

# OFFICIAL HOUGHTON REGIS TOWN GUIDE 2011-2013



**Working with Businesses for Houghton Regis**

## Houghton Regis Community Church

Houghton Regis Community Church is a Jesus centered, open and friendly church that meets at Tithe Farm Lower School, Tithe Farm Road, every Sunday morning at 10.45am.



We run a number of home groups which meet throughout the week. We also work with the elderly (at Lady Spencer House in Houghton Regis) and with young children, who are well looked after during our Sunday meetings. All people from the church who work with children have been CRB checked.

HRCC is looking at youth work, parenting courses and working closely alongside local schools in the Houghton Regis area. Our aim is to meet, wherever we can, the needs of today's community in our town.

HRCC is a family of people who care very much for each other, and we welcome anyone of any age or background to come and meet with us, either on a Sunday or at the Jewels Arts and Craft Centre in Bedford Square (see below).

Website: [www.hrcc.org.uk](http://www.hrcc.org.uk)

We are a registered charity and also part of  
the River Network group of churches;  
[www.rivernetwork.org.uk](http://www.rivernetwork.org.uk)

## Jewels Arts and Craft Centre



Part of the ministry of HRCC and more than just a supplier of arts, crafts and haberdashery materials.

Activities at the shop include adult and children workshops for calligraphy, water-colour painting, needle-work, card making etc.

6 Bedford Square, Houghton Regis. LU5 5ES.

**Tel: 01582 868881**

# CONTENTS

|  |       |   |
|--|-------|---|
| ◇ Welcome to Houghton Regis .....                  | 5     | ◇ |
| ◇ Houghton Regis - The History of Tomorrow .....   | 6     | ◇ |
| ◇ Houghton Regis Town Council .....                | 8     | ◇ |
| ◇ The Town Sign .....                              | 10    | ◇ |
| ◇ The History of the Town Crest .....              | 10    | ◇ |
| ◇ Parks and Recreation .....                       | 12    | ◇ |
| ◇ Community Events .....                           | 15    | ◇ |
| ◇ Houghton Hall Park & Sewell Nature Reserve ..... | 16    | ◇ |
| ◇ Houghton Regis Street Naming .....               | 16    | ◇ |
| ◇ Houghton Regis Map .....                         | 20/21 | ◇ |
| ◇ Local Information .....                          | 33    | ◇ |
| ◇ Sports and Leisure .....                         | 36    | ◇ |
| ◇ The Memorial Stone .....                         | 37    | ◇ |
| ◇ Bedford Square Map .....                         | 38    | ◇ |

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that all the information in this official guide is correct, neither Plus Publishing Services nor Houghton Regis Town Council accepts responsibility for any loss or inconvenience arising from any errors.

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## THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN HOUGHTON REGIS

*All Welcome!*



### All Saints' Church, Bedford Square

**SUNDAY:** 8.30am - Holy Communion  
10am - Parish Mass & Sunday School

**TUESDAY:** 9.30am - Mass

**SATURDAY:** 9am - 11:30 am  
Coffee Morning



### CHRISTMAS AT ALL SAINTS'

Carols by Candlelight

Sunday before Christmas 6pm

Crib Service 24th December 4pm

Midnight Mass 24th December 11pm

Christmas Morning Family Service 10am

### The Saint Thomas Meeting House, Lowry Drive, Parkside

**WEDNESDAYS: 9.30am - Coffee Morning & Service**

Hall available for Children's Parties and Small Functions

*To enquire about Christenings or Weddings, please come to All Saints' Church any Friday evening between 6.30pm - 7.30pm. Any other enquiries please contact the Vicar of Houghton Regis: Father Brian Wheelhouse - tel. (01582) 867246*



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# WELCOME TO HOUGHTON REGIS

Houghton Regis has a population of approximately 17,000 people and is catered for by three major supermarkets, a shopping centre, a bank, two petrol stations and many local shops. There are several industrial areas on the west side of town, providing local employment opportunities. Sports and recreation also feature heavily in Houghton Regis as the town has eight areas of public open space, which provide up to 12 football pitches, a cricket square, a Bowls Green, five pavilions, a skate park and five children's play areas (four of which have undergone major refurbishment).

Over the last 50 years the town has changed considerably and much of the changes took place in the 1960s and the 1970s when the housing estates of Tithe Farm and Parkside were built. The town has already begun to expand but there will be further developments in the next 20 years and this will mean major changes and new opportunities.

Houghton Regis has a wealth of local history, with references to the town mentioned in the Domesday Book. You can see glimpses of Houghton's history in the buildings in the town centre, most notably All Saints' Parish Church and in the beautiful parkland of Houghton Hall Park.

The Town Council has a website ([www.houghtonregis.org.uk](http://www.houghtonregis.org.uk)), which provides information on local services and details of the latest council events and developments.

This Town Guide is designed to provide local information for residents, businesses and visitors and we hope you find it helpful and useful.



*Jesus, be the Centre of our lives*

*St Vincent's Catholic Primary School  
Hammersmith Gardens  
Houghton Regis, Dunstable  
Beds, LU5 5RG  
Telephone: 01582 862456  
E-mail: [stvincents@cbc.beds.sch.uk](mailto:stvincents@cbc.beds.sch.uk)*



*St Vincent's is a thriving, popular Catholic Primary school serving the local community and Catholic families from the parish.*

*The school has a nursery unit and reception class with its own outdoor learning area separate from the older children's playground. We have year groups 1 through to 6 with 5 and 6's lessons taught in a separate block to encourage more independence in the older year groups.*

*The school has an active "Friends of St Vincent's staff and parents group" which arranges many functions and actively fundraises for the school.*

*We are a friendly school with a great staff team and parents supporting us. Children are well behaved and enjoy their time in school. They are encouraged to become independent and involved in all activities and learning within school. Our children regularly attend Mass with their teachers and class group in the adjacent St Vincent's Church.*

*Visitors to the school are welcome, please call or e-mail the school office should you require any further information.*

*Mrs Christine Lake  
Headteacher*

# HOUGHTON REGIS - THE HISTORY OF TOMORROW

The street names in Houghton Regis hold many clues regarding the social history of the area.

It is known that Puddlehill (where Chalk Hill is now situated) was occupied from Neolithic times. Before Watling Street (now the A5) was cut through the chalk, Puddlehill and Maidenbower were on the same piece of downland. The hamlets of Puddlehill, Sewell, Bidwell and Thorn formed part of the parish of Houghton Regis and are still recorded as such today.

In the history books references to Houghton Regis have been found at the time of Edward the Confessor. In 1086, it was entered into the Domesday Book, which was a record of a survey of the land of England carried out by the commissioners of William 1st.

The name of Houstone was recorded in the Domesday Book, but many different versions of the name were recorded between the years of 1086 and 1353. The village name was recorded as Kyngshouton in 1287, while the name of Houghton Regis as seen today, was first used in 1353. The name Regis was used even in the days of the Domesday Book, as it was a royal manor. It has also been thought that the name Houghton was of Saxon origins with "Hoe" meaning spur of a hill and "Tun" meaning village. Whichever the true meaning, it is certainly interesting reading.

England was the subject of many invasions in earlier times, and in 878 AD there were raids by the Danes, which led to England being divided. Houghton Regis was in the middle of the two sides and Anglo-Saxon chronicles record an occasion in 913 AD when the Danes set out to raid Luton. Thanks to local people the aggressors were driven away, and by the time Edward the Confessor came to power in 1046, this was a peaceful land once more.

The oldest known building, which is standing in Houghton today, is the All Saints' Parish Church, (situated next to Bedford Square), which was built in the 13th/14th century. Before this a Saxon Church stood on the same site and is mentioned in the Domesday Book. Most of modern day Houghton Regis has been built around its magnificent structure, and many people still enjoy visiting the church and worshipping there.

Locally Houghton Regis is famous for Houghton Hall (listed as an ancient monument), which was built by Dame Alice Milard in 1654 and completed in 1700. Nowadays this building is no longer a private residence and is currently used as offices. The Hall once had large and magnificent grounds surrounding it, and although part of the site has been broken up, what remains is currently being returned to its former glory and houses many examples of wildlife.

The Crown Inn, situated along East End Road, is another part of local history that is still appreciated today. The inn is on a register of alehouse licences of 1822 and it is possibly the same building, which appears on a parish valuation of 1797. The area has been constantly changing and over recent years has been the subject of much re-development.

The local boundary lines have been the subject of many changes, with much land being taken away from the Parish of Houghton Regis. The area today known as High Street North was formerly part of Upper Houghton and was added to Dunstable in 1907. In April 1933 a few local streets under went a name change, during the extension of the borough of Dunstable, and Poynters Road Dunstable, which leads into Houghton Regis, was one of those streets. It was originally known as Park Road South, whilst Park Road North has still retained its original name.

The boundary lines continued to change well into the 1950s when the Brewers Hill Estate was

## HOUGHTON REGIS TOWN GUIDE

being built. This estate was again originally incorporated into Upper Houghton, but was lost to Dunstable when the borough was extended. The Parish of Houghton Regis was not happy about this, and the Parish Council put up a strong case in their defence (1953) including the scandalous increase in rates!

With the continuing trend for progress the Tithe Farm Estate was built during the 1960s with its shopping centre Bedford Square being a typical example of 1960s architecture. The original Tithe Farm, which stood on the site of Bedford Square, had a Tithe Barn built in the 15th century by Abbot John Moore. Unfortunately the farm and barn were demolished during the 1960s developments. The estate was built to ease the housing problem in the capital to house the over spill. The Dunstable Borough Gazette of January 1954 reported that local authorities within a 100-mile radius of London were in discussions about providing assistance with housing. The area evolved with its own community life and identity, separate from those of Luton and Dunstable and with its own local facilities.

Unfortunately during the redevelopment of the area many small shops and businesses along the High Street have been lost, taking with them historic buildings. This has been one major change between the way Houghton Regis once looked and the way it appears today. Examples of businesses, which once stood are K Edwards - Provision & Grocery Stores at 100-102 High Street, Houghton Regis (now a car sales showroom), The White Horse and Five Bells Public Houses and The Queen Street Bakery, which was one of the several local bakeries owned by Mr. P Ward (once a local delivery boy). Houghton Regis was also home to The Portland Cement works.

Redevelopment of the area continued through the 1970s when the Parkside Estate was built and has continued ever since. With the cost of housing increasing in the cities, people from all over the country have continued to settle here due to somewhat lower prices and the ease of travel into London via rail and road networks.

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With the dawn of a new Millennium arrived new developments with brand new properties being built on the edges of the town. The most recent changes to the landscape being the addition of a new estate along Sandringham Drive and the new homes being built at the edge of the quarry (both under construction at the time of printing).

It is clear that Houghton Regis with its ancient history will continue to grow and expand into this new century and beyond, bringing with it new and exciting developments and events which will form the history of tomorrow.

# HOUGHTON REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

Houghton Regis Town Council consists of 14 councillors who serve the community voluntarily and council officers who are employed to implement the functions of the council. The Town Council is part of a two tier governmental system and is responsible to Central Bedfordshire Council (a Unitary Authority).

The Town Council looks after the parks and recreation of the town and has three main committees under its control. These are: the Environment, Planning and Licensing and Policy and Resources committees. The council also has three sub committees, which deal with the Accounts, Community and Youth Projects and Grants. There are also Working Parties, which are dedicated to dealing with special issues such as the Carnival, Growth Issues and Combating Crime. The Town Council also meets in its entirety every other month to monitor the work of these committees, sub committees and working groups. All meetings of the Town Council are open to the public and participation is most welcome. Agendas for forthcoming meetings are available from the office, the Town Council website ([www.houghtonregis.org.uk](http://www.houghtonregis.org.uk)), the library and are displayed on the notice boards outside the council offices.

*\* Photo courtesy of Councillor Alan Winter / \*\* Photo courtesy of Central Bedfordshire Council*

### Houghton Hall Ward



**Cllr Edward Costello**  
01582 515854



**Cllr David Jones\*\***  
01582 655162



**Cllr Robin Hines\***  
01582 759026



**Cllr Andrew Roberts\***  
01582 868288



**Cllr Tony Swain\***  
01582 522952



**Cllr James Patterson-Waterston \***  
01582 750520

c/o Houghton Regis Town Council, Peel Street, Houghton Regis, Bedfordshire LU5 5EY

### Parkside Ward



**Cllr Peter Carrington\***  
01582 866314



**Cllr Ruth Harris-Small**  
01582 758483



**Cllr Robert Shimmin\***  
01582 739170



**Cllr Alan Winter\***  
01582 514654

c/o Houghton Regis Town Council, Peel Street, Houghton Regis, Bedfordshire LU5 5EY

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### Tithe Farm Ward



**Cllr Mrs Shirley Gilchrist\***  
01582 519087



**Cllr Michael Hunting\***  
01582 526630



**Cllr Mrs Kim Ireland**  
01582 865693



**Cllr Peter Williams\*\***  
01582 865358

c/o Houghton Regis Town Council, Peel Street, Houghton Regis, Bedfordshire LU5 5EY

### Central Bedfordshire Councillors



**Cllr Dr Rita Egan (Parkside)\*\***  
0300 300 8518



**Cllr David Jones (Houghton Hall)\*\***  
0300 300 8535



**Cllr Mrs Susan Goodchild (Houghton Hall)\*\***  
0300 300 8525



**Cllr Peter Williams (Tithe Farm)\*\***  
0300 300 8567

c/o Central Bedfordshire Council, Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford SG17 5TQ

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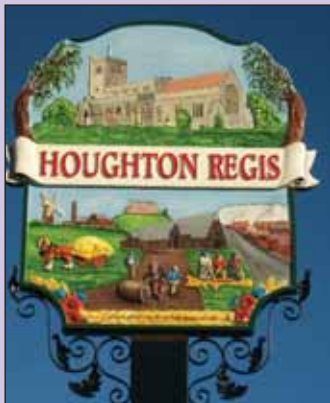
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# THE TOWN SIGN

Many local towns and villages have their own signs, which form part of their local identity. The Town Council received grant funding in 2009 from the Chalk Arc Project and this funding was used to purchase a brand new sign for the town.

There are many areas of Houghton Regis which could have been included and local community groups and schools were consulted on the project to see what they would like to see. There were many varied views about the different aspects of the town and its community life but overwhelmingly, all the groups agreed that there should be a strong focus on the history of the area.



*Town Sign*

The finished design included the following images of the town:

- All Saints' Parish Church;
- Houghton Hall
- The Tithe Barn
- Kilns - Industry
- Straw plaiting - Industry
- The chimneys of the Portland Cement works – (Industry)
- Grassed area to signify the Village Green (and agriculture)
- The Windmills
- Barrel Rolling
- The extraction of the chalk from the Quarry in the town.

All with the blue and green backdrop used in the Town Crest.

The sign was unveiled in a ceremony by the Town Mayor in February 2010 and many of the local groups who were consulted about the content attended the unveiling ceremony.

The sign is now a prominent landmark and one that we hope will serve many generations of Houghtonians and visitors alike.

# THE HISTORY OF THE TOWN CREST

Many people who visit the offices comment on the bright, colourful insignia, which is displayed on the wall in the Council Chamber. The design is very different from that of other local councils, presenting a bright, modern logo depicting the history of the town.

On many occasions members of the public have asked what the insignia means and a brief look into the council's archives has proved interesting reading!

Houghton Regis Parish Council moved into the former doctor's surgery premises on Peel Street in 1977. Until that date the council did not have its own premises and



*Council Chamber*

## HOUGHTON REGIS TOWN GUIDE

held meetings in local schools and halls. In 1974, all Parish Council's had the option to apply for Town Council status, and from January 1980, Houghton Regis officially became a town. It was in this year that Councillor John Kinchella became the first Town Mayor.

In line with the new town status, it was agreed in 1981/82 to create a chain of office for the Town Mayor. In order for this to be produced the Town Council needed a design and was asked to consider aspects of the community, which could be placed into the finished item. The archiving department at Bedfordshire County Council was contacted to find out what locally was of any specific historic interest and value and the reply referred to the agricultural nature of the area and All Saints' Parish Church. Both features were put to the manufacturer and the first draft design was put forward.

An extract from the council minutes states "The overall design is the Parish Church with a wheat sheaf against a green enamel to indicate the general rural, agricultural nature of the area". The blue colouring in the upper half of the design was chosen as contrasting background and the overall shape of the pendant was specifically designed as a modern feature.

The original design did not include the cogs in the lower half of the oval and these were added to represent the manufacturing element of the town.

The chain of office was sponsored by local businesses and presented to the community in 1983. It has been a permanent and popular feature ever since.



*Council Offices*

Grove Road  
Houghton Regis  
Bedfordshire  
LU5 5PE  
**Telephone & Fax**  
01582 863516



**Head Teacher:**  
Mrs Julia Lawson

**Email:**  
[thornhill@cbc.beds.sch.uk](mailto:thornhill@cbc.beds.sch.uk)

**Website:**  
[www.thornhilllower.ik.org](http://www.thornhilllower.ik.org)

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- Great breakfast and after school care



*Please come and visit and see for yourself!*



# PARKS AND RECREATION



*Village Green Pavilion*

All enquires are welcome on 01582 708540. A refurbished play area on the opposite side of the Village Green was also opened in the spring of 2010.

As well as the play area for the younger children, there is also a basketball court, a purpose built youth shelter for older children and youth, and the Millennium Memorial Stone, which has a time capsule buried underneath the foundations, and is often used for the Armistice Day service.

## Village Green

Houghton Regis Town Council is responsible for the upkeep of the Village Green, which is situated on East End, Houghton Regis. The Village Green is just over seven acres of public open space and is the centre point for many recreational facilities. The Village Green is used for cricket, the annual town Carnival, youth sporting activities, the Circus and the Fair.

The Village Green Pavilion was extensively refurbished in 2007 and is available for hire.



*The Fairground*



*Moore Crescent Sports Pavilion*

the west side of town and incorporates a play area (which was extensively refurbished in 2009) and an adult sized football pitch. There are also changing facilities.

*(\*\*photo courtesy of Mrs Clare Evans)*

## Parkside Drive

The recreation ground at Parkside Drive provides two play areas for children (one of which was extensively refurbished in 2009), as well as football pitches, a basketball court and open

## Moore Crescent

Until the end of the 1990s Moore Crescent was home to the Renault Recreation Club. The land has now been partially developed for housing but also provides the location for the Bowls Green and football pitches.

A new pavilion was built and opened in 2010 and is now home to the Houghton Regis Bowls Club.

## Orchard Close

The Town Council manage a recreation ground and sports pavilion at Orchard Close. This is on



*Orchard Close Play Area\*\**

## HOUGHTON REGIS TOWN GUIDE

space suitable for exercising and walking dogs. Until 2011, The Carnival Procession used to start at Parkside Drive before winding its way to the Village Green. The recreation ground is also used by the various youth clubs to provide sports and social events.

### **Tithe Farm**

The recreation ground at Tithe Farm incorporates a pavilion, football pitches, and a play area which was also extensively refurbished in 2010 as well as the new Skate Park, which opened officially in July 2009.



*Parkside Recreation*



*Skate Park*

### **Dog Kennel Down**

The Town Council manages Dog Kennel Down as an area of informal open space for residents to enjoy the diverse range of flora and fauna.



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## King's Houghton Middle School

Head teacher: Mrs M Gill  
B.A. Hons, P.G.C.E., N.P.Q.H.



Parkside Drive, Houghton Regis, Beds LU5 5PX

# YEAR 5 TRANSFER OPEN EVENING

TUESDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2011 AT 6.30PM

The Governors, head teacher and staff at King's Houghton Middle School would like to extend a warm invitation to all parents of pupils transferring to Middle School in September 2012 to attend our open evening. You are invited to join us for the head teacher's welcoming speech followed by an opportunity to view the school, meet some of our pupils and staff and become involved in some of the activities that are planned for the evening. We would like to share with prospective students and their parents some of the exciting things that have been happening at our school over the last year. As you tour the school, you will see the ongoing investment in the classes and buildings, which provide our pupils with some of the best facilities in the area. We have a lot to celebrate at King's Houghton with good exam standards and progress by the time pupils leave us in year 8, strong pupil support services, after school care at no cost to parents, international links, our learning support unit and vulnerable student provision being just a few examples of this.

King's Houghton's main focus is on rising standards, using quality resources and a clear vision for the future, we feel confident you will be delighted with the educational experience that your child will receive here.

**We look forward to welcoming you.**

For more information, telephone: 01582-863294

E-mail [khoughton@deal.bedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:khoughton@deal.bedfordshire.gov.uk)

Website [www.kingshoughton.beds.sch.uk](http://www.kingshoughton.beds.sch.uk)



INVESTORS  
IN PEOPLE



# COMMUNITY EVENTS

Houghton Regis Town Council hosts a variety of community events. Each of the events is free to the general public.

The annual town Carnival is traditionally held on the second Saturday in July. A Village Fete with a street procession was first held in 1981 before officially becoming the Carnival in 1982. The Town Council took over the organisation from a Carnival Association in 2002 and has continued to build on the success of this very popular event.



*The Mayor's Tea Party*

who has provided the most support on or before the day and this is in memory of the founder Chairperson of the Carnival Association.

(\* Photographs courtesy of Mrs. Pam Gill.)

Other community events organised include an Easter Egg Hunt, a Christmas Light Switch on and a Santa's Grotto. Please see local press for details or look on the Town Council's website.

The Town Council very much looks forward to seeing you at these events.



*Carnival Court  
1984/1985\**



*Olive Burgess\**



*Houghton Regis Carnival 2011*



*Kings Houghton Middle School Float*

# HOUGHTON HALL PARK & SEWELL NATURE RESERVE

## HOUGHTON HALL PARK

Houghton Hall Park is situated behind the Houghton Hall Estate and is recognised as being an area of outstanding natural beauty (AONB). The Park was once the grounds of the Houghton Hall Estate. Houghton Hall Park is an idyllic area of parkland, where visitors can find a picnic area, a Kitchen Garden Orchard, Eastern and Western Woodland areas and a network of scenic walks along dedicated footpaths, in addition to the main grassed area of the park itself.

There is car-parking provision for Houghton Hall Park, which is located at the gated entrance on Park Road North. Entrance to Houghton Hall Park is free and is open all year round.

## SEWELL CUTTING NATURE RESERVE

Houghton Regis was once a much larger parish, which extended on to part of High Street North, Dunstable. This section of the High Street was called 'Upper Houghton' and stretched North from Union Street, Dunstable. The hamlets of Sewell and Thorn were also part of the parish of Houghton Regis and are still recorded as such today.

Whilst Sewell has only 17 properties it is also home to a nature reserve, which was opened in 1981. The nature reserve, which covers eight acres of land, is part of the London North West Railway line, which ran from Dunstable to Leighton Buzzard and was closed in 1962. The reserve contains orchids and chalk land flora as well as many types of butterfly. The land is also near to the prehistoric Maidenbower Earthworks, which is also within the parish of Houghton Regis. The Earthworks were surrounded by a series of deep ditches in Neolithic Times and is thought to have been a religious or defensive site.

# HOUGHTON REGIS STREET NAMING

Noted below are some of the reasons behind the naming of most of the streets and estates in Houghton Regis. The list is constantly being updated and for more information why not log on to the council website [www.houghtonregis.org.uk](http://www.houghtonregis.org.uk)

## **Abbey Walk 1971**

Abbey Walk was originally to be called Briars Walk but due to a road of a similar name in Dunstable, the Head Postmaster raised an objection! Abbey Walk was suggested in its place but unfortunately no reason was given for this choice of street name.

## **All Saints Road 1959/1960**

All Saints' Parish Church has stood on the same site since about the 13/14th century and is a central point of the town's history.

## **Alsop Close 1964**

Luton and Rural District Council received an application from developers Mead Estates, for the new cul-de-sac on Leafields (adjoining Long Mead) to be known as 'Renbanks'. The councillors suggested the name 'Alsop Close' after a Mr Alsop of Leafields, Houghton Regis to commemorate his recent selection for the British Olympic Team.

## HOUGHTON REGIS TOWN GUIDE

It is believed that Mr Alsop took part in the 'Hop, Skip and Jump' event, which is now called the 'Triple Jump'.

### **Angels Lane 1959/1960**

One explanation for the naming of St Michaels Avenue and Angels Lane is connected with All Saints' Parish Church. After the reformation, it is claimed that all churches were renamed St Michael and All Angels and that would explain where the names derived from. The census returns from 1841 – 1901 also support this theory, as the ecclesiastical parish is noted as being 'St Michael and All Angels'.

This would a likely source for the street name especially as St Michaels Avenue is opposite the church and the Vicarage House on Bedford Road.

### **Arnald Way 1997**

There was an artist by the name of George Arnald who painted many scenes of Houghton Regis. George Arnald lived between the years 1763 and 1841 and is buried in All Saints' Churchyard. The name was suggested to honour this.

Other suggestions for names on this development were Corn Harvest Way (relating to the corn mill at the end of Mill Road) and Quarry End.

### **Ashwell Walk / Therfield Walk 1972**

There are no details listed in the council minutes about the naming of Ashwell Walk, and there are several places of the same name in the nearby counties. Most notably there is an Ashwell near Royston, Hertfordshire and an Ashwell in Oakham, Leicestershire.

The only similarities that could link the place name of Ashwell, Hertfordshire to Houghton Regis are that there are two villages in Nr Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire called 'Houghton and Wyton'.



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Houghton is home to a Village Green in the centre of a village and an 18th century mill. There is also a modern rectory by the name of 'Houghton Hill House'. The Village of Wyton also had a church named St Margaret's and All Saints'.

All of which are remarkably similar to Houghton Regis. Although it is not clear why the name Ashwell was chosen, it is possible that places near to Huntingdon were looked at, in order to create a link to other 'Houghton's'. There is also a village named Therfield in very close proximity to Ashwell.

### **Balmoral Road, Clarence Place, Frogmore Road, Hampton Place, Holyrood Drive, Richmond Drive 2009**

The above names were given for the development of houses and flats off Sandringham Drive. As the streets were an extension of an existing area, it was suggested that the names be on the same royal theme. The names were suggested by Aldwyck Housing, Houghton Regis Town Council and Central Bedfordshire Council and were suggested to continue the Royal theme of its neighbouring area. Other names suggested, were Monarch's Way, Kew Gardens and Elizabeth Court. The Sandringham Drive Community Enterprise Hub is located there.



*Sandringham Drive Community Enterprise Hub*

### **Bankside Place**

There was for many years a 'Bankside Poultry Farm' located either to the rear of; or on the site of Bankside Place

### **Barleyfield Way 1974**

It is likely that this is a literal term relating to the fields that were located where the houses were built. The name was suggested by Messrs Summit Homes, who built the properties. Incidentally, there is no number 13!

### **Bedford Square Shopping Centre 1966**

The council minutes on 4th January 1966 record that there were four possible suggestions for the name of the new shopping 'precinct'. Those were: Regis Green Precinct, Green Regis Precinct, Green Royal Precinct and Royal Green Precinct. Unfortunately none of those names were actually chosen and 'Bedford Square Shopping Centre' was eventually adopted. The centre was officially opened in the late 1960s by the comedy actress 'Hattie Jacques' who was known for her roles in the 'Carry On' Films.

It is possible that the name Bedford Square was derived from Bedford Trucks (a large source of local employment at that time) or from Bedford Square in London, which was owned by the Duke of Bedford who was one time Lord of the Manor in Houghton Regis.

### **Beech Tree Way, Cherry Tree Walk and Leaf Road 1960, Ash Tree Road, Blackthorn Road, Meadow Lane Sycamore Road, Willow Way, Yew Street 1959,**

According to a copy of the Dunstable Gazette Yesteryear page from 1959, the streets of Tithe Farm were named after the countryside. Originally, the streets were to be named First, Second etc with Tithe Farm Road called 'Broadway'. However there is no detailed explanation in the council archives although clearly, the latter option sounds far more attractive and relevant to the history of the area.

### **Bidwell Hill**

Bidwell Hill runs off Bedford Road, which leads to the Hamlet of Bidwell. Therefore this seems the likely reason for this street name.

### **Blackburn Road 1985**

Blackburn Road forms part of the Industrial Estate off Townsend Farm Road. There is no mention on the council's official records about where the name came from; however there was a Reverend Leslie Blackburn who was the Minister of All Saints' Parish Church from 1952 to 1974.

### **Bloomsbury Gardens 1973**

The meeting of the Houghton Regis Parish Council in December 1973 – chaired by S.C. Clarke (MBE JP) suggested naming the Parkside Estate after London Boroughs. This seemed particularly appropriate, as the Tithes Farm Estate had been built to house the London overspill.

The names Chelsea, Hammersmith, Bromley, Finsbury, Bloomsbury and Kensington were all named as possible suggestions and were to be called either Drive or Close. However when the final decision was made Luton and Rural District Council preferred the name 'Gardens' rather than the Houghton Regis Parish Council's suggestions and so the roads in that particular phase of development became known in the majority as 'Gardens'.

All of the above names were adopted with the exception of 'Finsbury'. Incidentally, if you live in number 13 on any of the roads on Parkside Drive, you should actually count yourself lucky because many roads in Houghton Regis were actually built without one!

### **Borders Way 1960**

Before the modern day developments took place most of Houghton Regis was divided up into farms, fields and furlongs. One such field was 'The Borders' which is probably where 'Borders Way' comes from.

### **Brookfield Avenue, Close and Walk (originally named 1957)**

After the world wars had ended there became a need to build houses for workers who were employed locally. Houses were built for these workers along Woodlands Avenue, Manor Park and

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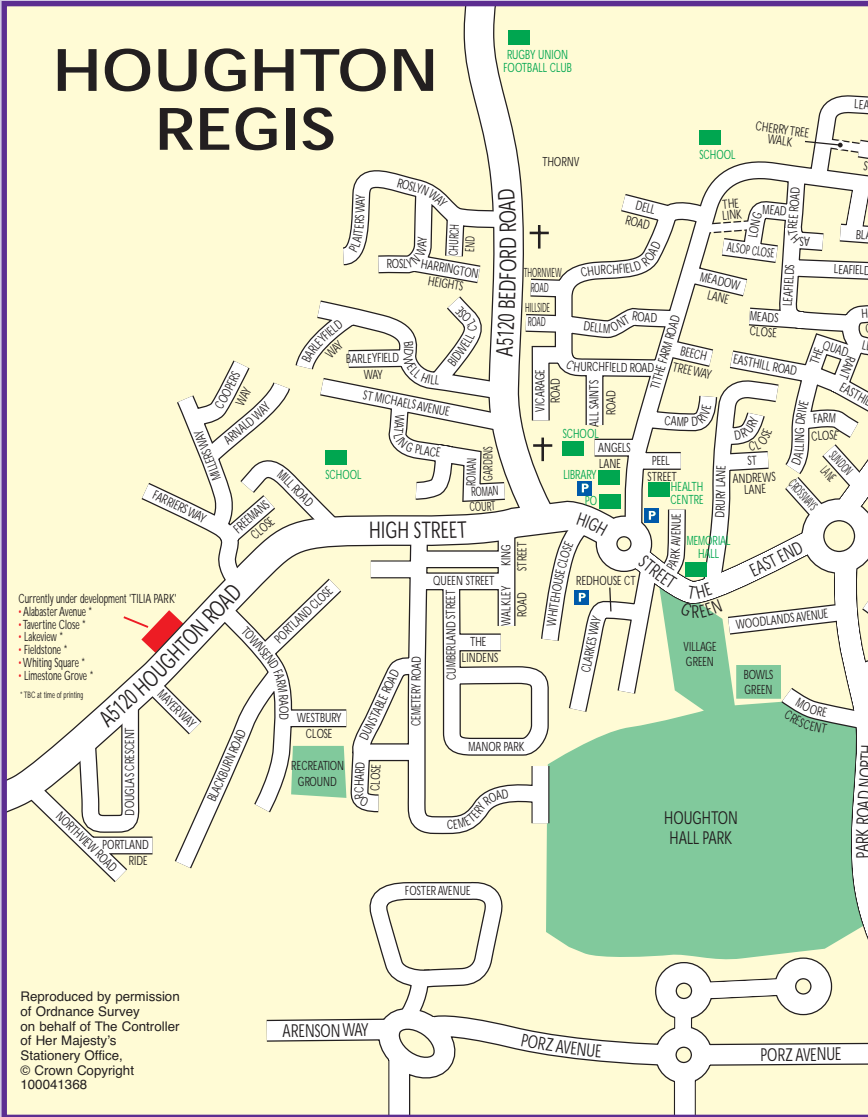
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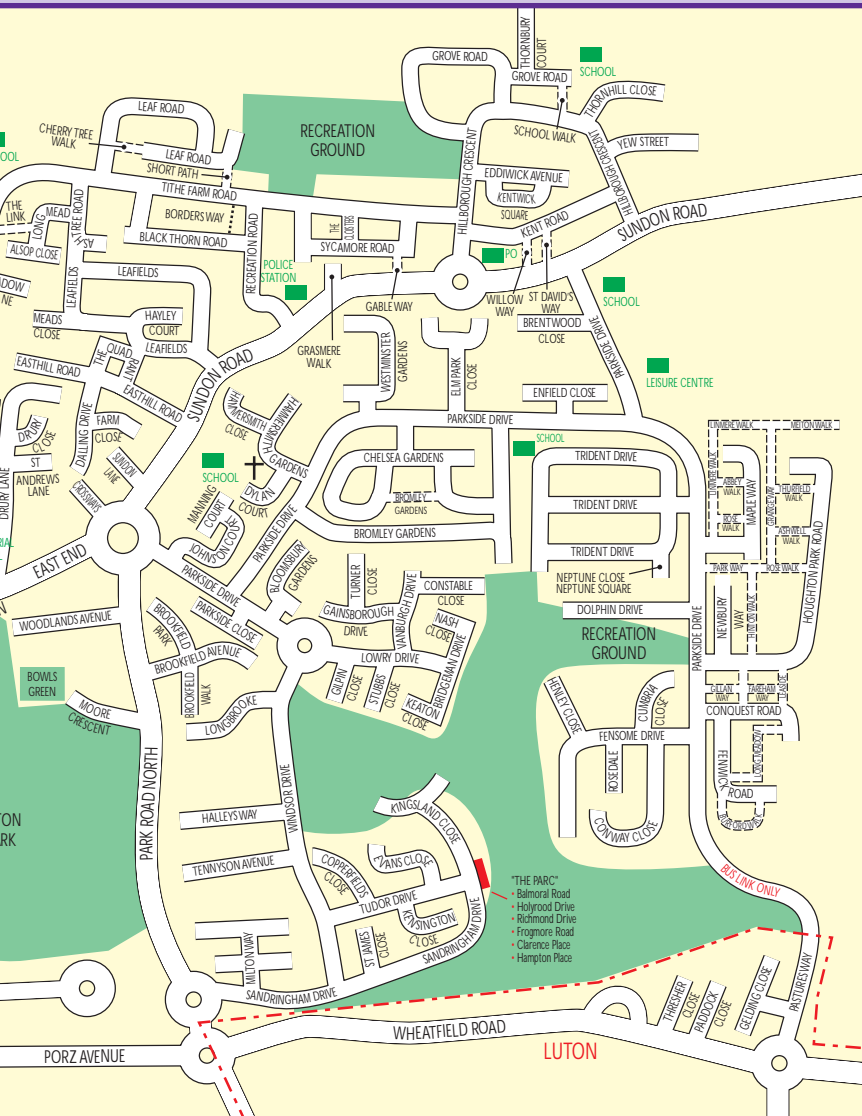
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the location today known as the Brookfield Estate. The houses on the Brookfield site were previously known as PRC properties or Pre-fabricated or Pre-cast Reinforced Concrete houses and these were eventually pulled down to make way for the modern estate during the 1990s. The estate was mentioned in the council records as the Brookfield site and from this the names devolved.

It would seem that the obvious reason for the name Brookfield is due to the small brook, which runs along Park Road North. The original suggestion for Brookfield Avenue was 'Brandreth Avenue' after the Brandreth Family who built and lived in Houghton Hall. Unfortunately the name was objected to by a resident of Brandreth Avenue Dunstable and the council then had to reconsider the name.

### **Camp Drive 1959**

Camp Drive was named in honour of the Army Regiment, which occupied the Village Green in the First World War.

### **Cemetery Road**

Cemetery Road was named after the small Cemetery located at the top of the road. For many years the Cemetery lay over grown and undisturbed. From the mid 1980s the Cemetery attached to All Saints' Parish Church was closed as it had become too full to cater for any new burials. The old Cemetery was then cleared and put back into use. It is now well maintained and used for all burials in Houghton Regis. Cemetery Road was extensively extended and this has been used for further housing development.

### **Churchfield Road 1960**

Long before the days of the Tithe Farm development the area was divided into fields and furlongs. As well as being located behind All Saints' Parish Church the land now known as Churchfield Road was called Churchfield Furlong.

### **Church End 1970**

There is no mention in the official books about the naming of Church End. However, it is opposite the church on Bedford Road.

### **Clarkes Way 1972**

Clarkes Way was named after Cllr S.C. Clarke MBE JP (who was known to many as Sid Clarke). Cllr Clarke was the Chairman of the Parish Council during the 1940s and 1950s and is recorded in the minute books (that the Council has on site) as Chairman from 1954 - 1960 and from 1964 to 1977. The original suggestion for this street was Clarke Road.

### **Conquest Road 1975**

It is unfortunate, that there are no details in the council minute books about the naming of many of the streets in the Parkside Estate. Therefore looking at the links between the roads and connections with Houghton Regis has made many of the inferences about the street names. Conquest Road was a suggestion made by Builders MJ Shanley.

It looks possible, that many of the surrounding streets to Conquest Road were decided upon due to the connection with a place nearby called 'Houghton'. There is a place called Houghton Conquest, which is located along the A6 towards Bedford. In common with other place names on the Parkside Estate, Houghton Conquest has a church called 'All Saints'.

### **Constable Close 1984**

In keeping with the rest of the Painters Estate, Constable Close was named after famous artist John Constable.

### **Conway Close 1981**

The houses on Conway Close were built by the developers Barratt Homes. The Town Council was asked to suggest names for the whole estate taking into account advice from the builders themselves. It is believed that all of the roads were named after the house types that they were building. Therefore Conway Close comes from the Conway house type, which is the style of the houses.

### **Coopers Way 1997**

The Council records from 1997 do not contain any information about how the name 'Coopers Way' was derived. However the term 'Cooper' refers to the trade of a barrel maker and therefore it would provide a companion to both Farriers and Millers Way. In addition it is known that the actor Gary Cooper lived in this area before moving to America and his family were closely connected to the Freeman Family who worked the local mills. A letter from the Town Clerk at the council at this time would back up this theory of descendants from the Freeman family.

### **Crossways 1972**

Crossways is a private development, built on land off Sundon Road. A number of names were suggested for this road, and these included: Pond's Way, St George's Close, Sundon Close, Crossways and Warren Close. It would seem logical that Crossways was suggested due to its location on the cross way on the junction of Sundon Road, Park Road North and East Hill Road. At the time of building the close, Parkside Drive would not yet have been built.

### **Cumberland Street**

It is known that, the first head teacher of Thomas Whitehead School was a Richard Cumberland. However there was also a Hat Factory on King Street owned by a family of the same name.

### **Cumbria Close 1981**

Cumbria Close was named after the Cumbria House type built by Barratt Homes Ltd.

### **Dalling Drive 1959**

Some local residents have been able to solve the mystery behind this street name. The story goes that one of the first people to move in to the road was a Mr and Mrs. Smith at number 30 and that when the residents to be were putting down a deposit with the builders, it was mentioned that Mrs Smith had recently changed from her maiden name of Dalling to her married name of Smith. The builders (Mead Estates Ltd) then proclaimed that they would call the street after her! The Town Council requested that the original suggestion of Dalling Walk be changed to 'Dalling Drive'.

### **Dell Road / Dellmont Road 1959/1960**

Although there are no records of the reasoning behind these street names in the council minutes, it seems likely that the streets were named after Dell Farm and Dell Mount Farm, which were located off Bidwell Hill, towards the hamlet of Thorn.

### **Dolphin Drive, Neptune Square, Trident Drive 1974**

Neptune, the Roman God of the Sea carried a Trident, which had three prongs and rode on a Dolphin or a horse. Although there is no apparent reason why the roads were named after Roman Mythology, a glance at the map of Parkside Drive reveals that Trident Drive is in fact in three 'pronged' sections.

### **Drury Lane**

The most famous Drury Lane is that in the West End of London, where the New London Theatre is located. It is unclear as to why this road name was chosen in Houghton Regis but many local people believe that it has a theatre connection.

### **Dunstable Road**

It is almost certain that Dunstable Road was due to its proximity to the border of Dunstable and because part of Dog Kennel walk, the footpath that runs between Houghton Regis and Dunstable, runs along side Dunstable Road, with access gained from Orchard Close.



*The Chequers*

### **East End**

Although there are no official records about the naming of East End, it is located in the east part of the town, which would suggest that is how it was named.

### **Easthill Road c1965**

Records of the early Annual Parish Meetings make reference to 'East Hill Farm' where one of the councillors who served from the 1890's was born. Early maps of Houghton Regis also show a large area to the east of the town dedicated to the farm. Easthill Farm House is still located on an 'L' shaped plot of land on Sundon Road.

### **Eddiwick Avenue 1960**

Houghton Regis was home to many farms, before the current developments were built and an old map of Houghton Regis shows that the fields were all divided into separate furlongs. There is a mention of Lower Eddiwick Furlong and short Eddiwick Furlong, which occupies the spot where Eddiwick Avenue is today.

### **Elm Park Close**

Most of the streets on the Parkside Estate were named after London Boroughs, due to commemorate the fact that many of the houses were built for the London Overspill. Elm Park is not a London Borough, but it is located in Greater London.

### **Evans Close 1992**

Mr Edryd Evans was Clerk to Houghton Regis Parish and Town Council for 37 Years between the years of 1953 and 1990. Mr Evans would have witnessed at first hand the many changes to the area from its beginnings as a small parish to a much-extended town. Mr Evans was a popular local figure, who amongst other things was responsible for the refurbishment to the Cemetery on Cemetery Road. Evans Close was named in honour of Mr Evans service to the community.

### **Farham Way, Hinton Walk, Kirton Way, Leaside, Melton Walk 1972**

There is no mention in the council minutes of 1972 about these street names, which were suggested by M.J Shanley. It is noted that most of these are place names and it is possible that they have a connection with a Houghton. In the case of Melton Walk, there is a village called 'Houghton on the Hill' which is located in Leicestershire, which may be a suggestion about where the name occurred originated. The only difference with the other roads is that there isn't an All Saints Church in Houghton on the Hill but there is one in nearby Ashfordby. There is an All Saints' in Houghton which is near Newbury in Berkshire, a Houghton Nr Stockbridge, Hampshire and an All Saints' in Headley, Hampshire, a New Houghton in Derbyshire, one in Hinton, and one near Kirton, Lincolnshire. There is no mention about a Leaside, which still remains a mystery.

### **Farm Close 1959**

The developers 'Mead Estates Ltd' suggested the name 'Farm Close' and it is believed that the connection could be made to East Hill Farm. Farm Close was built six years before Easthill Road but is a very short distance away from the old 'East Hill Lane' (which was renamed St Andrews Lane in 1965). Therefore it is highly probable that all these names came from 'East Hill Farm'.

### **Farriers Way 2003**

Farriers Way was suggested to the District Council as a companion to Millers Way.

### **Fensome Drive 1981**

Fensome Drive was built along with Conway Close, Cumbria Close, Henley Close and Rosedale by Barratt Homes in 1981. The original suggestion, made by Houghton Regis Town Council for Fensome



*The Quarry as viewed from Farriers Way*

Drive was 'Barratt Drive' after the developers. However, the name 'Fensome' was decided as an alternative and again, this was because of the 'Fensome' house type.

### **Fenwick Road 1975**

The original suggestion for Fenwick Road, on Parkside Drive – was Franklin Road. However the name already existed in Dunstable and members of the Parish Council were concerned that this may result in some confusion. Fenwick Road was suggested instead although there is no explanation as to why!

### **Freemans Close 1997**

It is widely known, that Houghton Regis used to be home to a corn mill, which was situated on what is now called 'Mill Lane'. What isn't so well known is that there was a second operational mill on the Corner of Whitehouse Close. Both Mills were worked for generations by the Freeman Family and Josiah Freeman, born in 1837 was the last miller to work in the High Street. The name was suggested to South Bedfordshire District Council in his honour.

### **Gable Way**

The term gable relates to building and in particular roofing! A gable is the triangle portion between of a wall between the edges of a sloping roof and many of the houses in that location are built with a front door to the front and one to the side – almost a forerunner to the cluster home. Gable Way is located between Sundon and Sycamore Road and possibly with gable roofing!

### **Gainsborough Drive 1984**

Gainsborough Drive gets its name from the artist Thomas Gainsborough. The decision to name the Estate was taken by the builders, who wanted themes running through these street names.

### **Grove Road 1960**

Grove Road is situated on the grounds of Grove Farm, which was shown on very early boundary maps of Houghton Regis. Grove Farm is also listed on the 1901 Census for the town.

### **Grangeway / Parkway / Rose Walk 1971**

These names were suggested by MJ Shanley, who built the estate. The majority of the names that were suggested to the Parish Council were accepted for this Estate, except for 'Kingsway', which was potentially either Grangeway or Parkway. This was due to a road in Dunstable with the same name.

### **Halleys Way 1986**

Halleys Way was built by MacLean Homes in 1986 and named after 'Halley's Comet', which made a famous appearance that year. The Comet is named after Sir Edmund Halley the English Astronomer who worked out the comet's orbit in 1705. Halley's Comet is seen every 76 years and will next be seen in the year 2062.

### **Harrington Heights 1970**

Many thanks to the resident who has supplied me with some information about the possible naming of Harrington Heights...

The story goes that a young man called Harrington worked in the offices of the builders MJ Shanley. He was measuring the boundary of the site backing on to Bidwell Hill where there is quite a drop in ground level. As he was standing on high ground a joke was made re: Harrington's height, and when they got back to the office and the question of a street name came up, the joke was remembered and the name put forward. It is not known for certain if this is where the name originates, but the offices of M.J Shanley have confirmed that they did have a Surveyor working for them in the 1970s by the name of Harrington....

### **Hayley Court**

Hayley Court was built by Mead Estates Ltd, which was a building firm started by William Mead. The original name for 'Hayley Court' was 'Haylott Court' which was a farming term used in connection with the fact that the area was surrounded by farms. Unfortunately, it is believed that

the Parish Council refused the name due to its similarity to the word 'Harlot'! Hayley Court was the alternative name suggested.

### High Street

The High Street in Houghton Regis dates back further than the 1890s when it was the centre of business and trade. The street was packed with shops, pubs, small family run businesses and houses. Unfortunately over the years, much of the original High Street was pulled down to make the shopping Centre, new housing developments and modern day superstores. Unfortunately most of the houses on the High Street are no longer standing. Nowadays, the High Street is mainly dedicated to 'The Crown', Bedford Square Shopping Centre, The Co-op, The Kings Arms and All Saints' Parish Church.

### Hillborough Crescent 1960

Hillborough Crescent was originally the second road to be built on the new Tithe Farm Estate. The original name for this subsidiary road was Hilbury Crescent but by 1960 the name was changed to Hillborough. It is likely that the name is derived from Hillborough Furlong, which is where the road is now situated.

### Hillside

This road, backing onto Bidwell Hill was almost certainly a literal name after its location.

### Houghton Park Road 1980

It is believed that Houghton Park was the Estate name for the private development built by Messrs MJ Shanley. Houghton Park Road is the name for the main service road that runs through the centre of the development.

### Leafields 1955

The properties on Leafields were built by Messrs Mead Estates Ltd and the Parish Council

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suggested the name 'Leaffields' with one side numbered evenly and one side numbered with odds to avoid any 'complications'. The Estate was originally classed as being built at Chalton Road, which was the original name for Sundon Road. The area occupied by Leaffields was once farmland either belonging to or adjacent to Easthill Farm and is likely just to be a literal name relating to the fields. It is also possible that the name 'Leaffields' may also be the working name given to the development, which became adopted.

### **Linnere Walk 1971**

The original suggestion for Linnere Walk, made by builders M.J Shanley was 'School Walk'. However this name was objected to and the name Linnere Walk was suggested by the Parish Council. It is also noted that there was already a School Walk in Tithe Farm. It would seem logical that it was a literal name as the road backed on to Linnear School (now called Kings Houghton Middle School) although it is noted that they are spelt differently!

### **Longbrooke 1986**

Due to its location, this is a literal terms as the road is 'along by the brooke', that runs along Park Road North. It is quoted in the minutes in 1986 as land south of 'Houghton Brooke' and the street name was originally suggested as being 'Long Brook'. The street was built by Tarmac Homes Ltd.

### **Long Mead**

Mead Estates Ltd built many parts of Houghton Regis and as with Mead Close; this may be a reference to this.

### **Keaton Close 1984**

Keaton Close started life at 'Repton Close' - a name suggested by the developer. Unfortunately the Post Office objected to the name due to the fact that 'Repton Close' in Bramingham, Luton had recently been completed. The Post Office were concerned that using the name twice might cause confusion, and an alternative name for the street was sought. The next suggested name was 'Steer Close' but this was subsequently dropped and the Town Council eventually suggested Keaton Close. The area is known locally as the 'Painters Estate' as the roads are named after famous painters.

### **Kent Road / Kentwick Square 1960**

Kent Road may have origins with the London overspill population and Kentwick Square may be an amalgamation of Kent and Eddiwick – the road is also a literal square.

### **Lowry Drive 1984**

Lowry Drive was named after L.S Lowry the painter who was famous for his matchstick drawings and scenes of Manchester. This is in keeping with the Painters Estate.

### **Manning Court**

Henry Edward Manning was Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Church and a Cardinal. He was never an acknowledged disciple of John Henry Newman, who lent his name to Cardinal Newman RC High School in Luton, but his influence lead to his theology being assuming a High Church character.

Manning Court backs onto Hammersmith Gardens and the complex where St Vincent's RC School is located, thereby possibly creating the link for this road name.

### **Manor Park / Manor Close**

Houghton Hall was once a large Manor House with an extensive amount of land. It is possible that Manor Park has been named because of this.

### **Meads Close 1958**

The developers Mead Estates Ltd built many areas of Houghton Regis and it is known that many of the streets built contain some reference to this fact. For example, Douglas Crescent, which was named after Mr Mead's son. The name 'Meads Close' was suggested by the Parish Council and it is almost certain that it was chosen after the Mead family.

### **Mill Road**

Mill Road was named after the corn mill which was once located at the corner of this road (see Millers way, Freeman's Close)

### **Millers Way 1997**

Millers way is located next to Mill Road and this is where the name originates.

### **Milton Way**

Along with Copperfields and Tennyson Avenue, Milton Way was named following a suggestion from South Beds District Council that the new streets built in this development had a theme running through them. These roads were all named with a literary connection in mind. Milton Way was named after John Milton who lived from 1608 - 1674 and he was best known for his work 'Paradise Lost'.

### **Moore Crescent 1999**

For many years the Renault Sports ground lay on the site, now known as Moore Crescent. There was also a clubhouse called 'Houghton Town Sports and Social Club' HTSCC which shared the grounds. Moore Crescent was named after a long serving Steward of the club by the name of 'Tony Moore' who was a popular and well-known local figure. Sadly, Mr Moore died and his family, who still remain local, were asked for permission to name the street in his memory.

In keeping with superstition, there is incidentally no number 13 Moore Crescent.

### **Orchard Close 1970**

The bungalows in Orchard Close were constructed during 1970. The names Greenway / Green Close, Meadow Close and Sycamore Close were all suggested but the Parish Council agreed on the name 'Orchard Close' to be submitted. It is possible that this was a literal name but may also just be in keeping with the surroundings.

### **Park Avenue**

Park Road is located in front of the Village Green and this would seem to be the reason behind this street name.

### **Parkside Drive 1970**

Luton and Rural District Council were heavily involved as the planning authority in the building of the Parkside Estate. The development name was called Parkside and subsequently it was agreed to call the main spine road 'Parkside Avenue or Drive' with the smaller roads off this named after the London boroughs.

### **Peel Street 1959**

According to the Dunstable Gazette of January 30th 1959 an original suggestion for Peel Street, was Coppers Walk! This is because two police houses were due to be built on the street. The name however, did not win any support.

### **Plaiters Way 1970**

Builders M.J. Shanley Ltd built Plaiters Way, but unfortunately no records have been kept about the origin of this road name. Aldwyck Housing built the properties in Plaiters Way in 1977/1979 but the name was retained as per the original planning application. There have been a few references made from residents about Houghton Regis involvement in the Hat Industry of Luton and this could be the link behind this unusual name.

The Houghton Regis Insignia is made up of All Saints' Parish Church, the Cogs and the Wheat sheaf and although the first two items are easy to explain, the latter one had most of us a little confused. The records from the emblem suggest that these are to do with the 'agricultural nature of the area' but a few eagle-eyed residents have other ideas! It is believed that Houghton Regis played a big part in the Luton Hat Industry, as a lot of residents were actually employed to plait the straw from the fields, which was then sold at Dunstable Market and to the 'Hat Industry'. Many residents

have told the council about their memories of seeing workers busy plaiting the straw from their homes on the High Street. Therefore it is believed that Plaiters Way is named after the workers who supplied the Hat Industry.

### **Platz House**

Platz House was named after Councillor Maurice Platz who was both Chairman of the Parish Council between 1977 and 1979 and Town Mayor in 1986/1987.

Unfortunately, Councillor Platz passed away some years ago but a trophy for the Town Carnival was named in his honour and the Maurice Platz Trophies are given to the Carnival Queen and Princess when they are crowned.

### **Portland Ride 2000**

There were three suggestions put forward to South Bedfordshire District Council, for the street now known as 'Portland Ride'. Those suggestions were: New Park Ride, Pointers Walk/Pointers Croft and Portland Ride. The name Portland Ride was finally selected, and it seems likely that the connection can be found in the 'Associated Portland Cement Company', which was a major source of local employment. The Cement Works, which also went under the name 'Blue Circle' Industries' was located on the west side of the town and is clearly visible in old photographs of the area.

### **Queen Street**

Old maps of Houghton Regis show King Street and Queen Street, with Albert Road in the middle. Unfortunately, Albert Road is no longer standing, but it is possible that Queen Street was named, or renamed after Queen Victoria.

It is believed that Victoria Street in Dunstable was named to commemorate Queen Victoria's visit to Dunstable and, with it's close proximity to Albert Road, this may seem a logical explanation as to how Queen Street, Houghton Regis was named.

### **Recreation Road 1959/1960**

There is nothing in the official records about the naming of Recreation Road, but with its proximity to the 'Tithe Farm Recreation Ground' (directly opposite) it is almost certainly named because of this. The Tithe Farm Recreation Ground was officially opened on 19th July 1972.

### **Redhouse Court**

The Old Red House once formed part of the Houghton Hall Estate. Nowadays, The Red House has been converted into flats. Although there are no official notes as to the naming of Redhouse Court, it is fairly certain that the road was named after this building, especially taking into account it's proximity to the road.

### **Roman Gardens 1975 / Roman Court 1992**

Roman Gardens is located off Bedford Road, which leads to the hamlet of Bidwell. It is documented that Roman remains were found in Bidwell and it is believed that the road was named to celebrate the town's Roman connections.

### **Roslyn Way**

The reasons for the naming of Roslyn Way have not been minuted and there are several theories for this. The name Rosslyn was quoted in the Council records for many years and this may have been a mis-spelling of Roslyn. The literal translation for the name Roslyn is derived from two Celtic words - Ros meaning promontory or point and Lyn meaning waterfall. Roslyn Way is 'highest' road in Houghton Regis and this may provide one of the reasons for its name. The other reasons suggested by locals include it being a name or combination of names from the original landowner's family.

### **School Walk 1960**

School Walk was almost certainly named as it leads from Hillborough Crescent to Grove Road where Thornhill Lower School is located.

### **Short Path 1960**

It would appear that the reason behind the naming of Short Path is more a literal one. Short Path is quite literally so, between Tithe Farm Road and Leaf Road.

### **St Andrews Lane 1965**

St Andrews Lane was the new name for East Hill Lane and was renamed in 1965. Easthill Road, on the Leafields Estate has just been completed and local residents complained and sent in a petition to Luton and Rural District Council on the issue. The resolution of this matter was to rename the street, 'St Andrews Lane'. There is a possibility that the name arose from a house on Sundon Road, known as 'St Andrews' but unfortunately there is no mention of this in the official records.

### **St Michaels Avenue**

See Angels Lane

### **Sundon Road 1956**

Sundon Road runs from the Chequers Public House to 'Chalton Cross' and forms part of the 'Tithe Farm Estate'. There was some confusion about whether the road was Chalton Road or Sundon Road and Luton and Rural District Council were asked for their confirmation on this. In the end, the Parish Council were asked to vote on the road name and Sundon Road won this by a majority vote of just one!



*Sundon Road*

### **Tennyson Avenue**

This street was named after Alfred Lord Tennyson who died in 1892. The street was named following the request from South Bedfordshire District Council that the roads in this location were named with a royal or literary theme.

### **Tithe Farm Road/Tythe Farm Road 1959 /1960**

The Tithe Farm Estate was built to house the London overspill and the first reports were noted in the Dunstable Gazette of 1954. There were a few selected areas' that were being considered for this housing scheme and these areas were all within 100-mile radius of London. The first reports noted mentioned Dunstable as a potential location, along with nine other sites', the closest one at that stage being Bletchley.

It is known that the name for the main street in the estate comes from a 15th Century Tythe Barn, which was located on what is now 'Tithe Farm Road'. The original plan was to try and incorporate the barn into the new street framework, but unfortunately it was pulled down for safety reasons. The barn was situated where Bedford Square is now, along Tithe Farm Road. Interestingly, the word 'Tythe Farm' was noted in council minutes until 1960, when it suddenly appears as 'Tithe Farm Road'. There does not appear to be any further suggestion about why this is the case and it is entirely possible that one of the versions is a spelling error. It would seem to be fairly plausible as the minutes in those days were written by hand and then typed on an old fashioned typewriter.

There are a few explanations of the street naming within the Tithe Farm Estate and a Mr Roberts, of Kensworth suggested names for some of the roads. It is not known which one's he suggested or if they were ever taken up!

### **The Cloisters 1961**

The name 'Cloisters' has monastic origins, but why this name was chosen for this street name is unclear. The name Cloisters also relates to a covered walk with an open colonnade on one side, running along the walls of buildings that face a quadrangle or garth. This again has little relevance to the street name, although it is on one side of a quadrangle from Tithe Farm Road and Sycamore Road. The original suggested names for this road were The Cloisters, The Priory and The Covey.

### **The Lindens**

The name Linden comes from the Linden tree but it is not known if Linden trees were on the site of this residential area.

### **The Link**

The Link is probably a literal name as it links Tithe Farm Road to Long Mead.

### **Thornbury Court**

Thornbury was the original name for the manor house in Houghton Regis.

### **Thornhill Close**

Thornhill Close is a more modern street, which runs around the back of Thornhill School. It has recently come to light, that this part of the Tithe Farm Development was named 'Thornhill Estate' and that may be again, a literal name.

### **Thornview Road**

Thornview Road is located between Churchfield Road and Bedford Road, which leads to the hamlet of Thorn. Therefore the reasoning behind this street name seems to be literal.

### **Townsend Farm Road**

The Industrial Estate at Townsend Farm Road was as the name suggests, named after Townsend Farm, which was located where the Estate is now.

The main entrance to the farmhouse, was on the left side of a large lawn and opposite, was a large barn, which was next to a large milking house with a small door' Writes Mr S.W. Geater from Gillingham in Kent whose Uncle Ted Huckstepp was the owner or tenant farmer of Townsend Farm from 1930 to 1950.

Mr Geater explained that the cows came in from the rear of the building and in this area there were several metal buildings. One was for repairing and maintaining the farm and another one acted as a place for farm vehicles to be stored in. Mr Geater mentions that opposite the entrance to the farmhouse was a dirt track, which led to another large area of the farm, used for growing crops. Just off the main road and leading up the dirt track were three or four houses on the right hand side, in which one of the farm workers lived.

According to Mr Geater, a rather sore point was the pathway, which led from Townsend Farm to Dunstable – it was a dividing line between the farm and the Associated Portland Cement Works. The cement company put up a large concrete wall and locals going to the town centre of Dunstable used this. The wall ran through an area where the cows and sheep grazed but it was the local dogs, which gave Mr Geaters' Uncle a headache! It is believed that this wall is the one, which is still in situ today between Townsend Farm Road and Houghton Road.

Mr Geaters' Cousin Edward Huckstepp died in 1963 from a gunshot wound and Uncle Ted died the same year. Both are buried in Houghton Regis Cemetery. Aunt Clara from Townsend Farm moved to a small house near the Methodist place of worship on Cemetery Road. Clara Huckstepp passed away in Somerset in 1985 but was buried in the family plot in Houghton Regis.

### **Vicarage Road**

It seems almost certain that Vicarage Road was named after the Vicarage of All Saints' Parish Church

### **Walkley Road**

There is very little available about the naming of Walkley Road. The only place name in Britain of that name is in Sheffield and the name comes from the Anglo Saxon term 'Walcas Leah' meaning Walcas forest clearing. It is possible that this could have been a wooded area before the housing was built. The area of Walkley in Sheffield is mainly populated by stone fronted Victorian terraced housing – as is Queen Street in Houghton Regis, where Walkley Road is situated.

### **Watling Place 1967**

According to the minutes of 1967, Messrs Robinson and White built on land at the rear of St Michaels Avenue, which is almost certainly Watling Place. The original suggestions for the street name was Thornhill Road or Crescent but the Parish Council objected due to the number of existing streets in the parish using the name ‘Thorn’.

It is not known where the name for Watling Place originated, but the High Streets in Dunstable were originally called ‘Watling Street’ and have origins back to the Roman Era.

The oldest road in Britain is The Icknield Way Path, which stretches along 105 miles from Ivinghoe Beacon to Knettishall Heath in Norfolk. Part of this series of ancient pathway runs along Bidwell and can be traced behind the Bidwell Hill Estate. The Icknield Way path was covered with archaeological remains from the time of the Romans, and Roman remains were found at Bidwell itself.

Therefore it would seem appropriate that the road was Watling Place in view of this connection.

### **Whitehouse Close**

Whitehouse Close was built on the site of ‘The Old White House’, which stood on the High Street.

### **Windsor Drive 1988**

Windsor Drive was named in the 1988 by the developers. It was suggested by South Bedfordshire District Council that the roads adjoining Windsor Drive were named with a Royal Theme and the rest with the name of poets or to do with literature etc. The council also decided on Sandringham Drive, Glamis Drive and Edinburgh Road. The latter two were dropped.

### **Windsor Place 2002**

The name ‘Windsor Place’ was decided by the Town Council’s Planning and Licensing Committee and submitted to South Bedfordshire District Council. The Town Council tried different variations with the name Windsor in the title, before the name was finally decided.

### **Woodlands Avenue**

Woodlands Avenue was built by Luton Rural District and in the Town Guide of the 1950s, the following details are included about the setting...

‘Due to its proximity to Luton and Dunstable, houses are much sought after in Houghton Regis, and recognising this demand the rural District Council have erected a substantial number of houses in the village. The first of these pre-war housing sites, ideally situated in a woodland setting and aptly named “Woodlands Avenue”, received recognition in the form of a ministry of Health Regional Award for design and layout’.

# LOCAL INFORMATION

**AMBULANCE SERVICE**      **(Emergencies) 999**

#### **BANKS**

Natwest – 19 Bedford Square      0845 00112233

**BEDFORD SQUARE CENTRE**      0300 300 8000

#### **CAR PARKS**

High Street (Morrisons Supermarket) - customers only.  
High Street (In front of All Saints’ Church  
– 3 hours free parking)

High Street (Behind the Co-Op – free of charge)  
Tithe Farm Road (In front of the Medical Centre – free of charge)

#### **CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL**

Watling House, High Street North  
Dunstable, Bedfordshire LU6 1LF      0300 300 8000  
[www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)  
Blue Badge Scheme      0300 300 8035  
Council Housing      0300 300 8007  
Council Housing Repairs      0300 074 0263

## HOUGHTON REGIS TOWN GUIDE

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Council Tax Direct Debit Hotline            | 0300 300 8012        |
| Dog Warden Service                          | 0300 300 8631/ 8632  |
| Elections and Electoral Register            | 0300 300 8008        |
| Emergency Out of Hours                      |                      |
| Repairs and Homelessness                    | 0300 300 8098        |
| Environmental Health                        |                      |
| – general enquires                          | 0300 300 8642 / 8643 |
| Highways                                    | 0300 300 8049        |
| Noise Nuisance                              | 0300 300 8642 / 8670 |
| Nurseries, Playgroups                       | 0300 300 8089        |
| Older Peoples Team                          | 0300 300 8033        |
| Older Peoples Housing and Careline Services | 0300 300 8632        |
| Planning                                    | 0300 300 8692 / 8670 |
| Revenues and Benefits                       |                      |
| Customer Accounts                           | 0300 300 8010 / 8610 |
| Road Salting                                | 0300 300 8049        |
| Street Cleansing                            | 0300 300 8631 / 8632 |
| Waste Collection                            | 0300 300 8631 / 8632 |

### CHEMISTS

|                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Lloyds Pharmacy        |              |
| 17 / 18 Bedford Square | 01582 865777 |

### CHURCHES & RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS

#### Church of England

|                                       |              |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| All Saints' Parish Church, High St    | 01582 867593 |
| St Thomas' Meeting House, Lowry Drive | 01582 863292 |

#### Other denominations

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints,<br>Poynters Road, Luton | 01582 608796 |
| Houghton Regis Baptist Church,<br>Hammersmith Gardens                | 01582 868278 |
| Houghton Regis Community Church, Bedford<br>Square Community Centre  | 07878 420101 |
| Lewsey Pentecostal Church, Tomlinson Avenue,<br>Luton                | 01582 471930 |
| New Life Church,<br>80a Houghton Road, Dunstable                     | 01582 534567 |
| St Vincent's Church (RC),<br>Hammersmith Gardens                     | 01582 662710 |

### CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU *See welfare*

### DENTISTS

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Houghton Regis Dental Clinic | 01582 865001 |
| Perfect Profiles (cosmetic)  | 01582 518100 |
| Out of hours emergencies     | 01234 275676 |

### DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTRE

01582 470900 [www.drbeds.co.uk](http://www.drbeds.co.uk)

### EDUCATION

#### Schools

|                            |              |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| All Saints' Academy        | 01582 619700 |
| Hawthorn Park Lower School | 01582 863859 |

|                                      |               |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Hillcrest School                     | 01582 866972  |
| Houghton Regis Lower School          | 01582 867487  |
| Kings Houghton Middle School         | 01582 863294  |
| St Vincent's Catholic Primary School | 01582 862456  |
| Tithe Farm Lower School              | 01582 865047  |
| Thomas Whitehead Lower School        | 01582 865466  |
| Thornhill Lower School               | 01582 863516  |
| <b>Further Education</b>             |               |
| Central Bedfordshire Council         | 01582 477776  |
| Chiltern Business Training           | 01582 861607  |
| University of Bedfordshire           | 01234 400 400 |

**ELECTRICITY** (Emergencies) 0800 7838 838

**FIRE** (Emergencies) 999

**GAS** (Emergencies) 0800 111 999

### HEALTH CENTRES, HOSPITALS AND CLINICS

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| Houghton Regis Health Centre            | 01582 708555        |
| Houghton Regis Medical Centre           | 01582 866161        |
| Luton and Dunstable Hospital            | 0845 127 0127       |
| NHS DIRECT                              | 0845 4647           |
| <b>Out of Hours Medical Emergencies</b> | <b>01582 728214</b> |

### HOUGHTON REGIS CEMETERY & GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

|                             |              |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Houghton Regis Town Council | 01582 708541 |
|-----------------------------|--------------|

### HOUGHTON REGIS DAY CENTRE

01582 865700

### HOUGHTON REGIS HELPERS 07857 004515

[www.houghtonregishelpers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:www.houghtonregishelpers@hotmail.co.uk)  
c/o Houghton Regis Town Council, Peel Street,  
Houghton Regis, Bedfordshire LU5 5EY

### HOUGHTON REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

Peel Street, Houghton Regis LU5 5EY  
Town Clerk: Clare Evans 01582 708540  
Email: [info@houghtonregis.org.uk](mailto:info@houghtonregis.org.uk)  
Website: [www.houghtonregis.org.uk](http://www.houghtonregis.org.uk)

*\*Please note that there is no public car parking facilities at the council offices\**

### HOUSING ASSOCIATIONS

|  |                              |
|--|------------------------------|
| Aldwyck Housing  | 01582 869100                 |
| <a href="http://www.aldwycck.co.uk">www.aldwycck.co.uk</a>               |                              |
| Habinteg Housing   | 01582 866287 / 0207 822 8700 |
| <a href="http://www.habinteg.org.uk">www.habinteg.org.uk</a>             |                              |
| Housing 21   | 0345 607 0272                |
| <a href="http://www.housing21.co.uk">www.housing21.co.uk</a>             |                              |
| Jephson Housing  | 01908 226 555                |
| <a href="http://www.jephson.co.uk">www.jephson.co.uk</a>                 |                              |
| Paradigm Housing   | 0300 303 1010                |
| <a href="http://www.paradigmhousing.co.uk">www.paradigmhousing.co.uk</a> |                              |
| Scope ( <a href="http://www.scope.co.uk">www.scope.co.uk</a> )           | 0808 800 3333                |

## HOUGHTON REGIS TOWN GUIDE

### LIBRARY

Houghton Regis Library  
Bedford Square 0300 300 8058

### MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Andrew Selous MP  
Southwest Conservative Assoc.  
6C Princes Street, Dunstable 01582 662821

### NURSERY SCHOOLS (3+)

Hawthorn Park Lower School 01582 863859  
Houghton Regis Lower School 01582 867487  
St Vincent's RC School 01582 862456  
Thomas Whitehead Lower School 01582 865466  
Thornhill Lower School 01582 863516  
Tithe Farm Lower School 01582 865047

### NURSERY

Cleverkidz 01582 868000

**MEMORIAL HALL** The Green 07845 907269

### PARENT AND TODDLER GROUPS

Auntie Shirley's 01582 522882 / 07931 911941  
Houghton Regis Baptist Church 01582 868278  
Seedlings  
(Thornhill Lower School) 01582 863516  
Under 5's Playgroup  
(Hawthorn Park Lower School) 01582 863859

### PARKSIDE NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

01582 758023

### PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUPS

Auntie Shirley's 07931 911941  
Parkside Pre School 01582 759713

### POLICE

Bedfordshire Police  
Sundon Road 01582 473341/471212  
Emergency 999

### POST OFFICES (SUB)

Co-op News Express, 14 Bedford Square  
01582 865505  
Balfour News 8 Hillborough Crescent 01582 863403  
All other enquires 0845 722 3344

### RESIDENTS ASSOCIATIONS

Parkside Voice Stakeholder Group 01582 866314  
Tithe Farm Residents Assoc. jackson.md@ntworld.com

### THE WAY (What About Youth Ltd)

C/o Houghton Regis Town Council  
Peel Street, Houghton Regis, Bedfordshire LU5 5EY  
Contact Name: Jan Cooper (Community Organiser)  
Telephone: 07718 220414  
Email: theway@houghtonregis.org.uk

### TITHE FARM NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE

01582 865147

### TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT

Houghton Regis Town Council 01582 708523

### TRADING STANDARDS

01234 228280

### VETERINARY SURGEONS

Icknield Veterinary Group, 25-25a Princes Street,  
Dunstable 01582 471177  
Noah's Ark 54 High Street South,  
Dunstable 01582 606466

### WATER

Emergencies - leaks 0800 376 5325  
Emergencies - sewerage 08457 745 145

### WELFARE

(further details of these groups can be  
obtained from the Town Council website  
[www.houghtonregis.org.uk](http://www.houghtonregis.org.uk))

AGE UK 0800 169 6565  
Alcoholics Anonymous 01582 484948  
Alzheimer's Society  
– South Bedfordshire 01582 404077  
Anti Terrorist Hotline 0800 789 321  
B:Dat Bedfordshire Drug & Alcohol Team  
01234 408051  
Bedfordshire Advocacy Service for Older People  
01582 470903  
Bedfordshire and Luton Mind 01525 844160  
Bedfordshire Stop Smoking Service 0800 013 0553  
British Red Cross - Bedfordshire Branch  
01234 341503

Careline 0300 300 8146  
Carers Café 01234 214914  
Carers in Bedfordshire 01234 214914  
Childline 0800 1111  
Citizens Advice Bureau, Dunstable 01582 661384  
Cruse – Bedfordshire 01525 841415  
Crimestoppers (Dunstable) 0800 555 111  
Disability Resource Centre 01582 470900  
Drugline (Bedfordshire) 01582 732200  
Families United Network  
01582 523691 / 01525 636690 / 01582 511343  
Freedom Project 07948 205084  
Good Neighbour Scheme 07718 220414  
Home Start Central Bedfordshire 01525 374656  
Hospice at Home Volunteers 01582 666996  
Impact MH 01582 611079  
Job Centre Plus (Dunstable) 01582 685237  
Keech Hospice Care 01582 492339  
Locality Parenting  
& Family Support Service 01582 818578  
Luton, Dunstable  
and District MS Society 01582 727 543

## HOUGHTON REGIS TOWN GUIDE

|   |                |  |
|---|----------------|--|
| Macmillan Cancer Support                        | 0808 808 00 00 | or 0300 1234 999 cruelty line                                |
| Marie Curie Cancer Care<br>(supporter services) | 0800 716 146   | Rethink for Bedfordshire Carers Assoc 01582 470986           |
| NSPCC   | 0808 800 5000  | Samaritans 01582 720666 / 0845 790 9090 (24 hours)           |
| National Blood Service                          | 0845 7711711   | Shaw Trust 01582 748570                                      |
| National Missing Persons                        | 0500 700 700   | Sight Concern 01582 655554                                   |
| Parent Partnership Service                      | 0300 300 8088  | SORTED (Dunstable Youth Counselling Service)<br>01582 890295 |
| Parent Support Assistants                       | 01582 863859   | The Carers Support Bureau 01234 838771                       |
| Parentline Plus 01707 630106/7                  | 0808 800 2222  | Victim Support (Dunstable) 01234 840300                      |
| RSPCA   | 01525 374926   | Voluntary and Community Action 01525 850559                  |

# SPORTS AND LEISURE

### ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

Snakes and Ladders 01582 660111

### BEAVERS, CUBS AND SCOUTS 1st / 3rd Houghton Regis Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

Anthony Darkin 07500 058359  
antony.darkins@hotmail.co.uk

### 4th Houghton Regis Beavers, Cubs and Scouts

Sally Chandler 01525 877031

### BOWLS CLUB (Ladies)

Mrs F. P. Brown 01582 873362

### BOWLS CLUB (Gentlemen)

Mr Doug West 01582 862109

### Combined Ex Services Association / Far East Veterans Association

John Bavister 01582 651770  
lutonfeva@ntlworld.com

### Dunstable Army Cadets

Lieutenant Paul Ziemelis 07725 365722  
dunstable@bedsarmycadets.co.uk  
www.bedsarmycadets.co.uk

### Dunstable Sea Cadets

Petty Officer Worker 01582 605686  
dunstableseacadetcorp@btinternet.com  
http:units.sea-cadets.org/dunstable

### DUNSTABLE AND DISTRICT DISABLED SPORTS (DADDS)

Roger Sharp (www.dadds.org.uk) 01582 606405

### FRIDAY FORUM

#### (over 60s Luncheon Club)

Alan Skidmore 01582 862464

### FOOTBALL

Houghton Regis Town Council 01582 708543

### GATOR'S ROLLER HOCKEY CLUB

Clive Rawlings 01582 866141

### GROVE THEATRE

Box Office 01582 602080

### GUIDES, BROWNIES AND RAINBOWS

#### 1st Houghton Regis Rainbows

Wendy Minnis 01582 619873

wendy.minnis@ntlworld.com

#### 4th Houghton Regis Brownies

#### 1st Houghton Regis Guides

anmarie6101@aol.com

### HOUGHTON REGIS OVER 60s CLUB

Nesta Wills 01582 653283

### HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Mrs Morton (President / Secretary) 01582 865084

### HOUGHTON REGIS LEISURE CENTRE

01582 866141

### HOUGHTON REGIS ROLLER HOCKEY

Jason Wakenshaw 01582 866141

### HOUGHTON REGIS PIGEON CLUB

Deryck Hyde 01582 867162

### MONDAY CLUB FOR THE BLIND

Sheila North 01582 863480

Carol and Trevor Knight 01525 853353

### HOUGHTON REGIS W.I

Beverly Lennox 01582 527789

**OVER 60'S CLUB** Chris Kavanagh 07845 907269

### PARKSIDERS FOR THE PHYSICALLY DISABLED

C/o Houghton Regis Day Centre 01582 865700

### PARKSIDE 50 PLUS CLUB

Rae Bird (Parkside50Club@aol.com) 01582 862406

## HOUGHTON REGIS TOWN GUIDE

### PRINCES TRUST

Gavin Watts (Team Leader)  
gavin@ymcabedfordshire.org.uk 07572 445096

### RAF ASSOCIATION (Dunstable Branch)

John Gilmour 01582 569887  
dunstablerafa@btinternet.com  
www.rafadunstable.co.uk

### RECYCLED TEENAGERS GROUP

Linda Hicks 864190

### ROYAL BRITISH LEGION (Men's section)

Mrs Duggan 01582 862841

### RUGBY

Dunstablians Rugby 01582 866555  
Union Football Club



*St Vincent's Social Club*

**ST JOHNS AMBULANCE** 01234 216200

### TEN PIN BOWLING

For details of Ten Pin Bowling  
for the visually impaired,  
please contact Sheila North on 01582 863480  
or Carol and Trevor Knight on 01525 853353

### TREATS FOR TROOPS

Francesca Clarke 01582 709422  
Fclarke333@gmail.com  
www.treatsfortroops.co.uk

### YAWN

**(Young Adults With Needs)**  
Darren Woodhouse 01582 528154  
youth.club@ntlworld.com  
Website: www.yawn.co.nr



*Small Meeting Room*

### YOUTH GROUP

St Mary's Youth Group  
Rosemary Dukes 01525 220644

### VOLUNTEERING (please see the WELFARE section of local information)

### HALLS FOR HIRE

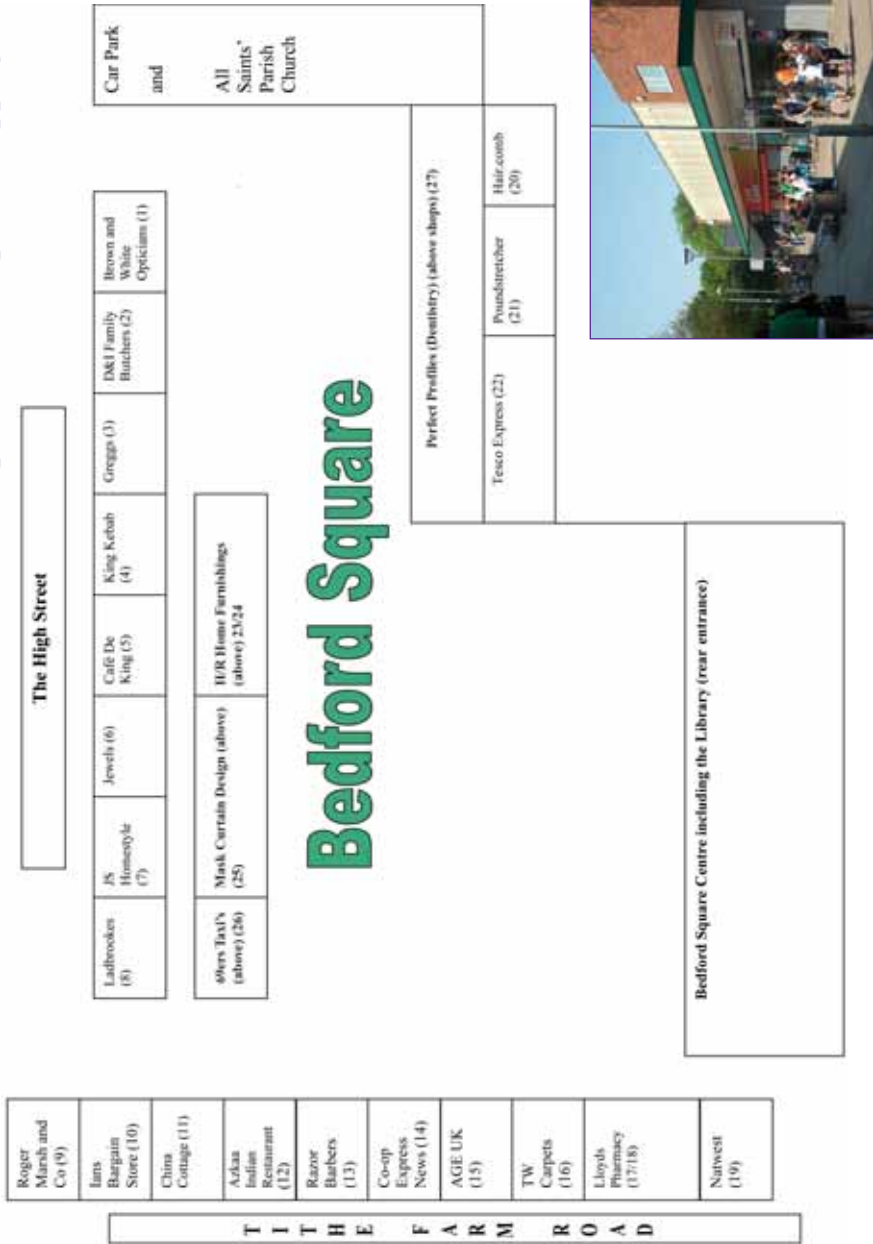
BEDFORD SQUARE COMMUNITY CENTRE  
Tithe Farm Road 0300 300 8000  
COUNCIL CHAMBER /SMALL MEETING ROOM  
Town Council Offices, Peel Street 01582 708540  
DUNSTABLIANS RUGBY CLUB  
Bidwell Hill 01582 866555  
HOUGHTON REGIS DAY CENTRE  
Parkside Drive 01582 865700  
MEMORIAL HALL, East End 07845 907269  
MOORE CRESCENT SPORTS PAVILION  
Moore Crescent 01582 708540  
ST THOMAS' MEETING HOUSE  
Lowry Drive 01582 863292  
ST VINCENT'S SOCIAL CLUB  
Hammersmith Gardens 01582 866114  
VILLAGE GREEN PAVILION  
East End 01582 708540

### PUBLIC HOUSES

Chequers, East End 01582 865970  
Crown, East End 01582 864688  
Dog and Duck Public House,  
Parkside Drive 01582 865800  
Harvest Home, Sundon Road 01582 868565  
Kings Arms, High Street 01582 618668  
Old Red Lion, Bidwell Hill 01582 867439



Map of Bedford Square Shopping Centre





**Tithe Farm Lower School**  
Tithe Farm Road,  
Houghton Regis,  
Beds LU5 5JB



**“A good and improving school where pupils thrive in their learning & personal development” (Ofsted)**

Tithe Farm is a thriving and popular community school, with its own nursery, catering for children aged 3 -9 years of age. The school is well situated overlooking open fields and has extensive grounds; which include a separate play area for nursery children, two recently refurbished playgrounds, large playing fields, wildlife gardens and an outdoor swimming pool which is used in the summer.

The school has had major building work carried out and offers high quality, modern facilities including a purpose built library and ICT suite. The school offers a range of curriculum enrichment including gymnastics and musical instrument tuition. We also have a breakfast club and after school clubs for children in Years 1 – 4.

Tithe Farm has been nationally recognised, through the DfE School to School programme, for its excellence in the teaching of phonics through the letters and sounds programme.

We are a welcoming school with a strong staff team, very supportive parents and a good governing body. Children are happy, well-behaved and thrive in our school, making excellent progress. We warmly welcome visitors and would be happy to show you around our school.

If you would like to look around please contact the Office Manager Mrs Sarah Clarke.

**Headteacher: Mrs Shelah Surgey BEd(Hons) MA NPQH**



**Telephone: 01582 865047**  
**Fax: 01582 865057**  
**E-Mail: [tithefarm@cbc.beds.sch.uk](mailto:tithefarm@cbc.beds.sch.uk)**

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- Nisa Local: 40 Dunstable Road, Toddington, Beds
- Nisa Local: 110 Crabtree Lane, Hemel Hempstead, Herts
- Nisa Local: Elstree & Borehamwood Station, Herts
- Nisa Local: 7-9 The Glebe, Stevenage, Herts
- Rupa Tandoori: 87 Mobbsbury Way, Stevenage, Herts



[www.mynisalocal.com](http://www.mynisalocal.com)

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