. The prayer of the churches is that many of us will wish to come, or come back, and accept that invitation for ourselves.

So once again Happy New Year.

Rev Jes Salt, Priest in Charge, Buckden and the Offords

Frederick (Freddie) Brown

Anne and family would like to thank everyone who attended Freddie's funeral service at St Mary's church and for the many messages of sympathy and generous donations to the Help for Heroes charity. Freddie was a real Buckden character who will be sadly missed by everyone.

STUDY LUNCH

The regular monthly study lunches continue on Monday 11th January 2016
 Methodist Church Hall 12.30 pm to 2.00 pm Contact: **Ann Brittain** on **812012**

Advance notice - the Lent Study lunches will begin on Monday February 15th 2016
 Further details and focus of study will be detailed in the February edition.

VILLAGE NEWS

'Old Man Violet'

Violet is not a name one associates with the male gender but this was a moniker bequeathed by village youngsters. 'Old Man Violet' lived with Flo at Number 1, The Green and when not at work could be found sharing the couch with Flo's rag-rug dog.

The confusion was borne of Violet's line of work and associated clothing. Violet was a farmhand at Jim Park's farm on Mill Road, with particular responsibility for looking after the horses. There were shire horses at the farm well into the 60's, with names like Beauty, Blossom and Boxer. Violet dressed the part –working-boots, dark trousers or dungarees and a man's jacket, generally secured with a length of binder-twine. Her trade-mark beret was mostly pulled over her roughly cropped hair. Femininity eluded Violet. She considered herself one of the fellas, lugging straw and hay bales, taking a comfort stop behind the hay-stack and employing some colourful language.



Violet with Beauty & Blossom



Violet at work

Jim was the tenant at Low Farm. The associated acres and farmhouse were the property of The Lintons of Stirtloe House. As a consequence, there were times when Violet was called upon to assist with the 7 acres of lawns, flower beds, greenhouses and kitchen gardens. She took to this work with enthusiasm but her energetic approach mucked up the quiet ebb and flow of the regular gardeners' normal routines and they were not inclined to embrace this good-heartedly.

When Flo took her annual holiday, visiting her sister in Sharnbrook, Violet was left in charge of the shop. She had little tolerance for indecision and found youngsters particularly trying! They were inclined to turn up in

a gang, following a raid on their Mums' pantries. The empty spring-top bottles (from Corona and Tizer and the like) were worth 1d each on return and could thus be converted to sweet treats! With Violet at the helm the sweets were perfunctorily grabbed and bagged. Violet's hands were no better than Flo's. If anything, they were several shades worse!

On retiring she lived out her final years in the quiet sanctuary of the South's Alms-houses. It was not until her later years that the village witnessed Violet in a skirt! She would sit on the old wooden curtilage seat, with its overhead shelter, and watch the world go by. From this vantage point she could engage in a quick exchange of news and views with passers-by, while reserving a string of sparkling expletives, for those she felt less warm towards!

She died in 1972, and is buried in an unmarked grave in the cemetery. Here nature kindly compensates for the lack of a memorial tablet. The overhead boughs scatter petals in spring, white in colour like Beauty and Blossom. In the autumn, spikey cases tumble down and burst open, revealing glossy chestnuts, the colour of Boxer. **AMB**



Violet at Hunts End, looking towards Bakers Lane

Second in a series of articles—products of shared content with contributions from Bob Baxter, Shirley Brown, Belle Burke, Betty Gale, Jane Page, Joan Parren, Tommy Richardson and Brian Riseley

Stay well this winter

In the past year as many of one in four residents in Cambridgeshire visited A&E when they could have used an alternative service or looked after themselves at home.

Each visit to A&E costs the local NHS £87, and that's before any treatment is given. When you look at the figures, this costs the local NHS over £4million a year. In turn this is the equivalent cost of 677 hip replacements, or 287 liver transplants or 115 more dementia nurses. Using A&E when you don't need to can also have a knock-on effect to the rest of the hospital, as busy A&E departments resulted in 500 cancelled operations and procedures because a bed was no longer available, and longer waiting and referral times.

But you can help

- Stay healthy – get a flu vaccination if you are eligible
- Look after others – check on elderly friends, relatives and neighbours especially in spells of cold weather, help them to keep warm and have the medication they might need
- Be prepared – get your prescriptions in early before the holidays and see your pharmacist or GP for any issues you might be putting off
- Choose the right service – your local pharmacy can provide confidential, expert advice and treatment for a range of common illnesses and complaints, without having to wait for a GP appointment.

For help with finding local NHS services visit <http://www.cambsandpeterboroughchoosewell.co.uk/>

FOR YOUR DIARY

Huntingdonshire Health Walk Scheme Huntingdon Group January 2016

On Wednesday the 13th at 2pm, our group will walk the "Buckden Village Health Walk" from the Village Hall : please join us on this easy-paced 60-minute walk ; after the walk, we hope that the hall will be open, as usual, for refreshments, in return for a small voluntary donation.

There will be seven other Huntingdon-area health walks this month from other centres, details of which are on our website and in our brochures, obtainable from the Library, the Village Hall, Buckden Surgery, Buckden Marina, and also from the walk leaders.

The Huntingdon Group walks are on Wednesday afternoons and Friday mornings.

A Happy New Year! Maybe it will be even happier (and healthier!) if you come walking with us?!

For more information, please contact:
Danielle Sancaster (HDC Sports Development Officer)
Phone 01480 387047,
Email activelifestyles@huntingdonshire.gov.uk
The website address is
www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/healthwalks

LIFE DRAWING GROUP*

Venue: Buckden Village Hall
Day: Wednesday
Time: 9.30 am - 12.30 pm
Contact: Terry Sladden
Tel: 01480 811031
Email: trrslddn8@gmail.com

Cost: **£10.00 per 3 hours** inc. 30 minute break
*Male & Female models

Buckden Gardeners Association

Snowdrop Walk at Anglesey Abbey



One of the gardeners from Anglesey Abbey will be taking us on an afternoon's guided walk during the "Snowdrop Festival". Watch for further details on the website, and how to book. Or phone Pam on 01480 811680 or Lesley on 01480351547 near the time to guarantee a place.

Both members and non-members welcome.
We anticipate that this will be late January or early February, leaving from outside the Methodist church at around 1.00pm. This will be self- drive/car share.

For further information go to our website:
<http://www.buckdengardeners.info/>

MONDAY CLUB

We are a social group of retired ladies who meet fortnightly at 2.30pm in the Millard Room at Buckden Village Hall.

We enjoy a cup of tea as we chat and participate in a raffle. Once a month we aim to organise a speaker or activity.

Our meetings for January 2016 will be:

Monday 11th January: post-Christmas dinner at Frosts

Monday 25th January: Tea, chat and bingo

Why not come and join us? You'd be most welcome! If you require a lift or any further information please contact Jane Scott on 811468 or Betty Millard on 810087.

Huntingdonshire Amateur Radio Society Interested in radio communications?

Novice or experienced,
a warm welcome awaits you at Buckden Village Hall

Meetings held in the Millard Suite
on the 2nd and 4th Thursday
of each month from 7:30 p.m.

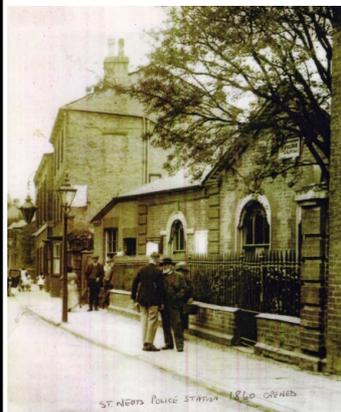
For further information contact the secretary
Phil Haylock, Phone 01487 832937

E mail phinorm@talktalk.net

or visit our website at www.radioclubs.net

Buckden Local History Society

Crime & Punishment in St. Neots By Liz Davies



Wednesday
6th January 2016 at
7.30pm
in the Conference
Room
at Buckden Towers

Photo shows St. Neots Police Station, opened 1860

For more information email
Buckdenhistory@gmail.com

FOR YOUR DIARY



Rhymes and Storytime
Every Tuesday at 2.15pm
All under 5s welcome with their carers

Knit-Lit
Friday 8th and 22nd at 8.00 pm

Once again libraries find themselves under threat of closure due to financial restraints. Please call in to show your support.

Tuesday	10.00 am to 1.00 pm
	2.00 pm to 5.00 pm
Thursday	2.00 pm to 5.00 pm
Friday	5.00 pm to 8.00 pm
Saturday	10.00 am to 1.00 pm

Closed Monday and Wednesday

Village Hall, Burberry Road, Buckden
Tel: **0345 045 5225**
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library

New to Buckden Library!

Engage in the Afternoon is a programme of talks and workshops organised by libraries throughout the county. Following a successful taster event in October, we will be running monthly events at Buckden library from January 2016. We aim to bring you a range of interesting speakers with wide knowledge of their specialist subjects.

Our first talk is on Wednesday 20th January between 2pm and 3.30pm and our guest speaker is Squadron Leader Kevin Dalley RAF (Retired), who will be talking about the Pathfinder Force formed at RAF Wyton in August 1942.

Regular events will be held on the third Wednesday of each month after that.

This is a free event and tickets are available at Buckden library or by contacting our call centre on 0345 045 5225. Places are limited so please remember to book. Refreshments will be available and we ask for a small donation to cover costs. A full list of talks taking place across the district is available from the library on a quarterly basis.

The Hinchingsbrooke Bösendorfer Concerts January 22nd 2016 7.30 pm

Aurora Trio ~ Emma Halnan, flute
Joe Bronstein, viola
Heather Wrightson, harp
with Daniel King Smith, piano

Hinchingsbrooke Performing Arts Centre, Huntingdon
Box Office 01480 375678
Tickets: Adults £12,
Pupils and students under 21 £5,
Groups (20+) £9 each

Can you spare a little bit of time to make a huge difference to a family who need support?



Home-Start provides a unique service for families recruiting and training volunteers to support parents with young children at home.

- ❖ We are currently seeking volunteers to offer support to families in the Huntingdonshire area
- ❖ Do you have parenting experience and 2-3 hours a week available?
- ❖ Full training and support will be given and you will gain valuable experience and skills in a rewarding volunteer role.
- ❖ Next course starting on 27th January 2016.
- ❖ We support families in a variety of circumstances eg mental health issues, disability, isolation, new to region, multiple births, poverty, relationship breakdown, to help them gain confidence and move forward.

To talk about volunteering, please come in or contact our friendly team:
01480 700242
office.stneots@homestartcambridgeshire.co.uk

Home-Start Cambridgeshire, Registered Charity No. 1106007



Waste Collection December 2015

Normal Day	Revised Day of collection
Thurs 24 Dec	Thurs 24 Dec
Fri 25 Dec	Tues 29 Dec
Fri 1 Jan	Tues 5 Jan
Thurs 7 Jan	Sat 9 Jan
Fri 8 Jan	Mon 11 Jan
Fri 15 Jan	Sat 16 Jan

Download your collection calendar from
www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/bins

Real Christmas trees can be put alongside your green bin for composting in January. If it's taller than your bin please chop your tree to the size of your bin.

The **Household Recycling Centres** are only closed from 1pm Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. Find out more at
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/waste

VILLAGE NEWS

Buckden Village Hall



A Millennium Project

Burberry Road, Buckden, Cambridgeshire, PE19 5UY

Tel: 01480 811101

www.buckdenvillagehall.co.uk **email:** admin@buckdenvillagehall.co.uk

Bookings

Happy New Year to you all! How about kick starting the 2016 with a new exercise regime! We have exercises to suit all ages and abilities here at the Hall!

Mondays	10:00am	Yoga
	1:30pm	RightStart Class - chair based exercises to build stamina and strength
	6:30pm	Pilates for All - FitHaven
	7:30pm	Low Impact Total Body Tone - FitHaven
Tuesdays	9:45am	Pilates for All - FitHaven
	6:00pm	Karate
	7:00pm	Pilates with Trudy
Wednesdays	6:45pm	Kettlebells & Total Core Tone – FitHaven
Thursdays	10:30am	Over 60's Exercise Class
	7:00pm	Zumba
One Friday per month	7:30pm	Rugcutters Groove Lounge Social Dance
Most Sunday evenings plus some Saturdays	7:30pm	Jivenites Blues Nights

Please call me on 811101 if you would like any further information on any of these classes/dances.

Recent repairs and maintenance

- ★ The handrails have been extended on the bridge at the bottom of the Valley for public safety.
- ★ The security lights have been fixed along the side of the building.
- ★ The paving slabs have been re-laid and some replaced by the preschool.

★ **Jo Harvey (811101/admin@buckdenvillagehall.co.uk)**



Buckden Pre-school Playgroup

A place for children to grow, to learn and to flourish

- Buckden Pre-school Playgroup is a village pre-school in purpose built accommodation
- Been in existence for over 40 years
- Recently upgrade by Ofsted to Good status
- Accept children from their second birthday until they start school
- We are registered for the Free Two's Funding Scheme and the Early Years Funding scheme – offering families 15 hours of free child care per week.
- Open 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Monday – Thursday and 9.a.m. – noon on Friday during term time
- Enthusiastic and well qualified staff all of whom have been with us for several years
- Operate a staffing level above recommended rates which enables each child to receive a high measure of attention.



Contact our Manager Michelle Nelson on **07941 671999**
 Email: buckdenpreschool@yahoo.co.uk
www.buckdenpreschool.co.uk

VILLAGE NEWS

Buckden Friends

I recently spent a week at Thoresby Hall, organised by Pat & Brian King.

The group was mostly from Buckden and I can thoroughly recommend these occasions. Everything was catered for including an outing to Sheffield (if people wanted to go).

The rooms were excellent and people with physical difficulties were looked after. The food was good and there was plenty of entertainment if you cared to join in. I enjoyed it all and look forward to the next one.
Margaret Street

Jigsaw sale for Combat Stress

Thank you to everyone who bought a jigsaw from me at the Christmas lights switch-on (29th November).

I have sent £130 to Combat Stress.

Linda Upham

BUCKDEN WI

Buckden W.I. will continue after the appointment of a new treasurer after some months of uncertainty! So, with a great sense of relief we enjoyed our fish and chips at the December meeting.



On the 5th January we will gather to start the year and learn about honeybees in line with a current national campaign.

The competition will be for a 'honeypot' and the stall will carry flower arranging books belonging to Paddy Oliver and donated by her son Mark to raise money for our funds. Subscriptions are now due but visitors are always welcome on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at Buckden School.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH (NHW) OPERATION HUNTER TACKLES ANNUAL BURGLARY RISE

Police are urging residents to check their home security to help prevent a rise in burglaries over the winter months. Dwindling hours of daylight and the Christmas period often combine to result in more break-ins.

Police are prioritising burglary as part of a new campaign called Operation Hunter. Officers are combining prevention work with catching and putting offenders before the courts. As part of the operation, police are urging everyone to do their part by taking precautions and making their home unattractive to burglars.

Information police receive from the public is crucial and residents should never hesitate to report something that appears unusual or suspicious.

For more burglary prevention advice visit police web pages and the online survey tool at <http://ow.ly/V6uf4>

- Always keep doors and windows closed and locked and remove keys after locking.
- Never leave items such as keys, bags and money on show through a window.
- Use timer switches to turn on lights and radios when you are likely to be out at dusk.
- Consider the use of lights at the front and rear of your property that are activated when someone approaches.
- Consider the use of bolts and padlocks on side gates. Place the bolts at the top, middle and bottom of the gate as just a top bolt might be easy to reach and open.

Anyone with information should contact police on 101 or Crime stoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111 or online at www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Call 999 if the incident is recognised as an emergency. To pass information regarding rural burglaries email burglarycrackdown@cambs.pnn.police.uk

Your village NW Coordinators are:
Richard West 811467 Clive Williams 811828

FRIENDS IN DEED

Winter is upon us and, particularly in cold and icy weather conditions, please don't hesitate to get in touch if you, or anyone you know of, needs support with shopping or errands. Also if anyone is housebound during coming months and would like a visit from one of our friendly volunteers then do give us a call on the Coordinator's number below.



On the second Wednesday of each month we run our popular 'Drop-in' Café in St Mary's Church from 1430 to 1600 so do come along and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and homemade cakes in a friendly atmosphere. Transport can be provided – just give us a call on the Transport Coordinator's number below.

The Winter Tea Party will take place in the Methodist Hall on Wednesday 10 February at 2.30pm. As ever, lifts can easily be arranged on request for those who would like to come along. If you are not one of our 'regulars' but would like to join us for this social event then please let us know as soon as possible.

For help or information contact:

Coordinator: Jane Scott 07810 006598

Requests for transport: Andy Scott 07914 669967.

Leave a message and include your contact details <http://www.buckdenroundabout.info/friends-in-deed>



**BUCKDEN CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL
(Primary Academy Trust)**



December 2015

The school community was busy in the run up to Christmas.

Our Reception children performed their nativity play 'Mary's Knitting' to the school, family and friends. Their first performance at Buckden School was beautifully acted and sung. The children in Years 1 and 2 also performed their Christmas play 'Hey Ewe' to the school community, family and friends. They also gave a very accomplished performance. Well done to all our budding actors and actresses and to the staff who turned their hand to directing, producing, costume making and prompters.

The school choir has been busy singing their Christmas carols and songs at the Buckden Christmas Lights Switch-On, as well as visiting the residents of Hardwick Dene. Our annual Key Stage 2 Christmas Carol Concert was held at St Mary's Church and was attended by many parents and friends of the school. This is always a festive occasion and this year was no exception.

Our newly formed PTA were busy at the Christmas Lights Switch-On. They manned Santa's Grotto, and organised a very successful raffle. Thank you to the local shops and businesses who helped with raffle ticket distribution. They also organised the end of term Christmas discos for the children at school. Thank you to their hard work fundraising this term – they have more fundraising events planned for us during the Spring Term.

The school would like to thank all parent helpers and friends who regularly come into school to work with the children. Your help is very much welcomed and appreciated. May we take to opportunity to wish the residents of Buckden a very happy and prosperous new year.

The school re-opens for the Spring Term on Monday 4th January.

2015	
Autumn Term Closes	Friday 18 th December
2016	
Spring Term opens	Monday 4 th January
Half Term	15th - 19th February
Spring Term closes	Thursday 24 th March
Summer Term opens	Monday 11 th April
May Day	Monday 2nd May
Half Term	30th May - 3rd June
Summer Term closes	Friday 15 th July
Professional Day	Monday 18th July
Professional Day	Tuesday 19th July
Professional Day	Wednesday 20th July
Professional Day	Thursday 21st July

As the deadline for this edition was earlier than usual, it's too early to report on our Santa's Breakfast and Christmas Fayre, as it hasn't happened at the time of writing. However, we're just in time to thank everyone who braved the weather to visit our stall at the Christmas Lights event, helping us raise £163 - and to say thank you in advance to Pauline Coker for agreeing to do a music and movement session at our Christmas Fayre. Hopefully, it will help us burn off all those mince pies!

In December, in the midst of all the Christmas activities (including a very enjoyable visit to Buckden Primary School to watch their Christmas play), the children still found time to learn about the Jewish festival of Chanukah and finish our colour of the week theme with silver and gold (just in time to make sparkly things for Christmas!).

In January, we will be marking Australia Day, starting our letter of the week theme and learning our letter sounds with the help of Jolly Phonics. We will also be welcoming new starters and their families as we head into another term of learning, fun and fantastic fundraising events organised with our committee. On that note, all the preschool staff, committee members and children would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year. We hope to see you at our events in 2016!

Miss Alison

Please visit www.buckdenpreschool.co.uk for more information or ring 07941 671999 to book a visit or talk to our Manager, Michelle Nelson. Our Chairman, Alan Scott, can be contacted on 07745274921, and www.facebook.com/www.buckdenpreschool.co.uk has our latest updates.

BVF BVF

BVF

WANTED BVF

BVF

- Do you need to demonstrate leadership or organisational skills on your CV BVF
- Would you like to demonstrate outside interests to an employer BVF
- Do you want to contribute to your village BVF
- Join the Buckden Village Festival organising committee BVF

BVF

BVF We have plenty of small easy roles to fill to ensure that this year's Festival is a success. We have one meeting a month limited to the next six months. BVF

BVF

BVF Contact Philip Miles on **810027** or BuckdenVillageFestival@gmail.com . BVF

Buckden Village Festival BVF

2nd July 2016 BVF

BVF BVF BVF BVF BVF BVF BVF BVF BVF BVF BVF BVF BVF

THE SPORTS PAGE

BUCKDEN JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB



BJFC is a Charter Standard club comprising 7 teams: U4/5/6s Dribblers (training only), U8 Eagles (5v5), U9 Vultures, U10 Buzzards (both 7v7), U11 Condors, U11 Harriers (both 9v9), U14 Falcons (11v11).

November Match Results

LEAGUE	HOME TEAM		AWAY TEAM	
Hunts Mini-Soccer				
14/11/15^	Buckden Buzzards U10^	8	Little Paxton Colts U10^	0
14/11/15	Buckden Vultures U9	2	St Ives Rangers U9 Red Sox	2
21/11/15^	Buckden Buzzards U10^	6	St Ives Rangers U10 Black Sox^	2
21/11/15	Alconbury Colts U9 Red	1	Buckden Vultures U9	1
28/11/15	St Ives Rangers U10 Blue Sox	1	Buckden Buzzards U10	1
28/11/15	Buckden Eagles U8	6	Huntingdon Rowdies U8 Green	2
Hunts Youth (9v9)				
14/11/15	Warboys Colts U11	2	Buckden Harriers U11	4
21/11/15	Buckden Condors U11	1	Little Paxton Colts U11	1
28/11/15	Buckden Condors U11	1	Sawtry Colts U11 Yellow Sox	4
Hunts Youth (11v11)				
14/11/15	Potton Colts U14	3	Buckden Falcons U14	2
21/11/15	Buckden Falcons U14	6	Alconbury Colts U14 Blue	3
28/11/15	St Neots Town U14 Navy	4	Buckden Falcons U14	0

^Friendly

Buckden Needs Referees for Mini-Soccer Matches

Buckden JFC requires Refs on Saturday mornings at Buckden for U8, U9 and U10 home matches. You don't have to be formally qualified – you just need to be able to do the job! Also, if you would like to gain a formal Referee qualification, BJFC is willing to finance a training course for you to achieve this. Either way, if you wish to find out more, please contact Buckden JFC Secretary Bob Crane (01480 434610 / robertcrane46@yahoo.co.uk).

Buckden Dribblers Still Welcomes New Players and Needs Coaches

The Dribblers now have a record 33 players in attendance but still wish to encourage more to join in. The age group has been expanded from U5/6s to U4/5/6s to enable children in Pre-school, Reception and Year 1 to attend (effectively 3 to 6 year-olds). The Dribblers would also like any parents, especially those whose offspring are in Pre-School and Year 1, to help as coaches. This would allow the present management to ready the prospective U7 team for next season. Please contact Dribblers managers Nick Speroni (07921 725293 / nick.speroni@hotmail.co.uk) or Matt Gill (01480 811581 / 07803 000690 / matt.gill@hgextra.co.uk).

Buckden Bowls Club

Draw Results

October	November	December
No. 4 Janet Hignett £20	No. 46 Denise Pope £20	No. 91 Patrick Simpson £20
No. 49 Harold Cotterill £10	No. 3 Val Clark £10	No. 31 Kay Dean £10
No. 22 Emily Casey £5	No. 30 Amber Casey £5	No. 14 Roger Pursord £5

End of Season Draw

No. 8 Darrell May £200

Thanks you all for taking part and we wish you a Happy Christmas

Contact Numbers:

Club Sec.	Ladies Sec.	Monthly Draw Org.
Brian Moore	Daphne Meats	Jennie Casey
01480 812112	01480 383448	01480 476493

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A well stocked bar serves competitively priced drinks and snacks.

If you are interested in joining please call us on **810096** or visit our website:

www.buckdenvillageclub.co.uk

 www.facebook.com/buckdenvillageclub

NOW SHOWING sky SPORTS

Upcoming Events

- Fri 18th Dec Carol Singing at 930pm
Free mince pies.
Mulled wine/liqueur coffees available
- Sat 19th Dec KARAOKE!
Starts at 8pm
- Tue 22nd Dec Pie and Pint Night
£6.50 members, £7.50 others
- Thu 24th Dec BVC Members Raffle draw at 8pm
Close at 11pm
- Fri 25th Dec Club open 12-2pm
- Sat 26th Dec Club open 12-2pm
- Sun 27th Dec Club open 12-10pm
- Mon 28th Dec Club open 12-11pm
- Tue 29th Dec Club open 4-11pm
- Wed 30th Dec Club open 4-10pm
- Thu 31st Dec Club open 12-5pm. Re-open at 7pm for a family friendly ticket event.
Last orders 0130, close at 0200
- Fri 1st Jan Club opens at 12pm, closes 0030
- Tue 5th Jan Pie and Pint Night
£6.50 members, £7.50 others

**Membership renewals for 2016
now available!**

**Got an idea or request - use the
suggestion box!!**

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your village

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 sarah@good2goholidays.co.uk



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 or call Sensei Karina on 07952 741743

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CURRENT ADVERTISING RATES

		Per Month	Per 12 months
Adverts in black & white	Half page width (9cm)	£1.80 per col cm	£20 per col cm
	Full page width (19cm)	£3.60 per col cm	£40 per col cm
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Some information for potential advertisers:

- Preferred standard length of adverts is 5cm.
- A minimum column length of 3cm will apply to all adverts
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- When creating your advert please do it 'actual size' i.e. create a text box of the same size as your proposed advert. This will enable you to better visualise the advert as it will appear in print
- Our preferred format for receipt of advert is pdf. We can also work with image files. If your advert is text only this can be sent in word format.
- Please note space is limited, especially colour.

Please contact the Commercial Manager, Keith Lawrence, with any queries - adverts@buckdenroundabout.info

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