

SPOTLIGHT

SEEND & BULKINGTON



DECEMBER 2017
& JANUARY 2018

DIARY DATES FOR LATE NOVEMBER

- 29th Brewery Inn Monthly Fun Quiz, 8 pm
- 29th Nosh and Natter lunch, Seend Community Centre, 12 for 12.30 pm
- 30th Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Committee Meeting, Pavilion, 7.30 pm

DIARY DATES FOR DECEMBER (see p8 for Christmas Church Services)

- 1st First Friday Coffee Morning, Seend Community Centre, 10.30 am
- 2nd Christmas Wine Circle, Seend Community Centre, 8pm
- 3rd Café Church, Seend, 11am
- 6th Seend Shuttle to Salisbury (Sorry – fully booked!)
- 6th Bulkington Village Lunch, The Well, 12.15 pm
- 8th Deadline for applications for post of Clerk/Financial Officer to Seend PC
- 8th Seend Playgroup open morning
- 8th FoSS Christmas Fayre, Seend School, 6-8pm
- 9th Christmas Coffee Morning, 14 Bulkington, 10.30am-Noon
- 11th Mobile Library; 9.40 am Seend The Lye: 10.05 am Seend Cleeve phone box:
11.05 am Well In car park, Bulkington
- 11th Carols at Cleeve House, 7.30pm
- 13th Buzz Group, 33 Littleton Willows, Semington 4 pm
- 15th Seend Playgroup Nativity, Pavilion, 10.15am
- 16th Christmas Bingo, Seend Community Centre, 8 pm
- 17th Seend Ramblers, meet Caen Hill, 10am
- 20th Nosh and Natter Christmas Lunch, Seend Community Centre, 12 for 12.30 pm
- 20th Brewery Inn Christmas Quiz, 8 pm
- 21st Brewery Inn Christmas Draw results

DIARY DATES FOR JANUARY 2018

- 1st New Year's Day Walk, Rusty Lane 11am and afterwards in Community Centre
- 3rd Bulkington Village Lunch, The Well, 12.15 pm
- 5th First Friday Coffee Morning, Community Centre, 10.30am
- 8th Mobile Library; 9.40 am Seend The Lye: 10.05 am Seend Cleeve phone box:
11.05 am Well In car park, Bulkington
- 8th Seend Poetry Group New Year Party, Kennet Room, Community Centre, 7.30pm
- 12th Seend Playgroup open morning
- 13th **LAST DAY FOR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FEBRUARY SPOTLIGHT**
- 14th Seend Ramblers – details to be confirmed
- 18th Seend WI Craft Afternoon, Pavilion, 2-4pm
- 25th Seend Neighbourhood Plan meeting, Community Centre, 7.30pm
- 25th Seend Theatre Club AGM, Pavilion, 7.30pm
- 27th Burns Night, Seend Community Centre
- 30th Seend Parish Council meeting, upstairs in Community Centre, 7.30pm
- 31st Nosh and Natter lunch, Seend Community Centre, 12 for 12.30 pm
- 31st Brewery Inn Fun Quiz, 8pm

Newcomer to Seend?

Call in at the shop/PO and ask for your copy of the **Welcome booklet**, which tells you all you need to know about the village.

Visit www.seend.org.uk and the Spotlight **facebook** page:
www.facebook.com/seendspotlight

Welcome to December/January Spotlight



'Tis the season to be merry – and to think about those who aren't in a position to be so. There are so many demands on our time and our purses at this time of year, but we normally manage to get through it all, be generous and enjoy ourselves to boot! There are far too many events going on to list here in our editorial, but we are sure you will find something, or several things, to participate in and so help our villages' community spirit to thrive.

We have a local sporting hero. See Sports News on page 22 to read all about Luke Ballinger's amazing achievements. By coincidence that same week his proud Dad, Roy Lucas, received a medal for giving his 100th pint of blood. Congratulations both!

As well as social events, there is plenty of info within these pages about planning issues, volunteers required etc – and, importantly, notice of the vacancy for a Parish Clerk and Financial Officer for Seend Parish Council.

Mobile Library: It has been pointed out to us that some of the stops on the mobile library's monthly local run are hardly used. 'Use it or lose it' is a phrase that is often used in vain, but perhaps it's worth repeating in this instance. The dates are always in the diary on the inside cover.

Seend Heritage and Reminiscences of Old Seend and Old Bulkington: copies of these two booklets, of interest to anyone with a modicum of curiosity about our villages, are now on sale in Seend Shop/PO, price £2.50 and £1.50 and first published in 1985 and 2004 respectively – or you can phone 01380 828617 to order copies. Proceeds to Seend Community Centre.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year everyone!

Spotlight Contacts: Contributions for the February edition (copy by Saturday 13th January please) can be emailed to spotlight@seend.org.uk or delivered to Seend Post Office. Editors: Tessa Doe (01380 828617) and Sue Isaac (828461). Please note that **you should always send emailed items to the Spotlight address**, not to Sue or Tessa – even if they have emailed you from their own email address – just in case they are not around. Joanna Goddard (828488) organises printing Mondays and also types up the items left at Seend PO. Fiona Johnson is the contact for delivery (828401) and Chris Brooker (828047) for advertising. Do let Joanna or Fiona know if you can help with printing and collating or distribution.

Lost emails: Emails to Spotlight sometimes go astray for no obvious reason. If email correspondents don't receive an acknowledgement by the end of the Monday after the Spotlight deadline, please ring Tessa or Sue (see above) to check if all is well. And please note the following. **When sending emails to spotlight@seend.org.uk** please include the word **SPOTLIGHT** in uppercase as the first word of the Subject. This will help the editorial team sifting through all the messages stopped by the SPAM filter, which sometimes include genuine messages for SPOTLIGHT.

PDFs: We cannot normally use PDF files of posters etc as they require a specific shape and space. Word documents give us the flexibility to adapt your wording and pictures to fit the space available. Thanks.

VILLAGE EVENTS IN DECEMBER, JANUARY & BEYOND

(For Bulkington events see pages 11-12)

December and January in Seend Community Centre

First Friday Coffee Mornings in the Lounge

from 10.30am on Fridays 1st December and 5th January

Proper coffee (or tea) and home-made cake for just £2. All welcome.



Seend Wine Circle

8pm on Saturday 2nd December

Tasting wines for the festive season. Must be booked in advance. Tickets are £12 including wine and bread and cheese. Email seendwinecircle@gmail.com



Nosh and Natter Lunch Club

Wednesdays 20th December (special Christmas Dinner with wine!) and 31st January, 12 for 12.30 pm. Call 828638 or 828401 to book in advance – especially for the Christmas Dinner.



CHRISTMAS BINGO

Saturday 16th December. Eyes down 8 pm. Entry Free.
Loads of great prizes. All proceeds to the Community Centre.

NEW YEAR'S DAY WALK

January 1st - meet at 11am in Rusty Lane for a 90 minute or so walk around the village (usually a mix of roads, fields and towpath) before returning to the Community Centre for home-made soup and other snacks and a glass of something from the bar. The perfect morning after the night before!



BURNS NIGHT 2018

Saturday 27th January

Break out your tartan and come to the Burns Night Celebration!

Four-course meal - Tot of whisky - Reeling to the music of the White Horse Band - Piper - Address to the Haggis

Tickets £20 per person available at events@seendcommunitycentre.com with BURNS NIGHT in the subject line. Also at the Community Centre,

Seend Post Office or by calling Hatty on 01380 828380.

Table bookings in multiples of eight available.

Proceeds in aid of Seend Community Centre.



Members' Lounge Bar Christmas opening hours:

Christmas day – 11am-2pm

Boxing day – 12 noon-6pm

Other days business as usual!

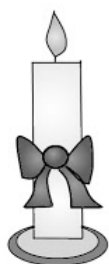


Events at the Brewery Inn

Christmas Quiz - Wednesday 20th December 8pm

Christmas Draw – Thursday 21st December

Monthly Fun Quiz Wednesday 31st January 8pm



Christmas Carols at Cleeve House, Seend

led by The Seend Singers

Monday 11th December at 7.30pm

Come and join our Carol singing followed by refreshments

There will be a Collection in aid of Wiltshire Young Carers

Trowbridge Road, Seend, SN12 6PG

01380 827129 info@cleeve-house.com www.cleeve-house.com

April may seem a long way off, but put the date in your diary **now** for a night of singing and dancing to: **ABBA Sensation** – one of the UK's finest tribute bands. **Friday 13th April at Seend Community Centre at 7.30pm. Tickets £15 (available early in the New Year).**



ADVANCE NOTICE:

10th February 2018 – Seend WI “Chilli” tasting event & supper
More information in February Spotlight

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please let us know of any births, marriages, deaths, special birthdays, thanks, information etc that you would like to see included here.)

SOME PARISH COUNCIL UPDATES

17/08217/FUL - Blossom Hill: The Parish Council would like to thank all those residents who submitted a comment on the planning application. There were 156 comments uploaded as well as the Parish Council's submission. Councillor Seed has said that the weight of opposition is important. The update is that Councillor Seed has called in the planning application. This means that the decision is no longer down to one planning officer, but will be decided by a full planning committee. The application will be discussed at the Strategic Planning Committee meeting on 6th December. Please check the parish council website for an update on this.

Tree Pruning and Tree Removal: Can we remind those parishioners who live in the Conservation area of Seend that they do need to check the requirements for the pruning or tree removal on their property. Planning permission may have to be sought. Do contact the planning department of Wiltshire Council if you are uncertain.

Planning Matters: The Parish Council are no longer sent hard copies of any planning applications relating to properties and businesses in Seend. They are just notified by email. And it is up to Councillors to look on-line at the full plans. All planning applications are listed on our website and discussed at the next Parish Council meeting. Sometimes, depending on the date of registration and the date for

when comments have to be submitted, there may be very little time for the Parish Council to make a decision. If you have any concerns about a planning application or wish to speak for or against one, please contact the Clerk.

130TH BIRTHDAY PIRATE PARTY

Jan & Hilary would like to thank everyone who dressed up so brilliantly and who donated so generously to our two charities. We are overwhelmed by your gifts of loot amounting to the sum total of £485 for the charities dear to our hearts- Georges' Therapy Trust and Wiltshire Air Ambulance. We had an absolutely brilliant time of swash bucklin' fun and we know you all did too – great costumes and all because you didn't have the nerve to walk the plank!! AAARRRRRRRRGGGGHHHH!! Me Hearties 'til the next voyage..... xxxx

SEEND COMMUNITY CENTRE - WE NEED YOU!

Maintenance Crew – There is a diminishing group of volunteers who meet up on a Friday morning to help keep the Community Centre facility in tip top condition. Whilst we employ professional tradespeople where required, our crew of volunteers are vital in keeping our running costs down – which in turn benefits the village. We now have an urgent plea for more volunteers on a Friday morning, regular or just the ad hoc Friday. No special skills are required. Just be prepared to muck in with what you can - gardening, painting, hammering, organising, cleaning etc. If you can lend a hand in any way just turn up at the Community Centre on any Friday at 09.45 – we promise there will be tea/coffee and biscuits for you as a reward!

We are looking for help with refreshing our website – are there any willing volunteers out there with the skills that can help us or perhaps a college project someone can take on to bring us into a more digital age?

Jennifer Dalton

RURAL ARTS WILTSHIRE – Organiser(s) wanted

Steve and Karen Cubberley are stepping down from being the Seend contacts for the excellent Rural Arts Wiltshire touring scheme, due to all their other responsibilities. It's an interesting and rewarding voluntary role – organising events twice a year. If you want to find out more, please call Steve and Karen on 01380 828423.

Christmas closures for Melksham Recycling Centre: Closed from 1pm on 24th December, closed 25th, 26th, 27th December and 1st January.

Waste/recycling Collections: There will be no collections on: 25th, 26th December and 1st January. There will be catch up collections on Saturday 30th Dec, 6th and 13th January. Garden waste collections are suspended from Monday 25th December for two weeks and resume on Tuesday 9th January (so for Seend, this will be Monday 15th January). Further info: www.wiltshire.gov.uk/household-recycling-centres

Parish Steward

Just a reminder to let the Clerk know if there are any small tasks for the Parish Steward to do. He comes 2 days a month and carries out a variety of small tasks including cleaning gulleys and drains of vegetation, filling small potholes, cleaning

signs and cutting back over growth in visibility areas and weeds along the kerbside. If you notice anything that could do with a quick fix, please let the Clerk know so that she can, if appropriate, add it to the priority sheets that we submit to him each month.

CORRESPONDENCE: Nigel Knott contacted the editors asking for the opportunity to correct what he felt was a factual inaccuracy in Carola Thorpe's response:

"I was NOT co-opted to Seend Parish Council as she states. I became an unelected Member of Seend Parish Council, together with 10 others, because the Candidates nominated for election failed to exceed 11 in number. Therefore no election took place on 4th May 2017 to fill the 11 vacant member seats on Seend Parish Council. The differing status of PC Members is identified at Para 1.2 of Seend Parish Council Code of Conduct. The Good Councillor's Guide states on P9 para 1 "It is better for democracy if councillors are elected rather than relying on co-option, so they can be confident that the council is the community's choice of representatives." I enjoyed no vote of confidence and for this reason alone I resigned. Period. Carola seems to suggest that I have been disrespectful of parishioners lack of choice in the matter and democracy is alive and well in Seend as a result. I beg to differ."

Nigel Knott (Dr.), Knap Cottage Seend SN12 6NN

(N.B. Apparently Nigel has received unpleasant anonymous messages through the post since his first letter was published. The Spotlight editorial team is very sorry to hear this and requests whoever is responsible to stop. Eds.)

SEEND PARISH COUNCIL, WILTSHIRE VACANCY FOR

PARISH CLERK AND RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER (RFO)

Seend Parish Council is looking to appoint a Parish Clerk & RFO with the drive, determination and organisational skills to manage a varied workload. In addition to managing the work of the Parish Council, the post holder will work closely with Councillors to implement the aims and objectives of the Council.

Salary LC1 SCP 18 – 22, currently £9.392 - £10.739 per hour depending on experience and qualifications; minimum of 9 hours per week, working from home, including attendance at evening meetings. (The number of hours is currently under review and will be confirmed at interview.)

Applicants must have administrative and financial experience; the ability to deliver projects on time and within budget and be able to demonstrate enthusiasm for working with residents and local organisations.

Seend has a population of 1,132 (2011 census). The Parish Council consists of 11 Councillors, and its current Precept is £13,256, and it owns and rents allotments in the village. Parish Council meetings are held on the last Tuesday of each month (in the evening), and there may be some additional meetings from time to time.

For the Job Description & Application Form please email

clerk@seendparishcouncil.co.uk Please note, applicants must complete and return the application form. Closing date for all applications: Friday 8th December 2017.

Interviews will be in the period 12th to 14th December 2017 inclusive.

Wiltshire Council have a new consultation “**Have your say on plan to shape Wiltshire up to 2036**”. You can comment online via the council’s dedicated consultation portal: http://consult.wiltshire.gov.uk/portal/spatial_planning by email using the representation form available on the web site and returned to spatialplanningpolicy@wiltshire.gov.uk; or by post in writing to: Spatial Planning, Economic Development & Planning, Wiltshire Council, County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge BA14 8JN. The consultation will close at 5pm on December 19th.

SEEND PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP - UPDATE

We gain one, we lose two: after two years on the Steering Group Sue McCulloch decided it was time to resign, whilst Carole Vince became a member by signing the Constitution. Many thanks to Sue for her endeavours on behalf of the Neighbourhood Plan. As Sue was Vice Chair, we have a vacancy for that role.

Unfortunately Tony Trodd has decided he cannot manage the role of Secretary and Minute-taker any more, so we have a further vacancy. He deserves thanks for bringing clarity to our minutes, which is a difficult task if you are also trying to be part of the discussions. Ideally we would like someone to volunteer who would be happy to just focus on Minute-taking. Please do come forward if you think you could take on either of those roles, or even just be a member of the Steering Group. Georgina A’Bear (Chair) would be delighted to hear from you for an exploratory chat (828288). We do need more members.

Georgina A’Bear and Carola Thorpe are continuing to investigate the merits of suitable consultants, and will soon be able to present the Group with our shortlist for discussion.

Vicky Burvill (our WC Link Officer) attended the October meeting and praised the Steering Group’s work thus far. She had useful things to say about how we should reduce the proposed number of Visions and Objectives (in the Draft Plan) and make them more appropriate to our specific location and needs. She also spoke about the need to be clear as to the pros and cons of each proposed development site, and to show how the latter might be mitigated where possible. These points tally with some of those from the Consultants we have approached. Liz Simes has been helping us by evaluating each site in a professional manner and has nearly finished this work.

You will find the names of the Committee members and links to further information about the complex process of creating a Neighbourhood Plan on the website: www.seendparishplan.org. The meetings are open to all parishioners and we welcome your involvement. This month’s meeting will be the last of 2017, and the next will be on Thursday 25th January 2018 at 7.30p.m. in the upstairs room in the Community Centre. Thereafter the meetings will return to the Pavilion.

We wish all of you who follow our efforts to create a Neighbourhood Plan an enjoyable holiday and Happy Christmas.

Carola Thorpe on behalf of the S.P.N.P. Steering Group

CHURCH AND CHAPEL NEWS

The View from my Window

Did you know that the culmination of the whole Christian year is on 26th November. “That’s a date I don’t recognize” you may be thinking, but actually it’s the day we celebrate Christ the King. He has been through everything, born, grew up, ministered to so many, died was buried, rose again, appeared to so many, and eventually after all that we finally celebrate him as the heavenly King. Alleluia, and then on Advent Sunday, 3rd December it all starts again; the beginning of the Christian year.

One of the wonderful things about the Christian year is that there are so many festivals to mark and to celebrate. It’s not just about Christmas, or indeed Easter; there are all those other festivals. Advent Sunday is one of the very special ones and is marked particularly in cathedrals up and down the land. If you have never been, put it on your to do list, to go to one of the Advent carols services in Salisbury Cathedral. It is absolutely spectacular. It starts with the cathedral in total darkness and silence and then just one candle is lit and everyone is aware; and gradually the cathedral is bathed in candlelight with fabulous music throughout it all, until the whole cathedral is full of light and sound and glory.

That’s what Advent is about, watching and waiting with growing anticipation until one day, 25th December, Christmas comes. The children know about the anticipation, and whilst they make enormous lists of toys that they want, they have within them the understanding of the mystery and wonder and of course love that goes with it all. They share the joy and excitement of their school activities; of their nativity plays, carol and Christingle services, and anyone who has been to a Christingle service will know what I mean. The light reflected in the children’s eyes is never to be forgotten. These services are for everyone. I do hope you manage to attend at least one.

There may be some of you who find the Christmas season difficult; maybe you feel lonely, or maybe this will be the first Christmas without a loved one, and so what I say is this. Jesus was born as a little baby, and that is a cause of great joy for everyone, but his promise is to be with us in our hour of need; to walk alongside us when things get tough; to be there with us when all the rest of the world seems so far away. If you can, come along to church and feel the love that is there for you, and hear the Christmas message that the shepherds experienced, the angels sang about and the wise men travelled so far to find, and that message is that the one Almighty God sent his little baby son to be with us to show us the way and to show us that we are all included and to show us that we are all loved. I hope you all have a very happy Christmas.

Our new Rector, the Revd. Alison Bridewell will be leading the Christingle service on 7th December in Seend at 6pm, and she will also be taking the benefice Eucharist on 31st December. For details of all services see next page, or on the Christmas card.

Jane Knowles

CHURCH SERVICES IN DECEMBER 2017 AND JANUARY 2018



The Benefice of Holy Cross, Seend, Christ Church, Bulkington and St. Peter's, Poulshot

You are welcome to worship at any of the services in any of the churches in the Benefice.

Sunday 3rd December 2017 (Advent Sunday)

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) at Seend
- 9.15 am Parish Eucharist at Poulshot
- 11.00 am Café Church at Seend
- 6.00 pm Evensong at Bulkington

Thursday 7th December 2017

- 6.00 pm Benefice Christingle service at Seend

Sunday 10th December 2017 (Advent 2)

- 9.15 am Parish Eucharist at Seend
- 11.00 am Parish Eucharist at Bulkington
- 6.00 pm Evensong at Poulshot

Sunday 17th December 2017 (Advent 3)

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) at Seend
- 11.00 am Parish Eucharist at Poulshot
- 6.00 pm Evensong at Seend
- 6.00 pm Carol service at Bulkington (note change of service)

Thursday 21st December 2017

- 7.30 pm Carols by candlelight at Seend

Sunday 24th December 2017 (Advent 4 – Christmas Eve) (note changes of service pattern)

- 10.00 am Crib and Nativity service at Seend
- 2.00 pm Crib and Nativity service at Bulkington
- 6.00 pm Carol service at Poulshot
- 11.30 pm Midnight Eucharist at Seend

Monday 25th December 2017 (Christmas Day)

- 9.15 am Festal Eucharist at Poulshot
- 9.15 am Festal Eucharist at Bulkington
- 11.00 am Festal Eucharist at Seend



Sunday 31st December 2017 (Christmas 1)

- 10.00 am Benefice Eucharist in Seend for the whole Wellsprings Benefice.

Sunday 7th January 2018 (Epiphany – or The Baptism of Christ)

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) at Seend
- 9.15 am Parish Eucharist at Poulshot
- 11.00 am Morning Praise at Seend
- 6.00 pm Evensong at Bulkington

Sunday 14th January 2018 (Epiphany 2)

9.15 am Parish Eucharist at Seend
11.00 am Morning Praise and Baptism at Bulkington (note change of service)
6.00 pm Evensong at Poulshot

Sunday 21st January 2018 (Epiphany 3)

8.00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) at Seend
9.15 am Parish Eucharist at Bulkington (note change of service)
11.00 am Parish Eucharist at Poulshot
6.00 pm Evensong at Seend

Sunday 28th January 2018 (Epiphany 4)

9.15 am Matins at Poulshot
11.00 am Parish Eucharist at Seend
6.00 pm Parish Eucharist at Bulkington

Every Tuesday at 9am there is a short Benefice service of Matins (BCP) at Poulshot.

From the Benefice records

Funerals

We give thanks for the life of:

Kenneth Oliver whose ashes were interred in Poulshot Churchyard on 23rd October
Thomas “Fred” Cundick whose funeral took place in Seend on 25th October



Benefice BUZZZZ Group

will meet on Wednesday 13th December at 4pm

at Sue Noad's home, 33 Littleton Willows, Semington (tel. 870343)
led by Rev Jane Knowles. Everyone is welcome to this informal and pleasant group.

Café Church for Advent

on Sunday 3rd December at 11am at Seend

Singing and stories for all the families in the villages of Seend, Bulkington and Poulshot. The next Café Church will be on Sunday 4th February at Seend.

Churchyard clean up

Many thanks to everyone who turned up last month for the churchyard cleanup. There was a goodly turnout of villagers and both church walk and the churchyard look a lot tidier now. Special thanks must go to Pam Church for organising this and for the work she does maintaining the borders year round.

Churchwardens

Church Water Project

Further to the update last month, I can now confirm that Gaigers have been appointed to carry out these works. The modifications to the original project have resulted in a significant reduction in the overall costs of the project but, of course, set against this there have been additional architect fees. We do believe these changes will fit the

church for the 21st Century and beyond, making access in and around the church easier and providing toilet facilities and water in the church. Work should start early in the new year and should be finished for the wedding season. Lastly, we plan to set up a prayer group for the project with the help of our new Vicar Ali Bridewell.

SEEND METHODIST CHURCH

Services for December 2017 and January 2018

December 10 th	10am Rev Wendy Tucker. Carols.
January 7 th	10.30am Villages Together at Bromham led by Rev Di Whittall Covenant and Holy Communion
January 14 th	10am Rev Wendy Tucker
January 28 th	10am Mrs Janet Tanner

Everyone welcome to any service.

Thank you, Anne Salter.

Dear Friends,

You will probably be reading this in Advent and I am about to talk about when Christmas is over! I thought I would share with you another Christmas poem; this one is called “Now the Work of Christmas Begins” by Howard Thurman, an African-American theologian, educator, and civil rights leader.

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people,
to make music in the heart.

Let's face it Christmas can be hard work. With all the preparations and the hustle and bustle and glitter and overeating of Christmas it's easy to forget what Christians believe we are celebrating. We are remembering that a baby was born into the world, who is Prince of Peace – and that is definitely worth celebrating – so don't feel bad about having a good time!

But Peace is often in very short supply in our world in all sorts of ways as we well know. When that baby grew up he said to his followers ‘When I was hungry, you gave me something to eat, and when I was thirsty, you gave me something to drink. When I was a stranger, you welcomed me, and when I was naked, you gave me clothes to wear. When I was sick, you took care of me, and when I was in jail, you visited me.’... ‘Whenever you did it for any of my people, no matter how unimportant they seemed, you did it for me.’ (read the whole story in Matthew 25:31-

46) It's up to us to sort the world's peace out, with the help, inspiration, motivation and power of that baby, who grew up to be the Prince of Peace.

So I wish for us all a wonderful, joyful celebration of Christmas! Then once we have packed away the story for another year, along with the tree and the tinsel and the spare cards and wrapping paper (tip: write on your new calendar in November where you put them) I wish us a Peaceful New Year and that inspiration, motivation and power of the Prince of Peace to help us achieve it in however small a way we can – the Peace of the world begins with each one of us and how we choose to live our lives and treat others. Or as an old song says: 'let there be Peace on earth, and let it begin with me.' The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

God bless, Wendy <><

Wendy Tucker, Minister for Bromham Calne and Seend Methodist Churches

BULKINGTON NEWS

BULKINGTON LADIES' GROUP

Don't forget our Handbell entertainment on Thursday 30th November at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, followed by cheese and wine and the usual raffle.

On Thursday 14th December we are having a Christmas meal at The Three Magpies, Sells Green. Please meet at the Village Hall at 7pm to arrange transport. The meal is scheduled for 7.30pm. Please secure your place asap with a £5 deposit. Menu available.

Our January meeting will be a planning meeting on Thursday 25th at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. Please bring some ideas for our 2018 programme.

We wish everyone a very happy Christmas.

Liz Futter 828485

Angela Read 828925

**The church hosted Bulkington Village Lunch
takes place on**

Wednesday, 6th December 2017 at 12.15pm and

Wednesday, 3rd January 2018 at The Well.

**Contact Phyl Yarde in advance for the menu (828116). New people are always
welcome to join us. It is a good social event for the entire village and area.**

Join Me For Lunch



BULKINGTON VILLAGE HALL

Looking forward to Christmas, although it seems like only yesterday we were 'Decking the Hall...' I love this time of year as it'll soon be the shortest day and after that snowdrops and spring. Activity quietens down after Christmas, but the Hall will still host lovely winter gatherings, including our usual Keep Fit and Ladies' Group. We'd like more gatherings, so how about that for your New Year Resolution? Find a new group to meet in the Hall. All very welcome.

A Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year to everyone.

Angela Read, Chairman.

**THE TEA, CRAFT AND CHAT SOCIAL GROUP
for Seend, Bulkington and Poulshot**

will meet from 2 – 4pm on Monday, 4th December
at 4 Northfields, Bulkington (828931)

Bring your own craft item or leave it at home and just come and chat!



GREAT BULKINGTON RAILWAY



We have, at present two parties booked over this winter. The first is a birthday party in late November – wrap up well and pray for a dry day folks! The second is a christening party in February – after which I expect to send the Wilts Air Ambulance people another £500 – that will be £2000 this year. The next public open day will be on Easter Sunday 2018. Meanwhile – it has been a while since we had a request for a children's end of term school party.....

Nev Boulton Station Master 01380 828101

The **Mobile Library** will visit the car-park of The Well on Monday 11th December and Monday 8th January 2018, 11.05-11.30am. Please support this; it really could be a case of use it or lose it.



CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING

9th December, 10.30am – 12.00 noon

In the Tudor Cottage (14 Bulkington)

Christmas Fare - Homemade Stall – Cakes - Raffle



SEEND CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS



AT THE HEART OF
OUR COMMUNITY

SEEND COMMUNITY CENTRE NEWS

www.seendcommunitycentre.com – bookings 07703 814111

See the Events section and find us on facebook!

SEEND COMMUNITY CENTRE CLUB MEMBERSHIP.

Fantastic money saving opportunity! Club membership fees for 2018 are due on the 1st April, but if you are an early bird and pay in January, you can save £1. The early bird discount ends on 1st February, after which membership fees revert to full price, so don't forget to renew early. Full price fees are £11 for ordinary members and £9.50 for the over 60s.

Membership includes use of the Members Bar, with discounted drinks, free snooker on Mondays, free snacks on TGI Fridays and reduced rates for hiring of the hall and meeting rooms. If you haven't been before, why not come along to our early Friday night social at 6pm and try before you join?

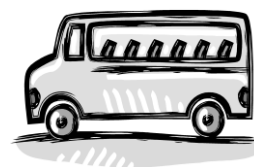
SEEND SHUTTLE COMMUNITY BUS

Salisbury Shopping Shuttle - Wednesday 6th December.

Due to its usual popularity, all places for December's Shopping Shuttle to Salisbury have already been taken. As in previous years there will be no Shuttle in January, the next being on Wednesday 7th February 2018.

Thanks to all who have supported the Salisbury Shuttle during 2017.

Rex



SEEND POETRY GROUP

Thinking of joining Seend Poetry Group? Now is your chance to find out more about us. Come to our New Year Party in the Kennet Room in Seend Community Centre at 7.30pm on Monday 8th January for a drink, festive nibbles, shared poetry and poetry-based games. Call Tessa on 01380 828617 for more info.



SEEND & DISTRICT RAMBLERS

Weekend away October 20th – 22nd: 23 Members stayed at Penyard House near Ross-on-Wye. On Saturday 19 members covered a distance of 8 miles walking from the hotel, through the lovely village of Kingstone and on to Harleton Water. Footpaths and lanes took them

back to the hotel. Sunday's route of 4 miles was completed by 21 members. The Penyard, a prominent hill was skirted around and a diversion to Bills Mills before heading back via footpaths and lanes. A very enjoyable weekend was had by all.

Sunday 19th November: Bob and Brenda's walk was attended by 17 members who enjoyed a lovely 5 mile walk starting from Ramsbury, passing Littlecote Manor and viewing a Roman villa remains with mosaic floor.

Next walk – NEW DATE Sunday 17th December: Leaders Penny and Ron – meet for a 10am start at the Caen Hill Lock car park (£1 parking fee) Devizes for a walk of approx. 5 miles. Usual festive refreshments on return to car park.

First walk for 2018 – Sunday 14th January: Leaders Tim and Sandy. Details yet to be confirmed but members will be notified via email.

May I take this opportunity to wish all our members a very Happy Christmas and New Year and look forward to sharing another year of interesting walks with you.

Lin Salter 01225 706451

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

IN MEMORIAM

This month we remember:

Albert Wareham	2 nd Bn Wiltshire Ret	3 rd December 1917
Robert Sandeman Gaisford	31 st Sqn Royal Flying Corps	31 st January 1918



They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY (12th November 2017)

There was a tremendous turn out for the Service of Remembrance and every seat in the church was filled. The marching parade consisted of Detachments from The Royal British Legion, The Royal Air Force Cadets, Seend School and the 1st Bowerhill Scouts, Beavers and Cubs. The Parade paused at the War Memorial where wreaths were laid by representatives of all the Detachments and also the Royal Air Force and the Womens Institute. The service was conducted by the Revd Jane Knowles and the Standards were laid on the altar for the duration of the service. Mr Leo Coley, a Veteran of the 2nd World War was in attendance.

Unfortunately, the Reveille and Last Post had to be recordings again this year so, if anyone knows of a Bugler who would be prepared to carry out these duties, please let me know. (Tel 828830).

ARMISTICE DAY (Saturday 11th November 2017)

Twenty people gathered at the War Memorial at 1100 hrs for prayers and the two minutes silence. Unfortunately the weather deteriorated so we moved into the Church and held the ceremony in the Royal British Legion Sidechapel at the east end of the South Aisle.

POPPY COLLECTION. The usual team of Poppy Sellers toured the village during the fortnight preceding Remembrance Day. Our grateful thanks go to all the collectors and those who so generously donated, and also to Kevin Toft for organising and coordinating the whole event again.

COMMITTEE MEETING. The next Meeting will be held in the Kennet Room of The Community Centre on Thursday 25th January 2018 commencing at 1930hrs.

Roger Brind



SEEND WI

Fiona Johnson, our President, welcomed both members and visitors to the meeting. Everyone was thanked for bringing a wrapped present to be given to a vulnerable person at Christmas; these would be distributed by Wiltshire Federation office in Devizes. It was noted that Seend WI would once again be placing a wreath at the Remembrance Service on Sunday 12th November at Seend Church. The “Chilli” evening would now take place on 10th February, 2018, details to appear in February Spotlight.

Our Speaker, Mr Stephen Wells, transported us back to the dark and mysterious world of Whitechapel in Victorian times, where he described the gruesome murders of prostitutes carried out by the infamous Jack the Ripper. The total number of murders is unknown, as is the true identity of the perpetrator. The incidents created significant media interest here and in Europe. Over the years this case has prompted many articles, books and even a film but still remains one of the great unsolved mysteries of the day. Mr Wells was thanked for a fascinating and well informed talk. Our next Craft Afternoon will be on Thursday 18th January at 2.00 p.m. (No Craft Afternoon in December.) Non-members are most welcome.

Our December meeting will consist of a festive meal and Christmas Craft demonstration at Lowden Garden Centre. The shop will be open at 6pm for members to browse.

All meetings take place in the Pavilion, Rusty Lane, Seend at 7.30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month unless otherwise notified. For more information please contact Joyce Harvey on 01380 828511 or check www.seend.wi.weebly.com

100+ CLUB DRAW

The results of the Lye Field 100+ Club draw for October are as follows:-

£30.00	No. 33	Mr A Bailey
£25.00	No. 90	Mr F Schruoff
£20.00	No. 69	Mrs M Hutchinson
£15.00	No. 140	Mrs P Gale
£10.00	No. 01	Mrs L McMillan



The results of the Lye Field 100+ Club draw for November are as follows:-

£30.00	No. 081	Mr B Powell
£25.00	No. 005	Mrs J Hawkins
£20.00	No. 119	Mrs S Isaac
£15.00	No. 040	Mrs E Doig
£10.00	No. 064	Mr T James

Congratulations to all the winners. You need to join the club to be in with a chance of winning one of our prizes!

Karen Cubberley, Seend Lye Field Committee



HISTORIC HOUSES CLUB

To everyone interested in coming along to our AGM. The date set is, Thursday February 1st at 7.30pm in the Pavilion. Please bring along fresh suggestions and ideas to make Summer 2018 very enjoyable.

Mary Warren

THEATRE CLUB

The AGM will be held in the Pavilion at 7.30pm on Thursday 25th January 2018. There will be a very entertaining speaker whose subject is “Don’t Put your Daughter on the Stage!” To join for next year the sub will be £5 a head, and we look forward to welcoming new members. There will be a glass of wine, or a soft drink, and Pauline’s delicious nibbles for everyone.



Next year’s programme will start on 22nd February with the comedy thriller Murder, Margaret and Me, about the problematic relationship between Agatha Christie and Margaret Rutherford, at Salisbury Playhouse; followed on 2nd May by a black comedy, Burke and Hare at the Watermill Theatre Newbury, preceded by supper.

We hope to see you all at our jolly AGM on 25th January.

Sylvia Ewin

SEEND FAWLTY PLAYERS

Our 39th village pantomime ‘**Robin Hood and his Merry Men and Women**’ will be staged at Seend Community Centre on Thursday 15th and Friday 16th February at 7.30pm and on Saturday 17th February at 7pm. Fun for all ages! Tickets available from mid-January.



SEEND SCHOOL NEWS

There have been lots of visitors in Holly Class recently as the children have been learning about People Who Help Us. They’ve had nurses, a police officer, a vet and some firemen in so far! The children have really enjoyed learning about the different jobs that people do.

Oak Class have been busy learning about the Romans and recently had a visitor from Devizes Museum. Ali spoke to the children about what the Romans did for us and brought in lots of artefacts for the children to look at and hold. It’s our History Day in a few weeks and I hear there might be some Roman food tasting happening.

Chestnut Class have been learning about the Vikings & Anglo Saxons and are off to Devizes Museum soon to handle and make some of their own Viking Artefacts. The children have really enjoyed learning about the Vikings, as well as dressing up as them for part of their homework.

Sycamore Class have been learning about Modern & Ancient Greece and have also been making and tasting some Greek food. They also wrote radio adverts to persuade people to visit Greece on holiday.

Thanks to the hard work of Mrs Coleman and Miss Holland, Seend School achieved a Silver Healthy Schools’ Award and the Silver Primary Science Quality Mark. Both teachers have worked for months behind the scenes, up-dating policies, improving provision and planning extra learning opportunities for the children to extend their understanding in these areas.

For Children in Need, the children dressed up in mis-matching clothes and took part in a game of ‘Guess how many sweets in the jar.’ We were also lucky enough to have a visit from the main man himself – Pudsey Bear along with Steve Clements from BBC Wiltshire Radio!

It’s our Christmas Fayre on Friday 8th December from 6 – 8pm. Please come along and support us, and do some Christmas shopping at the same time.

Mrs Nicola Coleman, Deputy Headteacher

SEEND PLAYGROUP NEWS

We welcome Monte and his family to Playgroup and hope he enjoys his time with us.

This term we have been for walks to local fields to see the animals, and collected leaves which we decorated and stuck on lolly sticks. We also each made a poppy on a lolly stick to help us remember those who lost their lives in the war. The children dressed up as Superheroes or in spotty outfits for Children in Need day. We visited

the mobile library to borrow some books and are going to have our own library in our home corner.

Our December open morning is Friday 8th December, and the January one will be on January 12th. Come along and see what we do.

Our Nativity morning is on Friday 15th December at 10.15 am. Everyone is welcome to come and see the Nativity story told by our children. (It may not be exactly as you remember it!) There will be coffee and mince pies afterwards – and a Christmas raffle. Later that morning we will be having our Christmas party and hopefully a visit from Father Christmas. Playgroup will break up for Christmas on 20th December and return on 4th January 2018.

A Happy Christmas and New Year from everyone at Seend Playgroup.

Rose Dick (Playleader) 828003

SEEND PARISH COUNCIL

NB. The following minutes are a shortened version of the full minutes taken at the Parish Council meeting of 31st October 2017. These have not yet been ratified by the Parish Council and may be subject to change. A full copy of the minutes can be found on our website: www.seendparishcouncil.co.uk

The meeting held on 31st October was attended by 11 Councillors with Mr Murch in the chair, Councillor Jonathon Seed, Mrs S Bond (Clerk) and 13 parishioners.

POLICE MATTERS: Apologies were received from PCSO Maggie Ledbury who was unable to attend the meeting, but she notified us of the following incidents:

On Saturday morning 7th October a White crew-cab Ford tipper SK 65 VHP bearing the name "P & M Driveways" was driven into the private storage yard of Windsmere Stone & Granite at Sells Green, in spite of No Unauthorised Entry signs. Mr Johnson challenged the driver, a white male around 40 years with a thick Irish accent, stocky with short dark hair and facial stubble, accompanied by a boy aged about 10. Mr Johnson said that it was obvious that he was not a customer and was scanning the contents of the yard. When asked to leave he became belligerent, aggressive and foul mouthed. His excuse for not heeding the warning notices was that he couldn't read.

A catalytic converter was stolen from a Honda CRV motor car overnight whilst it was parked in Bath Road, Sells Green.

Other incidents to report include:

17th Oct Exhaust stolen from a vehicle in Rusty Lane

19th Oct Shed burglary in Perry's Lane. Hedge trimmers stolen.

28th Oct Fail to Stop RTC on Bollands Hill.

Police will only record a traffic accident if there is a personal injury. However, if a car hits another vehicle and then drives off, it becomes a crime.

PLANNING MATTERS

Application Number: 17/08217/FUL – Blossom Hill, Trowbridge Road, Seend

Update: Councillor Seed had a meeting with the Planning Officer Mr Jones on the 16th October. Should the Planning Officer be minded to approve the planning application, then Councillor Seed will call in the application so that it can be considered by the Strategic Planning Committee. (*See Announcements section for further news. Eds.*) The Chairman highlighted an inaccuracy in the Landscape Officer's report which said there were two SSSIs in close proximity. There are in fact three, one of which adjoins the applicant's site. The Chairman asked Councillor Seed to convey this to the Planning Officer.

Spiderweb Paddock: It is now 10 years since the Appeal Decision which set out a number of conditions on the landowner, some of which are still being flouted. The Chairman expressed frustration that the Enforcement Officer cannot do more to enforce the conditions. A resident reported that vehicles leave the site every morning, a strong indicator that someone is living on the site. Also, a generator can be heard at night and early in the morning. The resident expressed frustration that evidence provided some years ago seemed to have been ignored. Councillor Seed said that the evidence had been useful in that it enabled the Enforcement Officer to serve a notice that stated they can never claim residency. This can never be revoked. Councillor Seed advised Councillors that they should gather up evidence that the site was being lived on, such as the working generator and vehicles leaving the site each morning and that non-agricultural vehicles are on site. Mrs McManus asked Councillor Seed what quality of evidence the Enforcement Officer was looking for to prove occupancy. Councillor Seed suggested that it might be useful for the Parish Council to meet with the Enforcement Officer, and he would look into arranging this.

3.1 Application Number: 17/09226/FUL

Site Location: 52 Seend Cleeve, Seend Melksham Wiltshire SN12 6PY

Proposal: Conversion of an existing barn within the garden of the property to create studio.

Mrs Heatley proposed that a condition be placed on the planning application that the barn should remain ancillary to the main house. With this condition, it was proposed that the application be approved. This was seconded by Mr Wood. Mr James and Mr Murch had declared an interest, so did not take part in the vote. All other Councillors voted to approve the planning application. Approved unanimously by 9 Councillors.

Application Number: 17/09298/FUL

Site Location: The Barge Inn Seend Cleeve Seend SN12 6QB

Proposal: Covered dining area and associated works, with replacement LPG tank compound and associated car park works. Approval was proposed by Mr Haines and seconded by Mrs A'Bear. Unanimously approved by all Councillors.

Application Number: 17/09733/TCA

Site Location: Elm Cottage Seend Hill Seend Melksham Wiltshire SN12 6RU

Proposal: Beech Trees - reduce to 6 feet.

Approval proposed by Mrs A'Bear and seconded by Mrs Heatley. Unanimously approved by all Councillors.

Application Number: 17/10191/TCA

Site Location: Manor Field, High Street, Seend

Proposal: Horse Chestnut - Remove 2 lower branches. Ash tree - Remove 1 lower branch. Approval proposed by Mr James, seconded by Mrs Vince. Unanimously approved.

Application Ref: 17/10189/TCA

Site Location: Wisteria Cottage, High Street, Seend, Melksham SN12 6NU

Proposal:- Yew, Cypress & Holly trees - cut back overhang into neighbouring garden. Approval proposed by Mrs McManus, seconded by Mr Williams. Unanimously approved by all Councillors.

Application Ref: 17/09986/FUL

Site Location: 15 Dial Close, Seend SN12 6NP

Proposal:- Proposed New Access following demolition of existing detached garage, New dwelling and new detached garage.

Full details of the discussion that was had on this planning application can be found in full version of the draft minutes on the website. Mr Wood proposed that the Parish Council object to the planning application. This was seconded by Mrs McManus. At a vote, eight councillors voted in favour of objecting, one voted against the resolution, one abstained and one did not vote. The motion was carried. Seend Parish Council objects to the planning application.

Chairman's Comments - Following the surprise resignation of the Clerk, he called on the Councillors to consider increasing the number of hours the Clerk is paid to work, This should be discussed and agreed at the Precept meeting and any recommendations put to a full Council meeting at the end of November.

Trees to commemorate soldiers who had died in WW1. The Chairman had spoken with the Seend branch of the Royal British Legion and they are invited to attend the November meeting to discuss a possible location for the trees. 25 trees have been ordered – i.e. the number of soldiers that had died from the Parish during WW1.

The Chairman reported that he and the Clerk had received an email from a couple who were considering buying **The Bell pub** to convert it into a family home and a B&B. Councillors felt that this should be supported and a change of use should be accepted. A B&B could be a good use for it. Mr Wood proposed that the Parish Council support this suggestion. Seconded by Mrs Vince. Unanimously approved. The Clerk to write to the couple inviting them to talk with the Parish Council.

Neighbourhood Plan and Community Land Trust

Mrs A'Bear reported that following the resignation of Mrs McCulloch, there were now just 8 members of the Group. They were now getting quotes from consultants to prepare the Neighbourhood Plan document.

The Chairman reported that following a CLT steering group meeting that he and Mrs A'Bear had attended, he felt very strongly that the Parish Council should support the setting up of a CLT for Seend. He said it was a chance for the parish of Seend to shape its own future by deciding what type and location of housing the village wants.

The Parish Council would be expected to give £500 to help set up the CLT and he urged the Councillors to support the expenditure. Mrs McManus expressed some concerns about the financial implications for the Parish Council and the community commitment that would be needed to ensure its longevity. She did not understand how the money to purchase land etc would be raised. Dr Knott said that money would not be an issue as there were plenty of loans available and the government was supporting the CLT movement. The CLT would work closely with the NPSG, as it would look to them to be a guide in defining the type and numbers of houses needed.

Mrs Vince proposed that Seend Parish Council agrees in principle to support the establishment of a Seend CLT. Seconded by Mr Wood. At a vote ten councillors voted in favour and one against. The motion was carried.

HIGHWAYS & CATG MEETING

Bell Hill Crossroads: Following the number of accidents that have occurred, the Parish Council had raised a Community Issue calling for a safety review of the crossroads. This was discussed at the CATG meeting on 16th October. Mrs McManus and Councillor Seed had successfully persuaded the members of the CATG that a highway review was urgently required. The members voted in favour of putting it into the top five priority issues. This was good news for the Parish. Councillor Seed reported that the highway safety concerns of Bell Hill would now be looked at by professional road safety advisers. The study would be funded by Wiltshire Council. Any recommendations that are made following the study would have to be funded through CATG, and Seend Parish Council would have to pay a third of the costs.

Church Crossing: This was given the final go ahead. The Parish Council had already agreed to pay a third of the costs which would be in the region of £2,000. Mr Wood proposed that the Parish Council approve the expenditure of up to £2,000. Seconded by Mrs A'Bear. Unanimously agreed by all Councillors.

Metro Counts at New Buildings and Sells Green: Both applications for metro counts were "in progress" and would hopefully take place soon.

Future Highways improvements for Seend Parish: Councillors felt that it would be useful to set up a sub-group to look at prioritising what highway safety measures it would want to introduce. Mrs McManus, Mr Haines, Mr James and Mr Williams agreed to be on a sub-committee. They would look in detail at the SRSI report and take forward some of the recommendations as well as some additional measures.

DEFIBRILLATOR: Mr Wood had circulated detailed costings for the purchase of two defibrillators. The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had now received the Community Benefit cheque from the Sandridge Solar Farm Ltd. This was £1026.49. This would be spent on the purchase of one defibrillator and cabinet. It was felt that there would not be enough funds in this financial year to purchase two defibrillators,

and to defer the purchase of the second until 2018 when we would hope to be able to apply for another BHF grant. Mr James proposed that we first purchase a defibrillator for Seend Cleeve. Seconded by Mr Haines. All Councillors unanimously agreed.

FINANCIAL MATTERS: There were 11 cheques for signature

Bank reconciliation to end of September 2017 - £21,147.03. This included the second payment of the Precept.

There is no council meeting in December. The dates of the next two meetings are: Tuesdays 30th January and 27th February at 7.30pm at Seend Community Centre.

Contact Details for Seend Parish Council: Clerk: Sue Bond. Tel: 07706 850859 (office hours and answerphone service) Email: clerk@seendparishcouncil.co.uk

Chairman: Tony Murch. Tel: 01380 828450.

Email: chairman@seendparishcouncil.co.uk

NEWS FROM WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

I have always held strong beliefs in the value of Acts of Remembrance but every individual and community needs to decide for themselves how they wish to Remember. My recent experience is that attendance on Remembrance Sunday is becoming more popular and more younger people are attending Acts of Remembrance.. On Saturday 11th November evening my wife and I were privileged to attend the iconic Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance in the Royal Albert Hall, an experience we will treasure for the rest of our lives and one which made us feel proud to be British. We managed to obtain tickets through our (Seend) Branch of the Royal British Legion and I would strongly recommend it to anyone who is interested and who has not experienced the atmosphere of this spectacular event in the Royal Albert Hall.

On Remembrance Sunday morning I joined 100 residents of Bulkington (from a village population of 285!) at their poignant annual Act of Remembrance where the new village 1918 memorial stone was also dedicated. This new monument was part funded by Melksham Area Board. That afternoon I attended the superb Melksham Civic Service and Act of Remembrance. The Church was jam-packed and the parade was outstanding. The Royal British Legion, uniformed and civilian services were brilliant and the crowds stood five deep at the War Memorial. I was very impressed by the performance, drill, and turnout of the Melksham St John Ambulance unit. After a busy Remembrance weekend it was back to business in County Hall and my first meeting on the Monday morning contained some positive news on the proposals for an A350 Melksham By-pass. This could be very good for our area because there may be some concentration of traffic away from the roads that pass through our villages. The earliest this project could come to fruition is in the middle of the next decade. However this is one road improvement that will be worth waiting for.

Finally may I take this opportunity to wish everyone in the parish a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Jonathon Seed, Jonathon.seed@wiltshire.gov.uk, 07770774463



SEEND SPORTING AND DRAMATIC NEWS

Football

This month's report must start with details of the latest achievements of Seend's own Mr Football himself. We speak of course of Luke Ballinger. Whilst some may have switched on their television sets on 14th November simply to watch the international between England and Brazil, many in Seend were viewing solely to see Luke receiving an award at half time for his unrivalled record within the England Futsal squad. Luke received the one off golden cap in recognition of his record 100 appearances in the team, his 60 goals, another milestone, and his having captained the national side on some 60 occasions.

Spotlight echoes the sentiments of the whole of Seend in offering our hearty congratulations to Luke. Oh, before you go Luke there is the small matter of resurrecting the Seend football team. I know that you are very busy on the management front with Melksham, to say nothing of your involvement as director and coach at Future of Football but.....

Ornithology

Many thanks to our reader who sent me a copy of Songbird Survival for Spring/Summer 2017. It is a very worthwhile publication. Last month's reference to the sighting of the Cuckoo in Malta was of course an attempt at irony, given the local practices. We would love to have a knowledgeable twitcher contribute to this page from time to time. Do not hesitate to send in some copy when convenient.

Tennis

The trophy won by the men's team will, Rob willing, shortly be displayed in the Community Centre where it will remain until next year. Well done to the whole team.

Short Mat Bowls

Colin and I both agree that our information gathering trip to Greece was well worth while and I am sure that you will all be pleased to hear that as a result Colin's latest book "Cooking with Colin in the Peloponnese" will shortly be on the shelves. I am told that it is an absolute cracker and his recipe for moussaka is to die for. (OK I am with you Colin, we can all make mistakes with the prototype and yes Jo only had a mild bout of, what was it Colin ?.....campylobacter something or other, anyway what is commonly described by GP's as "caught under canvas". Get well soon Jo and put me down for three copies please Colin.)

News for the February edition to the Louis Pasteur laboratory by January 12th please.

Frankie Goddard, 01380 828488

PERSONAL ADS

Nothing this month, but if you have something for sale or wanted, please leave your notice in the Shop/PO or at 6 New Buildings, with the £2 fee.

BITS AND BOBS

THE SEEND FUND – Your local fund: Remember the Seend Fund is your local fund. Anyone living in or closely associated with Seend can apply by e-mailing the secretary (anitashea@hotmail.co.uk) or writing to her at 34 Seend Cleeve, Melksham SN12 6PY. If you find yourself in financial difficulties the fund might be able to help with anything from school uniforms to heating bills. Don't hesitate to send details, saying how much you need, what it is for and when you need it by. Even if the fund has helped you before, your request will be sympathetically and confidentially considered. Although the fund is intended to help individuals, if there are any organisations or groups who need support to include someone with special needs in an educational activity, or who know of members who are struggling financially, the Fund may be able to help.



Fresh Christmas Trees - you choose - then we cut!

Cutting the first three Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays in December 11am - 4pm

Any size £20

Marsh Farm, Worton, Devizes SN10 1GS - 01380 828214

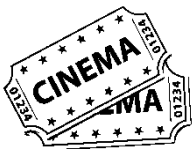
MARKET LAVINGTON CHRISTMAS COUNTRY FAIR

Just to let you know that we raised £1067 for ABF The Soldiers' Charity, our highest total to date, bringing the amount raised over the last seven years to over £6000.

Sue Bonney

STEEPLE ASHTON FILMS at the VILLAGE HALL, STEEPLE ASHTON

Thanks to all of you who have supported our film nights throughout 2017. If you would like up to date information on Steeple Ashton Films, please let me have your e-mail address and I will add you to our mailing list.



Provisionally, the 2018 Spring season dates and film titles will be:

January 27th My Cousin Rachel; February 24th Victoria and Abdul;

March 24th The Audience; April 14th Murder on the Orient Express.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Alison Wilson, Marcus Wilson and Deborah Fox - alisonwilson9@hotmail.com

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MUSICAL EVENTS:

Mick Jogger and the Stones Experience

with special guest **Dee Dee Wilde** from Pan's People

Corn Exchange, Devizes - 29th December

Tickets £15 available from

Devizes Books or www.wegotickets.com or 01380 871890



Wiltshire Sight 100th Anniversary Concert

World renowned blind pianist, Derek Paravicini, will be performing a unique concert to celebrate the charity's 100th year. Derek plays entirely by ear, has memorised thousands of pieces including pop, jazz and classical as well as taking requests from his audiences.

He will be playing at **St Mary's School in Calne on Friday 19th January 2018**. Doors open 7pm; concert starts at 7.30pm. Tickets £35, including refreshments, available from www.calnefoundation.org/wiltshiresight. Call 01380 723682 for more information.

Melksham Choral Society

Do come and join us for some joyful Christmas music at **Melksham United Church on December 16th at 7.30pm**. We will be singing Vivaldi's Gloria with excellent soloists and organ and Ronald Corp's Christmas Mass which is set to a fascinating medley of Christmas carol tunes. Tickets are £10 in advance from choir members (you can email me at anitashea@hotmail.co.uk) or £12 on the door.

White Horse Opera's Christmas Concert

Thursday 21st December at 7.30pm in St Mary's Church, Devizes. Stunning Christmas pieces as well as rousing sing-a-long carols. Enjoy a glass or two of mulled wine with some mince pies and get into the festive spirit. Tickets £10 from Devizes Books and on-line at www.ticketsource.co.uk/whitehorseopera

Lavington Community Choir

Friday December 8th at 7.30pm in Market Lavington Community Hall **an Evening of Festive Music with guest tenor Carlos Alonso**. Tickets £7, including a light ploughman's supper and mince pies, available from Devizes Books and Market Lavington Post Office. The choir is also performing at West Ashton Church on 1st December. Lavington Community Choir donated just over £400 to Wiltshire Air Ambulance from our summer concert profit.

CALNE CHORAL - Christmas concert

9th December 2017 at 7.30pm - St. Mary's Church, Calne.

THE THIRD EDINGTON ARTS ADVENT CONCERT

The world-famous **choir of New College, Oxford** at Edington Priory Church **Friday December 1st at 7pm**. Conductor Tim Wakerell.

Interval refreshments of mulled wine and mince pies.

To book tickets ring Chrissy on 01380 831256 or email sue@edingtonarts.org.

WILTSHIRE MUSIC CENTRE Ashley Road • Bradford on Avon • BA15 1DZ

Admin • 01225 860110 - Box Office • 01225 860100 www.wiltshiremusic.org.uk

Sat 2nd Dec, 7.30pm Gould Piano Trio

Sun 3rd Dec, 3pm The Nutcracker Family Show

Sat 9th Dec, 7.30pm Gwilym Simcock / 20th Anniversary Launch Concert

Tues 12th Dec, 7.15pm / Sat 23 Dec, 3pm The Royal Ballet: The Nutcracker (As Live)

Tues 12th Dec, 11.30am Jonathan James: Discovering Music Morning music lecture

Fri 15th Dec, 7.30pm Michael Collins & Friends - quintets by Mozart and Brahms

Wed 20th Dec, 7.30pm Belshazzar's Feast - An English Folk Christmas

A LATE STOP PRESS MESSAGE!

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS: As usual we won't be sending Christmas cards to local friends whom we meet regularly. Instead we will be making a donation to Dorothy House. But we wish all a very Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Richard & Marion Whitehead

And finally...

Thought for today:

The fact that there is a highway to hell and only a stairway to heaven says a lot about anticipated traffic numbers.



USEFUL CONTACTS: *Please tell Spotlight if your group's contact details change*

Church: Revd Ali Bridewell. 01380 739064. Benefice Administrator: Mrs Sue Taylor 01225 709360. Churchwardens: Holy Cross Seend: Len Murray, 01380 828513, Mrs Tina Yockney 01380 827139; Christ Church Bulkington: Mrs Liz Futter 828485, Mrs Anne Saywell 828931; LPAs: Jane Goman 827121, Liz Futter 828485, Rosie Forsey 828843, Len Murray 828513, Sue Noad 870343, Sue Rose 871665, Hilary Hutchings 828129, Tina Yockney 827139. Bell Tower Captain: L Murray 828513.

Irene Usher Memorial Hall (The Pavilion) Bookings - Richard Walker on 828250

Bulkington Village Hall - Nev Boulton 828101 or Roger Futter 828485

Bulkington Playing Field: Chairman Jamie Streeter, 828835, jamiestreeter@hotmail.co.uk

Seend Community Centre/Club - 828796 (7.30-11pm only). Bookings: 07703 814111.

Website: www.seendcommunitycentre.com and find us on facebook

Seend Shuttle: Bookings and drivers: Alison Cobbing 07951030491 or 01380 850511

Seend Parish Council Clerk – Mrs Sue Bond 07706 850859 www.seendparishcouncil.co.uk

Seend's Wiltshire Councillor - Jonathon Seed 01380 850695 jonathon.seed@wiltshire.gov.uk

Seend village website: www.seend.org.uk - Neil Yockney 827139.

Seend School - 828334

Bulkington Website: www.bulkington.org.uk

Rights of Way Warden – Paul Millard, 01225 712821

Seend Fund: 01380 828757

MP Claire Perry, 01380 729358 (M-F 9.30am-1pm) claire.perry.mp@parliament.uk

MEP - Graham Watson 01458 252265. **Melksham Area Board** – 07917 721371

Police: PCSO Maggie Ledbury (Internal:101 Ext 77436089 or Mobile: 07471028939

100+Club Draw – Karen & Steve Cubberley – steven@cubberley.com - tel: 828423

Book Clubs - the original: Sylvia Ewin 828325 - the other: Frank Teasdale 828617

Bouncy Club - Paulette Pardoe 07944 300350

Cricket Club - John Wiltshire 07791 144248

Fawlty Players Panto Group - Tessa Doe 828617 & find Seend Village Pantomime on facebook

Fete – Nick Vaux - seendlrf@gmail.com (www.seendfete.co.uk)

Flower Show –Carole Vince 828579

FoSS (Friends of Seend School) Peter Kay friendsofseendschool@gmail.com

Historic Houses Club - Mary Warren 01225707357 or Neil Yockney 827139

LINK Scheme - 075320 55560

Lye Field Committee – www.seendlyefield.org

Neighbourhood Watch - Brian Hunt (Seend) 828581; Cavan Moroney (Sells Green) 828606;

Owen Burton (Seend Cleeve) 828820; John Scott (Bulkington) 828026.

Preschool - Rose Dick (Playleader) 828003

Poetry Group - Tessa Doe 828617

Ramblers - Gerald Salter 01225 706451

Royal British Legion - Roger Brind 828830

Seend Singers - Bob McCulloch 828508

Short Mat Bowls Club - Colin Waldeck 828946

Tennis Club - Ric Ellinger 828687

Theatre Club - Sylvia Ewin 828325; Marion Whitehead 828612

WEA – Tessa Doe 828617

Wheelchairs to borrow - Sue and Graham Jones in Seend Cleeve, tel: 01380 828354

WI - Fiona Johnson on 828401 and Gill Acornley 01225 707218

Wine Circle – Steve Parsons 07974 347487 or Simon McManus 07896 711764

Seend Post Office & Village Store

01380 828250

NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINES

FRESH FRUIT & VEGETABLES

WINES BEERS & SPIRITS

GROCERIES

THE HEALTH LOTTERY

POSTCARDS & STATIONERY



	Village Store	Post Office
Mon	9.00 - 5.30	9.00 - 5.30
Tues	9.00 - 5.30	9.00 - 5.30
Wed	9.00 - 5.30	9.00 - 4.30*
Thurs	9.00 - 1.00	9.00 - 1.00
Fri	9.00 - 5.30	9.00 - 5.30
Sat	8.30 - 1.00	9.00 - 1.00
Sun	9.00 - 10.30	Closed
Bank Holidays	9.00 - 10.30	Closed
* note early closing		