

SPOTLIGHT

Seend and Bulkington



MARCH 2008

25th February - 9th March - Fair Trade Fortnight (see events in Devizes p.23)

DIARY DATES FOR FEBRUARY

- 28th Seend Historic Houses Club meeting - 7.30pm in the Pavilion
- 28th Royal British Legion Committee Meeting - 8pm in the Community Centre

DIARY DATES FOR MARCH

- 1st Skittles competition - ladies' and gents' singles - in the Community Centre
- 1st Lent lunch in Poulshot - 12-2pm in the Village Hall
- 3rd Mobile Library - 9.35am The Lye, Seend; 10am Telephone Box, Seend Cleeve; 10.55am-11.25am car park at Topsy Toad, Bulkington
- 5th Lent lunch in Bulkington - 12-2pm in the Village Hall
- 5th First Wednesday shopping trip - ring Terry on 828203 before Monday 3rd
- 7th Seend & Bulkington MU - Women's World Day of Prayer at St Andrew's Church, Melksham
- 8th Lent lunch in Seend - 12-2pm in the Pavilion

8TH DEADLINE FOR APRIL SPOTLIGHT

- 12th Keevil and District WI meeting - 7.30pm in Keevil Village Hall
- 13th Seend's Other Book Club - 7.45pm - ring 828617
- 15th Royal British Legion Canteen Concert - 7 for 7.30pm in the Community Centre
- 15th Capella Nova at Cleeve House - 7.30pm
- 16th Wedding Fayre at Cleeve House from 11am
- 16th Seend Ramblers - meet 9.30am in Rusty Lane
- 17th Mobile Library - 9.35am The Lye, Seend; 10am Telephone Box, Seend Cleeve; 10.55am-11.25am car park at Topsy Toad, Bulkington
- 24th Great Bulkington Railway - 1pm-4pm
- 29th Skittles competition - mixed pairs - in the Community Centre
- 31st Mobile Library - 9.35am The Lye, Seend; 10am Telephone Box, Seend Cleeve; 10.55am-11.25am car park at Topsy Toad, Bulkington

DIARY DATES FOR APRIL

- 2nd First Wednesday shopping trip - ring Terry on 828203 by Mon 31st March
- 2nd Seend WI AGM - 7.30pm in the Pavilion
- 6th Seend Ramblers AGM 3pm in the Pavilion after walk at 1.30pm
- 8th Gardening Club AGM in the Pavilion
- 11th Rural Arts Wiltshire /Watermill Theatre - 8pm in the Pavilion
- 16th Big Bulkington Quiz - 7.30pm in the Pavilion, Seend
- 23rd St George's Day Dinner - 7 for 7.30pm in the Community Centre
- 24th Link AGM - 8pm in the Pavilion
- 26th Plant sale and craft fayre at Keevil School

DIARY DATES FOR MAY

- 3rd Seend Beer Festival - midday till 11pm in the Community Centre
- 10th Keevil 10k run and Family Fun Day
- 26th Craft Fayre at Cleeve House

Welcome to the March issue



Those beautiful frosty winter mornings in mid- February - and some wonderful sunsets - reminded us how lucky we are to live in a lovely spot like Seend. But now spring is just around the corner; gardeners and farmers will be hoping for good growing seasons, churchgoers will be busy with Lent lunches and Easter services, and children will be anticipating a bumper crop of Easter eggs! And we can all enjoy the daffodils planted in the grass verges by Pumpkin Joe Burbidge and friends in recent years.

As usual, there is plenty going on in our busy villages. You can enter the skittles competitions at the Community Centre, go shopping on the Shuttle, test the grey matter at the Big Bulkington Quiz, listen to the music of Capella Nova at Cleeve House, or tuck into supper at the British Legion's Canteen Concert. Kids of all ages can enjoy the Great Bulkington Railway on Easter Monday. With a ramblers group, two book clubs, various sporting activities, poetry group - and theatre, gardening and historic houses clubs, there really is something for everyone.

But, none of these things happen without people taking the time and trouble to organise them. We've noticed a lot of appeals for volunteers in recent editions of 'Spotlight' - and this one is no exception. The Community Centre is looking for a new Hon Sec, Link needs a coordinator, the Shuttle needs drivers and people to go on the cleaning rota, the fete committee and Friends of Keevil School both want helpers. The church wants people to assist at fundraising events, and even Spotlight itself needs more people to take a turn at printing and collating the magazine.

So, if you do have some spare time, please think about contacting one of these organisations to offer your services - or contact any group that interests you to see if they need help. Some volunteer duties take up quite a lot of time - others can just be for a few hours at an annual event. You may be pleasantly surprised at the rewards you get from taking on a role in the community. You'll meet people you might otherwise never speak to and you'll be more involved in what goes on in the village. It really can be fun!

The Spotlight Contacts

Contributions for the March issue (**copy deadline is 8th March - earlier than usual because of Easter**) can be e-mailed to spotlight@seend.org.uk or delivered to the Post Office, High Street, Seend or, for Bulkington contributions, to Jo Bell at 1 Northfields, Bulkington (e-mail to trevor@bell8490.freeseve.co.uk). Comments and queries to Joanna Goddard on 828488, Tessa Doe on 828617 or Tina Yockney on 827139.

EVENTS IN MARCH and APRIL

Skittles Competitions

in Seend Community Centre

1st March - ladies' and gents' singles

29th March - mixed pairs

Cash prizes! Sign up at the Club bar.

Lent Lunches around the Benefice

All most welcome - 12 noon - 2 pm

Seend: Saturday 8th March in the Pavilion Rusty Lane

Tickets available Seend Post Office or at the door.

Poulshot: Saturday 1st March at the Village Hall

Bulkington on Saturday 5th March. Details as above.

ANNUAL CANTEEN CONCERT

(alias Dug-out Supper)

15th March - 7 for 7.30pm

Supper - plus music from The Assembly Singers

Tickets £15 from Peter Fisher (828305)

Anthony Hodgkinson (828545)

Roger Brind (828830)

or Nigel Knocker (828609)

*Raffle tickets available in the Shop/PO during
the week before the concert, as well as
on the night.*

**Friday, 11th April at 8 pm in the Pavilion
Watermill Theatre, supported by Rural Arts Wiltshire, presents
Micky Salberg's Crystal Ballroom Dance Band!**

It's the early 1950s and the world is changing fast, the Cold War meets warm hearts as Jazz makes way for Rock'n'Roll in a time where "you've never had it so good" was sometimes true, sometimes not. As the Korean War rages and British conscription comes to an end, The Crystal Ballroom Dance Band plays, inspired by their charismatic leader Micky Salberg. But how long will the old music last and what will the new tunes sound like?

Another excitingly different evening from Rural Arts Wiltshire.

Tickets £6 (£5 pensioners) available from Shop/PO nearer the time or phone
828778, 828687 or 828617

Proceeds to Seend Community Centre

The Big Bulkington Quiz

Wednesday 16th April 2008, At 7.30pm

At The Irene Usher Memorial Hall, Rusty Lane, Seend

Teams of 4 - 6

Tickets £6 per person to include Ploughman's Supper

Licensed Bar available

Tickets from Seend Post Office,

Liz Futter - 828485, Audrey McDonald - 828376, Anne Saywell - 828931,

Jane Coles - 01380 828145, any member of Bulkington PCC or on the door

Tables may be booked in advance!



St. George's Day Dinner

at Seend Community Centre

Wednesday 23rd April at 7.00 for 7.30pm

Tickets £15 from Peter Fisher

Guest speakers: Air Commodore Paul Osborne and
Colonel Nigel Knocker.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This section in Spotlight is for general announcements be it births, deaths or marriages, wedding anniversaries or any other kind of celebration which you would like to share with Spotlight Readers. Do let us know and, space permitting, we will try to print all your announcements.

In Memoriam

Residents will be saddened to know that Molly Howarth who lived for many years in Seend, has died. Her funeral will be held at Holy Cross Church on Friday 29th February at 2.00pm where Harry's ashes will also be interred.

Happy 'Special' Birthday

to all the Leap-Year born people in the village.

Best wishes from Liz Barham (nee Drew) aged 10 years!!!!

(And one of those Leap-Year babes is 'Pumpkin' Joe Burbidge, aged 20!

Thanks for the fun and the daffodils, Joe, from the editorial team.)

CHURCH NEWS

My dear Friends,

Back in the summer, the priest who has been my advisor for many years suggested that, as I have been living in Melksham for some six years, I should become a member of my local parish. My immediate reaction was that Seend and Holy Cross Church has been my home for over 40 years, (whenever asked, I've said 'I reside in Melksham but live in Seend'.)

However, giving it some thought, and being no 'spring chicken', for practical reasons I saw the sense of it. And so with prayer and very mixed feelings felt my friend was right, and even Bishop Stephen commented I had a wise advisor, and would be able to do more for longer, and still be available to Seend Church and Benefice if required.

I was ill-prepared for the 'over the top' au revoir I was given at Holy Cross on 27th January, and am so grateful for the beautiful flowers and generous gift, and, most of all, for your love and all that we have shared throughout the years.

Thank you so much. God bless you all.

Pam (Muller).

Church News for Lent, Holy Week and Easter

LENT

The Church encourages us all to do something in particular as our individual, as well as our shared, preparation for Easter. ‘*Giving something up*’ has been for many a traditional undertaking in Lent but really the Lent commitment involves doing *something more* that helps with our spiritual spring-cleaning, clearing the way for us to get to know God a little better and so you’re warmly invited to join us!

‘Lent Meditations’...

...provide the opportunity for quiet prayer and reflection using material in a booklet produced for our study this year called ‘*The Way of Sorrows*’ marking Jesus’ journey to His crucifixion. Please help yourself to a copy as they are free to take away from any of our three churches or ‘phone one of the Churchwardens or the Rector for a copy. There are also short services using this material, at 18.00 for only half an hour or so, on **Wed 27th**

February Holy Cross Seend, Wed 5th March at St Peter’s Poulshot, Wed 12th March at Christchurch Bulkington and Wed 19th March at Holy Cross Seend.

MOTHERING SUNDAY

is on **Sunday 2nd March** and each of our churches will have a Family Eucharist welcoming mothers, grandmothers, aunts...the whole family!

08.00 BCP Holy Communion Seend

09.30 Family Eucharist Christchurch Bulkington

11.15 Family Eucharist Holy Cross Seend

18.00 Family Eucharist St Peter’s Poulshot

Sunday 9th March (known as Passion Sunday)

08.00 Holy Communion Holy Cross Seend

09.30 Mattins St Peter’s Poulshot

11.15 Parish Eucharist Holy Cross Seend

18.00 Evensong Christchurch Bulkington

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday 16th March *Remembering Jesus arriving in Jerusalem on a donkey we receive a Palm Cross and in each church read the Passion in dramatic form*

08.00 BCP Holy Communion Seend

09.30 Parish Eucharist Bulkington

11.15 Parish Eucharist (Procession from Rectory Garden at 11.10) Seend

18.00 Parish Eucharist (Procession from Church Farm at 17.50) Poulshot

Mon 17th March

09.30 Morning Prayer Bulkington

18.00 'The Way of the Cross' service of hymns & readings at Christchurch Bulkington

Rather like an Easter Carol Service (!) these two similar evenings are an informal opportunity to hear the Lent and Easter readings, sing favourite seasonal hymns, leading us on the journey to Easter.

Tues 18th March

09.00 Mattins (BCP) Poulshot

18.00 'Journey to Easter' service of hymns & readings at St Peter's Poulshot

Wed 19th March

09.45 Eucharist Seend

18.00 Lent Meditation IV followed at 18.30 with Sung Compline Seend

Thursday 20th March Maundy Thursday

19.30 Joint Benefice Eucharist, Feet Washing, Stripping of the Altars and Vigil Seend

Friday 21st March Good Friday

10.00-12 noon Good Friday Workshop for children Seend

10.00 Mattins/Litany St Peter's Poulshot

10.00 Good Friday Prayers & Reflections Christchurch Bulkington

13.30 Liturgy of the Day Seend (*including the Passion according to St John, the Reproaches and Eucharist from the Reserved Sacrament*)

EASTER**Sunday 23rd March Easter Day**

06.00 Dawn Joint Benefice Eucharist Seend

(including the Easter Fire outside, lighting of the Paschal candles, Vigil readings, singing of the Exultet & Renewal of Baptismal Vows)

and at 07.00 Easter Breakfast hosted by Bulkington (in the Pavilion Seend)

10.00 Joint Benefice Eucharist (*with an Easter Egg Hunt for children*) Seend

Alongside on-going discussions we are continuing, for Easter 2008, to experiment in finding ways of offering appropriate seasonal services and hope that this year we may see the whole season as one in which each church and village plays its part and then gathers to celebrate the festival together. Our 'joint Benefice' services incorporate all three congregations from Bulkington, Poulshot and Seend where members of each church contribute in various parts of the service. Simply because of numbers, larger joint congregations need to use the bigger building and it's great to have opportunities to be together! Come and see! The Rector and PCCs.

Sunday 30th March (5th Sunday of the month) CLOCKS GO FORWARD!

10.00 Benefice Eucharist Christ Church Bulkington

The Rev'd Sacha Pearce



First Steps Benefice Parent & Toddler Church Service

The next First Steps service will be held on 4th March 2008 at 2.15pm in Seend Church. As we will just have celebrated Mothering Sunday, we will be hearing about Jesus' trip to the synagogue in Jerusalem when he got separated from his parents.

As usual there will be tea, coffee, squash and biscuits served at the end of the service. Last month it was lovely to see so many new faces – everyone is very welcome, so please come and join us again! If you would like more information about this happy and thriving group, please contact either the Rector on 838615 or Jo on 828550.

Beautiful Bone China Mugs For Sale

*Depicting the Churches of
Seend, Bulkington & Poulshot*

**The perfect gift for Easter, birthdays
and all other occasions**

£6.00 each

Contact Tina Yockney
01380 827139

SEEND METHODIST CHURCH SERVICES FOR MARCH

- March 9th** 10am - Revd Roy Fowler will lead worship as we celebrate our 233rd Chapel anniversary.
- March 22nd** 10am – Easter Sunday Service and Holy Communion will be conducted by Revd Peter King.
- March 30th** We shall join our friends at Bromham Chapel at 10.30am for morning worship.

Everyone always welcome.

FROM ROY

A bright, clear Saturday afternoon, I was moved to write a short poem. It's in the form of a Japanese haiku.

Bare trees stand our sharp
against clear blue winter sky
waiting to burst out.

I thought at the time it had hints of Easter in it. So here's something I've written since.

The hill is bleak.
The cross is stark.
The sky is dark.

The body is scented, pungent with death.
It's bathed in love as honour is given.

A meal is snatched; it is just a few scraps:
a little bread; a little wine.

Is it to celebrate?

Is it to keep a wake?

A journey to freedom is beginning
and everyone is falling asleep.

Is it I?

It isn't I who plants a bitter kiss.

It isn't I who doesn't know him.

It isn't I who runs away.

The march of millions is cancelled today.

There's only one to demonstrate.

He staggers – falls.

The lamb is dumb.

The heavy blows of terror fall on him.

Injustice wracks his bones.

Suffering snatches at his breath.

'I am thirsty.'

The hill is bleak.

The cross is stark.

The sky is dark.

There is death I am sure.

But is it only death?

The fabric of despair is ripped.

The coat of hope stays whole.
 Dead saints dance in the dark – it's not macabre.
 They skip through the gate signed
 'Welcome to the free.'

The hill is clothed with flowers now.
 The tree bursts out in leaf.
 The sun is shining bright.

May the journey the journey that leads to the cross on the hill bring us all to
 Easter joy. God bless you.



CLUB AND ORGANISATION NEWS

SEEND COMMUNITY CENTRE NEWS

Annual General Meeting of the Seend Community Centre held on Wednesday 23 January 2008

The Community Centre Management Committee called this first Annual General Meeting to report on the current state of affairs and on what the Committee had achieved during the past year, and to share thoughts as to future developments. 41 residents of Seend joined the Committee for the meeting. Chairman, Peter Fisher, welcomed everyone and stressed that any ideas, involvement and commitment from those present would be welcomed.

When the Community Centre replaced the former Social Club in August 2005, the Club could not afford essential improvements because of rising costs and was facing closure. By obtaining Charitable Status as Seend Trust and Community Centre, it was possible to reduce overheads and obtain grants for much needed improvements to the heating system, kitchen and toilets. Much of the work was carried out by a small, dedicated team of volunteers.

The Treasurer, Max Bolton, reported that in 2005 there had been a loss of some £5,500. That loss had continued but gradually reduced as the measures taken by the new Management Committee took effect. By March 2007 this deficit was down to just over £3,000, and the current position was that the Centre was expected to make a small profit by the end of this financial year, and we had been able to repay a loan which had kept the Centre afloat.

Income came from the Seend Club Bar trading profits (separate from the Registered Charity, but the profits are paid to the Charity), summer breakfasts,

the Beer Festival, St George's Day Dinner and other fundraising events as well as private hirings. Grants had been received for the kitchen and heating systems totaling £16,000. £6,000 had also been received from the Parish Council, and the Committee's thanks were passed to the Council by the Chairman. The Treasurer also mentioned that the Committee had been advised that the Club activities should be set as a Limited Company. This would be done within the next few months.

John Smallshaw then set out our reasons for needing grants and donations. The most important feature is the lack of storage space and a planning application has been submitted to build an extension for this purpose. We also need to lower and insulate the ceiling and to update the lighting and sound systems. New chairs and tables are also on the wish list. John was awaiting the results of his bids for funding from various sources.

A lively discussion followed, when some new ideas for fundraising and events were put forward. Many of those present signed a register of volunteers to indicate their willingness to help the Community Centre in various ways.

Peter Fisher then thanked everyone for attending and announced that it was the intention to have a similar meeting in twelve months time.

Great News!

Soon after the AGM, the Community Centre had the excellent news that it has been awarded generous grant funding. This will enable us to build an extension to provide storage space, which will in turn free up what was the TV/children's room and the backstage dressing rooms. We can also now afford to put a suspended ceiling in the main hall, with insulation and new lighting. There may also be funds to put towards new chairs and tables, refurbishing the toilets and extending the patio among other things. Obviously things won't happen overnight – but we have got planning permission for the extension so we hope to make a start quite soon.

The grants were obtained through the hard work of John Smallshaw, who has been bidding for any money on offer for a couple of years now.

However, this funding is still about ten thousand short of the total needed to do all the refurbishments we want to so that the Centre becomes an even better venue for parties, wedding receptions, dances etc. So, you may like to:

Sponsor a chair!

We would dearly love to replace the rather elderly chairs that have done fine service since the early days of the Social Club. If any village organisations (or generous individuals) would like to help out by sponsoring a chair, we

would be delighted to receive £20 from you (cheques payable to Seend Community Centre) in return for which your name will be displayed in the Centre as a sponsor.

If £20 is a bit more than you are willing or able to part with, you could club together with friends and neighbours – or we can also offer you the opportunity to sponsor a tin of paint for £5!

Sponsorship, with your name and contact details clearly shown, can be left behind the bar or given to treasurer Max Bolton (4 Somerset Close) or to Tessa Doe and Frank Teasdale (6 New Buildings). Please include whether or not you are a tax payer, as we are looking into whether Gift Aid is applicable. You will receive a receipt - and our undying gratitude!

***** Vacancy for Honorary Secretary *****

The Community Centre urgently needs a volunteer to take over the role of Honorary Secretary to replace Robin Heatley who is having to stand down after ably helping the Committee through its first tentative months. Business, secretarial or administrative experience would be useful, but not essential. If you are interested in joining the Committee at this very positive moment in its history, please talk to any of the existing members (Peter Fisher, Max Bolton, John Smallshaw, Frank Teasdale, Tessa Doe, Russ Collins, BJ Tilley, Jane Hopkins, Graham Appleby and Caroline Bowen).

Club Membership

Existing Club members are reminded that annual membership runs from April 1st to March 31st, so membership fees are due on April 1st or soon after. But, if you renew your membership – or take out new membership – by 31st March you pay the **reduced rate** of £7 (usual cost £8), or £3.50 for 14- to 17-year-olds or over 60s instead of £4. (For new members, membership will run from the date of payment to 31st March 2009.)

Membership entitles you to use the lounge bar any evening, taking advantage of very reasonable prices. Members are also entitled to play Pool for free on Monday evenings. You can take out your membership subscription at the bar.

Corrections to February ‘Happenings!’

St George’s Day is, of course, on Wednesday 23rd April, not Saturday as stated in ‘Happenings!’ last month, so don’t turn up for your dinner on the wrong day. See ‘Events’ section for details.

And the mixed pairs skittles competition is now on 29th March, not 22nd as stated in ‘Happenings!’ You can sign up for that, and for the singles competition on 1st March, at the bar.

SEEND AND DISTRICT LINK SCHEME

By the time of the 2008 Seend Link AGM (Thursday 24th April at 8pm in the Irene Usher Pavilion) I will have been the Seend Link Coordinator for eight years - in fact since the scheme started in 2000. I feel I would like to stand down and hand over the paperwork side of the duties of the Coordinator to someone else. I am still happy to be very involved taking a turn in manning the phones whenever necessary and, as we have three other people prepared to do this, it makes the job of the Coordinator less onerous. The new Coordinator does not necessarily need to be a driver, but an administrator - making sure that the handover of the phone is done smoothly, keeping the monthly record of jobs up-to-date (which again is not complicated as we average about 25 to 30 jobs a month) and attending four Committee meetings a year to discuss any new rulings or problems, and the AGM. (The meetings are very short, jolly affairs - normally with a glass of wine!)

It really isn't a difficult job and very rewarding. The main reason I want to stand down is that I have to go away much more often than I used to to look after grandchildren!

If anyone would like to have a chat about this, please ring me on 01380 828946.

Jo Waldeck



SEEND SHUTTLE

The Thursday runs to Devizes (including Bromham) continue to be very popular - but there's room for a few more on the Tuesday trip to Melksham! Don't forget we wrinklies can use our bus passes. See the timetable on www.seend.org.uk or ring 828617 for a copy.

If you are interested in the first-Wednesday-of-the-month shopping trips to Bath or Salisbury, ring Terry on 828203 by the previous Monday. If you can join the bus-cleaning rota, phone Tessa on 828617, or if you can drive the Shuttle please ring Pete on 828757.

SEEND AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS

A skittles evening took place at Corsham Football Club on Saturday, 26th January, when 40 ramblers took part in friendly competitive skittles with much fun and laughter and an altogether entertaining evening. During half-time we tucked into a delicious supper spread, which we had all contributed to. Many thanks to both Wendy and Reg for organising such a brilliant evening.



Sunday 16th March – Meet in Rusty Lane for 9.30am start or 10am near the duck pond in Biddestone. Wendy and Reg will meet us here to then form a convoy to start the walk from Yatton Keynell. Bring refreshments. Phone 01249 652422 should you wish to know more.

Sunday 6th April – The **AGM** will take place at 3pm in the Pavilion, after a short walk within the village starting in Rusty Lane at 1.30pm. If you are unable to make the walk, please try to attend the meeting, which will commence with a cup of tea and cake. A list of future walks and events will be on hand. Members please be aware that subscriptions will be gratefully received at this meeting.

Lin Salter

SEEND'S OTHER BOOK CLUB

We're reading Peter Carey's ' True History of the Kelly Gang' (Booker Prize winner in 2001) for a meeting at 7.45pm on 13th March. Ring 828617 if you want to join us.

Frank Teasdale

SEEND VILLAGE FETE 9th August 2008

WE REALLY NEED YOU!

To join us to prepare for this year's very popular and special event. You will have lots of fun, you will be made most welcome and your efforts much appreciated - and from time to time there may be a bit of hard work. Enthusiasm and Innovation would be a bonus but whatever your input it will be highly valued.

THIS IS YOUR FETE

Help us to make this year's fete a really special day.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Please contact: Jo Vaux (828970), Susan Bolton (827065)

or Neil Yockney (827139)

or by email to: spotlight@seend.org.uk

SEEND AND DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB



Our February meeting started by welcoming back Roger to his place at the front directing operations. He reminded us of two previously advertised outings and one new one.

* The day trip to Hidcote and Kiftgate on Saturday 19th July at £18 each, plus entrance fee for Hidcote if you are not a member of the National Trust. There are still places left and non-members are welcome for an extra £1.00. If you can't make a meeting to sign up for this trip please phone Sue.

* The away trip to Dublin will be from 18th to the 23rd of June. Please contact Roger if you wish to go but have not been able to sign the list.

* Joyce has arranged an evening trip to A'Becketts, the Littleton Pannell vineyard, on Friday 15th August where we can see how vines are grown and also enjoy sampling some of the wines. It will cost £8.00 a head and will start at 6.30. Joyce has the list if you wish to sign up.

Our speaker this month gave us an excellent talk about gardening for wildlife. Richard Cripps, from Lackham College pointed out that although these days we are encouraged to attract wildlife to our gardens, in the past it was very different. Amongst the highly criminal offences of small animals and mammals, bullfinches were reputed to attack flower buds and fruit crops and hedgepigs, as they were known, were believed to suck the milk from cows. Now we are much more enlightened, although we still don't like grey squirrels, rats or mice.

There are something like 15 million gardens in this country which together provide biological corridors for wildlife use and Richard suggested the following list of features to have in our gardens to give shelter and sustenance to all creatures including creepy crawlies.

- * Water habitats, but don't have goldfish because they eat everything including each other!
- * Nectar rich flowers, such as buddleia.
- * Long grass and scrubland.
- * Organic fruit and vegetables that you are prepared to share!
- * Native plants, even though we regard many of these as weeds.
- * Nest boxes for birds, bats, bees and hedgehogs.
- * Log piles, stone piles and leaf litter.
- * Providing food and water for birds especially.
- * Manage predators like squirrels and use more natural forms of controlling aphids etc. such as soapy water rather than pesticides and herbicides.

The competition was won by Sylvia Ewin with some excellent photos of wildlife in her garden.

The next meeting will be on 11th March. Lyn Miles will be talking about foxgloves, campanulas and euphorbias. The competition will be the Spring bulb show. Could members also remember that the AGM is on April 8th and we ask you to bring a plate of food to share.

Sue Johns



SEEND WI

There was a good attendance at our meeting on 13th February. The Speaker, Mrs Bridget Partridge, gave us an interesting and humorous talk on her association with the WI for 40 years. She was a dairy technologist at Lackham College and visited many WIs from the 1960s to give talks and demonstrations on cookery, preserving, winemaking and jam and chutney making. She was thanked by Mrs Kay Beasley. The competition 'Something Red' was won by Caroline Bowen.

Our next meeting is one 12th March when the Speaker, Mr F. Swift, will tell us about 'A Year in the Life of a Bee!'. The competition is 'An Easter Bonnet'.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE AGM. WILL TAKE PLACE ON WEDNESDAY, 2nd APRIL 2008 AT 7.30pm IN THE IRENE USHER MEMORIAL PAVILION, RUSTY LANE, SEEND.

Mrs Betty Smith

KEEVIL AND DISTRICT WI

We meet in Keevil Village Hall on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm. Visitors and new members are warmly welcomed.

On the 12th March we'll take an armchair ride along the Jurassic Coast with Mr Marsh.

ALL visitors are welcome. Contact Angela Read on 828925 - 'Plain View' 12 Bulkington.

MOTHERS' UNION - SEEND AND BULKINGTON BRANCH



The MU meeting in January was the AGM. The accounts for the year were accepted and signed. The charity donations for the coming year were agreed.

Then Mrs Betty Smith told the branch about our overseas link with the Evening MU Branch in Belmont, New Castle, New South Wales, Australia. Begun in 1988, we have received many letters from our link branch. Belmont lies between Lake Macquarie and the sea. There are 22 members and they

meet monthly. Betty has visited them and has a record in beautiful photographs of her visits.

The branch also saw the processional banner sewn and designed by two of our members as a gift for Mundri Doiocese, Sudan, on behalf of the Diocese of Salisbury. Our Diocesan President, Mrs Bridget Trump, is taking it to the Sudan in April.

Members were reminded that the MU has a caravan for six at Durdle Door in Dorset available for families in need, in use from March to October. If you know any family that might benefit from a holiday, please contact Mrs E Campbell.

On April 16th, the MU branch is celebrating its 120th birthday. There will be a Holy Communion Service in Church, followed by a buffet lunch.

Future dates:

7th March – Women’s World Day of Prayer, St Andrews, Melksham Forest, 10.30am.

19th March – Rev Mrs Chadwick on ‘Africa’, 2.45pm.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Canteen Concert

You’ll find details of the Annual Canteen Concert (formerly known as the Dug-out Supper and open to all, whether members of the Royal British Legion or not) in the Events section at the beginning of this edition of Spotlight.



THE 2008/2009 100+ (nearly the 200) CLUB

WHAT IS IT, AND WHY SHOULD I JOIN?

The 100+ Club: is a village lottery, which was set up many years ago to raise funds to support the upkeep of the village-owned Lye Recreation Field and Pavilion. Membership costs **£15** per person per year, and is open to anybody in the village – or out of it; your money is just as good, no matter where you live! And last year - 2007/2008 - we raised almost **£1200** for the Lye Field, **£970** in donations and **£208** in Gift-Aid payments.

Prizes: In addition to the contribution to the Lye Field, an equally important aspect of the Club is the re-distribution of almost **£2000** back to the subscribers as prizes via 12 monthly prize draws. At 11 of these draws, there were **6** prizes on offer: **£35, £30, £25, £20, £15** and **£10**, but at the Christmas draw, there were **13** prizes, starting with a first prize of **£100** and totalling

over **£450!** Since **2002**, membership has increased from **142** to **195**, and in this period **145** members have won at least once, so you can see that the odds of winning are pretty high.

Why you should join: Principally, to support the Lye Field, which together with the Pavilion are owned by the village – that means you and me - for the use and enjoyment of everyone in the village. The upkeep is managed by volunteers who give their time and expertise free, but materials and equipment need to be paid for. Joining the **100+Club** is therefore a very good way to support a fabulous amenity, while at the same time giving yourself a sporting chance of recouping your stake – or even more! How often in life does this happen? Anyone can apply for a subscription, and you can buy as many subscriptions as you like – the more you have, the better your chances of winning, and the more support we receive. Membership runs from **May 1st** to **April 30th** each year.

Application to subscribe: Application forms containing Gift-aid certificates will be distributed to everyone with next month's Spotlight, but if you can't wait until then phone me or email me – details below. This year we must get over 200, so make sure you **join our Club!**

Fete Volunteer section: It can't have escaped your notice that each year we have a village fete and each year we make an appeal for volunteers. This year the 100+ Club application form will have a Fete-volunteer section added as a tear off strip. You will thus have the opportunity to add your name to our list of helpers by completing the strip and returning it to a nominated Fete Committee member as directed. This is just an advance notice so that you can think about whether you can find an hour or two on the day – Saturday, August 9th – and if you can, to let somebody know. Our Fete is a fantastically successful affair, but it needs a lot of support. Please think about providing some of it.

Bernie Prolze

Tel: 01380 828391; email: bjprolze@uko2.co.uk

SCHOOL NEWS



SEEND SCHOOL NEWS

Seend School's **Barn Dance** will be held on Friday 13th June, from 6pm-11pm, at the Community Centre. The famous "Wiltshire Klop Band" will be playing and there will be a barbecue.

KEEVIL SCHOOL NEWS

The year 5 and 6 children have a residential coming up in May and have been busy putting their heads together to come up with some fundraising ideas to reduce the overall cost of the trip.

The first of these to take place was a non-lunchbox day where the year 5 & 6 children spent much of the morning preparing for a choice of lentil and carrot soup or winter vegetable and bean soup served with homemade bread followed by fresh fruit salad and shortbread (unfortunately not homemade!). On one day they cooked for all the infant children and on another day they cooked for the junior children. Parents were invited too and almost £120 was raised. An idea worth repeating I think.

The next fundraising event will be the talent show at the village hall on February 15th. This will be closely followed by a sponsored skip and then a non - uniform and careers day. I will report on the success of these in the next issue!

We are delighted to welcome Canon Brown, not only as a Governor of the school, but also as a regular provider of our act's of worship. Our first one on the theme of Ash Wednesday went down very well and we look forward to others throughout the year.

If there is any group out there who would like to use the school as a venue for a meeting, either as a one off or as a regular occurrence then please contact the office. Now we have three new classrooms it is a shame to not have them used in the evening. We have interactive whiteboards which are ideal for projecting photographs, films, PowerPoint's etc from a laptop.

Finally, I know with the increased number of children at the school comes a potential increase in traffic. We do all we can to ensure that children use the allocated buses to minimise the amount of traffic. We continue to do everything to try to minimise disruption to the village but inevitably there are times when there is a larger volume of people/traffic. Our main concern and priority is the safety of the children, so please bear with us during these times.

Jackie Chalk
Head Teacher

F.O.K.S. (FRIENDS OF KEEVIL SCHOOL)

'100 CLUB'

Last chance to buy tickets for the 100 club draws. If you still haven't managed to purchase your tickets, please contact Jan Flynn on 01380 828248 asap for further details or pick up a form from the school office before the next draw.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2008

THE GREAT BULKINGTON RAILWAY EASTER MONDAY 24TH MARCH

The Great Bulkington Railway has very kindly offered to open up the railway for train rides on Easter Monday 24th March and raise funds for Keevil School. Rides will be operating from 1pm until 4pm. This is a great opportunity to raise funds as well as a wonderful treat for all your friends and family. So come along and enjoy the fun of the railway and enjoy refreshments in the village hall afterwards.



PLANT SALE AND CRAFT FAYRE – SATURDAY 26TH APRIL

We will be holding our annual plant sale and Craft Fayre at the school again this year. Any plants and shrubs that you would be willing to donate would be very much appreciated. If you would like to hire a table at the Craft Fayre, please contact me asap. As usual, you will be able to buy refreshments and cakes from our ever popular cake stall. We will have a variety of children's games and entertainment, so there will be something for all the family!



KEEVIL 10K & FAMILY FUN DAY SATURDAY 10TH MAY 2008

Our website www.keevil10k.co.uk is now up and running, so if you are planning to run in the 10K, you can now enter directly or through Runners World www.runnersworld.co.uk. You will be able to find all the information about the day on www.keevil10k.co.uk as well as last year's photos. Telephone contact number for information is: 07757 650684. We do hope you will all come along and support us on the day as we will have lots of family entertainment and refreshments and we are planning to entertain you with some afternoon activities which will make the event a real fun filled day for all the family.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS IN ALL AREAS! Can you come along for a few hours and offer your services by marshalling, car parking, and general help on the day or even leaflet dropping. Whatever you can do to help, we would be very grateful. Please give me a call asap.

Debbie Scott
Chair, Friends of Keevil School

If you require further details on any of our activities, please contact Debbie Scott on 01380 870410 or Keevil School on 01380 870376

SEEND PARISH COUNCIL

Reports of the November and January meetings

The meeting held on 27th November was attended by seven Councillors, with Mrs. Savage in the chair. Also in attendance were Mr A. Lake, District Councillor, plus three members of the public, and PC Tottle.

The question of funding for the Seend Shuttle was raised, once the new Unitary Authority comes into existence. Mr. Lake advised that it was too early to predict what will happen, however, there are no plans at present to cease funding of local transport, although he understood that people will be worried.

The forthcoming planning meeting for the application relating to the WI Hall was discussed. Mr. Lake advised that the planning committee will only be concerned with the planning aspects of the case. The questions of access for emergency vehicles into Rusty Lane, and the additional parking of vehicles on the A361 were discussed, should the application for additional dwellings in Rusty Lane be approved.

PC Tottle asked that the public be mindful of bogus callers in the area, sometimes posing as water board officials, be wary and ask for identification. Councillors mentioned problems with litter being scattered in the school grounds overnight, and also one of the recycling bins by the Community Centre being set on fire. The problem of vehicles parking either side of the entrance to Rusty Lane on Sunday mornings, restricting visibility of emerging cars, was also raised.

The following applications were considered and no objections raised:

- K/57588/F H J Smith & Sons, Cowleaze, Bell Hill
Erect detached garage
- K/57641/F Mr S Johnstone, 60 Bath Road, Sells Green
Proposed replacement dwelling and new garage
- K/57675/TR2 Mrs M L Weston, Squirrels, School Road
Works to an oak tree in the garden
- K/57694/F Mr Akerman, Broad Lane Farm, Broad Lane
Alterations to an old bull pen and feed barn
- K/57753/F Mr T Newton, Ridgeway, Row Lane
New double gates

The meeting held on 29th January was attended by eight Councillors, with Mrs. Savage in the chair. Also in attendance was Mrs. P. Rugg, County Councillor, plus three members of the public.

The question of funding for the Seend Shuttle was discussed again. Mrs. Rugg advised that there were problems about funding for transport for the over 60s as far as Kennet are concerned, but that they are funding projects in villages. All aspects of transport are being looked at, including transport for people going to hospital. Mrs. Rugg also advised that community projects are benefiting from funding, and she suggested that the relevant village committees, such as the school, the Lye Field and the Social Club should consider requesting funding from Kennet DC.

The following planning application had been refused:

K/57851/F Shearmon, Spiderweb Paddock, Rusty Lane, Seend
Pole barn for storage of hay, straw and farming machinery

It was agreed to ask the Planning Department what is happening with regard to Spiderweb Paddock, and the enforcement order.

The following application was considered, and no objections raised:

K/57880/F Trustees, Seend Club & Community Centre, Rusty Lane, Seend
Single storey front extension to form store room

The following application had received consent:

K/57099/CAC Trustees, Seend WI, WI Hall, Rusty Lane, Seend
Removal of existing hall, to be replaced with three new dwellings and garages

It was agreed to submit an entry into the Best Kept Village Competition run by the CPRE again this year.

A notice had been received from Wiltshire CC advising the temporary closure of Inmarsh Lane from Monday 18th February for 7 weeks.

The Parish Steward is due to visit the village again on 25th February and 25th March. Any matters for his attention should be advised to the Parish Clerk, including clearing of drains and gulleys and cutting back overgrown vegetation.

Please note that only one skip will now be provided each month. Parishioners are requested to use the Recycling Centres at Devizes and Bowerhill whenever possible.

Dates for the next Parish skips will be:

February 29th Seend Community Centre
March 28th Three Magpies

Mrs. Rosemary Fisher
Parish Clerk

SEEND SPORTS RESULTS & FIXTURES

Cricket

The new season starts at the end of April. So far 15 Sunday 'friendly' matches have been organised. Any new players are most welcome – all ages. Contact Pete Wallis on 828757. Cricket 'nets' have been going through the winter on Sunday evenings.

Football results: Jan 5th-Feb 9th

1st Team beat Bradford 4-0; lost to the Deverills 1-3; drew with Frome 1-1. Top scorer is still Chris 'Nobby' Clark with nine goals. Unfortunately all the recent Saturday games have been cancelled due to waterlogged pitches.



Reserves had five wins out of five in January and February! Beat The Stiffs 2-1; Mere team youth 5-0; Bratton reserves 5-1; Calne Eagles 4-1 and Bratton reserves in the cup 6-1. Top scorer Dave Castle with eight goals – including a hat-trick in the Bratton Reserves cup game.

Seend Tigers (coach Luke Ballinger): ages 4-7 - Sundays @ 10am on the Lye Field; ages 8-16 - Fridays 5-6pm @Christie Miller.

Tennis

The Club will have two mixed, one ladies' and one men's team playing in the Chippenham and District league this year. Matches start late April. New talent needed! Club night will be on Thursdays from 6.30pm starting on 1st May. All welcome. Any enquiries to Ric Ellinger, Elaine Davis, Victoria Bowes or Frankie Goddard.

Skittles

Seend Men's 'C' (Captain: Sam Sainsbury) lost to Seend 'B' 1-6; won against Holt Slick 50s 5-2; won against Labour Club Melksham 6-1.

Seend Men's 'D' (Captain Luke Ballinger) since 1st Jan have beaten Cooper Avon 4-3, Melksham 6-1, The Pilot 5-2 but lost to Semington 2-5 and are 2nd in the league. In the Cup they beat Staverton 249-209.

Short Mat Bowls

Recent results: Seend 6 - Marshfield 0; Bromham Owls 4 - Seend 2. Seend are second in the Northern League table with two matches to go. Seend will be represented in the National finals in March/April in the singles, fours, mixed fours and pairs by David Tompkins, Don Hatt, Colin Waldeck, Jean Allen, Kate Jones and Ann and John Revell.

Results for March Spotlight by the Ides of March please!

Frankie Goddard 828488

BITS 'N' BOBS

CLEEVE HOUSE NEWS

We would like to thank those who came to our 'Carols around the fire,' in December for contributing to a jolly good sing and also for helping to raise £137 for Cancer research .The collectors, Mr and Mrs Martin from Steeple Ashton, were delighted with the result. They are devoted to fund-raising for this worthy cause. Mr Martin's powerful message helped us to dig deep in our pockets!

Our next musical event is to be held on **Saturday March 15th** at 7.30pm. It will be a programme in words and music entitled "It was a lover and his lass," a blend of classical, traditional and folk music performed by **Cappella Nova**, and conducted by Mr Tony Shield. The concert is in aid of the charity Breast Cancer Care. Tickets -which include light refreshments - are £10 and available from Caroline Coard 01225 482693, from Cleeve House 827129, or on the door. Bring your friends to enjoy an evening of beautiful singing and readings celebrating spring.

The following day, **Sunday March 16th** will be our first **Wedding Fayre**, which is being held in association with Bridal Heaven of Devizes. It will start at 11.00am. The highlight will be at 12.30pm when we will be treated to a catwalk of bridal wear. Everyone is welcome of course and the Tea Room will be open for refreshments.

We now have regular **Aikido** and **Tai Chi** lessons. Monday and Thursday is Aikido with Matt Hill (07765241784) and Wednesday is Tai Chi taught by Brian Wooding (01985 213474.)

The dates for the two **Craft Fayres** this year are Bank Holiday Monday May 26th and Saturday November 29th.

Change Today Choose Fairtrade – and Fight Poverty

During Fairtrade Fortnight 2008 – 25th February to 9th March - campaigners for Fairtrade will be building on last year's theme and hoping to make us understand how our consumer decisions can help tackle poverty in the developing world.

"In Devizes the range of Fairtrade goods stocked in the shops has been steadily growing over the past year but shops and supermarkets will only continue to stock these products if we buy them. Also, they will only bring in new Fairtrade items if we ask for them. **Stock It Postcards** will be available during Fairtrade Fortnight for us to fill in and hand to store managers to request the specific Fairtrade products we want them to stock." (says Devizes Fairtrade Group member, Antonia Tolhurst)

Events in Devizes during Fairtrade Fortnight 2008

Friday Feb.29th

FILM SHOW – BLACK GOLD – a film about the injustices of the global coffee trade. Venue: Town Hall 7.30pm. Ticket price £5 (including Fairtrade refreshments – wine, coffee and snacks) from Devizes Books Tel: 01380 725944 or from 01380 720571

Wednesday March 5th

FAIRTRADE QUIZ. Venue: Devizes School. 7.30pm. Ticket Price: £10 per team – maximum of 5 members in each team. Fairtrade Refreshments. Tel:01380 724886

Saturday March 8th

FAIRTRADE FAIR AND FASHION SHOWS – Fairtrade stalls and refreshments. Venue: Corn Exchange Foyer 11.00am – 3.00pm. FREE.

Wednesday March 12th

VIDEO SHOW – DOCUMENTARY ON FAIRTRADE AND COCOA
Venue: Quaker Meeting House, Sussex Wharf 7.30pm. FREE.

There will also be a **Fairtrade Town Trail** running during the Fortnight. Competitors will be asked to find as many shops or stores as they can which will be displaying a Fairtrade product or a picture of one in a prominent place. Entry forms will be available from Devizes Information Centre. Prizes to be awarded during the **Fairtrade Fair** on **March 8th**. For further information or to get **Stock It Postcards** contact Antonia Tolhurst (01380 720571).

For Sale

PEUGEOT 206 S 1.4 Automatic
3-door hatchback; Metallic blue; Mileage 28,000
First registered Nov 2004.
One lady owner. Full service history
Last service & MOT Nov 2007
£5,250 - Contact 01380 827144

THE WI HALL

You will have read that planning approval was granted to demolish the hall and build houses on the land. Since then, the sale by auction of the site, which was to have been held in February, has been cancelled.

We await further news.

USEFUL CONTACTS NUMBERS:

Rector - Revd Sacha Pearce 828615

Churchwardens: Holy Cross; S Taylor 01225 709360 Mrs T Yockney 827139

Christ Church: Mr J McDonald 828376

St Peter's: Mr B James - 724944 Paulette Bremner Milne 828527

Lay Reader: Pam Muller 01225 707804

LPA's: Audrey McDonald 828376 and Jo Bell 828550

Director of Music - David King 01225 710127 Bell Ringers C Mayell 828627

Minister Methodist Church - Revd Roy Fowler - 01249 813340

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

Bulkington Village Hall - Spike Flynn 828348 or Roger Futter 828485

Lye Field Committee - Dave Sawyer 828583

100+Club Cash Draw - Bernie Prolze 828391

Seend Fete Committee - Bernie Prolze 828391

Seend Community Centre & Club - Bookings - Stan Wiltshire (Skittles only) 828559.

Hall bookings: Frank Teasdale 828617.

Seend Shuttle. Bookings - Alison Cobbing 828568

Seend and District LINK Scheme - Coordinator 828190

Seend and District Ramblers - Bob Howe 828554

Public Footpath Warden - Mrs Ester Daly 01672 513157

Seend and District Theatre Club - S Ewin 828325 M Whitehead 828612

Seend Historic Houses Club - Tony Ewin 828325

Seend and District Gardening Club - Joyce Brand 828433

Seend Book Club - Sylvia Ewin 828325

Seend's Other Book Club - Frank Teasdale 828617

Seend Poetry Group - Tessa Doe 828617

Seend School - 828334

Seend Playgroup - Liz Futter 828485

Seend Bouncy Club - Kate or Kevin 828770

Seend Brownies - Helen Hook 828477

Bulkington and District Junior Youth Group - Ellie Purdy 828035

Seend WI - Judith Bigg on 736358

Seend Fawltly Players - Tessa Doe 828617

Seend Mothers' Union - Elizabeth Campbell 828451

WEA - Pam Church on 828597

Royal British Legion - Roger Brind 828830;

Poppy Appeal - Anthony Hodgkinson on 828545

Seend Cricket Club - Peter Wallis 828757

Football Club - Darren Nichols 828535

Tennis Club - Philip Proven 828407

Short Mat Bowls Club - Colin Waldeck 828946

Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator - Tony Ewin on 828325; Owen Burton on 828820

(Seend Cleeve)

Parish Council Clerk - Rosemary Fisher 828281

Seend Website: www.seend.org.uk - Neil Yockney 827139

Bulkington Website: bulkington-village.co.uk Contact :- Angela Read 828925

Seend Post Office & Village Store

01380 828250

NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINES

FRESH FRUIT & VEGETABLES

WINES BEERS & SPIRITS

GROCERIES

NATIONAL 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