

## Bucknell Newsletter

Autumn 2015 No: 8

# The Sitwell Arms

#### Your local Free House

Pensioners' Special Lunches between 12.00-2.00pm every Tuesday and Thursday

'Pie and a Pint Night' Thursdays from 6.00pm

Sunday Lunch with a choice of Three Different Roasts and all the trimmings – also a vegetarian option 12.00-2.30pm (Booking Advised)

Special Event: Saturday 31 October 2015
Children's Halloween Entertainment 6.00-8.00pm and Live Music from Jack Brett 9.00pm

Book now for the Christmas and New Year Menu from 1 December 2015 until early February 2016

New: Greene King IPA always on-tap at £2.50 a pint

For bookings and all other enquiries, call Helen or Steve

Tel: 01547 530213

"A warm welcome always awaits you at The Sitwell"

The Sitwell Arms, Old Bedstone Road, Bucknell, SY7 0AA

## Bucknell Newsletter Autumn 2015

#### From the editor

First and foremost, many thanks must go to Jonathan Kemp for his work in previous years as the editor of the newsletter. His tireless efforts ensured that we were all kept informed about village news and events. After a break of just over a year, the newsletter is back and I hope it will continue to keep you in the picture about what's going on in and around Bucknell.

For future editions, please feel free to contact me with announcements, activity reports, dates for the diary, or short articles with a local theme. If you have a business, you may also like to consider promoting your services with a display advertisement. This will also help ensure the newsletter is put on a sound financial footing - many thanks to the advertisers in this edition.

With your help, input and feedback, Bucknell Newsletter will thrive, prosper and serve the community's need for news. I hope you enjoy reading the newsletter and would welcome your feedback.

John Warner, Editor, 01547 530910, warnerj47@sky.com

### What's happening

#### Sea Shanty Singers

St Marys' Church Bucknell is proud to announce its latest musical evening on Friday 30 October 2015 at 7.30pm. Come and enjoy sea shanties and ballads from *Hobson's Choice*: 'Europe's Most Inland Sea Shanty Group'. Tickets: £5.00 (including refreshments) can be bought in advance from either Margaret Hay-Campbell (530750) or Julie Hall (530791), or pay on the door. For more information about the group, look for *Hobson's Choice* on Facebook.

#### **Art Exhibition**

Abstract Edge is a group of talented artists who are based in South Shropshire and Herefordshire. The members of the group are holding a public exhibition of their paintings at St Mary's Church on Saturday 28 November 2015 at 11.00am when there will be a reception to open the exhibition. Artist, Roger Percival, who creates his paintings at studios adjacent to Bucknell Post Office, says, 'Abstract Edge aims to raise the profile of abstraction and abstract art by exhibiting work from time-to-time in the local area, so we hope you'll come along to see what inspires us visually.' The paintings will be on show until Saturday 5 December 2015 from 10.00am until 4.00pm. A small commission from any sales will be donated to St Mary's Church funds. For more information, contact Roger (01547 530040).

#### **Bucknell's Christmas Market**

For Christmas gift ideas, lots of bargains and light refreshments, come along to Bucknell Memorial Hall from 10.00am until 12.00pm on Saturday 5 December 2015. See you there!

#### Talgarth Male Choir – Music from the Black Mountains

The Annual Festive Concert with the Talgarth Male Choir is to be held at Bucknell Memorial Hall on Saturday 5 December 2015 at 7.30pm. Formed in 1969, the choir has been entertaining audiences throughout the UK for over 40 years. In the run-up to Christmas, the choir makes a welcome return to Bucknell. Admission: £8.00 to include seasonal refreshments. For tickets and further information, contact: Christine Pryce (530249) or Dorothy Edwards (530252)

#### **General News**

#### New vicar appointed

St Mary's Church is delighted to announce that a new vicar is taking over the Middle Marches Benefice; in succession to Diana Hoare. Reverend Annie Ballard comes to us from the Diocese of Lichfield where she has been running six parishes. Prior to that, she worked across the border in Wales.

Like Diana, Annie will be living in the Vicarage in Weston Road and hopes to move in soon after Christmas. Her formal licensing service will take place early in the New Year. We look forward to welcoming her to Bucknell.

Ian Hay Campbell

#### **Memorial Hall Fundraiser**

The Bucknell 100 Club costs only £10.00 a year and has once-a-month draws that include prizes of £25, £15 and £10. The club is a fundraiser for the Bucknell Memorial Hall and really needs your support please. For a £10 stake you've a good chance of at least doubling your money. If you're already a member, why not buy another ticket and double your chances? For tickets, contact: Nicky Edwards (07973 563829) or edwardsn80@gmail.com

#### WI Centenary Celebrations



This year, 2015, is a special year for the Women's Institute. Beryl Starr reports, 'It's our 100th birthday and all over the country WIs are celebrating the occasion. At Bucknell, we began our celebrations with a garden party on 15 July 2015. Our competition for a centenary hat was won by Helena Mason. Her amazing creation can be seen on the NFWI Twitter feed.'

Beryl goes on to say, 'At our 16 September meeting, we continued partying by ringing the church bells at 6.30pm and by cutting a special cake and raising a glass to the next 100 years of the WI.'

Future meetings include 'Children's Traditional Games' and anecdotes about 'Two Lives in Teaching'. Bucknell WI meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall. You would be very welcome should you wish to join the group.

#### Skittles and Boules

Bucknell Skittles Club was started about 16 years ago. It meets fortnightly in Bucknell Memorial Hall from September to May on Thursday evenings from 7.30pm. If you would like to join in, new players are always welcome.



'We're a friendly non-competitive group and our skittles evenings are great fun,' says Derek Meredith. 'To keep the group together and on its toes, we play boules every Thursday evening during the summer at the Baron - weather permitting.'

Playing boules from the end of May to September continued to be very popular this summer. It often attracted up to 25 people and all who played made a charity contribution of £1.00. The money was donated to the Midlands Air Ambulance, which provides such a vital and important service. Almost £300 was raised for the charity – well done everyone concerned.

For further club information, contact: Sylvia or Derek Meredith (530422)





Bucknell Show was another great success this year. During the morning the weather didn't look too promising, but it perked up in time for the two o'clock start and the sun shone for the rest of the afternoon.

The stalls did a brisk trade, vintage vehicles drew people's interest, axemen amazed us, drummers drummed, belly dancers performed, a choir sang, dogs looked their best, fancy dress was judged, a raffle was drawn, Ichabod and robots entertained and inflatable sumo-wrestling teams competed for all their worth. The evening's live music tent proved to be popular too, with its audience fortified by a well-stocked bar, fresh coffee trailer and hot food vendors as they listened to a variety of acts and some of great music.

There were 95 people who brought along entries for the competition tent, which was up 50% on last year. In total, there were 361 entries of which a record 86 where made by young people of less than 18 years of age.

Major prize winners were Burwell and Shirley Bowen who won the overall Crystal Bowl for the most points over all the classes. (The majority of cups have been around since the original Bucknell Show in 2000.) Children's classes were won by Talitha Scragg (under 7s), Emily Dummer (8-11s) and Abbie Price (12-18s).

Nicky Edwards, who took the lead in arranging the event, says, 'Thanks go to all those people who helped put up tents on Friday, manned the gates on Saturday and helped dismantle the tents on Sunday. Without their help the show would have struggled to be such a success.'

All money raised is put towards next year's show and the plan is to arrange an even bigger and better event on Saturday 3 September 2016. Please put the date in your next year's diary.



## The Chic Brocante

#### Full -day furniture Chalk Painting Course £75.00 inc. of lunch.

Inject new life into your old, tired looking furniture. No need to sand or prime. Learn how to use chalk paint as well as distressing, crackling, and decoupage techniques. Bring your own piece of furniture and put your new skills into practice under expert supervision!

## To book your course, please contact Dawn on 07875 076727 or info@chicbrocante.co.uk

We are located just outside Ludlow in the beautiful Artisanal village of Brampton Bryan. Follow signs for Aardvark Book shop.

#### Want us to do it for you? Commissions also available.

We'll paint your furniture to your exact colour/design specifications from our Autentico Chalk Paint range. It couldn't be easier. We collect it, paint it then deliver it back to you!



## www.chicbrocante.co.uk





#### Kitchen Chalk Paint Make Over

Need to update your kitchen but don't want the **hassle** and **expense** of a re-fit? A bespoke chalk paint makeover can spruce up your timeworn kitchen doors and furniture.

Want to learn more about Chalk Paint? Come down to one of our introductory courses!

To learn more and enquire about Chalk Paint Kitchen Makeovers or courses please contact Dawn on 07875 076727 or info@chicbrocante.co.uk

#### Regular dates Every week

Tuesday	9.00-11.30am Mothers' and Toddlers' Group	Memorial Hall	Kerry Jones (530025)	
Tuesday and Thursday	12.00pm Pensioners' Lunch	Sitwell Arms	Steve Pitchford (530213)	
Wednesday	10.30am-12.00pm Coffee Morning	St Mary's Church	Margaret Hay-Campbell (530750)	
Thursday	6.00-9.00pm 'Pie and a Pint' Night	Sitwell Arms	Steve Pitchford (530213)	
Friday 7.45pm Bingo		Memorial Hall	Dorothy Edwards (530252)	

#### **Every Fortnight**

Monday	9.00am – sharp Bucknell Walkers	Lych Gate St Mary's Church	Graham Jackson (530137)
Wednesday	11.20-11.40am Mobile Library Service	Sitwell Arms end of the Causeway	Shropshire Library Service (01743 255024)
Thursday	7.30pm Skittles (Sept-May)	Memorial Hall	Sylvia and Derek Meredith (530422)

#### **Every Month**

Last Monday	7.30pm: Bucknell Book Group	Variable venues	Margaret Hay-Campbell (530750)
First Tuesday	2.30pm: Mothers' Union	Variable venues during winter months	Jean Pryke (530231) or Iris Greaves (530152)
	7.30pm: Bedstone and Bucknell Parish Council	Memorial Hall	Jonathan Kemp Chair (530398)
Third Wednesday	7.00pm: Women's Institute	Memorial Hall	Carole Garland President (530951)



#### First World War Remembered

In this and future editions of the newsletter, we plan to mark the deaths of the men from Bucknell who lost their lives during the First World War. As the centenaries of their deaths occur, we'll publish their names and a little about each man.

To begin with, we commemorate two soldiers. Both were from the 1st Battalion King's Shropshire Light Infantry and they lost their lives 100 years ago on the same day, 9 August 1915, in the attack on Hooge in Belgium.

#### Lance Corporal George Henry Evans (Service Number: 7890)

George Evans was born in Wem, north Shropshire, in 1889. In the 1901 census his family were living in Wem, where his father, George, was a hostler groom. George (junior) was married to Annie Elizabeth Evans who lived at Park View, Bucknell. He enlisted in Bucknell, so it's assumed that he was living here in 1914.

#### Private Alfred Staley (Service Number: 7485)

Alfred Staley was 32 years old when he died. He appears in the 1901 census along with his father, Thomas, mother Selina and several siblings. Alfred was born in Bucknell but had moved away according to the 1911 census. The address of the family was given as Bridge End. Alfred, his brother John and father Thomas were all described as navvies.

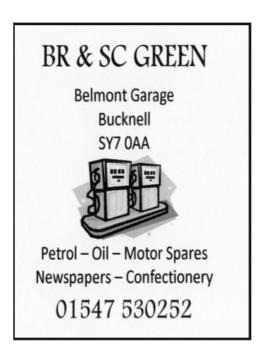
The 1st Battalion acquitted themselves very well at the battle in which George and Alfred lost their lives. The troops went 'over the top' at 3.20am and attacked the German trenches that were about 300 yards away. The division won great praise for their performance, which was regarded as a model of effective cooperation between the infantry and artillery. Six officers and 41 other ranks were killed, 169 were wounded and 18 went missing.

Regimental history notes that before the battle, "steel helmets were received, tried out and found most satisfactory". It comes as a shock to realise that, for most of the first year of the war, soldiers fought without head protection.

Alfred and George are commemorated on the Menin Gate in the Belgium town of Ypres. The memorial records the deaths of 54,000 soldiers who have no known grave and who lost their lives fighting in the three Battles of Ypres in 1914, 1915 and 1917.

Read more about the Battle of Hooge and the Bucknell soldiers killed in both World Wars on the village website:

www.bedstoneandbucknell.org; see: 'Bucknell/Lest We Forget'



#### **Advertising Opportunities**

You've probably noticed that a number of businesses and organisations have advertised in the newsletter. This helps bring their services to your attention and supports local enterprise in our rural community. It is also supporting the production of the Bucknell Newsletter, so thank you to all of our advertisers. We hope that you will continue to give your support by advertising in future editions.

If you have a business, are planning an event, want to make an announcement, have something to sell, or provide a service, which you'd like to bring to the attention of the community, then why not advertise in the Bucknell Newsletter?

#### The details are:

Quarterly Publication; A5 Size; Black & White; Delivered to 450 Homes.

#### Costs:

Full page: £25.00
 Half page: £15.00
 Quarter page: £8.00
 Small (35 x 45mm): £5.00

Advertisers usually provide their own copy, but we can help you with layout and illustrations should you wish. By the way, adverts are best delivered as a JPEG file.

Without making too many promises, it is hoped that the circulation of the newsletter will be extended in the future and, who knows, we may even increase the number of pages – and, the editor dreams, have some colour!

Deadline for the winter edition: 28 November 2015



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## Aardvark Books & Café

October Brocante 25<sup>th</sup> October 2015, 10am-3pm

Aardvark's autumn **Brocante** is filled with fantastic bargains, and more stalls than ever!

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Tel:01547 530744

Email: aardvaark@btconnect.com Web: www.aardvark-books.com Mon-Fri: 9am-5pm, Saturday: 10am-5pm, Sunday: 10am-4pm



#### St Mary's Flagpole

It was Allen's idea and he'd offered to buy a pint for all volunteers. However, it was Dick who got me involved – as he usually does. 'Alan says that the flagpole needs to come down for painting and we need to change the arrangement for hoisting the flag,' said Dick. 'We're all to meet up on Saturday and then it will be easy – just a matter of loosening off the bolts and easing it down on the pivot.'

Saturday came and we all assembled; Dick, Titch, Gerald, Carl (without his dogs), me – and Jim to stop the traffic. We all walked around the pole looking efficient and keen.

'If we slacken off the restraining straps then it should pivot on the bracket. There are enough of us here to support it as it comes down,' someone suggested optimistically.

'We have to get a bar and lever the butt end out of the ground,' someone else said. 'Look how it's bedded itself in.' We all nodded. Gerald said he had a long ladder to prop it up while we did the work; sounded good. 'I can catch it with a pitchfork as it comes down and catch the weight higher up,' offered Titch. All eyes swivelled towards him. What a good idea!

Tools were soon assembled and a start made loosening off the clamping bolts at the base. Shrieking noises attested to years of corrosion. No one had brought oil and the rust fought till the end. Next the pivot-clamp bolts were eased to allow the pole to be lifted up through the pivot.

Right now, if Dick levers it up out of the ground then the rest of us can support the pole and start to lower it – stand by with the pitchfork Titch.' Levering up the pole wasn't that easy and it took two of us in the end; thus reducing the supporting team. It should really have warned us about how heavy the flagpole was. We soon found out. As the pole came out of the ground it began to tilt, just a little at first and, despite the team effort, it wasn't going to stop.

'Catch it Titch!' rang out as we leapt out of the way. Manfully, Titch planted the butt of the fork more firmly into the ground. With a great 'whack', the pole hit it dead square. 'BOIYONG' The pole leapt back into the air and described a wonderful example of harmonic motion of the fourth order – four perfect and alternating sinusoidal waves. It couldn't last. With another crash, it thumped back into the pitchfork and drove it deep into the churchyard.

'It's down,' said Dick.

Steve Sherring

#### **Pre-School Report**



Bucknell Pre-School is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9.00 hrs to 15.15 hrs (term time only) and is for children between two and four years of age.

At present, 17 children are on role, and usually 12 attend each session. There are three full-time members of staff and one part-timer: Janet Hartin, Pre-School Leader, Yvonne Williams, Rebecca Weaver and Jayne Sockett.

Janet Hartin reports, 'On Wednesday 11 March 2015, we moved into the new preschool classroom having previously been based in the St Mary's Primary School hall. The outside area for children's free-play was enhanced by the fitting of artificial turf in August. We also use the school tarmacked area for wheeled toys and ball skills, the school field to practice running, and on Wednesday afternoons we use the woodland area for 'Forest School'. Pre-school also has two beds in the school allotment where we've grown potatoes, carrots, peas, lettuce, herbs, strawberries and blackcurrants.'

A charge of £3.25 per hour is made, but children are entitled to 15 hours free nursery education from the term after they are three years of age. Parents bring fruit to share for snack time and most of the pre-school children have a school dinner brought in from Bedstone College.

'Our curriculum is based on the Early Years Foundation stage guidelines. This covers personal, social and emotional development, communication and language, physical development, literacy, mathematics, understanding the world and expressive arts and design,' Janet goes on to explain.

'We've board games, a big range of books, role-play and small world toys, many construction sets, musical instruments, materials for the children to select for arts and craft and a range of science toys such as magnets and magnifiers. We have paint out every day and play-dough. Sometimes we have cookery activities. We also go outside for part of every session.'

The aim of Bucknell Pre-School is for the children to be strong, healthy, confident independent learners, and well-prepared for the next stage of their educational journey. Most children go on to St Mary's Primary School and make an easy transition as they are already familiar with the school and its staff.

#### **Popular Coffee Morning**

St Mary's Church Coffee Morning has proved to be a great success since the recent installation of the excellent kitchen unit and cloakroom facilities. It takes place every Wednesday morning between 10.30am and 12.00pm and those who come along make a contribution of £1.00 for a hot drink and a piece of cake.



Tea or coffee – proper coffee in an individual cafetiere – along with a piece of homemade cake of your choice, are served by one of the three volunteers who are on duty each week. Up to 25 people usually attend during the morning, and seating is arranged at tables laid out around the church. Coffee Morning appeals to all ages, both men and women, and sees a number of children coming along, especially during the school holidays. One happy customer who attends regularly with a friend says, 'We always try to arrive in good time to ensure we get seats at a table. It's a smashing way of getting to know people in the village, catch up with friends and have a good chat.'

Not yet given it a try? Please come along one Wednesday morning and see why so many people are Coffee-Morning enthusiasts – you'll be warmly welcomed.

For more information or if you'd like to volunteer as a helper, please contact Margaret Hay-Campbell (530750).

#### **Bucknell Newsletter Team**

Just to let you know that a small team of people has been formed to look after the interests of the Bucknell Newsletter, they include:

Chair: Peter Barron
 Treasurer: Beverley Stone
 Technical Assistant: Stacie Jones

Distribution: Margaret Hay-Campbell and volunteers

Editor: John Warner

'Thank you team for agreeing to take on these roles,' says the editor.





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Bedstone College



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Who's Who?	I		
Bucknell Memorial Hall Chair: Nicky Edwards (07973 563829) Treasurer: Dorothy Edwards (530252) Bookings: Eddie and Christine Price (530249)	Bucknell and Bedstone Good Neighbours and Community Cars Chair: Mike Starr (530179) Secretary: Dave Baker (530495)		
Bucknell Women's Institute President: Carole Garland (530951) Secretary: Beryl Starr (530179)	Coordinators: Sue Fairclough (530279) and Sue Perciva (530040)		
<b>Bucknell Walkers:</b> Graham Jackson (530137)	Bucknell Craft Group: Anita Lewis (0787 0219599)		
Allotment Society: Adrian Lewis (530576)	Mothers' Union: Jean Pryke (530231)		
Bucknell Book Group: Margaret Hay- Campbell (530750)	St Mary's Primary School, Bucknell Head Teacher: Anna Cook (530264)		
Bedstone and Bucknell Parish Council Chair: Jonathan Kemp (530398) Vice Chair: Will Davies (530207) Councillors: Alan Faulkner (530547) lan Graves (530959) Florence Hughes (530312 lan Owen (530616) Christopher Savery (530282) Beryl Sharpe (530246)	St Mary's Church, Bucknell - part of The Middle Marches Benefice (Bedstone, Bucknell, Chapel Lawn, Clungunford, Hopton Castle, Llanfair Waterdine and Stowe) Vicar: Appointment Awaited Bucknell Churchwardens: Jean Pryke (530231) and Ian Hay-Campbell (530750) Website: www.middlemarchesbenefice.org		
Beverley Stone (530455) Clerk: Nancy Adams (01686 670737) Website: www.bedstoneandbucknell.org	Coxall Baptist Church Minister: Revd Michael Humphries (520812) Elder: Florence Hughes (530312)		
Shropshire Council, Clun Division Councillor: Nigel Hartin (530400)	Belmont Garage (Green's): Dorothy Edwards and Shirley Moorhouse (530252)		
Clun Valley AED Scheme (Defibrillator): Nicky Edwards (07973 563829)	Community First Responders: Nicky Edwards (07973 563829) and Ian Owen (07836 795444)		
and Ian Owen (07836 795444)			
Bucknell Stores: Terry Jacks (530385)	Lance Phillips Quality Butchers (530233)		
The Baron at Bucknell: Debra and Phil Wright (530549)	The Sitwell Arms: Steve Pitchford and Helen Jones (530213)		
B&J Davies: Will Davies (530207)	Bucknell Post Office: Klaus Steffes (530201)		
Bucknell Nurseries: Andrew and Nick Coull (530606)	Member of Parliament for Ludlow: Phillip Dunne, MP (01584 872187) Email: philip.dunne.mp@parliament.uk		