

ROUNDABOUT



JANUARY 2018

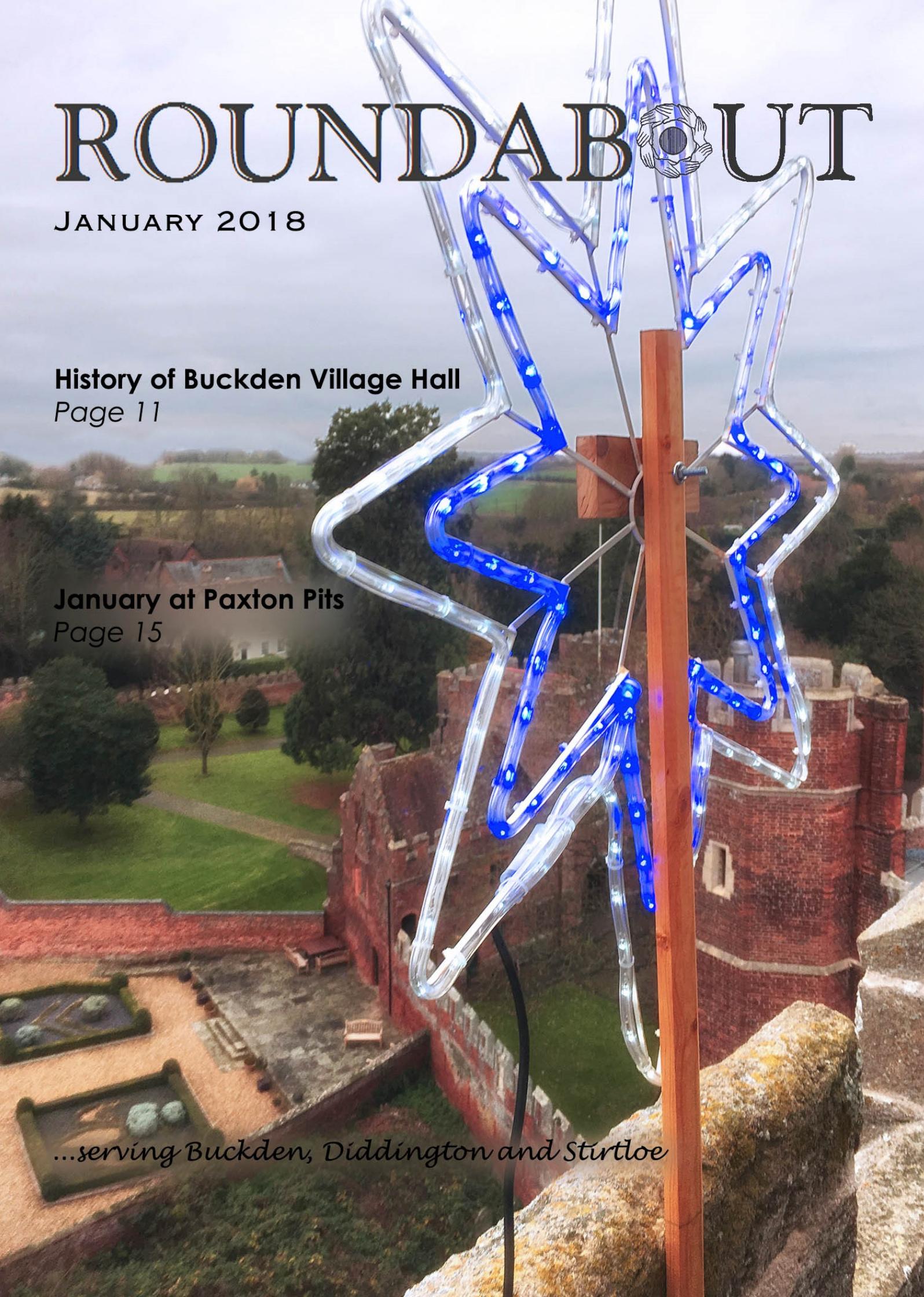
History of Buckden Village Hall

Page 11

January at Paxton Pits

Page 15

...serving Buckden, Diddington and Stirtloe



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January 2018

As ever, it feels slightly odd preparing the January edition of the Roundabout so soon after the December edition has been distributed, and before Christmas to boot!

I want to add my thanks to those of others to the team that organised the Christmas light switch on and market that took place on Advent Sunday. After the early rainfall, the weather improved and stayed dry. I thought it was a fantastic afternoon, and the busiest I remember seeing it! Thanks to all the local businesses, organisations, clubs, societies and hostelrys that took part. The target for next year should be a larger cracker pull!

Thank you for being with us over the last 12 months. We look forward to another great year and are aiming to make the Roundabout better than ever.

WE WISH ALL OUR READERS, CONTRIBUTORS, ADVERTISERS AND DISTRIBUTORS A WONDERFUL NEW YEAR!

Please remember to visit the Roundabout website. There are often articles there that we could not fit into the print edition, as well as information that arrives during the month: <http://www.buckdenroundabout.info/>

Editorial Team

Front Cover

The cover photo this month shows one of the stars that appear every December on St Mary's church tower. It was taken by Barry Priest.

We are always looking for photos, images, drawings and paintings to use on the front cover so please keep sending them in. Please note that photos should ideally be in portrait format and should be a *minimum* of 2400 x 1700 pixels. More is better!

January Production Dates

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

Copy deadline:	Wednesday 10 January
Proof Reading	Friday 12 January
Copy to Printers	Tuesday 16 January
Distribution	Thursday 25 January

All advertisements and non-advertising material are printed in good faith. However neither the Buckden Roundabout nor the Buckden Parish Council can accept any responsibility for the content of the advertisements, the services provided by the advertisers or any statements made in the advertisements or non-advertising material.

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



New Year Greetings

Councillors and staff of Buckden Parish Council would like to wish all residents of Buckden, Stirtloe and Diddington a very happy and healthy New Year.

Children's Playground

Regular visitors to the children's play area on the Village Hall field will know that the Parish Council has been undergoing refurbishment work over the last couple of years. This will continue into 2018 with the replacement of some more equipment and the total renewal of the playground surface. This will ensure that the surface meets the most up-to-date regulations. You will also see that the Village Hall Trust has recently replaced the protective fence around the play area – thank you to the VHT.

Parish Council Photo Competition

The Parish Council Photo Competition will again take place this summer, with entries being displayed during the summer festival weekend. Our categories this year should attract photographers of all levels of ability. There will be three age categories: Up to age 10, age 11-17 and over 18 years.

There will be three categories:

1. Animals
2. People
3. Monochrome

So, all photographers, get out your cameras or look through your albums for suitable photos. Remember that there will be a small, financial prize for the winner of each category in each age group.

Traffic at the Offord railway crossing

The Parish Council is well aware that the Offord railway crossing is a considerable bottle neck at certain times of the day, causing hold-ups, and hence frustration, to motorists.

However, we would ask all drivers in this area to strictly observe the right of way signage at the white, cable stayed bridge. The signage gives priority to traffic coming in a westerly direction, i.e. from The Offords. We have already witnessed a near miss when a driver was unable to leave the crossing because cars coming in the opposite direction had blocked the bridge. So, please, be safe and observe the right of way regulations.

.....and remember, keep your eye on the old phone box in the High St.

The monthly meeting of the Parish Council, including a 15 minutes long Public Forum will be held Tuesday 9th January 2018

If required, the **Parish Council's Planning Committee** will meet on **Tuesday 9th January and Tuesday 23rd 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, Georgina West, 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

The next few weeks are challenging times for County Councillors as we grapple with the task of drafting the budget for the coming year. The backcloth is depressing: government grant to local councils is being cut and there is a cap on the amount by which councils can increase their tax level. At the same time, the demand for services from the County Council is increasing as people are living longer and there is an increase in the birth-rate.

This is not just a problem for Cambridgeshire – it affects the entire country. The Chairman of the Local Government Association (LGA) said recently: 'It is hugely disappointing that the Budget offered nothing to ease the financial crisis facing local services. The money local government has to run services is running out fast and councils face an overall £5.8 billion funding gap in just two years'.

And in case you think I am being 'party political', I should point out that the Chairman of the LGA is a Conservative! As proposals for service cuts come forward, I will be keeping the parish council fully informed so that they can be aware of the implications for local people and consider what steps they can take to compensate for service reductions.

So we embark on the New Year 2018 with greater concerns than many of us can remember in a life-time. The cloud hanging over everything is the uncertainty caused by Brexit and yet we know that, as a country, we are relatively fortunate compared with many other parts of the world.

On more local matters, I have been working with District Councillor Terry Hayward and parish councillors from Southoe to try to reduce the dangers and inconveniences of the A1. The long-term intention is that the A1 will be re-built to the west but that will take ages to plan and complete so we are pressing for short-term measures. We understand that some work will be carried out soon on the central verges to improve visibility at danger spots.

If you wish to raise any local matters with me personally and would welcome a face-to-face conversation, I come to the Aragon Room in the Village Hall at 7 p.m. on the evening of the parish council meeting, the 2nd Tuesday in the month. At other times, please ring me on 07765 833 486 or write to me at peter.downes@cambridgeshire.gov.uk.

Peter Downes, County Councillor for the Brampton and Buckden division

FROM YOUR DISTRICT COUNCILLOR CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND FAIR

My congratulations and thanks to those who organised the lights and fair. Once again a wonderful opportunity for the village, young and old, to congregate and meet. By the time you read this we shall have enjoyed the next opportunity to gather together at the Churches' Village Carol Service. I wonder how many of you noticed the fitting climax to the lights when the 'Cold Moon' (a so called super moon) rose behind the Church Spire.

A1 UPDATE

I recently held a meeting with our County Councillor, representatives from Diddington, Southoe and Kier (HE engineers). We discussed and then toured all of the 'hot spots' and I am hopeful that there will be improvements to verge and central reservation cutting and signage. It still ridiculous that there are no white lines across the roads approaching the roundabout. We hope to see the report with its recommendations for the improvements to the A1 either just before or just after Christmas - my fingers are crossed!

VILLAGE HALL TRUST

Many residents are not aware that the Village Hall and adjacent playing fields and valley area are not run by the Parish Council but by a Charity, the Village Hall Trust. Like all charities this relies on the hard work and dedication of its trustees and in particular its Chairperson. I understand that John Thelwall is retiring and that the Trust is looking for a volunteer to take over the reins. As a former chairman I know that the job can be both rewarding and at times frustrating and that it is a role that is vital if the village is to continue to benefit from what is probably the best village hall in the local area. I urge any person who wants to see the village continue to benefit from the services offered by the VHT to offer their services. I know that John will be very happy to talk about what the task involves and I am also ready to have a chat if it was thought useful.

May I take this opportunity to wish all residents a very happy Christmas and a contented and healthy New Year.

With all best wishes

Terry Hayward, District Councillor for Buckden, Stirtloe, Diddington, Southoe and Midloe.

If you have any queries about the above or would like to talk to me about any other matter please don't hesitate to contact me on either 01480 810974 or terry.hayward@huntingdonshire.gov.uk



The Changing Seasons

The Huntingdonshire Local Group of the Wildlife Trusts is pleased to announce our first event of the new year. This will take place on Wednesday 10th January 2018 at 7.30pm at Brampton Memorial Hall, Thrapston Road, Brampton, PE28 4TB. Our speaker will be Professor Tim Sparks. Tim is Professor of Environmental Change at Coventry University and his topic today is Phenology – the study of seasonal changes in plants and animals.

Tim has a keen interest in phenology and will explain how phenology has developed from the initial findings of Robert Marsham in the 18th Century. Tim re-established the UK Phenology network in 1998 and tonight, he will illustrate some of the changes that occur with the seasons and discuss the impact on climate change. This should be a really interesting talk for anyone interested in wildlife. Everyone is most welcome to attend. Booking is not necessary. Entrance charge £2.50 (accompanied children free). Please contact Tim on 01480 457795 for more information.

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

		
BSPA 200 Club Prize Winners December 2017 Draw		
£100	No. 94	Mrs Ruth Forshaw
£25	No. 53	Mrs Eleanor Cox
£25	No. 189	Mrs Gillian Haverson
£25	No. 136	Mrs Milly Small
£25	No. 188	Mrs M Upchurch
Christmas Bonus Prize		
£200	no. 44	Mrs Ruth Nicholas

	Emily Jane The Flower Boutique (Brampton) Says THANK YOU to	
<p>T & E BARRETT WEALTH MANAGEMENT; THOROUGHBREDS; 5th AVENUE HAIR & BEAUTY; PETE CARTER LTD; M A MOTORS; CLEARVIEW INSTALLATIONS; BUCKDEN DAY NURSERY; LOW FARM; DATAWOLVES; JESSAMINE PAYNE; PAXTON ELECTRICAL; GOOD2GO; THETECHGURU; ROB BARNES (decorating); BLUELINE SECURITY; THE MIND SPA; THE DRIVEWAY & PAVING DOCTOR; THE SALON ON THE GREEN; and all the smiling people who have supported this fundraiser.</p> <p>St Mary's Christmas tree looks lovely and together we have raised in excess of £900 for St. Mary's Restoration Fund & Buckden Preschool</p>		

**BUCKDEN NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH
RURAL CRIME ACTION Team (RCAT)**

Cambridgeshire is still one of the fastest growing counties in the country both in terms of its economy and population. Huntingdonshire district has a particularly high mix of villages and rural areas with issues such as thefts from farms of tools, metals, and diesel as well as hare coursing often being reported.

The constabulary's Rural Crime Action Team (RCAT) was formed in 2016, The RCAT's role is to combat hare coursing and poaching, as well as using specialist knowledge to deal with other aspects of rural crime including plant and tractor theft, arson, and illegal raves.

The team also spends time raising awareness of crime prevention strategies for people living in rural communities with officers regularly meeting people to flag up issues and share experiences .

RCAT continues to make inroads into reducing rural crime and has achieved to date a number of notable successful convictions, but rural crime cannot be tackled in isolation.

Not all forces have dedicated rural crime teams. However working across borders and working with agencies such as Country-side Watch will be key to tackling this growing threat to what is a traditional way of life in our county.

SEASONAL GREETINGS TO ALL. WE YOU WISH YOU A HAPPY AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR.

PHONE NUMBERS

101 Information for the police | 0800 555 111 Crime Stoppers | 999 in an emergency | 0300 123 2040 Action Fraud

EMAIL burglarycrackdown@cambs.pnn.police.uk OR online at www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Your village NW Coordinators are RICHARD WEST 811467 CLIVE WILLIAMS 811828

**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. Antony Arockiam cmf
- Fr. Jim Kennedy 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 to Saturday at 9.30 am in the Lady Chapel.

Morning and Evening Prayer Monday to Saturday at 9.15 am and 5.45pm 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. Antony know their contact details.

Buckden Methodist Church

Minister: Rev. Paul Beard
(01480 473444)

Stewards: Angie Barnes (810102)
Bob Baxter (810092)
Carol Sweptstone (810053)

Services in January

Sunday 7th

10.30 am Dr. B Spencer

Sunday 14th

10.30 am Covenant Service: Rev. Paul Beard

Sunday 21st

10.30 am Morning Service: Mrs Wendy Beard

Sunday 28th

10.30 am Morning Service: Mrs Katy Salmon

Activities in January

Friday 5th 10 a.m. Coffee Morning

Monday 8th 12.30 p.m. Study Lunch

Tuesday 9th 9.30 a.m. Quiet Time

Friday 12th 10 a.m. Coffee Morning

Friday 19th 10 a.m. Soup and Sweet Lunch

Tuesday 23rd 9.30 a.m. Bible Study (Wesley Room)

Friday 26th 10 a.m. Coffee Morning

Everyone is welcome to any of these events.

The Churchyard, Bellringers, a Census and a Gale (1850-1900)

Part 9 in the story of Buckden Church, celebrating the 800th anniversary of William de Bugden, our first recorded priest in 1217.

By the 1850s, the churchyard was overcrowded, unsafe and unpleasant, so vicar Daniel Haigh donated his adjacent kitchen garden in the palace to provide a western extension. But, even this could only postpone the inevitable and the churchyard was closed in 1883, replaced by the present village cemetery. Only 388 monuments are visible in the churchyard today, yet it contains an estimated 11,500 burials.

'Owing to a misunderstanding', the bell ringers and Haigh fell out and the ringers stopped ringing in 1863. The bells would not ring again for 67 years. After a particularly rowdy session, Haigh had banned the ringers from drinking ale in the ringing chamber! His successor, Timothy Jones, was literally short-lived; appointed in 1875, he died the same year. Buckden School Log Book ambiguously reads, 'The Vicar died on Friday night, half holiday on Tuesday afternoon'!

Revd. Henry Roxby, the wardens and vestry (parish committee) decided in 1882 to extend the chancel northwards, insert a new organ and build a new vestry. The organ alone cost £350 in 1884.

An interesting snapshot of the village was prepared by Roxby in 1885 -

- Buckden population: 1042. His comment, 'I suppose 2/3rds labouring class'. (2017 population = c.3100)
- Attending St. Mary's church: 540. Church holds 400 of whom 230 pay pew rent. (2017 attending congregation = average 95 per week)
- Attending Dissenting Chapels (Methodist & Baptist): 350
- Neglecting worship: 152
- Mixed boys/girls school: 94 attend. Infants: 76 attend.
- Gross income £368, declined from £480 in 10 years, owing to poor harvests.

A fierce gale on Sunday 24th March 1895 blew the top of the steeple down into the north aisle; fortunately, the congregation had just left after the service. The parishioners soon raised the £53 to replace it, and when finished a villager named Collins performed a headstand on the top stone! Mrs. Linton of Stirtloe House donated the weathercock, which is 2.2 metres long and 1.8m high.

What's On at St Mary's Buckden : January 2018

HAPPY NEW YEAR & THANK YOU FROM ALL AT ST MARY'S

A year ago we reached out to the whole community to help with fund-raising for essential work on the church building. We had a great response from the village. Here's what we have achieved with your help during the year:

- Repairs to the chancel roof & organ chamber roof completed
- Repointing and repairs to the stonework including that high on the tower
- Renovation of the clock on the tower
- 800 & counting challenge - £800 grew to £10,000 (for the clock)
- Grant of £40,000 from the Amey Community fund (for the stonework)

There is still work to do on the building - the exterior wall and roof of the vestry – and the organ is in need of renovation. So, the fund-raising will continue but we give thanks for the amazing achievements of 2017.

Thank you to all our friends in the village who made Christmas wreaths, bought personalised baubles for the Christmas tree, for the tree itself kindly donated by Emily Jane of The Flower Boutique Brampton, and to all those who helped in other ways to make our village church look so special this Christmas. A great response to God's special gift to us at Christmas.

St Mary's Parish Church, Church St, Buckden PE19 5TL



SUNDAY Services

8am Communion	2 nd 4 th 5 th Sundays
11am Family service	every week
6pm Communion	1 st Sundays only
6pm Evensong	3 rd Sundays only
7pm Night prayer	4 th Sundays only

WEEKDAY Services

Monday	2.15pm	Daily Prayers
Tuesday	1.30pm	Daily Prayers
Wednesday	9.30am	Communion
Thursday	1.00pm	Daily Prayers
Friday	9.15am	Daily Prayers

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

EVENTS IN JANUARY

Wednesday 10th January

FRIENDS IN DEED - LIVING STONES CAFE

2.30pm – 4pm refreshments & chat

Wednesday 10th January

M&Ms ladies' group – local history evening

7.30pm at the vicarage

Sunday 21st January

Buckden & District Churches Together

UNITY SUPPER 6pm at Buckden Towers.

A bring and share meal with reflection & prayer

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

MONDAYS

8pm Going Deeper: informal bible study at Vicarage

8.15pm Bell-Ringers: practice at St Mary's

WEDNESDAYS

10.00am Cuppa and chat after communion

10.30am Going Deeper: informal bible study

THURSDAYS

3.15pm Jamworkx After-School Club at Buckden School
(term-time only)

FRIDAYS

Angel Voices – informal all-age choir practice 6.45pm

19th & 26th January

SATURDAYS

Coffee & Cakes 10.30am – 12 noon in St Mary's

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

For more information on our events / activities / services all year, see www.stmarysbuckden.org.uk or follow us on facebook: St Mary's Buckden or twitter: @A1churchbuckden

Priest in Charge: Rev Jes Salt 01480 819377 priestincharge@stmarysbuckden.org.uk



Buckden & District Churches Together
www.buckdendistrictchurches.wordpress.com

Anglicans Baptists Catholics Methodists

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 organisations. Those to be remembered this month are:	
7th January	Church Street, Mill Road, The Barns, The Old Flour Mills
14th January	The Parish Council, The Village Hall and Playing Field Trust; those who help to run the Village Hall, and the activities there
21st January	Greenway, Aragon Close, Hoo Close, Bishops Way
28th January	Village shops, and those who work in them; businesses based in the village, hotels, inns, and those who work at home; homemakers, carers, the unemployed and underemployed, and all visitors to the village

Thought for the Month
 Dear Friends
 The New Year sweeps resolutely in determined to brush away not only the cobwebs of the Festive Season, but all the webs which bind us like flies in the trap of our own choices. We are too weak to struggle free on our own; too weak to change the things that our better selves nag at us to change.

So we resolve to make a revolution in our lives. A new year: a new me, we cry. I will join the Gym (and actually go!) I will give up chocolate, smoking, buying shoes, watching so much TV, playing so many computer games ...

A week later we look in the mirror and see... ourselves — unchanged, unrevolutionized, unsatisfactory, unresolved. We still don't know what constitutes a "portion" of our five a day and we still aren't going to the Gym this evening.

Depressed yet?

I bring Good News! (I mean real honest-to-God, not fake, not spin, not Wikipedia, but actual Good News.) Change is possible. We can become the person our better self urges us to be. Not by eating five a day or giving up chocolate or exercising more, but by getting some help from the God who knows our potential and loves us whether we fulfil it or not.

Why not brush away the cobwebs of excuses and sweep away the fashionable pseudo-rationalism of aggressive atheism and give God a try. The easiest place to start is a Church. You will have to put up with some silly stuff, but at least you don't have to wear Lycra.

Paul, Buckden Methodist Church

Thank You

The family of the late Nora Jackson would like to express their thanks to everyone who attended her Celebration of a Life Service at St. Mary's on 5th December, and for all the kind messages of sympathy sent to Christine, Keith and family.

STUDY LUNCHESES

The study lunches continue on Mondays January 8th and February 12th.
 Lent lunches start on Monday February 19th for 5 consecutive weeks
 Methodist Church Hall 12.30 pm to 2.00 pm
 Contact: **Ann Brittain** on **812012**

Huntingdonshire Health Walk Scheme Huntingdon Group January 2018

Time to blow away the cobwebs! Make a New Year Resolution to take the health-walk plunge, featuring fresh air and own exercise-pace walking for 45 to 80 minutes, on Wednesdays from 2pm, and on Fridays from 10am!

This month, there are 9 walks (please see below), all different, all risk-assessed, insured, and all guided by trained leaders. In winter, please wear suitably sturdy footwear and warm/waterproof clothing, carrying a small bottle of drinking water will avoid dehydration. An optional after-walk cup of tea/coffee is usually available.

Do hope you will join us and enjoy and share the benefits of this healthy, fun hobby. An optional yearly donation would be welcomed, but there is no charge-per-walk.

Please check www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/healthwalks for details, or phone Danielle Sancaster on 01480 387047.

Huntingdonshire Amateur Radio Society.

We meet at 7.30 on the 2nd and 4th Thursday each month at Buckden Village Hall. Whether licensed amateur or just interested in radio and electronics you will find a warm welcome awaits you.

- 11th January - Club chat night
- 25th January - "The RSGB" by Steve Thomas M1ACB
- 8th February - Club chat night
- 22nd February - "Digital Modes" by Allan Ralph G8XLH

Further details contact the club secretary David Howlett, secretary@hunts-hams.co.uk or visit our web site <http://hunts-hams.weebly.com>

Buckden Wine & Beermakers Society

Next meeting.

Thursday 25th January. **Presentation Evening.**

We meet at the Scout Hut on the 4th Thursday of the month at 8.00pm.

NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME

to join a lively sociable group where help and advice on wine and beer making are freely given.

Visitors are welcome to join us.

For further information contact Ann Elliott 01480 810346

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

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 2018** will be:

8 January: Post-Christmas lunch at The Lion

22 January: 'Isles of Scilly' Presentation
By Jane and Andy Scott

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.



Buckden Local History Society

John Davies

Buckden Local History member and Cromwell Museum volunteer has been investigating

Huntingdonshire in the Civil War

John's ongoing research into the formative years of Oliver Cromwell in Huntingdon, and the main events of the Civil War for this area along with questions about why the Civil War is still important form the outline of his talk.

January Meeting

Wednesday 3rd January at 7.30pm
Claret Centre, Buckden Towers

Visitors Welcome

Further details contact buckdenhistory@gmail.com

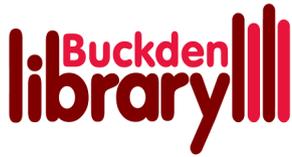
Buckden Gardeners Association Wild Flowers and their Habitat



Presented by Peter Walker

Tuesday 16th January 2018
8.00 pm Buckden Village Hall
(refreshments served at 7.45pm)
Guests welcome £2.00, members free

For further information
call **Pam** on 01480 **811680**



Events

Storytime is on every Tuesday in school term time and starts at 2.15pm. This month's sessions are on the 9th, 16th and 23rd January. Our regular monthly craft activity will be on Saturday 13th January. Look out for more details in the library. Our regular Knit Lit meetings are on Friday 5th and 19th January from 8pm. Knitters of all ages and abilities welcome!

Engage in the Afternoon

On Wednesday 17th January Joe Matthews, Huntingdonshire Falls Prevention Trainer, will be giving a talk on falls prevention and the benefits of physical activity. Free tickets are available from the library.

E-books and e-magazines

Did you know that library members can download a wide range of e-books, e-audio books and e-magazines for free at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/libraries? Come along to the library to find out more

Volunteers

We currently have a few vacancies for volunteers in the library. If you think you might be interested, or would like some more information, ask in the library.

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

Poetry Competition!

Do you know your haiku from your acrostic? Do you prefer rhyming couplets, a sonnet or maybe a quatrain?

Why not enter the Roundabout poetry competition and win £10!

The theme this year is Spring.

Entries can be made to the following age groups:

- 11 years and under
- 12 to 18 years
- 19 years +

Entries should be emailed to the editor (editor@buckdenroundabout.info) by Friday 16 February 2018.

Winning entries will be published in the March 2018 edition of The Roundabout.

BUCKDEN VILLAGE HALL - A SHORT HISTORY (Part 1)

By Jo Harvey and John Thelwall

In 1921, the conversion of the building known as The Rifle Range on Church Street from a malting to a rifle range, reading room and billiards room was completed. Over the years it had many functions, including the holding of dances during and after World War II. The Parish Council held its meetings there and it was, in effect a village hall.

After World War II, there was a proposal to establish a permanent memorial to the villagers killed in the war and it was felt that a playing field would be a good memorial. Money was raised and in 1947 the War Memorial Playing Fields Trust was established. In 1953, "Children's Corner" was purchased for £90 from the Church Commissioners. It was to be held on trust by the Parish Council for the benefit of the inhabitants of the village. It is now the main car park for the Hall. In 1958, the rest of the land, including the Memorial Playing Fields and Valley was bought, again from the Church Commissioners, for £900. The land was again conveyed to the Parish Council as trustee for the benefit of the inhabitants. The deed set out in detail the terms of the trust and how it was to be managed. The whole site now comprises the Village Hall, playing field, tennis courts, bowling green and the Valley. The fact that it is The War Memorial Playing Fields is commemorated by the stone memorial near the Hall.

According to the Buckden Village history book, in 1969, in the opinion of some, the Rifle Range had outlived its usefulness. With the building of St Stephen's Hall and the renovation of The King's Room in the Palace, it was no longer the centre of village social activities. There was no parking to accommodate the increasing number of cars in use. An open meeting was held, which was very animated and eventually a vote was held. By a small majority, it was decided to sell the Rifle Range and build a new village hall. However, the title deeds to the Playing Fields show that in 1966 the sale of the Rifle Range had already been proposed and in 1968, the Rifle Range Trustees and the Parish Council both passed resolutions to amalgamate the two trusts, which seems to suggest that plans to sell the Rifle Range and build a new village hall had been under way long before the 1969 meeting.

Whatever the actual course of events, the Rifle Range was sold and the money was used to build a village hall on part of the site of the War Memorial Playing Fields. In addition to the actual hall, it had a stage, kitchen toilets, changing room and space for the Village Club. It had a steel frame and metal roof. It was run by trustees nominated by village organisations, as set out in the founding Scheme, and up to six village members.

In addition to housing Parish Council meetings, it was a social hub for the village and used by a number of different societies including a thriving drama club which put on two productions and a panto every year.

By the late 1990s the building was looking dated and tired. The Parish Council held a public meeting to decide its future and the chairman proposed closing the Hall. The British trait of contrariness once again showed itself as the result was a revival of public interest in the Hall. A joint working party of the Village Hall Trustees and the Parish Council was established to decide its future.

FRIENDS IN DEED

The **Winter Tea Party** will take place in the Living Stones Room at St Mary's Church on Wednesday 21st February from 2.30-4.00pm. As always, lifts can easily be arranged on request for those invited to come along by calling our Transport Coordinator, number below. If you are not on our invitation list but would like to join us for this social event then please call Brenda Steadman on 810382 as soon as possible.



Bad weather 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.

Our **'Drop-in' Café** is held on the second Wednesday of each month and the next one will be on **10th January** in St Mary's Church from 2.30-4.00pm. 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. As we are holding the Winter Tea party in February there will be **no Drop-in Café on 14th February**

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>

Cambridgeshire Police

Happy New Year to all the residents of Buckden

It is important to make sure that you remain alert for suspicious activity in the area. Although I have no dwelling burglaries to report for Buckden, it has not been the case in other villages in our area. We have had several burglaries of which a lot have been carried out in broad daylight, these could be opportunistic burglaries or scouted weeks before, so please call in any suspicious activity. Remember if it doesn't look quite right to you then it probably isn't.

Winter is upon us and although we are hoping it will be a mild winter the chances are we will experience some cold snaps, if this is the case please keep an eye on your neighbours, if they are elderly, vulnerable or live alone, just make sure they are warm enough and keeping themselves fed. If we receive snow or icy conditions it is not always possible for some residents to get shopping and provisions.

Crime Report

We have had a stolen motor vehicle in Buckden, which has been stolen from the owner's driveway. At the time of writing that is the only notable crime to report, ASB levels are still low which is a good sign.

Although I do patrol the village on a regular basis both day and night, I am not always visible to all, so please if you need to contact me or have any issues that you would like to talk about concerning your personal safety or in the village of Buckden, then I would be happy to hear from you. You can contact me on the details at the bottom of this report.

Please keep safe and remember to report any suspicious activity on 101.

Richard

PCSO 7101 Richard Braddick

Richard.braddick@cambs.pnn.police.uk

St Neots Safer Neighbourhood Team

St Neots Police Station, Dovehouse Close, St Neots, Cambridgeshire, PE19 1DS

Mobile: 07921-094801 **Call:** 101

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal 2017

I would like to say a very big THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to the Shoebox Appeal as **260** shoeboxes were collected.

This means that some children in poor countries will have a happier Christmas, as they will receive a shoebox. 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 Swebstone

A request from Buckden Preschool

Can we please ask that if you are coming to Preschool for any reason, you access the setting by using the Millennium Centre's side doors – while we are in session, there is a clearly visible large sign outside these side doors and this is the only entrance that should be used. Please do not attempt to access Preschool via the balcony of the Social Club. Can we also remind people that even if you know a preschool child, it's not appropriate to offer them anything through the railings etc and that for the children's safety, dogs shouldn't be brought to the railings for the children to stroke.



Burberry Road, Buckden, Cambridgeshire, PE19 5UY

Tel: 01480 811101

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

Happy New Year to you all!

If you would like to start the New Year by increasing your fitness or by finding your inner strength, then look no further than your own Village Hall! Please see below the exercise classes and dance classes that are currently running here:

Mondays	10:00am	Yoga
	1:30pm	RightStart Class - chair based exercises to build stamina and strength
	6:30pm	Pilates with Dawn
	7:30pm	Yippee Yoga
	7:30pm	BarreConcept
Tuesdays	9:30am	Yippee Yoga
	9:45am	Pilates for All - FitHaven
	5:45pm	Karate
	7:55pm	Tai Chi
Wednesdays	1:00pm	Tai Chi
	7:30pm	Yippee Yoga
Thursdays	9:30am	BarreConcept
	10:30am	Over 60's Exercise Class
Fridays	9:30am	Yippee Yoga
	10:00am	Zumba
One Friday per month	7:30pm	Rugcutters Groove Lounge Social Dance
Most Sunday evenings plus some Saturdays	7:30pm	Jivenites Blues Nights

We also have two life drawing art classes, one on a Wednesday morning and one on a Thursday evening if any of you would like to work on your creative side.

We also have dog training classes, run by the Dog's Trust, Music For Little People, Huntingdonshire Amateur Radio Society and many more organisations who call us home.

Please call or email me if you would like any further information on any of the events we have running here. You can see our full calendar of events on the website.

Jo Harvey, 01480 811101, admin@buckdenvillagehall.co.uk

BUCKDEN WI

At the AGM held on December 5th, members were brought up to date with our finances and the various activities and talks given throughout the year.

The Committee was voted in for another year with the very welcome addition of Gerry Brown. Nominations for the President were conducted by Phyllis Brooks from Head Office and Ruth Nicholas was duly elected for a further year.

Following the nitty-gritty of the AGM, members enjoyed a fish and chip supper with a quiz thrown in as "light entertainment"! Our next meeting will be held in the school hall on Tuesday 9th January at 7.30pm. This is the 2018 Resolutions meeting and members are asked to bring along the voting form on page 27 of the December issue of WI Life, please. This will be followed by cheese and wine so please bring along a glass. All are most welcome.

For more information please contact:

Ruth Nicholas – 07957 334142 Judith Armitage – 01480 811717 Patricia Ford – 01480 819144



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



Buckden Pre-School Playgroup
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December 2017

Our Reception children performed their nativity play 'Born in a Barn' to the school, family and friends. Their first performance at Buckden Academy was beautifully acted and sung. The children in Years 1 and 2 also performed their Christmas play 'Ralph the Reindeer' to the school community, family and friends. Another very accomplished performance was given by the children. 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 children in Years 5/6 have 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 PTA members were also busy at the Christmas Lights Switch-On. They manned Santa's Grotto, and organised a very successful raffle. They also organised the end of term Christmas discos for the children at school. Thank you for their hard work fundraising this term – they have more fundraising events planned for us during the Spring Term.

We had a maths afternoon for parents who were invited into school to learn a fun way to learn maths. It was lovely to see so many parents and friends come along. We hope our visitors found it an interesting and informative visit - although some of our visitors did leave the building with somewhat glazed expressions!

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 the opportunity to wish the residents of Buckden a very happy and prosperous new year. **The school re-opens for the Spring Term on Wednesday 3rd January 2018.**

It's strange to be writing this with Christmas still to come. At the moment, preschool is full of sparkly snowflakes, Christmas trees and penguins, and in the home corner, we have a post office doing a roaring trade in stamps and Christmas cards. The children have all written their letters to Santa and Miss Sam is posting them off to the North Pole. Meanwhile, there's been a trip to Buckden Primary to watch the Christmas play, just for those children going to big school next year – and we're looking forward to a Christmas trip to the church, our Santa Train Ride at the Nene Valley Railway and our own Christmas play and party. Our Santa's Grotto at the Christmas Lights Fair proved very popular and our elves were kept very busy! A huge thank you to Santa for helping us raise £190 for Preschool. The children are also learning about Hanukah and finishing their colour themes with, appropriately for the time of year, silver and gold.

But by the time you read this, Santa will have come and gone. Decorations will be starting to come down, glitter will be swept away and a new term and new year will be about to start. We will be welcoming some new starters in January, so we hope they settle in well and that they and their families enjoy becoming part of our Preschool community. For our children due to leave us in 2018 for big school, it will be something of a new start too, as we start to focus on honing their independence and the skills they will need for the transition to big school.

It just remains for us to express our hope that you all had a wonderful holiday season, and wish you all a very Happy New Year from the staff, committee and children at Buckden Preschool!

Miss Alison

For information about Preschool, please contact our Manager, Denise Carter, on 07941 671999. You can also contact our Chairperson, Tizzy Pape, at buckdenpreschoolchairperson@gmail.com or visit www.buckdenpreschool.co.uk.

Buckden Academy Aspirations Day 2018

On Friday 9th February 2018 Buckden School is having an Aspirations Day for the children in Key Stage 2. During the day we hope to introduce the children to a wide range of career opportunities, the aim being to widen their horizons and inform them of the many different career paths that might interest them.

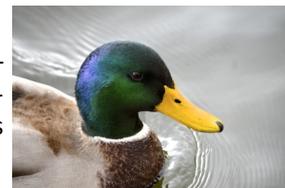
We are looking for volunteers to come into the school and share with the children what they do as a profession, maybe bring along aspects of their work, such as tools, vehicles, uniforms etc and photos. We would like this to be a thoroughly interactive day, with the children moving around the school talking to our visitors. We will also be having an introductory assembly, where there will be an opportunity to showcase your profession if you would like to do so. If you are interested could you please email Mrs Heather, Deputy Headteacher, at mheather@buckden.cambs.sch.uk, or telephone the school office on 01480 810241 giving the following details:

- What your profession is
- Are you available for the whole day or half day (am or pm)
- If you would you like to talk in the opening assembly
- How much space you would need

We believe this could be a really exciting day for our children. The hope is that they will learn that by working hard it will open up a wider range of opportunities and choices for them in later life. Thank you for your continued support of our school and enriching the lives of our children.

January at Paxton Pits By Louisa Nevard

As Jack Frost stretches his long cold fingers across our country freezing puddles and lakes...not forgetting our cars! It's hard to escape the fact that we are now in the middle of winter and all the colours of summer and autumn have been stripped from the trees. Nature has withdrawn under its duvet of shrivelled leaves or that's what we are led to think....



Mallard Jim Stevenson



Bird Gooseander (f) Martin Runchman

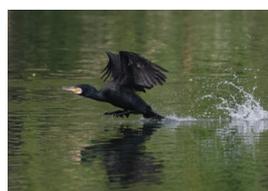
There is noise at Paxton Pits Nature Reserve, and if you look across the Heron Lakes you can witness an amazing site. Waterfowl are here in abundance with hundreds of each species such as; Ducks, Coots, Cormorants and also Goosanders which are regularly flying in on their daily cycle. Generous numbers of other birds such as bright blue Kingfishers, the majestic Swans, brilliant white Egrets, can also be seen and we even have a giant monster.....

The monster lives in Paxton Pits Nature Reserve, not just one but many great large beasts with a huge wing span of 6ft and a large yellow/orange sharp pointed beak. It prefers the company of its own kind but if you want to get close the hides and viewing platforms around the lakes mean you can avoid detection.



Greylag Goose Jim Stevenson

It may be a dull grey but when it stretches its wings they are edged in jet black feathers. This huge beast stands at nearly a metre tall...if you can work out what this is please send your answers to our Facebook page. Paxton Pits Nature Reserve.



Cormorant Jim Stevenson

So whether you want to feel the frost crunch under foot or enjoy the winter sunshine. Come and capture a glimpse of our bright blue Kingfishers or marvel at the extraordinary 'monsters' spreading their enormous wings across the lake. For further information please visit www.paxton-pits.org.uk



Wigeons Jim Stevenson



Friends of Paxton Pits Nature Reserve is a charity registered in England and Wales, No.112522 and is funded entirely by its membership and fundraising activities.

DO SOMETHING GOOD

Between December 21st and the 23rd 25 clear plastic envelopes will be dotted around Buckden and each will contain either £5 or £10. The plastic envelopes could be anywhere and when you find one all we ask is that you DO SOMETHING GOOD with the money inside.

There is absolutely no catch or no agenda behind doing this.

Buckden is a wonderful village full of good people and it is a pleasure living here, so a few of us feel that we would like to Do Something Good - this is just a very small way of doing so.

IF and there is absolutely no obligation whatsoever to do this, **IF** you want to tell us what you have done with the 'contents' of the envelope you find, please send us an email. What you say will be treated in confidence and we will ask absolutely nothing of you. If we do this again in January we might list a few things that people have told us they have done with the 'contents', but no names will be mentioned.

Also, if you would like to take part if we do this again in January, please contact us, but again, there is absolutely no obligation to do so.

DO SOMETHING GOOD

If you would like to contact us, email is best on dsgbuckden@btinternet.com

Oh, and if anyone would like a clue as to where the envelopes may be, just send us an email

A Very Merry Christmas to one and all



BUCKDEN JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

November/ December Match Results

*Hunts Mini-Soccer U7 League Cup

** Friendly

^Hunts County Yth U12 Cup (3-3 full time, 6-7 after penalties)

^^Hunts Yth League U12 Cup

^^^Hunts Yth League U13 Cup

LEAGUE	HOME TEAM		AWAY TEAM	
Hunts Mini-Soccer				
11/11/17*	Godmanchester U7 Blue*	3	Buckden Hawks U7 Black*	10
18/11/17**(9v9)	Priory Parkside U10 Yellow**	1	Buckden Eagles U10**	8
18/11/17*	Huntingdon Rowdies U7Green*	5	Buckden Hawks U7 White*	6
18/11/17**	Buckden Hawks U7 Black**	9	Mid Beds Tigers U11**	3
25/11/17**	Buckden Eagles U10**	10	Staploe & Duloe U10**	0
25/11/17	Buckden Hawks U7 Black	12	Buckden Hawks U7 White	0
2/12/17	Eynesbury Rovers U10 White	1	Buckden Eagles U10	5
2/12/17	St Neots Town U7 Navy	6	Buckden Hawks U7 Black	1
2/12/17	Buckden Hawks U7 White	5	Godmanchester U7 Blue	5
Hunts Youth (9v9)				
11/11/17	Godmanchester U12 White	1	Buckden Buzzards U12	2
11/11/17	Bluntisham Blasters U11	0	Buckden Vultures U11	5
18/11/17	Buckden Buzzards U12	0	Hemingford Colts U12 Black	3
18/11/17	Buckden Vultures U11	4	Huntingdon Rowdies U11 Green	0
25/11/17	Buckden Vultures U11	2	Priory Parkside U11 Black	0
26/11/17^	Hampton U12 Royal^	6	Buckden Buzzards U12^	7
2/12/17^^	Papworth Blasters U12^^	0	Buckden Buzzards U12^^	6
2/12/17	March Town Athletic U11 White	1	Buckden Vultures U11	6
Hunts Youth (11v11)				
11/11/17	Staploe & Duloe U16	3	Buckden Falcons U16	3
18/11/17	Buckden Falcons U16	1	Potton Colts U16	7
18/11/17^^^	Brampton Spartans U13 Blue^^^	0	Buckden Harriers U13^^^	5
25/11/17	Buckden Falcons U16	0	Longstanton FC U16	3
25/11/17	Buckden Harriers U13	4	March Park Rangers Yth U13	1
2/12/17	Buckden Falcons U16	2	Alconbury Colts U16	3
2/12/17	St Ives Rangers U13 Blue Sox	0	Buckden Harriers U13	3

Buckden Bowls Club

Monthly Draw Results Organised by Jennie Casey **01480 476493**

Contacts

October

November

December

Club Sec: Brian Moore

£20 No. 46 D Pope

£20 No. 85 C Patience

£20 No. 78 R Dixon

01480 812112

£10 No. 23 M May

£10 No. 62 M Ward

£10 No. 38 B Crabb

Ladies Sec: Daphne Meats

£5 No. 49 H Cotterill

£5 No. 53 L Sharp

£5 No. 19 M Brightman

01480 383448

End of season draw: £200 No. 37 S Bebbington

Buckden Tennis Club

We have 4 all-weather hard-courts waiting for you to play on. The courts are open 7 days a week, all year round, each with floodlighting to county standard. Our friendly club welcomes people of all standards and ages. We have a couple of tournaments during the winter as well as mens, ladies and mixed teams competing in Hunts & Peterborough and Cambridgeshire Winter Leagues. Email us at buckdentennisclub@gmail.com if you would like to enter. More details are found on our website and facebook page shown below.

For the social player we meet on Saturdays and Sundays mornings and Wednesday evenings. All members are welcome – no one is left out. The courts are free to members to use at other times if they wish to arrange their own games. For those looking to brush up their skills, or learn new techniques, coaching is available for adults and juniors through our coach Kyle Wingate (Tel: [+44 7745 133887](tel:+447745133887)). Coaching is available on 1:1 basis and group sessions can also be arranged.

If you are interested in joining the club please contact us through our Chairman Clare Fraser on [07740456972](tel:07740456972) or visit our website at www.buckdentennis.org.uk or our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/buckdentennisclub>

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Languages can seem confusing and sometimes seeing someone who has been through the GCSE process ('process' is the polite word: GCSE's can be daunting) can be a very good way to progress.

Please contact me to have an initial chat by telephone or email and you will soon see that my passion for French and Spanish and my desire to help is reflected in my hourly fee.

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To arrange a visit or find out more contact our manager; Denise Carter

Buckden Village Hall, Burberry Road, Buckden, Cambridgeshire PE19 5UY
 ☎ 07941 671999 ✉ buckdenpreschool@yahoo.co.uk
 🌐 www.buckdenpreschool.co.uk Registered Charity No. 291840

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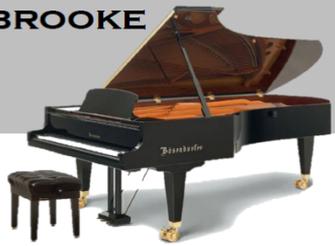
by Becky & Natalie

Becky
 Tel: 07880 791000
 Email: beuatybybecky8@gmail.com

Natalie
 Tel: 07793 289024
 Email: beuatybynatalie1984@gmail.com

Village Hall, Burberry Road,
 Buckden, PE19 5UY

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2017 - 2018 

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NOVEMBER 24TH 2017	Nicholas Daniel, <i>oboe</i> ; Paul Turner, <i>piano</i>
JANUARY 26TH 2018	Matthew Trusler, <i>violin</i> ; Ashley Wass, <i>piano</i>
FEBRUARY 23RD 2018	Anna Tsybuleva, <i>piano</i>
MARCH 23RD 2018	‘Schubertiade’, Stephan & Natasha Loges, <i>baritone & piano</i> ; Vivian Choi, <i>solo piano</i>

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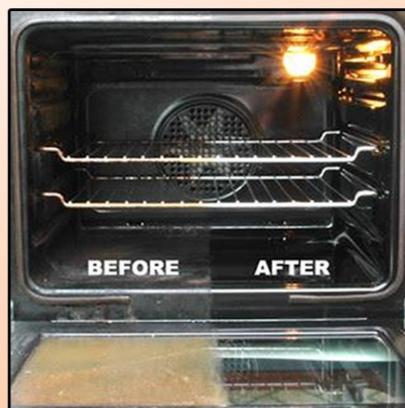
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