



# The Lidlington Advertiser

September 2007

## Childhood sweethearts

Popular local couple celebrate 40 years of marriage

Mim and Maria Borromeo, proprietors of M&M Store in Church Street, moved from Italy to Bedfordshire, with their respective families, in 1951, when their fathers came to work at the brickworks. The couple first met at Stewartby School, but their friendship really took off after Maria started travelling on the train to work, at the age of 18. At that time Maria lived in Marston and Mim in Lidlington.

On 1st July this year, Mim and Maria celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary. The celebrations began with a wonderful family gathering at Kempston's Addison Centre on the eve of their anniversary, where they were joined by around 150 family and friends, mainly from Bedfordshire.

They were especially pleased that all of their children and grandchildren were able to be there. Although the party was organised by Maria herself, the evening held a lovely surprise when a limousine arrived to



take them there, champagne included!

The couple further celebrated their Ruby Anniversary by renewing their marriage vows at the St. Francesca Cabrini

Church, in Bedford. During the evening Mass, their marriage was blessed and they exchanged rings.

A wonderful memory, for a wonderful couple!

### Index

Editor's letter	02
Information file	
Local activities	
News	03
Parish Council	04
Community	06
Local interest	09
Village memories	13

### Contributors

Editor	Shawn Haddaway
Design	Jess Williams
Proofreading	Gill Haddaway
Reporter/distribution	Jean Peall
Printing	CopyKatz Tel 01234 840 125

**NEXT ISSUE LATE  
NOVEMBER 2007  
COPY DEADLINE  
05 NOVEMBER**

We need your support to keep going. Please consider advertising your business with us - *The Advertiser* goes to around 600 homes so is a great opportunity to reach potential customers locally. To advertise call 01525 405515 or email TLA@haddaway.co.uk

Professional friendly service with  
over 20 years experience



# Fringes

Hair Salon

Call now for an appointment  
**01525 403022**

33 Church Street, Lidlington

Senior Citizen rates Tuesday - Friday  
Hair care products at realistic prices • Gents welcome

Tuesday 9-5pm, Wednesday 9-2, Thursday 9-7, Friday 9-6, Saturday 9-2, Sunday, Monday - closed

## From the Editor

On behalf of the people of Lidlington, we would like to welcome all new residents to the village. We hope you find this newsletter interesting and informative.

Many thanks to those who have contributed to this issue of *The Lidlington Advertiser*. We would like to apologise for the delay in getting this issue out. It is always a struggle, bending to accommodate last-minute (even late!) submissions, but all good things are worth waiting for!!!

The next issue of *The Lidlington Advertiser* is due out in late November and the deadline for articles and adverts is 5th November. We have to be strict about this deadline, though, as many advertisers need their adverts to be seen well before Christmas. So if you wish to submit an article or advert for the next issue, please think well ahead!

For the Christmas issue we will be seeking articles about Christmas in Lidlington during the 40s, 50s or 60s. Articles from budding reporters on local issues affecting the village (e.g. Centre Parcs, Youth Issues, etc), will also be welcome.

To discuss or submit an article, please contact Shawn on 01525 405515, or email to TLA@Haddaway.co.uk.

Potential advertisers, the next issue will be the Christmas edition, so if you want to tell the good of people Lidlington about your products, services or special Christmas offers, please contact Shawn on 01525 405515, or email TLA@Haddaway.co.uk.

**SHAWN HADDAWAY, EDITOR**

## Lidlington Activities

+ Run by Lidlington Churches

### MONDAY

Toddler Group	9.30 - 11.30 am	Village Hall	(0 to pre-school)	Cathy 01234 767456	Term time only
Shell Club+	6.45 - 8pm	Methodist Hall	(9-12 years)	Jackie 01525 280478	Term time only
Dog training	6.30-9.30pm	Village Hall	All welcome	ARAS 01525 840508	

### TUESDAY

Coffee morning	10 - 12 noon	Methodist Hall	All welcome		
Line dancing	7.30 - 9.30pm	Village Hall	All welcome		
Army Cadets	7.30pm	TA Hut	Girls/boys 12-18	01234 353291	

### WEDNESDAY

Line dancing	7 - 10pm	Village Hall	All welcome		
--------------	----------	--------------	-------------	--	--

### THURSDAY

Thursday Fellowship+	9.15 - 11am	Methodist Hall		Jean 01525 405730	Term time only
Youth club	7 - 8.30pm	Village Hall (winter), Sports Pavillion (summer)		(School year 4+)	
Line dancing	10.30 - 2pm	Village Hall	All welcome		
Table Tennis	8.30 - 9.30pm	Methodist Hall	All welcome	Barry 01525 404810	Alternate weeks

### FRIDAY

Rainbows	4.30 - 5.30pm	Methodist Hall	Girls 5 - 6 years	Linda 01525 402647	Term time only
Brownies	6 - 7.30pm	Sports Pavilion	Girls 7 - 10 yrs	Tina 01525 405527	Term time only
Guides	7.45 - 9.15pm	Village Hall	Girls 10 - 14 yrs	Tina 01525 405527	Term time only
Karate	7-8pm	Village Hall	6+ yrs		

### SUNDAY

Rock+	11 - 12 noon	Methodist Hall	All welcome		Held during most Sunday services
CYAPOI +					4th Sundays
(Christian Youth and Proud of It)	7.15 - 8.45pm	Methodist Hall	12 yrs+	Sian 01525 405952	Burning Devotions at various venues

### MONTHLY

Lunch Club	12.30 - 2.30pm	Methodist Hall	All welcome	Jackie 01525 280478	1st Wednesday
Ladies' Club	8 - 10.30pm	Methodist Hall	All welcome	Linda 01525 402647	2nd Tuesday

## Information File

Ambulance, Fire, Police (Emergency)	999
Bedfordshire Police (non-emergency number)	01234 841212
Police Community Support Officer	01234 842622
Nick Saward (Police Constable 383)	01234 842614 nicholas.saward@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk
Childline	0800 1111
Gas	01582 480884
Electricity	01234 270977
Water	01832 276000
Mid-Beds DC, Ampthill	01525 402051
Bedfordshire Police HQ: Woburn Rd, Kempston, Bedford, MK43 9AX	01234 841212
Bedfordshire Police, Woburn St, Ampthill	01525 404422
Bedford Hospital (South Wing)	01234 355122
Milton Keynes General Hospital	01908 660033
Ridgeway Veterinary Centre, Flitwick	01525 714892
Dr Lockley & Hague, Oliver St, Ampthill	01525 631395/6
Dr Aylward & Partners, Houghton Close, Ampthill	01525 841210
Flitwick Clinic, High St, Flitwick	01525 717771
Drs. Reddy & Thomas, Cranfield	01234 750234
St Margaret's C of E Church Wardens:	
Linda Bulled	01525 402647
Sian Hiscocks	01525 405952
Methodist Chapel:	
Rev Rachel Larkinson	01234 354329
Debbie Galliford	01525 402667
Jonathan Peall	01525 405730
Bedford to Bletchley Rail Users Association: 23 Hatfield Crescent, Bedford, MK41 9RA	01234 351771
National Rail Enquiries	08457 484950
Thomas Johnson Lower School, Lidlington	01525 402377
Marston Vale Middle School, Stewartby	01234 768224
Wootton Upper School, Wootton	01234 767123
Ampthill Tidy Tip, Abbey Lane, Ampthill	01525 403611
Bottle Bank: Opposite Royal Oak pub, Church St, Lidlington.	
Citizens' Advice Bureau, Ampthill	01525 404511
The Samaritans (24-Hour)	01234 211211
Methodist Hall Bookings:	
Tess Mason	01525 404938
Village Hall Bookings:	
Maureen or Dave	01525 403378
Official Lidlington website	<a href="http://www.lidlington.org">www.lidlington.org</a>
Lidlington Churches website	<a href="http://www.lidlingtonchurch.org.uk">www.lidlingtonchurch.org.uk</a>

## YOUR VIEWS WANTED FOR LIDLINGTON

We have now begun delivery of the Parish Plan Questionnaire. If you have not yet had yours, it will be coming shortly. Every member of your household over the age of 12 can fill in their own Questionnaire. PLEASE TAKE TIME TO FILL IT IN. If, for some reason, you haven't received it by the end of September, please call Jean on 01525 405730. If you need assistance filling it in, just call the contact person specified on the Questionnaire. Everyone's view is welcome, to shape the future of your village.

## News from St Margaret's Church

### Closure update

We met recently with the Archdeacon of Bedford to discuss the closure and how the parish will be administered. It was felt that because the Local Ecumenical Partnership is very active in Lidlington all the parish business will continue to be administered within the parish under the guidance of the partnership. The consultation stage of the process will now take place and advertisements will be put in the local papers. All interested parties will be consulted over the next few months.

### Graveyard maintenance

The Parish Council have now awarded the contract for the maintenance of the graveyard to a local contractor who will be responsible for the new part of the graveyard on the right hand side. The Community Service will be spending their time in the old part of the graveyard. St Margaret's Parochial Church Council would like to thank the Parish Council for their support of the Church.

If you have questions regarding St Margaret's Church or any parish business please contact Linda Bulled, Churchwarden 01525 402647.

## Our changing climate

Climate change is real and it has always been with us in varying timescales. At present there is a lot of reporting about warming events, but there are also a lot of cold weather records being broken, which go unreported. Also, the predictions for the future are forever changing and as soon as one stance is taken, nature changes tack and another forecast is rolled out, only to be upstaged again.

Looking back over the past 50 years, well over 60% of this was a period of cooling. The present warming trend is only 15 years old and seems to be manifesting itself in a way in which our weather is much less allied to the traditional seasons. With this shift, more record breaking events will occur. Fifteen years ago we were talking about the onset of a mini ice age. Perhaps the last 15 years is but an interlude in this procedure. Who knows?

So far, although we have warmed up from the lows of the 60's 70's and 80's, we need another 15 years to be able to add more certainty to what might be in store for us.

NN JULY 2007

## M&M Quality Foods

Fresh bread daily, cakes, milk, free range eggs, pork pies and sliced meats, newspapers, cigarettes, groceries and more! Great selection of cut flowers, planted baskets, plants and gifts

Church Street, Lidlington Tel 01525 402923  
Open 7am - 5pm Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri, 8am - noon Wed/Sat/Sun

YOUR LOCAL DELI & GENERAL STORE



## Country Beauty

Luxury treatments and quality products

SPECIALISING IN:

Facials for all skin types  
Permanent hair removal and waxing  
Remedial and holistic massage  
Manicure and pedicure  
Dermologica Skincare Consultant

APPOINTMENTS:

Call Jennie on 01525 405 325

Finally, a guaranteed solution  
for your flat roof problems,  
proven to last over 40 years!

Does your roof suffer from any of these signs?

• Moss growth • Cracks or bumps • Leaks • Or is it more than 7 years old?

**Stop!** Replace it now, replace it permanently  
and prevent misery from a leaking roof.



Unlike felt, Rubberbond EPDM will not  
split, leak or crack and it's tough  
enough to walk on!

For your **FREE** 21-point  
Home Health Check,  
call today.

**01638  
507730**



**WHITEHALL  
PLASTICS**.CO.UK  
The Roofline Specialist

Chris Whitehall,  
MD, Whitehall Plastics.

[www.whitehallplastics.co.uk](http://www.whitehallplastics.co.uk)

# Lidlington Parish Council

## The Council

Chairman - Councillor Adele Moore, 9 Bye Road

Vice Chairman - Councillor Anita Eames, 19 Hurst Grove

Councillor Carol Burrows, 2 Hudson Close

Councillor Iain Clapham, 9 Hudson Close

Councillor Rob Fletcher, 5 Whitehall

Councillor Shawn Haddaway, 8 Hudson Close

Councillor John Ludford, 38 Whitehall

Councillor Tim Mason, 10 Bye Road

Councillor Len Welsh, 26 Whitehall

Clerk - Colin West, 17 Lombard Street

## Planning applications

Recent applications that have been considered by the Parish Council having been consulted by Mid Beds District Council are:

- Extension with Garage, 15 High Street.
- Extension and Dormer Window, 11 Whitehall.
- Extension to Form Music Room, Thomas Johnson Lower School, Hurst Grove.

## Temporary closure of Lidlington, Marston and Millbrook crossings

The recent closure of the crossings for essential repairs continued to present problems for villagers, albeit the closures were during night time hours. It is understood that there will be no further closures this year, although general snagging works are outstanding.

Due to unsatisfactory responses from Network Rail during the recent engineering works, the Parish Council is investigating what further action it can take against the railway undertaking.

## A421 improvements

In connection with the proposed Draft Orders for the A421 Improvements, M1 Junction 13 to Bedford, the Parish Council has been involved with the consultation process. There have been lots of improvements agreed for the parish within the rights of way network, but the Council has been concerned over the long-term proposal to create a circular route around Lidlington Lake. As a result the Council has objected to the Draft Orders.

## Donations to various organisations and committees

The Parish Council gives a variety of donations to a number of clubs and societies as a result of a request from that body and subject to the request being bona fide.

Recent donations have been made to Lidlington United Sports Club for pitch improvement, redecoration of the pavilion, provision of a mower and repairs to the multi-use games area. Other donations have been made to the Village Hall Management Committee for fencing work and ladder storage and also to Victim Support Bedfordshire.

## Highways

Representatives of the Parish Council met with the Area Steward, Bedfordshire Highways recently to discuss highway issues. The meeting takes the form of a walkabout and particular highway problems are highlighted.

Residents of the parish are reminded that if there are particular problems with highways maintenance issues there is a Helpline where they may telephone County Hall. All calls are logged and appropriate action is taken. The number is 01234 228661.

## Best Kept Garden competition

The judge of the Competition recently visited the village and noticed an improvement in the standard of gardens throughout. It was really difficult for her to make a decision as several adjacent gardens seemed to have had a knock-on effect.

There were the gardens that over the years have been regularly well kept, but there was particular mention of the gardens of 4 to 12 Church Street and 1 to 9 St Margaret's Close.

Two gardens that were commended were those at 22 Station Road and Clayhill, High Street. The runner-up was the garden at 18 Chiltern Close which the judge felt 'extra work had taken place and the garden looked really good. It has been put together as a low maintenance garden but looked excellent. It has some flowers which lifted the stone and paving and is worthy of runner-up'.

The winning garden for the third year running is 6 Hurst Grove. The judge's comments are as follows – 'This is a fairly large front garden and every bit of it was very well kept. The grass was well cut as was the hedging; the borders were excellent, the flowers, shrubs, garden features, driveway, all looked really well presented. It appears to be a garden that has lots of attention and looks really excellent. I couldn't find anything bad about this one so it has to be the winner. It is a lovely garden and I would congratulate the owners of this property on their hard work'.

Well done everyone for all your efforts and better luck next time.

## Confident Communities Fund

The County Council has made some money available to parish councils to reduce the fear of crime and the Parish Council is currently discussing how this finance can be most effectively and efficiently spent.

### Lidlington Parish Council New Code of Conduct

Take note that the Parish Council of Lidlington formally adopted the New Code of Conduct at its Meeting held on the 15th May 2007.

## Developer's contributions as a result of new housing in The Lane

It will be noted that the new development off The Lane is well under way and as a result improvements for the community have already taken place – the footway and cycle route linking the Marston Crossing and The Grove. Funding has also been allocated to the local schools. In addition children's play space, outdoor sporting space and amenity open space is to be provided on the development and the Parish Council is currently discussing what form and the extent of such provision within the funds available.

## Royal Mail letter boxes

There has been no progress on the Parish Council's efforts to secure an additional posting box in the village.

## Meetings

Parish Council Meetings are open to the public and press, and parishioners are given the opportunity at the beginning of the Meeting to address the Council. They are not able to question the Council but may be present during proceedings whilst the Council is conducting its business.

The next full Meeting of the Council is scheduled for Tuesday, 25th September and details of this will be publicised on the Parish Council notice boards.

COLIN WEST, CLERK TO THE COUNCIL  
22ND AUGUST 2007

## www.lidlington.org

The Lidlington Website is still being updated but some skills are needed to give it a facelift and make it more user-friendly. If you can offer some technical help or would like to help keep the site up to date, please call Mark on 01525 403158.

Nestling at the foot of the Greensand Ridge, overlooking the Forest of Marston Vale, lies a small English village called Lidlington. Located in the heart of Mid Bedfordshire, it has existed for over 3000 years and is mentioned in the Domesday book.

Lidlington is home to the Thomas Johnson Lower School which provides education for 5 to 9 year olds. 9 to 13 year olds can go to Stearby Middle School while Wootten Upper School caters for 13 to 18 year olds. The nearest major medical centre is Bedford General Hospital.

M1 junction 13 is just 5 minutes from Lidlington and there is a regular bus service. Three major railway lines pass through the region and stations are located at Milton Keynes and Bletchley for the line from Euston; at Harlington and Flitwick on the Thameslink (Bedford to Brighton) Line, and at Lidlington and Millbrook on the Marston Vale (Bletchley to Bedford) Line.

For those with children... There are OFSTED reports available online. Visit Child Care Link (look under Cranfield) to review the Bedfordshire Children's Information Service list for registered child minders, pre-school play groups, out of school care, nursery schools, and day nurseries.

**COPY DEADLINE FOR NEXT  
ISSUE 05 NOVEMBER**  
To advertise call 01525 405515 or  
email [TLA@haddaway.co.uk](mailto:TLA@haddaway.co.uk)

## IDENTITY THROUGH DESIGN



Catalogues  
and brochures

Leaflets, flyers  
and direct mail

Packaging and  
product design

Logos and  
corporate identity

Advertising  
and promotion

Illustration and  
image editing

## IMAGE IS EVERYTHING

Ensure your business stands out from the competition with creative solutions from Greensand Design.

Whether it's a logo, a brochure, a press advert, a flyer or just some business cards - we can help.

Discounted rates and payment plans for small businesses

Over 10 years in the business

Fast, friendly service

Responsible for the new-look  
*Lidlington Advertiser*

For a free no-obligation quote call Jess on 01525 406 416 or email [jess@greensanddesign.co.uk](mailto:jess@greensanddesign.co.uk)

[www.greensanddesign.co.uk](http://www.greensanddesign.co.uk)

## The Code Team™

[www.thecodeteam.co.uk](http://www.thecodeteam.co.uk)

Introducing a new service from The Code Team  
SimpleSite - Your website, made easy.

SimpleSite provides you with the ability to have your own website, complete with a .co.uk domain name, and use of our bespoke SimpleSite engine - allowing you to create and update your website with ease - for just £10 per month.

The web based control panel makes your website incredibly easy to manage and update, all you have to do is select the relevant facility and enter the page content, and SimpleSite will do the rest.

[www.thecodeteam.co.uk](http://www.thecodeteam.co.uk)

01525 888206

[contact@thecodeteam.co.uk](mailto:contact@thecodeteam.co.uk)

We also offer free\* computer help over the phone. Alternatively we can come to you for a flat fee of £30. Call one of the team on 08449 864090 for assistance, or to book a visit.

We offer a range of other services, which provide for both businesses and individuals, so don't hesitate to give us a call.

\*If we cannot help you over the phone, we will recommend a visit, which will cost £30. The £30 fee covers our technician's time, any parts may be extra.

## Dog Training Club

This has been a good year so far, with a lot of our members passing their Kennel Club Good Citizen Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards. The Good Citizen Awards are run by the club twice yearly under the auspices of the Kennel Club. An external examiner comes to the Training Academy in Bedford and puts everyone through the various exercises. Those who pass have their details registered with the Kennel Club and receive a certificate. It also means that those owners and dogs can be invited to take part in demonstrations at Crufts and Discover Dogs. If you're interested in taking part, please call me for more details, but you will need to come to the club on a regular basis to learn and practice the exercises.

Remember the club training sessions are on Monday evenings in the Village Hall, starting with the puppy class at 6.30, beginners at 7.15 and advanced at 8.15. Every penny

profit made from the training club goes straight to ARAS Dog Rescue. Our heartfelt thanks go to all those who support the club and the shows, without whom a lot more dogs would be without homes, or even worse, could have been put down.

This year Rolf has produced an excellent calendar, with all profits going to the ARAS Dog Rescue. If anyone would like to purchase one, please call us on 01525 840508. They cost £7 and each month shows a photo of a dog that has been re-homed, with space to write down all your important appointments. Not only will you have a useful and decorative calendar, they also make wonderful Christmas gifts and you will be supporting more dogs in need.

For further information on all of the above, please call Lesley on 01525 840508. If you're interested in re-homing a dog, or want more details on the training clubs and ARAS Dog Rescue, please visit the ARAS website at [www.arasrescue.org.uk](http://www.arasrescue.org.uk)

## Marston Vale Forest Centre Events

### Conservation Task: Wildflower plug planting in the Park

**Sunday 23 September at 10.15am**

Join our volunteer team to do something for the environment, get some exercise and have fun. We carry out a variety of practical projects throughout the Vale. Wear old clothes and bring lunch. Meet at the Forest Centre - finishes about 4.15pm.

For further details contact [alexis.pym@marstonvale.org](mailto:alexis.pym@marstonvale.org) or 01234 762614.

### Health Walks

Throughout the year on Wednesdays at 10.30am and during the summer on Mondays at 7pm

Walking could change your life! Walk at your own pace under the guidance of a trained health walk leader and enjoy the many benefits that walking can bring. Most walks start at Reception but some start elsewhere - see notice board or ring 01234 762605 to confirm.

Call Liz Millbank at the Forest Centre for more information or details of any changes on 01234 762605, or just turn up - it's free.

### Sunday Stroll

**7 October 2007 at 10.30am**

**4 November at 10.30am**

Come and join us in the Country Park for a gentle walk to hear how the Park was set up

and a little about the surrounding area.

The walk will keep to hard surfaced tracks in the Park which are mostly level but have short gradients. Cost £1, payable on the day - no need to book. Meet at reception. Walks last approximately 2 hours.

Call Guy Lambourne for more details on 01234 762608 or email [guy.lambourne@marstonvale.org](mailto:guy.lambourne@marstonvale.org).

### Farmers' Market

**Sunday 14 October 10am to 2pm**

**Sunday 11 November 10am to 2pm**

A great chance to buy a huge variety of local products from producers within a short distance of Marston Moretaine. For more information email [mygardenfriend@aol.com](mailto:mygardenfriend@aol.com) or visit [www.farmersmarketgardenf.mysite.orange.co.uk](http://www.farmersmarketgardenf.mysite.orange.co.uk). The Farmers' Market takes place on the second Sunday of every month.

### Halloween Crafts: Children's Craft Activity

**Wednesday 24 October**

**10am - 12.45pm**

Session One: 10am - 10.45am

Session Two: 11am - 11.45am

Session Three: 12noon - 12.45pm

Cost of £1 per child, adults join in for free!

For more details or to book your place ring 01234 767037 or e-mail [alexis.pym@marstonvale.org](mailto:alexis.pym@marstonvale.org).

## Fireworks!

Remember... It is now against the law to let off fireworks between 11pm and 7am. Breaking this curfew could mean a fine of up to £5,000 or even six months in jail.

The only exceptions are:-

- Until midnight on November 5th
- Until 1am on the day following Diwali day
- Until 1am on the day following December 31st
- Until 1am following the first day of Chinese New Year

The Police have the power to deal with infringements. If someone near you is lighting fireworks outside these times call them on 01234 841212.

- Never light fireworks in the street; it is illegal.
- Don't let children handle fireworks.
- Keep fireworks in a box.
- Follow the instructions on each firework.
- Light them at arms length using a taper.
- Stand well back.
- Never put fireworks in your pocket or throw them.
- Always supervise children around fireworks.
- Never give fireworks to a child under five.

## Thomas Johnson Lower School Parents, Teachers and Friends Association

As many of you are probably aware, much of our fundraising efforts are towards the upkeep of the swimming pool. This has really paid off this year, as when the weather was kind enough the pool was well used after school and throughout the summer holidays.

We were very lucky with the weather on Saturday 14th July when the Football Tournament took place, which helped towards its success. Thanks to Adam Piper from Mini Strikers for lending his 'fastest foot' equipment which adults and children loved in equal measure. There were other fundraising stalls including cakes, refreshments and toys. Thanks go to Andy Cullum and Ray Steele for organising a fantastic event, to Dave Rogers (DRI Services), Colin Tidd (Houghton Insurance) and Ian Tomkins (Moko Consultancy) who kindly donated the shield, medals and trophies and to everybody who contributed and came along to support the team. Thomas Johnson Tigers played extremely well and were runners up to Wootton who won the tournament. A total of £593.05 was raised, which was a great achievement.

A shading solution for the playground has now been decided upon, and will be ordered shortly. The Committee have voted to purchase an outdoor classroom, which is a wooden structure and can be utilised all year round, which was felt to be a better investment than other solutions considered.

There will be another collection of Bags 2 School on Thursday 8th November. This is a great way of clearing out all those unwanted items and raising money for the school at the same time, so please start putting to one side all those unwanted clothes, bedding, soft toys, bags, belts or shoes etc. If you have bags please leave them out on the morning of the 8th to be collected. Leaflets will be dropped through letter boxes nearer the time as a reminder.

The children have now returned to school to see that the music room is being built. Our future fundraising efforts will include help towards purchasing equipment for this room.

I know it's only September but Christmas is not far away and the very popular and successful Christmas Craft Shopping Evening will soon be upon us. The date for the shopping evening is Thursday 15th November 2007 from 7-9pm at Lidlington Village Hall. Tickets cost £1.50 per adult, £1.00 OAPs and children are free. Tickets are available from any of the PTFA Committee Members or can be purchased at the door on the night. So come along and support this event and get yourself some of those Christmas presents early.

If you have a craft that you would like to sell at this event then please contact either the school or Avril on 07964 145789 for more information.

The PTFA will be running their Christmas Raffle again this year and will be looking for a kind business or individual to donate the 1st prize of £100. If you would like to help out with the 1st prize or have any other donation of either an item (bottles/chocolates etc) or service (beauty/hair/gardening etc) then please contact us. All donations are greatly received and allow us to provide more prizes.

With several new children attending the school the PTFA



Tantalise your  
tastebuds with  
a range of chilli  
and wholefood  
products  
from





- Confectionery
- 
- Rice, Pasta and Grains
- 
- Sauces and Seasonings
- 
- Chutneys and conserves
- 
- Gift sets available  
Ideal for any special  
occasion

View our online catalogue at  
**[www.darnspice.com](http://www.darnspice.com)**  
or call Shawn on 01525 406783

would like to extend an invitation to new and current parents to the Annual General Meeting, which will be held at the school on Tuesday October 9th at 7pm. Please come along and find out what the PTFA do and meet other parents.

If you would like to contact us regarding any of the above items then please either speak to a Committee Member, leave a message at the school (01525 402377) or email [thomasjohnsonptfa@hotmail.com](mailto:thomasjohnsonptfa@hotmail.com).

**AMANDA CLAWSON**  
**PTFA COMMITTEE MEMBER**

### School governors

Would you like to help make a difference to your child's education? Have you ever thought about becoming a school governor?

For further details please contact Howard Davenport at Bedfordshire County Council on 01234 228118 or [howard.davenport@bedscc.gov.uk](mailto:howard.davenport@bedscc.gov.uk). More information is also available on the BRCC website [www.bedsrcc.org.uk](http://www.bedsrcc.org.uk) (see News & Events/Vacancies).

## Mid Beds Citizens' Advice Service

To improve telephone access to its service, Mid Beds Citizens' Advice is now operating a call centre. The new advice line number is 08444 771600 and calls are charged at the basic rate of 5p per minute from a land line.

Trained volunteers at the Ampthill and Biggleswade offices deal with nearly 12,000 enquiries a year, helping people resolve a wide range of problems. Topping the list are issues with debt, benefits, employment and relationships, but advisers also offer free and confidential help on consumer, housing and other matters.

Appointments are also available at Biggleswade Bureau, Century House, Market Square, Biggleswade. Tel: 01767 601368 and Ampthill Bureau at The Court House (Citizone building), Woburn Street in Ampthill. Tel: 01525 402742. Opening hours are weekdays 10:30 – 2:30pm.

Home visiting is available for people who are in poor health and therefore unable to access the bureau. The outreach service can be contacted via the appointments lines.

### Lidlington Lunch Club

Lidlington Lunch Club was started seven years ago and has been enjoyed by many different people during those years. It is held at the Lidlington Church Hall opposite the Chapel and shops. At present we meet the 1st Wednesday of each month (but not 1st or 2nd Jan).

Lunch is served at 12.30pm - a two course meal for £3. The meals vary each month. In August we had roast pork, roast potatoes, cabbage, carrots and Yorkshire pudding plus apple sauce and stuffing. Dessert was a choice of cheesecakes, followed by tea or coffee. Vegetarian or special diets can be catered for if booked beforehand. Whilst all ages are welcome, there are no special lunch options for children.

Everyone is welcome. Make new friends while enjoying a pleasant social occasion! The Hall has disabled facilities and we can also arrange transport if walking is a problem. If you are still unsure we can send someone to talk to you personally.

Why not venture out and join us?

**For more details call Jackie Davis on 01525 280478.**

## A special notice for Wootton Upper School students

Next term there will be a bus leaving Wootton Upper School at 5pm taking students to Stewartby, Marston and Lidlington. This means that you will be able to stay on after school for clubs and activities without arranging a lift.

The bus will run on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, starting on Tuesday 25th September, and will cost £1 per trip.

This will operate for a trial period until the end of the autumn term. If sufficient numbers use the service, it will continue through the year.

Any enquiries, please contact Chris Pettifer (Head of Integrated Passenger Transport Unit) on 01234 228881 or Tess Mason 01525 404938.

## Wikipedia

The Wiki entry for Lidlington has recently been updated. Why not check it out and add your own comments? The URL is: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lidlington>

## Are you a keen photographer?

We are looking for:

- Pictures of village life • Pictures showing local areas of beauty
- Pictures of green spaces used by local communities
- Pictures which make you feel part of the local community

Pictures can be in any format - colour/black & white/digital/photo-phones etc.

We are looking for people to take pictures of their villages and towns over the coming months, which will be used for a number of local and district wide improvement plans and strategies.

If you are interested in being a local photographer and finding out more, please give us a call on 01234 213100 or email [emma@bedfordvb.org.uk](mailto:emma@bedfordvb.org.uk) for more information.



# RT Photography

For all your photographic needs at sensible prices

**Weddings • Portraits • Pet studies**

Call Rolf on 01525 840508

Online portfolio at [www.clikpic.com/rolftaggart](http://www.clikpic.com/rolftaggart)

## Fair Trade

Fairly Traded gifts and foods are available from Traidcraft - new catalogues now available. If you would like a catalogue, please call Jean on 405730.

Buying Fairly Traded products helps third world workers and their families to receive a fairer wage and better working conditions.

We sell a selection of items in the Methodist hall during Coffee Mornings on Tuesday, 10am – midday (where we drink Fair Trade tea and coffee). Lidlington Stores also sells Fair Trade coffee, tea and delicious cookies.



## Harvest Festival

You are welcome to the Harvest Festival on 30th September, 10.45am at St. Margaret's Church. Any produce brought will be sold at the Harvest Supper. This will be the first service taken by our new Methodist minister, Rev Rachel Larkinson.

## Harvest Supper

Monday 1st October at 7pm in the Methodist Hall. Produce will be sold in aid of the Bishop's Harvest Appeal. Tickets £3.50, Children £2.50, Family £11 (2+2). Contact Jackie on 01525 280478.

## Arctica Fun Day, Saturday 22nd September 10.15am - 3.45pm at Lidlington Methodist Hall

Ages 5 to 12 yrs • Family BBQ 6.30pm • Crafts • Bouncy castle • Songs • Free entry



Run by Lidlington Churches. For further information, contact Jean on 01525 405730 or Jackie on 01525 280478. Registration forms available now - register early to guarantee a place! If you would like to offer help at what is always a highly successful day, please call us.



# BUCKLES



**JOHN DEERE** John Deere Main Dealers for Hertfordshire & Bedfordshire **JOHN DEERE**

## Sales • Parts • Service



**NEW**  
Range of Electric  
Walk Behinds  
from **£198**  
inc. vat



**NEW**  
Range of Ride  
on Collectors,  
Scarifiers  
and more



**NEW**  
Range of Petrol  
Walk Behinds  
from **£284**  
inc. vat

High Street • Cromer  
Stevenage • Herts • SG2 7QA  
Tel: 01438 861257 • Fax: 01438 861783

For further information contact: Mark Humphrey  
mark@jebuckle.co.uk  
www.jebuckle.co.uk

Manor Park Farm • Millbrook  
Bedford • MK45 2HY  
Tel: 01525 405848 • Fax: 01525 405854

## Good news for Eczema sufferers

In case you weren't already aware, National Eczema Week is almost upon us, running from 15th to 22nd September.

In the UK, around 20% of children suffer from eczema, and nearly 10% of adults. The problem is becoming more common, which may be partly attributable to exposure to chemical irritants and pollutants in cleaning products, cosmetics, and processed foods, weakening the immune system.

Treatment for skin irritations is usually in the form of topical steroid creams. Whilst weaker steroid creams available over the counter rarely cause side effects, stronger steroid creams are frequently prescribed. Where there is a possibility of infection, an antibiotic or antifungal drug must be included in the cream. (Steroids alone are inadvisable in such cases, as the drugs lower immunity and could allow infection to spread more rapidly.)

Whilst most topical treatments go no further than the skin, some drugs, including steroids, do penetrate and reach the bloodstream when applied topically. They are then able to circulate within the body and can potentially cause unwelcome side-effects both in the skin and elsewhere. The stronger the cream, the greater the risk of problems and this risk increases the longer the cream is used.

Side effects to the skin can include stretch marks, thinning of the skin, the appearance of fine blood vessels, easy bruising and loss of pigmentation. Prolonged use can cause an array of more general side effects collectively recognised as Cushing's Syndrome. These include mood swings, central obesity, fat deposits on the back and neck, moon face, acne, osteoporosis, peptic ulcers, raised blood pressure, lowered immunity and problems with sugar metabolism and insulin levels.

Consequently, many people, particularly those with

***In the UK, around 20% of children suffer from eczema, and nearly 10% of adults. The problem is becoming more common, which may be partly attributable to exposure to chemical irritants and pollutants in cleaning products, cosmetics, and processed foods, weakening the immune system.***

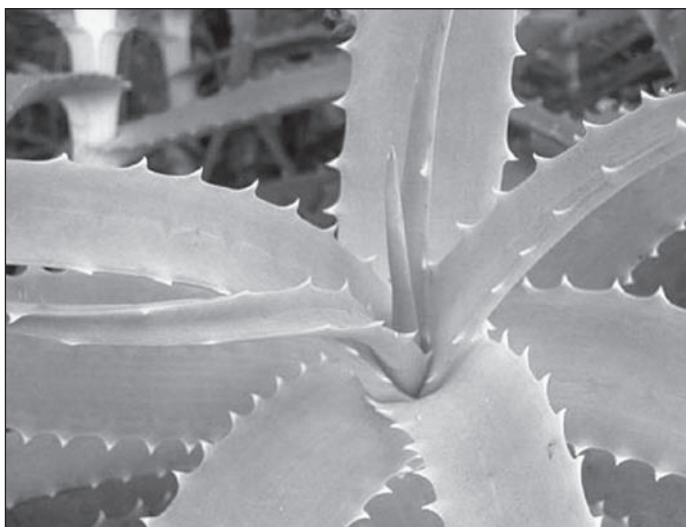
persistent skin problems who require long-term treatment or strong steroid creams, and parents of infants and children with eczema, are keen to find a safer, more natural alternative.

At last – the good news! There is a safe and effective alternative – a rich moisturising cream combining the soothing, anti-inflammatory, anti-pruritic (anti-itching) qualities of Aloe Vera with the natural antibiotic properties

of Propolis, which is a substance found in the bee hive. Symptoms of eczema and other immune system conditions such as asthma and arthritis can also be helped by Aloe Vera Gel, taken as a drink.

If you or someone you know suffers from any of these and would like more information, or to try any of these products, just call me on the number below and I will be happy to help.

**GILL HADDAWAY, TEL 01525 405515**



## Marston Appliance Repairs

**Washing machines, Tumble dryers, dishwashers, fridges, freezers and other small appliances repaired**

**Second hand washing machines sold • Spares supplied for DIY**

**NO CALLOUT CHARGE**

**Call John on 01234 767515**



## Sloe Gin

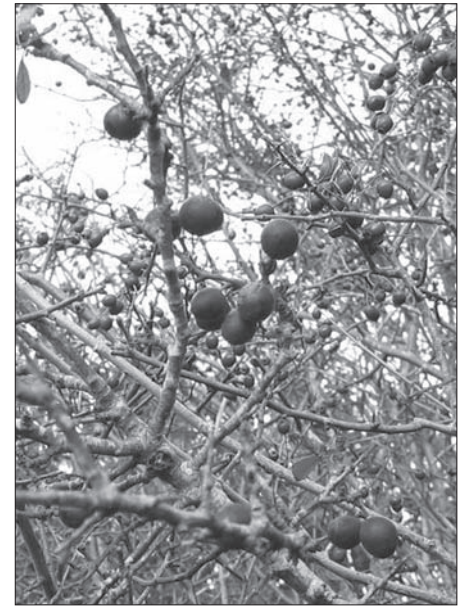
One of the many positive aspects of village life is the availability of wild fruits. Edging the numerous footpaths and bridleways around Lidlington as well as on roadside verges are blackberries. These are now perfect to pick just to eat raw, or to make into jams or blackberry and apple pie or crumble.

Legend has it that on the night of the 29th of September, the Devil spits on blackberries. Some versions of the tale say it's because when he was kicked out of heaven, he landed in a prickly patch of blackberries. Other versions say it's to claim them as his own. Hence, make sure you pick them before this date!

One of my favourite wild fruits to pick is the sloe (fruit of the Blackthorn bush). This is also one of my favourite bushes in the spring, as it flowers on bare wood when all the other roadside hedging is still drab

following winter. The beautiful white blossom is a welcome sign of spring. At this time of year, the blossom is well departed and has been replaced by small purple fruits with a lovely bloom to them. October is the best month to pick sloes, and traditionally they are said to best after the first frost.

Once you have been for a walk and enjoyed the fresh air, take a litre bottle of gin and drink half (preferably not all on the same night!) Then cut or prick the sloes and drop into the half empty bottle so that they displace the remaining gin to near the top. Add about 150g of sugar put on the top and shake. All you have to do now is to agitate the bottle daily for a week, then weekly for a month or two. It should then be ready to drink, once you have sieved out the old sloes. It is better the longer it is kept... if you can manage this! The old



sloes are rather nice de-stoned and made into alcoholic chocolates.

Sloe gin is a great gift to give at Christmas, when it is lovely to drink on a cold evening.

A nice alternative which I made this year with excess blackcurrants from my allotment was Cassis. The recipe is the same but I replaced sloes with blackcurrants and gin with brandy. You can alter the amount of sugar you use depending on your taste.

ANITA STRUTT

***One of my favourite wild fruits to pick is the sloe (fruit of the Blackthorn bush). This is also one of my favourite bushes in the spring, as it flowers on bare wood when all the other roadside hedging is still drab following winter. The beautiful white blossom is a welcome sign of spring.***

# Norfolk Holiday Chalet to Let

## Mundesley on Sea, near Cromer

Two Bedrooms  
(One double and one twin)  
Fully equipped kitchen  
Heated for winter lets

For availability/further details  
phone John on 01234 851305



## What would you change in your life?

Life Coaching is a fast growing service supporting people to make positive changes in their lives.

Businesses have been successfully using coaches for some time to work with Executives to help them think through decisions, explore options, make and execute a plan. They have also already seen the benefits of coaching to help employees put into practice new skills learnt following training. Now more and more individuals are seeking coaches to help with their personal development.

You will probably have seen television programmes and an abundance of books, all promoting the advantages of working with a professional rather than struggling on your own.

I have been coaching people for the past

15 years as a line Manager, HR professional and recruitment consultant. I have a lot of experience successfully coaching people, particularly to identify the type of work they would be best suited to, then to create and action a plan to secure it. Once in a role they enjoy the impact on the rest of their lives has been phenomenal!

I have been able to provide confidential and professional support for a wide range of life changes including weight loss, retirement, confidence and relationships, in addition to career changes. The very positive reaction I have had, both from clients, and in many cases their families too, has prompted me to dedicate myself to coaching.

Coaching sessions can be conducted either face to face or via the telephone,

during which you will be encouraged to explore the ideas you have to make a change in your life. You will be helped to really understand the potential impact on you and those close to you, of the changes you want to make. You will consider whose help you need and how to obtain it. Perhaps most importantly, you will gain a very personal insight into what has stopped you before and what motivates you.

A qualified and experienced coach knows that the expert on you, is you, and has the skill to ask the right questions to help you identify, plan and action the change.

We all know that when we team up we can achieve more and get there faster. Having a coach means you have a team.

So what would you change?

**MICHELE YOUNG**



**Some people dream of success, others wake up and take action!**

*Your life now is the result of the decisions and actions you have taken in the past. Your future depends on the ones you take now.*

*If you want to make a positive change in your life and are ready to do something about it, I can help you.*

*Call me to arrange a free and confidential introduction to coaching.*

**Michele Young, MY Coach**  
**01525 404 697**

## Lidlington in the War

Edited from text submitted to the BBC's People's War site by Emma, a volunteer from Cedars Upper School, on behalf of Rose Prior.

I was eight years old, nearer nine, when the war broke out, the eldest of four children. I can remember Chamberlain's speech. We lived in Lidlington, a small country village in Bedfordshire. My dad was in the RAF.

A boy's school from Walthamstow came to Lidlington as evacuees, but no girls. They stayed during the war and the teacher who came with them, who was very strict, taught us, too.

My grandmother had an evacuee called George, who read my brothers' comics. You had to have an evacuee in the rooms in your house at the time. My mother gave up her room to an RAF officer and his wife.

American troop trains went through the station and the Americans, called 'Yanks', would say, "Do you want some gum, Chum?". They leant out of the carriage windows and spoke to us. They gave us chocolate and threw us instant coffee, but we didn't know what it was. The Americans would go to the pub called 'The Green Man' and

talked to my mother over the garden fence. The soldiers cooked on campfires in a nearby field. My father warned us not to go into a field with other soldiers or to talk to the Italians. We were invited into a field, but we said "No".

The Italian Prisoners of War used to go around singing all the time; the village was swarming with them. They all pinched the swings and they all wore big crosses round their necks, being Catholics. I remember going for a walk with my sister and passing a group of German Prisoners of War. One of them went for a walk with my sister, although I kept an eye on her. I'd seen people in the papers, so I recognised them.

I remember a Doodlebug going past the window and as the flames went past, Mother prayed that the engine wouldn't stop. It was destined for Cranfield, but fell in a field just short of it, no harm caused. I remember my mum telling me to get under my bed when the air raid sounded. It was a very scary and terrible noise. There was also an aeroplane that crashed in the third field behind our garden. I collected shrapnel and tried to enquire what nationality it was. I have memories of bombers going out from a nearby airfield, which I watched from my mother's window. By the age of 10 or 11, I lived in fear of Germans

coming down in parachutes. My mother shouldn't have told me this.

Down the steep hill in Lidlington, came lots of tanks, which parked up along the High Street. The housewives brought out tea for them. One of the soldiers lifted me up, and I sat in the tank - there wasn't much room. They could have been on their way to Dunkirk, June 1940. There was a party at the top of my road for VJ day. The actual events of VJ were terrible. We all rejoiced when it came to an end. People gave what they could to it, for the children. There was an American there, named Eddie, who was in with the villagers. We had a great old time.

My uncle was an ARP warden; he told people to turn their lights out. I was once getting dressed at my aunt's house in a cupboard with a candle and he shouted "Put that light out!". When you went for a walk you had to have something to point the light of your torch downwards so there was a spot on the floor. We had to put up blackouts at the windows, when it got dark. It was a hook that clipped onto a wooden frame. No light was allowed through.

"Think before you speak, because you don't know who's listening!"

Also, there was a camp for displaced persons between Lidlington and Marston; there were people there from all over the world. They were all men and they couldn't go back after the war. I had my first kiss from one of them,

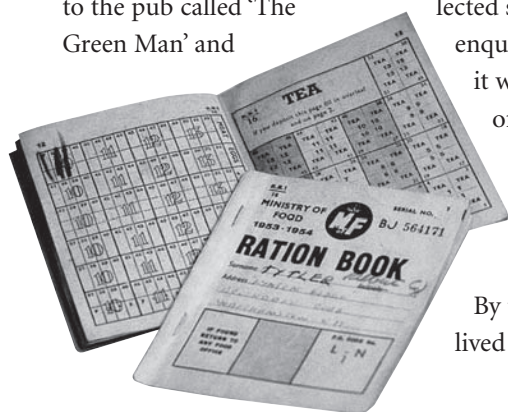
who was from Estonia and said he was a doctor. I never saw him again. I was 16 and the war had finished.

I remember my father who was Scottish was a very strict man and we cheered when he left to go back to the RAF. He had volunteered to be a Reartail Gunner in a Lancaster bomber, a most dangerous job. My mother wrote back and warned about the children and he withdrew. My father had memories of women who fraternised with the Germans and they had all their hair shaved off.

Before the end of the war, my brother had never seen a banana. There was a lot of bread around because it was cooked in the village by our baker. Sugar was rationed and two ounces of fat/margarine had to last a week. I was very skinny and was always hungry and hunting around for food; if there was a dry crust lying around I'd eagerly devour it. My mother made a Christmas cake with elderberries and it was the most awful thing. All the berries tasted bitter. My mother would never let me cook, because she couldn't afford to. There was still rationing till 1952, I think. We were all happy when the war ended.

© Copyright of content contributed to this article rests with the author.

With thanks to Rose Prior, Emma, Civic Centre, Bedford and BBC "WW2 People's War" website (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/ww2peopleswar/stories/40/a5085740.shtml>).





Marston Vale Nurseries  
A421, Lidlington  
Bedfordshire  
MK43 0NL

## *Christmas Barn at Marston Vale Nurseries*

Marston Vale Nurseries is situated on the A421 at Lidlington on the same site as Fired Earth. Our Christmas Barn Experience will bring together a variety of small food, arts, craft, gift and design businesses to provide a quality shopping experience for our customers.

Also on sale will be a range of plants, garden products, Christmas trees, decorations and gifts. Our cafe will be providing a range of snacks and drinks and we have ample parking for both customers and stallholders.

We are looking for craft, food and gifts stalls to take part in our Christmas Barn weekends from 10/11th November to 22nd/23rd December 2007.

Tables/stalls from £30 per weekend or book the whole 7 weeks for only £170. Sorry, no single days. Price includes weekly advertising and electricity supply. Discounts for charity/school stalls. Early booking is advised.

To book please call us on 01234 764 141

*Be part of our Christmas experience*

## *The UK's No1 Lawn Treatment Service*

4 annual treatments to create a  
**healthy, lush, green**  
lawn.  
*Costs less than DIY*



- Professional formula long life controlled feeds.
- Treatments applied at the right times in the right way.
- Qualified and trained uniformed operators.
- Weed killing, Moss control.
- Hollow-Tine Aeration, Scarification.
- No Contract... pay as you go service.

For your **FREE** no obligation lawn analysis report and quotation call your local GreenThumb on

from  
as little  
as **£13**  
(for a typical  
100sq metre lawn)

**01234 709345**

[www.greenthumb.co.uk](http://www.greenthumb.co.uk)

**GreenThumb**  
LAWN TREATMENT SERVICE



# AUTHENTIC AGA COOKING



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO:

## 'GOOD FOOD FAST'

ON FRIDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER 2007, FROM 12PM TO 2PM

WITH JAMES MCINTOSH

The cost of this event is £15 per person, payable upon booking.

## 'EASY AGA CHRISTMAS'

ON SATURDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2007, FROM 12PM TO 2PM

WITH DEBORAH MILLER

The cost of this event is £15 per person, payable upon booking.

It's your chance to view and find out about all the latest Aga and Fired Earth products, to enjoy a cooking demonstration, and food specially prepared on an Aga.

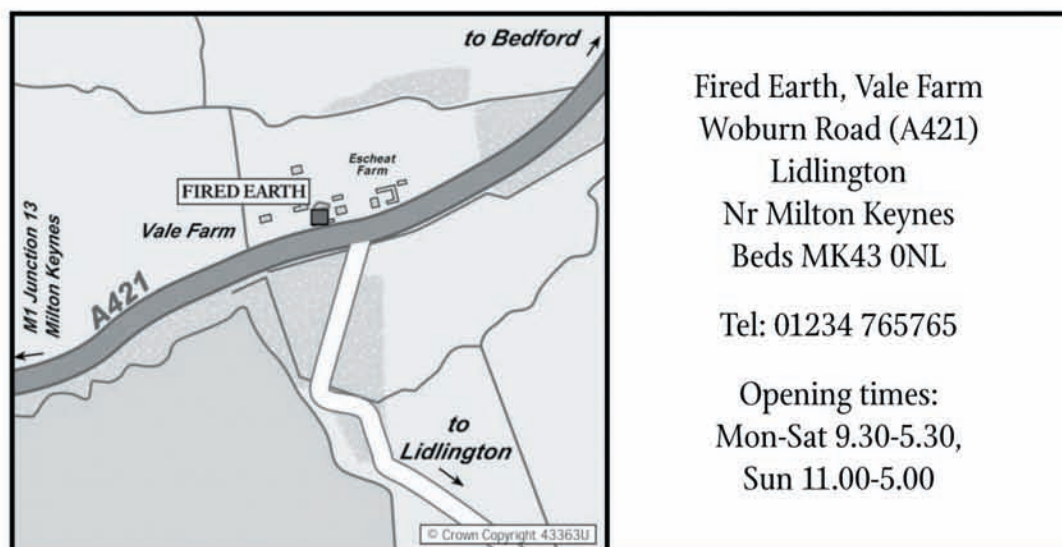
### DISCOVER THE SECRET OF SENSATIONAL COOKING

No other cooker in the world produces flavours and moist, succulent textures quite like an Aga.

### FIRED EARTH IS ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S LEADING INTERIOR TRENDSETTERS

Well known for setting the pace in tiles, paint, kitchen living and bathrooms, Fired Earth's products are beautiful, functional and durable, and work well in both contemporary and traditional spaces.

WE HOPE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO JOIN US!



Fired Earth, Vale Farm  
Woburn Road (A421)  
Lidlington  
Nr Milton Keynes  
Beds MK43 0NL

Tel: 01234 765765

Opening times:  
Mon-Sat 9.30-5.30,  
Sun 11.00-5.00



# FIRED EARTH

# EASYCLEAN

a brighter window for a brighter day

EasyClean is a family-run window cleaning service, established in 2002, offering a very professional and reliable service, specialising in:

- window cleaning
- gutters (internal & external)
- fascia boards
- conservatory roofs
- competitive rates

Contact Phil - **Mob:** 07738 232982 **Home:** 01234 765690 **Email:** north59@aol.com