



REDBOURN WINS EASTERN AREA ICT AWARD IN VILLAGE OF THE YEAR COMPETITION



Alan Titchmarsh presents the certificate to Bob Boutland & Cllr. Tony Bull

In June 2005, Redbourn won the ICT* section of the Hertfordshire Village of the Year Competition (sponsored by Calor). That put our name in the hat for the country-wide competition. At a ceremony on December 6th, at the Four Seasons Hotel, London, Redbourn was named as winner in ICT for the Eastern Region. The overall winners in this category were Selbourne in Hampshire.

The judges were impressed at the extensive coverage of the Redbourn website (www.redbourn.org.uk) with its many contributors covering a wide range of the village organisations. They were also impressed by the adult computer training courses run at St. Luke's School.

Thanks are due to Martin Cleaver for setting-up and maintaining the village website, to Bob Boutland for the day to day running of it, and all those who contribute to its content.

The prize-money will be used to improve the website. Nevertheless, the website would benefit from a few more sponsors. The internet service providers charge both for storage, which determines how much content there can be, and for bandwidth, which limits the amount of time for which access is available. If you have found the site unavailable it would have been due to one of these limitations.

If any local business would like to sponsor our site, please contact
Bob Boutland (mrboutland@yahoo.co.uk)
or Diane Whiskin (redbournpc@talk21.com)

* Information Communication Technology

Hertfordshire Police Authority Community Awards

We are very pleased to announce that Lisa Garrity received the Community Safety Officer of the Year Award 2005. Redbourn Parish Council nominated Lisa because of her outstanding work in the village. Our citation was:-

"During the relatively short time Lisa has been with us in Redbourn she has managed to contribute a great deal to the village. She has taken it upon herself to form excellent relationships with the schools and pupils, creating a strongly preventative programme concerning drugs and bad behaviour. She has developed a strong bond with the young people, listening to their views and hopes and liaising with the council and others in the village to achieve these aims. She is doing this through endeavouring to persuade County to open the youth centre more often, encouraging young people to meet in areas away from housing thereby minimising noise, and investigating the possibility of establishing a youth shelter in the village.

Although Redbourn is a large village Lisa has managed to cover all areas and indeed is well known, liked and respected for her warm, friendly and helpful attitude. She attends most of the village functions catering for all age groups, including fetes organised by residents associations, Scouts, local schools and meetings of various organisations in the village. Her repertoire is wide. She uses her glove puppets to capture the imagination of the very young and her musical skills to entertain the elderly.

When she spots a need in the village she doesn't hesitate to act. When it became apparent at an open meeting that residents were unaware of applications to vary the licensing laws she took it upon herself to circulate this information to those living both near and in adjacent roads to public houses."

The award comes with a cash prize of £1,000 which will be spent on community safety improvements in the village.

REDBOURN RECREATION CENTRE

75, Dunstable Road, Redbourn. AL3 7PP.

Telephone: 01582 626202.

Email: redbourn.recreation@ntlworld.com

NEW!!

Mondays 8 - 10pm (except Bank Holidays)
Recreation sessions for all.

Short Mat Bowls, Table Tennis,
Skittles or Badminton
(a minimum of two activities will be available).

£1.60 per person (members).
Non-member admissions will apply.
(£1.50 adults, £0.90 juniors and seniors)

Come on your own or with a group.

For more information visit the village website www.redbourn.org.uk. Here you can view Council agendas and minutes and send your comments. The website is full of useful information about life in the village. It includes advice about clubs and societies, local birdlife, walks, events, history and so much more. If you wish you can attend our meetings, which are held on the third Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. (December's meeting is held on the second Thursday of the month). Meetings of the Common Footpaths and Open Spaces are held on the first Thursday of the month.



**FRIENDS OF THE
NICKY LINE MEETING
14TH MARCH 2006
AT 7PM**



Harpenden Town Council are creating a new community group called

"Friends of the Nicky Line"

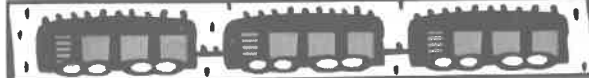
Do you think there could be any improvements to the Nicky Line ?

Would you like to be involved in the decision process?

If the answer is **yes** then why not come along to the first meeting which will be held on the **14th March 2006 at 7pm** at Harpenden Town Council, Town Hall.

All members of the public are very welcome to attend.

For more information on this meeting please contact :-Sarah Norwood, Harpenden Town Council, Town Hall, Leyton Road, Harpenden, Herts, AL5 2LX



NICKY LINE - REDBOURN

The meeting advertised above refers to the Harpenden Section of the Nicky Line . Redbourn Parish Council are considering setting-up a similar organisation for the Redbourn Section (from Harpenden Lane to Cherry Tree Lane). This will be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting, but we would like to hear before then from anyone interested in being part of such an organisation – please contact Diane Whiskin on 794832, or email redbournpc@talk21.com

REDBOURN POWER CUTS

Back in November the Parish Council met with representatives of EDF to find out why we had had so many Electricity outages. EDF are the power company responsible for delivery of electricity to Redbourn. As a result EDF asked if we would publish the following response.

"As there had been an unusually high number of power cuts in the Redbourn area we carried out a foot patrol along the high voltage overhead line route to try and identify the causes of these power cuts.

During the patrol, we identified several locations where trees were growing in close proximity to the overhead lines. I am pleased to confirm that we have brought our tree cutting programme forward and are currently tree trimming in the area. This will ensure that we maintain an adequate clearance from the lines to ensure there are no problems with trees coming into contact with the overhead lines.

We also found two porcelain surge diverters, which had cracked, possibly as a result of a lightning strike. They could have cause brief interruptions during damp weather due to water ingress. These have since been replaced.

Our local Planning Engineer has been closely monitoring the performance of this circuit and is investigating the possibility of replacing several spans of overhead line with underground cable. He is currently liaising with the land owner concerned to gain the necessary consents.

Please let me assure you that we are determined to give you a secure and reliable electricity supply. We will continue to closely monitor the performance of this circuit and if a problem is found we will remove it from the network immediately.

I hope that you will find this information to be helpful.

Yours sincerely

*Mary Preece
Customer Relations Manager"*

PUBLIC GARDEN NEARS COMPLETION

The new garden between Cumberland House and the High Street is nearing completion. However at the time of writing, it is not formally open. The lighting still has to be cabled, and there are a number of small defects to be sorted-out.

The garden is intended to be a peaceful area for a stroll or contemplation. Accordingly, DO NOT play ball-games, cycle, skate(-board), drop litter, play loud music, or allow dogs to foul the area. DO enjoy it, and respect it and its other users.

The garden will be closed at night to avoid anti-social behaviour problems.



PATH ALONG THE MOOR

Following consultation with Countryside Management Service and the Environment Agency, the Parish Council have decided that the best route for the path would be along the northern edge of The Moor, close to Chequer Lane. The path would connect with the one that was laid last year from Woollams to The Jolly Gardener, and will give disabled access around the Common.

The council are allocating part-funding for this, and are looking for a grant to make-up the remainder. It is hoped to start later this year.

PARISH CENTRE UPDATE

The Parish Council have appointed The Cannon, Morgan & Reinberg Partnership as architects for the planning stage of the proposed Parish Centre.

Redbourn Neighbourhood Watch

The first of Redbourn's monthly Ward meetings took place on 30th November, organised and chaired by local police constable Christine Clayton, supported by our new PCSO Alison Dewar. They are part of the police commitment to NW to forge and maintain links with the community, and to provide support and access to the services the community might otherwise feel separated from. Attended by local counsellors and community representatives, they are a forum to drive action on issues that affect our quality of lives directly. If you have identified issues which cannot be resolved at a street level meeting, then bring them to the attention of myself, Christine or Ali, and we will do our best to resolve them at the next Ward meeting. Don't be shy!

There has been relatively little crime in Redbourn recently. One of the most serious problems appears to be an increase in distraction burglaries, when criminals use a number of tricks to gain entry to the house when we open the door to them. Criminals may target the vulnerable, but how do they know which doors to knock on? Any knock at the door might be a cover for criminals seeking this information, especially door to door callers selling cleaning products or double glazing. Please never buy anything from these doorstep sellers and if your suspicions are aroused in any way, call the police. Contrary to popular belief, the Police are interested in ALL crimes, even if you don't think they can solve your particular case. Calling to report suspicious activity or anything unusual helps the police to build up a picture, which may lead to action being taken and assist in solving other crimes in the community.

Please keep in touch with me, and with each other. Communication is the key!

Rob McIntosh, Redbourn NW locality representative.
macsmac@mwfree.net

REDBOURN PARISH COUNCIL FIREWORK DISPLAY 2005



Redbourn Parish Council wishes to acknowledge the following businesses, which donated money towards the Firework Display:

Thameside Construction Co Ltd
Wall St Interiors
Jarvis Ltd
Oakbridge Homes
Medivet
RPM Builders
Little Revel End Kennels
James Fernley & Partners
Wedlake Saint Solicitors
D C Surridge
Third Floor Ltd
J R Hill Construction Ltd
J H Hill & Son
Fledglings Nursery

and the following businesses who either helped or donated prizes to the Prize Draw:

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Redbourn Cricket Club | Country Styles | Ramada Inn |
| Village Barbers | The Cricketers | J&N Antiques |
| The Bull | Pulsar | The Chequers |
| The Studio | Regency Flowers | Redding Cats |
| Ray Marsh & Son | Jones & Hall | W Hall & Sons |
| Crown Pharmacy | Colin O'Donovan | The George |
| The Bell & Shears | Co-op Welcome | |
| Redbourn Parish Council | Redbourn Hardware Stores | |

Our thanks to all sponsors and all those who attended

The Parish Council has not yet finalised the accounts, but anticipates that over £1000 will be available for distribution to village organisations.

FIREWORK PRIZE DRAW - Saturday 5 November 2005

| No | PRIZE | SPONSOR | WINNER |
|------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1st | Mountain Bike | Redbourn Cricket Club | Nina McCormack |
| 2nd | Meal for Two | Ramada Inn | Michael Holland |
| 3rd | Meal for Two | The Cricketers | Rachel Vigor |
| 4th | Meal for Two | The Bull | D Morrissy |
| 5th | Meal for Two | The Chequers | Michael McGuire |
| 6th | Flower Arrangement | Regency Flowers | Harriett McIntosh |
| 7th | Voucher for Meat | Marsh & Son | Pat Coates |
| 8th | Voucher for Meat | W Hall & Sons | Sue Goldman |
| 9th | Voucher | Country Styles | Judy Swendell |
| 10th | Voucher | Village Barbers | R Quick |
| 11th | Antique Decanter | J & N Antiques | A Paxton |
| 12th | Cordless Screwdriver | Pulsar | S Burton |
| 13th | Home Therapie Kit | The Studio | Peter Yates |
| 14th | Bendix Chocolates | Redding Cats | Diane Ryan |
| 15th | Box of Biscuits (McVitie) | Redding Cats | A McIndoe |
| 16th | Tin of Quality Street | Co-op Welcome | Alex Trim |
| 17th | Box of Biscuits (Victoria) | Co-op Welcome | Tracey Mathews |
| 18th | Panorama Camera | Colin O'Donovan | Alan Gorman |
| 19th | Box of Toiletries | Crown Pharmacy | Helen Walecki |
| 20th | Bag of Toiletries | Crown Pharmacy | Derek Crouch |
| 21st | Jigsaw Puzzle | Post Office | Mathew Taylor |
| 22nd | Bottle of Red Wine | Colin O'Donovan | D Bingham |
| 23rd | Bottle of Red Wine | The George | S Stacey |
| 24th | Bottle of Red Wine | The George | Susie Cameron |
| 25th | Bottle of Red Wine | The George | S Donovan |
| 26th | Bottle of White Wine | The Bell & Shears | Mrs Loveridge |
| 27th | Bottle of White Wine | Co-op Welcome | B Douglas |
| 28th | Bottle of White Wine | Co-op Welcome | Rus, c/o Co-op |
| 29th | Parish Map | Redbourn PC | C O'Donovan |
| 30th | Parish Map | Redbourn PC | P Newman |

M1 WIDENING – Junction 6a to Junction 10

Preparatory work has started on the £289m M1 widening between J6a (M25), and J10 (Luton). Full work is expected to start in February/March 2006. Ten miles of motorway will be widened to four lanes in each direction to improve traffic flow and safety. This section is one of the busiest in Britain, carrying over 160,000 vehicles each day. Once work starts, you can keep up to date with the latest information by visiting this web page:

www.highways.gov.uk/roads/projects/motorways/m1/j6a_j10

Are you interested in youth work?

Can you spare a few hours in the week to invest in Redbourn's up and coming youth? (Other locations are available) If so, then a vacancy has become available for a part-time youth worker with Herts County Council. Why not give Martin Cooke (Area Manager) a ring for an informal chat on 01727 753100 to find more about this very exciting and highly rewarding opportunity.

DATES for your DIARY

Public Exhibition of Travel Plan Proposals

Herts Highways will exhibit the various proposals derived from the Forum meetings in The Village Hall on
Friday 27th January 2.30pm – 8.00pm
and **Saturday 28th January 9.00am – 1.00pm**
Villagers will have a chance to vote on these options.



REDBOURN IN BLOOM

Talk on Bumblebees by Dr Juliet Osbourne
16th Feb 7.30pm at St Mary's Transept
Raffle – Refreshments



Further information: Rita Green 626452, Barbara Corbett 792738

Easter Art Show - April 15th-17th

Sat 15th April 10am – 4pm
Sun 16th April 11am – 5pm
Mon 17th April 11am – 5pm

Helpers wanted – please call Pat Schofield 793096

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 27th April
All are welcome – it is your opportunity to meet your Councillors, and raise any questions you may have about village matters.

REDBOURN IN BLOOM

CHESTER GARDEN TOUR on 28th APRIL to 1st MAY.
Cost: £289.

Enjoy beautiful gardens, historic city and friendly company.
Four-star hotel with leisure facilities and indoor swimming pool.
Contact: Rita Green: 626452

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

Beaumont Ward

◆
Christine Cardy
16 Cumberland Drive – 01582 794744

◆
James Lowen (Chairman Finance)
2 Mulberry Place – 01582 794039

◆
Maria Maynard
2 High Street

◆
Colin O'Donovan (Chairman Commons)
7 Ver Road – 01582 792382

◆
Ron Stent
10 Saberton Close – 01582 793151

◆
Tony Swendell
6 Monks Close – 01582 792076

Nicholls Ward

◆
Anthony Bull (Chairman)
10 Crouch Hall Gardens – 01582 793756

◆
Kevin Maidment
Scout Farmhouse, Dunstable Road – 01582 794259

◆
Stan Pierpoint
4 Wheatlock Mead – 01582 792117

◆
Philip Rosen (Chairman Planning)
34 Bettespole Meadows – 01582 792585

◆
Pat Schofield
82 The Park – 01582 793096

◆
Vivienne Windle
1 Coopers Meadow – 01582 626351

Parish Clerk

◆◆◆
Diane Whiskin
Village Hall, 63 High Street Redbourn AL3 7LW
01582 794832

District Councillors

Colin O'Donovan, Pat Schofield, Tony Swendell

County Councillor

◆
Derek Hills
01582 629433

Member of Parliament

◆◆◆
Rt Hon Peter Lilley
01582 834344

It is intended that REDBOURN NEWS will be printed quarterly. If there are any subjects you would like to see in the newsletter or if you have an article/letter you would like published please write to the Parish Clerk Diane Whiskin, or e-mail redbournpc@talk21.com