

The Ivers

Area Newsletter

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Six issues published each year

Including the parishes: Iver and Wexham

April start for adult learning courses

If you are looking to develop a hobby or get a qualification, Buckinghamshire Adult Learning is running a number of courses in the area.

A selection of courses are being offered in Iver. These are not the only ones available in the area, as Buckinghamshire Adult Learning also offers a wide range of courses throughout Buckinghamshire.

The courses offered at Evreham include:

- Art and craft—watercolour, woodcarving, pottery, jewellery, stained glass
- Computing
- Food and wine
- Foreign languages—French, German, Italian, Spanish
- Health, beauty and complementary therapies
- Music, dance and drama—belly dancing, ballet, ballroom dancing, guitar
- Sport and fitness—aerobic workout, yoga, badminton, self defence and personal safety



A range of courses are starting at Evreham in Spring

Cont.

... getting closer to communities



- Textiles—stitches and cards.

For more information and to enrol please call us on 0845 045 4040, visit our website at www.adultlearningbcc.ac.uk or email us at studentenquiries@buckscc.gov.uk.

Look out for our Spring/Summer brochure for full course listings. Call us to request your copy or pick one up from your library.

Free taster sessions

Free taster sessions are being offered at John Colet School in Wendover on 22 June, The Grange School in Aylesbury on 24 June and Beaconsfield School on 23 June.

These will be an ideal opportunity to try some of the courses that will be available in the autumn term. Look out for more details at www.adultlearningbcc.ac.uk or call 0845 045 4040 for more information.

Help shape the future of South Bucks

Householders in South Bucks district are being urged by South Bucks District Council to give their views on how the district should develop over the next twenty years.

A draft Core Strategy document for consultation sets out options for where new housing and jobs will go in the future and the approach to the protection of the Green Belt.

An exhibition will be held at Iver Village Hall from 10am-3pm on Saturday 18 April. More details on these plans can also be found at council offices, local libraries and on the South Bucks District Council website at www.southbucks.gov.uk.

Details of how people can respond to the consultation are given in the Core Strategy Newsletter that was delivered to all households in South Bucks in early March. This can also be viewed on the Council's website.

Hard copies of the full Core Strategy and Sustainability Appraisal are available for inspection at public libraries and all local district, town and parish councils that are open to the public.



South Bucks District Council is asking residents for their views on how the district should develop over the next twenty years



All comments received before the consultation end date of 27 April 2009, will assist the District Council in drafting the version of the Core Strategy that will be submitted to the Government for examination early in 2010.

Long service awards for governors

The Governors' Long Service Awards were held in Aylesbury on 5 March 2009. All governors with over twelve years' service were invited to this bi-annual event, with over 50 governors reaching or surpassing the twelve-year milestone this year alone.

Many governors receiving awards were not the only representative of their school's governing body. Many schools had two or three governors fulfilling twelve years' service, with Dr Challoner's High School and Farnham Common Junior School having a grand total of four governors reaching the twelve-year milestone.

The important work undertaken by governing bodies in schools is recognised by a dedicated Governor Support Team within the County Council. Mrs Chris Smith and Mrs Jill Williams, the Iver Village Junior School were award recipients in the Ivers Local Community Area Cabinet Member for Achievement and Learning, Marion Clayton, and Maggi Bull, Chairman,

Buckinghamshire Association of School Governors welcomed the governors. Bill Chapple OBE, deputy leader of Buckinghamshire County Council, presented the awards.

If you would like more information or are interested in becoming a governor, please contact Pam Duncan, Governor Support Officer on 01296 383335.

All governors attending the event have given over twelve year's service to their communities



New programme of events for Buckinghamshire country parks

The Spring./Summer 2009 programme of events for Buckinghamshire County Parks is now available.

The country parks covered by the leaflet are Black Park, Denham Park and Langley Park. In addition to detailed information on the wide range of events on offer, the leaflet outlines the car park charges and opening times, a map showing the location of each park and other items such as disability buggy hire.

There is also information on volunteering opportunities—either joining the Wednesday

volunteering parties at Black Park, or volunteering at Langley Park with free membership to join the Friends of Langley Park group.



If you would like to obtain a copy of this booklet, please telephone 01753 511060 or email countryparks@buckscc.gov.uk.

All weather area for Evreham

Football fans in South Bucks have the chance to celebrate football and spring at the recently refurbished All Weather Area at Evreham Sports Centre on Saturday, 25 April.

The new surface, which was installed in October 2008, is from one of the UK's leading supplier of artificial grass, 'Tiger Turf'. It is designed to replicate grass in colour, feel and performance, allowing players to experience the football on a grass-like surface, without worrying about waterlogged pitches and cancelled matches.

To celebrate the spring season and football, Evreham Sports Centre is holding a Spring Promotion with a range of activities available for all ages. The fun begins at 10am with a free coaching session by Wycombe Wanderers Football Club for children aged 4 to 12 years old. At 11am, the children, plus teenagers and adults, can put their footballing skills into action as they compete alongside 'Wallygator' and

'Bodger' in penalty shot and speed competitions, with the winners in each category taking home a great prize.

After the presentation of prizes at noon, the first annual 5-a-side tournament will be held on the new pitch from 1pm. Entry is free to all teams and the winning team members will each receive a medal and a free month's membership to Evreham Sports Centre—a great incentive to come down and have fun! Registration has closed, but come along and support your local teams.

Staff at the Centre, which is managed by Nexus Community on behalf of South Bucks District Council and Bucks County Council, are delighted with the refurbishment and look forward to welcoming both their current and new footballers, for either block bookings or on a casual, pay-as-you-play basis during the spring and summer months.

New cooking oil recycling facility

Residents can now take their used cooking oil to the local Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) in Buckinghamshire.

The County Council, working in partnership with Living Fuels, which has developed a process for purifying the oil and enabling it to be re-used for the generation of electricity. Residents will be able to safely dispose of their used cooking oil in collection tanks at all recycling centres including Langley Park Road, Langley. When oil is poured down the sink it can clog up drains and sewers which can be hazardous to wildlife.

Councils across the country have also been told to reduce the amount of waste being sent to landfill to meet stringent targets or face fines.

The use of used cooking oil in electricity generation reduces carbon emissions meaning that everyone can play a part in building Britain's renewable energy capacity.

Living Fuels, part of the British group Renewable Energy Generation, collect the oil at no cost and as often as required. The used oil will then be recycled to produce the green fuel LF100 which is powering electricity generators giving back to the National Grid.

Residents are asked to bring their oil in containers, which can be taken home and re-used for this purpose. This service is free-of-charge and available to householders only.

Easter holiday activities

A range of activities are being offered by Nexus during the Easter holidays at the Evreham Sports Centre, Iver. There is a daily activity programme for 5-8 year olds and a further programme for 8-14 year olds running for four days for each of the two weeks. Between one and four activities

can be booked each day. The cost is reduced for leisure card holders.

These activities are in addition to the courses and activities offered all year round at the Evreham Sports Centre. For more information please telephone Nexus on 01753 672610.

Iver Heath pedestrian crossing

A new controlled zebra crossing has been installed at Church Road, Iver Heath. This replaces the existing uncontrolled pedestrian crossing point.

This follows petitions and requests from residents for the crossing—supported by County Councillor Bill Lidgate—to assist both school children and the elderly in crossing this busy main road.

Easter Play Rangers

On Tuesday 14 April, during the Easter holiday, a play ranger scheme is running at the recreation ground, off the High Street in Iver. A further scheme was held a week earlier at Iver and also at the Recreation Ground, off Church Road, Iver Heath.

Young people aged around 5-12 years are able to come and go as they please between 1.30pm-3.30pm. Children under five years are welcome, if they are accompanied by an adult at all times. There is no charge or registration, as a childcare service is not being provided.

The play ranger scheme is being run by South Bucks District Council and Nexus and is funded by the Big Lottery Fund.



For more information, please call Darren Bowden on 07880 701 693, email darren.bowden@chilternleisure.co.uk or go to the website www.nexuscommunity.org.

July date for social care surgery

The next Ivers social care surgery is being held on 2 July at Iver Flowerland Garden Centre from 10am-1pm.

Help and advice on a range of social care issues is available from professional care management staff, with Transportation on hand to answer your queries on highways.

Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs), will also be in attendance to offer information and advice on crime prevention and crime reduction.

For more information, please go to www.buckscc.gov.uk for further details or contact Karen Adamson on 01296 383847.

Countywide projects and events

Transport for Buckinghamshire

From 1 April an exciting new contract starts between Buckinghamshire County Council and Ringway Jacobs. This ground-breaking 'Alliance' brings together the best of the public and private sector to deliver a more efficient higher quality transport service for the county.

'Transport for Buckinghamshire' will deliver all transportation services from highway maintenance through to promotion of sustainable travel, road safety and highways development control work. After a lengthy competitive tendering process, Ringway Jacobs has been awarded the contract for delivering the entire service for at least the next eight years with a possibility of extending to 15 years.

Following detailed discussion with Ringway Jacobs, there will be no discernible difference on the ground with respect to your normal contact points. Transportation Local Area Technicians and Local Area Coordinators remain at the core of service communications, as indeed do Area Maintenance Team Leaders and Engineers.

Presently, it is not the intention to alter this.

This contract is the first of its kind in the country, enabling staff to continue to provide an efficient service to all of our residents. The best technology will be available—whether it is our 24-hour, seven day a week control room; or vehicle tracking systems, with every on-site gang and Local Area Technician with computer technology at their fingertips. Please note that the Highways On Call number, 0845 230 2882 will remain for reporting highway defects.

The changes represent an exciting and challenging time for all involved. An excellent service will continue to be delivered to residents over the contract period—ensuring the County Council remains the top-performing transport authority in the UK.

If you have any queries you can contact your Transportation Local Area Coordinator, Chris Schwier, by email on cschwier@buckscc.gov.uk or call Highways on Call 0845 230 2882.

Learning to listen

A new publication has been launched by the County Council. 'Learning to Listen: Listening to Learn' will be distributed to all pre-school settings and focuses on the need to listen to the views of young children when making decisions that affect them.

This follows a project, involving nine Early Years settings from across Buckinghamshire (including Buckinghamshire Community Child-minding Network) where practitioners asked children to comment on the strengths and weaknesses of the setting.

Projects shown include using the views of children to re-design their outdoor play area, using digital cameras to enable children to express their likes and dislikes, and the use of role play to allow children to express their views through stories. Feedback from the various settings has shown that when the views of the children have been taken into account the relationships between children and practitioners are strengthened, children are empowered and their self-esteem increases.

Buckinghamshire Economic Summit

The first-ever Bucks Economic Summit was held on 10 March 2009 at Adams Park, High Wycombe. Sponsored by Buckinghamshire County Council and hosted by Buckinghamshire Economic and Learning Partnership, the event attracted over 175 people including partners, businesses and organisations from across the county.

The purpose of the Summit, chaired by Alex Pratt OBE, Chairman of the Buckinghamshire and Economic and Learning Partnership, was to address the main issues affecting business, commerce and industry in the County as a consequence of the economic downturn.

The presentations illustrated the national picture, before focusing on the Buckinghamshire perspective. The Summit also provided the opportunity for delegates to receive advice and

guidance in terms of support, finance and forward planning from numerous organisations with exhibitions at the event.

Keynote speakers included Phil Eckersley, South East Agent for the Bank of England; Ivan Perkovic, Head of Economic Research at the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA); Sally Goodsell, Chief Executive, Finance South East; Chris Williams, Chief Executive, Buckinghamshire County Council; and Deborah Wharton, Chief Executive, Business Link Solutions.

Other keynote speakers include Linda Walton, South Bucks and Aylesbury Chairman, Federation of Small Businesses; and Jonathan Adams, Chairman, ETA Circuit Breakers.

Buckinghamshire Family Information Service

The Buckinghamshire Family Information Service is a new service being set up by Buckinghamshire County Council to help families and those who work with families find the information and advice they need. It is part of the Government's 'Parent Know How' programme.

Launched in Autumn 2009, the service will enable residents to search for anything from sporting, leisure activities, after-school clubs to parenting advice, family support networks or how to find a child-minder. It will be available by telephone, website or by direct contact with staff at various locations across the county.

A widespread consultation has been launched to ask children, young people, parents and carers and the people who work with families what they

want from the Buckinghamshire Family Information Service. The consultation takes the form of

a short questionnaire, which is available in hard copy or online. The questionnaire can be returned by freepost, or online at www.buckscc.gov.uk/fis. Everyone who responds will have the opportunity to be entered into a free prize draw with the chance to win a Nintendo Wii console. The consultation runs until 1 June 2009.

If you have any questions about this, please phone Linda Slim on 01296 387742 or email familyinfo@buckscc.gov.uk.



Live life to the full

Did you know that only 25% of the difference in ageing is genetic? The rest is due to personal life-style choices and environmental factors.

Good physical, mental and emotional health is important to enable people to live their lives to the full. Health services play an important role in treating people when they are ill. However, who becomes ill and who stays healthy in the first place is determined by a wide range of influences such as employment, income, living and working environment, supportive social networks and personal skills.

In Buckinghamshire, public sector organisations are working with the voluntary and community sector to ensure that all residents live healthier, happier and longer lives. We are also working to promote an environment that encourages health and wellbeing by making healthier choices the easier choice. This commitment is set out in the Buckinghamshire Healthy Communities Strategy on the Buckinghamshire County Council website at www.buckscc.gov.uk—go to Community and then Healthy Communities.

The strategy's focus is not the development of health care services such as GP practices and dental surgeries, but working to tackle the broader issues that have a major impact on people's health. Work includes addressing

childhood poverty, supporting older people through the *Age Well in Buckinghamshire* project, promoting walking, benefit take-up and debt management, tackling heart disease, diabetes and stroke in the most 'at risk' groups, affordable warmth and reducing carbon emissions for all public sector organisations.

Promoting physical activity through walking will help to address the rising tide of obesity which can lead to increased Type 2 diabetes, heart disease and stroke. It is important to take responsibility for your own lifestyle. To assist with this a new website is being launched later in 2009—www.walkit.com. There are also a number of health walks in your area—called Simply Walk. More information on these are given on the County Council website.

Opportunities can be taken to improve families' lives through education, training and employment. Also, by maximising benefit uptake and debt management is particularly important in the current economic climate, homelessness can be prevented by supporting people to pay rents and stay in their own homes.

If you would like more information on how you can support the health and wellbeing of your community, please contact Sheilah Moore, Policy Officer Healthy Communities, on 01296 383459.

Easter bus services

Buckinghamshire County Council would like to advise that a Sunday service will be in operation on all bus services over the Easter bank holiday weekend.

A Sunday service will operate on the Good Friday, Easter Sunday and Easter Monday.

Buses that do not run on Sundays won't run on these days. Services on Easter Saturday will run as normal.

For more information on Easter running times please call Traveline on 0871 200 22 33 or visit www.buckscc.gov.uk/transport.

Project and events diary

April

- 14 **Play Ranger scheme.** Iver recreation ground. Young people aged 5-12 years welcome to drop in between 1.30pm-3.30pm. Free entry. Tel: 07880 701693
- 18 **Shaping the future of South Bucks.** Exhibition at Iver Village Hall. 10am-3pm. Web: www.southbucks.gov.uk
- Spring Ramble.** Join the Langley Park gardeners for a walk around the parkland. 8am-10am. Free event. Meet at Langley Park car park. Advance booking essential. Tel: 01753 511060
- 23 **Simply Walk at Langley Park.** Meet in the car park at 09.45am, to leave at 10am. Free walk. £2 car park fee. Tel: 01494 475367
- 26 **Langley & Iver Rotary Club Fun Walk** to raise funds for the Starlight Charity. 9am-11am. Route covers 5km or 10km. £5 entry plus sponsorship. Meet at top of Black Park car park. To enter email da_ross@btinternet.com or telephone 01753 544978

May

- 12 **Public inquiry into footpath** at Trenches Farm/Middle Green. Evreham Centre, Iver. Times to be confirmed nearer the date
- 24 **Tree detectives.** Join gardener Tony on a tree trail for families. 10.30am-12pm. Free event. Meet at Langley Park car park. Tel: 01753 511060

July

- 2 **Social care surgery** at Iver Flowerland Garden Centre. 10am-1pm. Tel: 01296 383847 for further information

June

- 4 **Council Council and European Parliamentary elections**

Simply Walk

Two successful walks have now been held at Langley Park. Three additional volunteers have now been recruited and, with the recruitment of further volunteers, it is hoped to turn this walk into a weekly, rather than fortnightly walk.

For more information, please telephone 01494 475367.

Your County Councillor:



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Further information

If you have any suggestions of ways to improve this newsletter, or you would like to send items to be included in future editions, please contact Jackie Louch on 01296 383839 or email jlouch@buckscc.gov.uk.

Alternatively, please contact your area coordinator, Alison Derrick, on 01494 586635 or email aderrick@buckscc.gov.uk