## Berryfields News

Berryfields Parish Council's free quarterly magazine

December 2021





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#### **50%** discount for Berryfields residents

If you are running a business and would like to advertise, please contact us: news@berryfieldspc.org

#### **Parish Office**

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#### **Contents**

A Note from the Chairman	4
Roman Park Community Trust	6
Dussehra & Bathukamma festivals	8
Community Speed Watch	9
Rememberance Day at AVA	10
Green Ridge Primary Fireworks Night	10
Vaccine Update	16
Lindengate Charity	17

#### Save the date

Thursday 2nd June 2022

**HM Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations at Roman Park** 

Lighting of the Beacon, picnic in the park and entertainment.

Further details to follow.

If you would like to volunteer to be part of the working group for this event, or are a local company interested in sponsoring the event we would love to hear from you.

Please call the office on 01296 925750



#### **Berryfields Parish Council**



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Publication dates are subject to change depending on local events at time of publication. All advertising will be invoiced before publication date. Payment of advertising space is required in advance of publication. Suggested content or articles for publication are welcome. Berryfields News is also available on our website: www.berryfieldspc.org

**Resident Rates** 

## A NOTE FROM THE

## Berryfields Parish Council



## CHAIRMAN

Welcome to the Christmas edition of Berryfields News. I am delighted to say that this year's celebrations seem set to be more normal than last year's with the opportunity for us to meet loved ones and friends; and to enjoy the festive season together. As usual in Berryfields the community enjoys many different activities organised by the schools, community groups and others with something for everyone to enjoy. This year we have the Berrvfields Buddies Christmas Tea on 15th December, a visit to Roman Park Hall by Father Christmas, who will be giving out presents to the younger children, on Tuesday 7th December, together with a raffle for a Christmas hamper kindly donated by Esquires Coffee. There will be a Carol service in Berryfields Green as well as all the school activities.

While everyone anticipates the fun of the festive season, it is worth remembering that some people are alone at Christmas. If your neighbours are alone, Berryfields Buddies has organised a table at Miller & Carter on Boxing Day for those who would like to join, all you need do is call the office on 01296 925750 to book. The Buddies meet every week on Wednesday morning at Esquires Lucas from 9.30am, do join them if you have time.





Recent events in Berryfields are reported elsewhere but I would like to congratulate the organisers and volunteers for each event, they were very much enjoyed by those who attended. It is always hard work and we do appreciate it.

I would also like to thank the BerryPickers and all

their volunteers for their continued hard work and dedication to making Berryfields litter free. We should all take pride in Berryfields by helping keep it tidy, and when possible join in on the many events they organise or by taking some time whenever you can, to tidy a bit of Berryfields near you. Next year we look forward to HM Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The extended Bank Holiday from 2nd June gives the Parish Council the opportunity to organise a celebration at Roman Park. The event will be held on Thursday 2nd June, more details later in this edition. Roman Park Hall is nearing completion. The Hall offers a real home for our community with a variety of facilities, in beautiful surroundings. As Roman Park continues to develop, with tennis courts, a MUGA, more trees and a growing community orchard, the Hall, Kiosk and other planned facilities will offer a unique place for residents and visitors to enjoy views of the surrounding hilltop villages from the viewing mound and a chance to enjoy sports and places to

meet.

News of the opening date will follow in due course. In the meantime, we need to finish the interior of the hall with furnishings and other equipment. Please see the advert below for details of how you can help.



We're raising £100,000 to complete Roman Park Hall at Berryfields

The Parish Council will soon start to organise fundraising events but, in the meantime, if you would like to contribute to the development of this fantastic community facility, you can do so by donating to the Village Hall Fundraising account by visiting our Just Giving page:

#### https://bit.ly/3yNYJAz

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if I or the Parish Council can help, my email address is laurilee.green@berryfieldspc.org
Enjoy the Festive season and New Year celebrations, and I look forward to an exciting year for Berryfields and hope to see you at one of our events.

Laurilee

#### **Diwali Festival of Lights**

Aylesbury Indian Community held their Diwali Dinner on 20th November in Berryfields. Over 380 guests enjoyed a superb evening of entertainment with cultural programme including dancing, music and art created by the youngest children to adult members of the community. Event management was superb, thanks to the many enthusiastic volunteers who helped and generous sponsors of the evening. A great time was had by all!





December 2021 Berryfields News

December 2021 Berryfields News

5



#### Roman Park Community Trust **RESTORING DIGNITY**



**Students at AVA Primary** Phase and Secondary School provided food donations to Roman Park Community Trust's Store during October.

Generous donations included the usual basic store cupboard items, but there were also lots of delicious treats to be enjoyed by the families we support.

A huge thank you to the students and their families from Roman Park Community Trust. We are so grateful, once again you have made a huge difference to those in our community who need a bit of extra help right now.

#### **Roman Park Community Trust**





#### **Berryfields Neighbourhood Watch**

Join the movement: https://cutt.ly/qbcdGCh



#### **New Group** Wednesday 5th January 2022

Green Ridge Primary Academy President Road, Berryfields

Call Emma on 07753 179421 For more information 

#### **Lucy's Cooking Corner**

**Our regular feature by Cllr Lucy Harmes** 

#### **Ginger Cake**

#### **Ingredients:**

- 100g Butter
- 100g Golden syrup
- 150g Self-raising Flour
- 150g Caster Sugar
- 3 tsp Ground Ginger
- 1 tsp Bicarbonate of soda
- 150ml milk
- 1 egg
- 2 pieces stem ginger in juice (chopped small)
- 150g Icing Sugar
- 21/2tbsp Stem Ginger Juice



#### Method:

- Preheat the oven to 180 °C and line the loaf tin with butter
- Melt the butter and golden syrup together
- Mix the flour, sugar, ground ginger and bicarbonate of soda together
- Mix the milk and the egg together
- Add the milk mix and the melted butter and syrup into the dry ingredients along with the Stem Ginger, until a smooth consistency is achieved
- Put the mixture into a loaf tin and bake for 30-35 minutes until golden and a skewer probe comes out
- To make the icing, mix together the icing and ginger juice together with a splash of water until a thick icing has been made.
- Once the cake has cooled, put icing into a piping bag or a sandwich bag with the corner cut off and pipe a cross pattern on top of the cake

December 2021 Berryfields News 7 **December 2021 Berryfields News** 

#### Dussehra & Bathukamma Festivals 2021

n 16th October 2021, Aylesbury Telugu community came together to celebrate Dussehra & Bathukamma festivals at Aylesbury Vale Academy, Berryfields. Approximately, around 150 Telugu speaking families reside in Aylesbury. Out of which, up to 40 families live in Berryfields Parish Council. Telugu is one of the ancient languages, predominantly spoken in the Indian states of AndhraPradesh and Telangana. It is the 3<sup>rd</sup> most spoken Indian language and 11<sup>th</sup> most spoken language globally.

Festivals are an important part of Hindu religion with Dussehra being one of them, popularly known as Vijayadashami. Dussehra or Vijayadashami is "The Day of Victory" that celebrates the victory of good over evil. It is the day when good vanquished over evil. Dussehra is also about the female divinity, Goddess Durga's triumph over Demon Mahishasura and Lord Rama's victory over Ravana (all Indian mythological figures).



Bathukamma is a floral festival celebrated predominantly in the Telangana state of India. In Telugu, "Bathukamma" means "Mother Goddess, come Alive". Goddess "Maha Gauri" is worshiped in the form of Bathukamma, a beautiful flower stack arranged with different unique seasonal flowers in the shape of a temple gopuram (traditional monumental tower). Historically, Bathukamma is celebrated to thank Goddess Gauri for her blessings for the crop harvest and income she helped generate from this (current) year and again ask her blessing for the next year.

More than 350 people attended the event, all adorned in their traditional Indian wear to celebrate the night in a spectacularly mesmerising way with joy and blissfulness. The evening was filled with traditional Indian dance (Kuchipudi), singing, Bollywood dance and other variety of entertainments including open dance floor with DJ. The pinnacle of the event is having more than 100 women coming together to dance, to form a beautiful human circle of unity, love and sisterhood. The Grand finale celebration ended with the mouth-Watering Indian Dinner for all the guests, leaving lasting memories for many.



## **BERRYFIELDS COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH is now up and running**



Cllr Vernon Hills is one of the Councillors leading the Berryfields Community Speed Watch told Berryfields News that it is not only speeding that affects road safety.

The actions of selfish drivers are making life difficult for everyone.

Vernon suggests simple changes to driving habits will make such a difference to road safety.

#### Follow the Highway Code...

... Please do not

**STOP** outside the schools. Road markings are there for safety.

**STOP** on the roundabout to collect or drop-off passengers.

PARK at or within ten meters of a junction.

**SPEED** the speed limit in Berryfields is 30mph. Take note of the signs designed by our school students.

#### But, please do ...

**Volunteer to help with Community Speed Watch** even if you can only spare an hour a month, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please call the office on 01296 925750. You will receive training to operate the Sentinel camera to identify speeders who reported to the Police.

#### Remember - our children ...

The signs designed by students at AVA Primary Phase and Green Ridge Academy are on our main road lamp posts to remind us to slow down.



8 December 2021 Berryfields News

December 2021 Berryfields News

#### We will remember them

#### **Aylesbury Vale Academy**

On Thursday 11th November 2021 Aylesbury Vale Academy observed a minutes silence in remembrance of all that have served and continue to serve to protect our country.

We had a small, respectful service at the front of the Academy where our school parliament, Mr Gibson and Mrs Baughan gathered together.

Our Primary and Secondary Head Boy and Girl read 'The Gathering' and laid wreaths at the foot of our silent soldier. Inside the Academy children and adults reflected as one, wearing their uniforms with pride.

We are always so pleased to embrace the different groups that our pupils attend and it was an honour to see them in school on this day.





## Green Ridge Primary Academy PTA's Fireworks Night



n Saturday 6th November the PTA at Green Ridge held it's Fireworks Night and it was a huge success. It's proven to be a very popular, with tickets selling out within a few days!

As well as a BBQ and refreshment stalls, attendees also had the chance to win the opportunity to press the plunger to start the fireworks! This is this years winners!

In addition to being a fun night out, it also helps raise money for the PTA to provide much need additional funding for Green Ridge Primary Academy. Final numbers are still being counted and the PTA hope to have raised over £4,000 for the school.

The PTA would like to thank all that attended and give a massive thank you to all the volunteers who helped on the night.







## The Hope and Joy of Christmas Revd Gareth Lane (Vicar for Berryfields)



I'm sure like me you're looking forward to Christmas this year, after last year's subdued celebrations without any of our normal community gatherings or meeting relatives. This year we will again be able to have our Carols on the Green and Carols round the crib which will give us a chance to think again about the Christ in Christ-mas. See for me and many others the great truth that comes from the Christmas season is wrapped up in the name given to the newborn baby foreseen in the Bible by the prophet Isaiah:

"The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel (which means 'God is with us'). Isaiah 7:14

What a powerful promise! God is with us, that's the power of Christmas. For those of you who have considered God as a God who is far away and uninvolved in your lives, or to to those who have struggled to feel hope in the midst of what you are facing - to you God promises: 'I will be with you.'

Not distant, uninvolved or uncaring. Not out there, somewhere. But here, close, with us. Therefore, Christmas is a love story like no other, on a divinely cosmic scale, where God becomes human to draw near to us.

His invitation to each one of us this Christmas is for us to draw close to him. A great way to do that is to come along to hear more about this Immanuel at one of our Berryfields community Christmas events this December.

I hope you have a Happy Christmas and wonderful New Year.

Gareth Lane www.churchonberryfields.org







Parish Council

**Berryfields Buddies** 

OVER 50s CHRISTMAS TEA

WEDNESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER

FROM 1.30pm

Carol singing with Greenridge School Choir

Berryfields residents are warmly invited to attend this *free* event but please book as places are limited

RSVP to buddies@berryfieldspc.org or call 01296 925750

AT ROMAN PARK HALL, SIR HENRY LEE CRESCENT





10 December 2021 Berryfields News December 2021 Berryfields News

# **PARISH** BERRYFIELDS

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#### **ROMAN PARK HALL**



Completion remains on track for spring 2022. The build has been financed from a grant from New Homes Bonus, Section 106 funding from the Consortium and developers with no recourse to the Precept.

Once built, the hall will need to be furnished. The Parish Council will soon start to organise fundraising events but, in the meantime, if you would like to contribute to the development of this fantastic community facility, you can do so by donating to the Village Hall Fundraising account by visiting our Just Giving page: Please help us to complete this project and make the halls special for hirers and visitors.

#### https://bit.ly/3yNYJAz

All donors will be acknowledged in a specially printed book which we will keep in the Hall. Corporate sponsors and individuals are invited to sponsor specific items in and around the hall. A list is available from our office 01296 925750. All sponsors will be acknowledged on a plaque displayed in or outside the hall.

Funding for the tennis courts and MUGA is currently being sought and it is hoped that these will be completed as soon as possible. The planned BMX pump track requires amendment to planning permission and this is in hand.



## **Berryfields Buddies Coffee morning**

(discounted price for a coffee and a delicious cookie)

At Esquires (Lucas Furniture)
Every Wednesday
9.30am to 11.30am

Berryfields
Parish Council

COME AND JOIN US - MEET NEW PEOPLE - MAKE NEW FRIENDS

Future events to follow

buddies@berryfieldspc.org | 01296 925750

#### The Bright Lights of Berryfields

We'are looking for houses to help us celebrate this Festive season!

Join the competition and win a £50 shopping voucher.

Decorate your house and our Councillors will choose the winner over Christmas.

The winner will be announced on our Facebook page.

Competition Time



## **B**erryfields **B**uddies **CHRISTMAS LUNCH**

**BOXING DAY 1pm** 

#### at Miller and Carter

This Boxing Day lunch is open to any Berryfields resident. who will be on their own this festive season or anyone who wants to meet new people and make new friends.

A £10 deposit will be required on booking.

The remainder is payable on the day.

Deadline for booking 17th December

SVP buddies@berryfieldspc.org

14 December 2021 Berryfields News

December 2021 Berryfields News

## Important Vaccine Update Covid/Flu Vaccines - Must action

In line with the latest advice, anyone aged 12 and over with severe immunosuppression, should have a third dose of the COVID-19 vaccine to boost their immunity.

Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust are sending out letters to anyone in this group.

If you receive letter, please take the letter along to your vaccine appointment and let the vaccinator know if you have already received an invitation from another source but not taken it up yet. This will help keep your records up to date for your booster 6 months later (if still advised).

Anyone eligible for a booster vaccine can drop in for a jab a minimum of six months after a second dose.

Those eligible for the COVID booster programme include:

- those living in residential care homes for older adults
- all adults aged 50 years or over
- frontline health and social care workers
- all those aged 16 to 49 years with underlying health conditions that put them at higher risk of severe COVID-19 and adult carers
- adult household contacts of an immunosuppressed individual.

Anyone who is pregnant and in one of the eligible groups can also get a booster dose. You will be required to provide proof of eligibility on arrival.

You must also leave a minimum of six months since you had your second dose before getting your booster.

Most people will be offered a booster dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine or Moderna vaccine. This means your booster dose may be different from the vaccines you had for your 1st and 2nd doses.

The mass vaccination centre in Aylesbury, the Guttmann Centre, will also be offering walk-in clinics for any first doses for over 16s or second doses (eight weeks after a first dose) for those over 17 years and 9 months.

Please visit the web page for regular updates,

https://www.buckinghamshireccg.nhs.uk/public/your-services/feeling-unwell/covid-19-vaccination-programme/local-covid-19-vaccination-updates/

If you have any non-clinical questions (not individual or personal health enquiries) get in touch at: bucksccg.bucksqueries.vaccination-covid-19@nhs.net

It's really important to also get your flu jab to add to that immunity boost over the winter months. **Some people get a free flu jab.** 

You may be given your **COVID-19** and flu jab at the same time, one in each arm, and this is perfectly safe. However, please don't wait or cancel an appointment to have them together. Take up the flu or COVID-19 vaccine when offered.

People currently unwell and experiencing COVID-19 symptoms should not receive the COVID-19 vaccine until they have recovered. You can have the vaccine **28 days after you had a positive test** for COVID-19 or 28 days after your symptoms started, so you may need to wait.

And remember, it isn't too late to get your COVID-19 and Flu vaccination booked. Better to do so now and be protected from serious illness, than wait and see.

## Lindengate – Better Health & Wellbeing for All



s the colder, darker weather continues, it is tempting to stay in the warm rather than exercise. However, it is important for us all to maintain our physical and mental wellbeing. There are many benefits to spending just a few minutes a day outdoors. Here are a few of them:

- Regular exercise outdoors every day can improve both our mood and our physical health, leading to reduced stress and increased selfecteem
- Some research also suggests moderate exercise can strengthen the immune system, reducing the risk of coughs and colds.
- Always make sure you're warm before you go outside. Wear several layers to keep heat in and warm up for 10 minutes before you start.
- Meet up with friends to exercise, whether a walk, run, or drop in to Lindengate during one of our open to all sessions (see website for opening times)
- If you like to be active in the garden, there's no reason why you stop just because the temperature drops. You can plan a Winter garden, so there is always plenty to see and do during the colder months of the year.

We look forward to welcoming you to Lindengate, where nature breathes new life into anyone looking for a little support with their wellbeing. Situated over 5 acres, take time for yourself and let nature nurture your wellbeing.

For more information on Lindengate, programmes & events, go to: www.lindengate.org.uk

## Better Health and Wellbeing for All through Nature



16 December 2021 Berryfields News 17



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18 December 2021 Berryfields News













20 December 2021 Berryfields News



Brunch Package £16
BUCKS FIZZ \* HOT DRINK

\* AVAILABLE UNTIL 4PM \*

#### Main Package £22.50

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OLD NEWS. WHY NOT HAVE A REAL TREAT THIS YEAR **AVAILABLE TO ORDER NOW** 

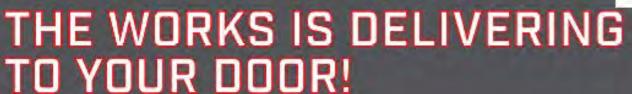
#### Christmas Delivery

WE ARE BACK ON THE ROAD DELIVERING OUR ICE CREAM ON DECEMBER 21ST & 22ND LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE.

AVAILABLE TO ORDER NOW

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## BERRYFIELDS



ON WEDNESDAY 22ND DECEMBER, WE WILL BE DELIVERING OUR HANDMADE ICE CREAM & OUR CHRISTMAS PANCAKE BOXES TO YOUR AREA!

WE HAVE OVER 30 FLAVOURS; INCLUDING MINCE PIE AND MALTESER - THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS PUD COMPANION!

TO ORDER VISIT EATATTHEWORKS.CO.UK OR SCAN THE OR CODE.



MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE WORKS FAMILY!

### **Choose Local** for Successful Sales and Lettings this Festive Period

360 Properties is unlike any other in the area; Run by husband and wife team Francis and Emma Buchanan who also live in Berryfields. Our team's succes in both sales and consistent letting over the years, and even more now, is a result of our local knowledge, innovative marketing techniques and first class customer service.

2021 has seen average sales times in DAYS, not weeks or months

The homes we sell average £7011 above asking price, and we're the fastest sellers in Aylesbury! - According to Rightmove, 2021

If you'd like to take advantage of our local knowledge and this successful period, contact us today.

01296 767555

office@360-properties.co.uk **360-properties.co.uk** 







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- sandwiches
- salads
- lifestyle bowls
- soups
- cakes

#### Try Our Christmas drinks:

- Christmas Cake Latte topped with cream and cinnamon
- Honeycomb and Sticky Toffee Hot Chocolate topped with cream and chocolate dust
- **Mulled Spiced Tea** And many more...

We can provide food platters to suit all tastes, whether it be vegan, vegetarian, fish, cake or afternoon tea ... we've got something for you.

Whether you're visiting for a business meeting, a catch-up with a friend, a peaceful moment to yourself, a mum and baby coffee morning, a first date ...

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